July 26, 1935

My dear Mrs. Shelton:

I have your letter telling me of your shortage of suitable houses at reasonable rents in the oil town where you live. You say you wish to make contacts with some agency which would finance the project of Better Homes on land that the oil company would furnish.

So far as I know the two best possibilities for you are the Federal Housing Administration - there is of course a branch in Texas - or a Building & Loan Association of which there must be branches in Texas. Both agencies of course would have to have full information about the conditions before they would undertake it.

As to the Steel Corporation their house building is confined to their own industry, that is they build for steel workers. This is true so far as I know of all of the industrial housing undertakings - they are for the employees of the particular industry.

If the oil field in which you are interested is prosperous and promises to be long-lived it is not too much to ask the company, itself, to make arrangements with the employees for building.

The difficulty of this from both the company and the employees point of view is that if the industry gives out the house is left on the hands of those who have built it. It is only where an industry has hope of a long life that labor can afford to buy a home.

I am inclined to think that the best advice you could get would be from the State Housing Administration.

Regretting that I cannot give you more help, believe me

Very truly yours

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