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# Colony Outlook Better as Everyone Works in Unity

## Even Officials Are Optimistic

### More Than Half of Homes Finished or Started; Houses Are Attractive

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Palmer, Alaska - (By Radio) - At the start of the fourth month of the Matanuska valley colonization project Monday, the construction report gave reasonable assurance that the settlers are going to get their houses before snow flies. Authorities are now optimistic and most colonists are rapidly following suit.

The records show 17 families in new homes, 61 homes started and 16 families living or preparing to live in homes that were on the tracts of land they drew. That leaves 81 homes to be started. Just 25 of 200 families have forsaken the pursuit of this experimental rainbow.

#### Houses Are Attractive

Although in the rush for roofs no interior finishing has been attempted, the new houses stand out attractively in the woods. Tourists are constantly astonished at the beauty of both the frame and log dwellings.

Only 23 wells are ready. It is certain that some colonists will have to carry water despite the fact that more drilling equipment is due.

"Most of them have water within a quarter mile," Col. L. P. Hunt, administrator, said Monday. "A few may have to carry it farther. The well drillers will keep going right through the winter."

#### Hunt Is Optimistic

At the community center, the trading post is nearing completion, the floor of the permanent warehouse is laid, workers are excavating for the foundation of the hospital and the power plant is going up.

"We're making good headway despite the rainy days and the failure to receive some necessary replacement tools," Hunt said, in an optimistic moment. "We've sufficient building material for our immediate needs and have every reason to believe that other material will arrive on schedule."

"The colonists are turning to in fine shape on the houses, feeling in general is excellent and complaints are becoming fewer. The general health is good. I can see sunlight