

...but coloured families to stay

HERALD REPORTER

GOOD news for the coloured squatter families at Klipfontein is that although their African counterparts are to be moved to Kenton location and Glenmore, they will be allowed to stay on the farm.

The Secretary of the Dias Divisional Council, Mr N. Anderson, said this week that his council was negotiating with the coloured usufruct-holders of the farm with a view to erecting a coloured township there.

Coloureds already on the farm would be allowed to stay, in their present accommodation, while the township was being developed, he said.

"It is anticipated that once negotiations have been completed the council will obtain a loan from the Department of Community Development to finance the township."

Although the Dias Council is engaged in a survey of the area, it is not known with any certainty how many coloured families live on Klipfontein.

Mr John Gunn, a 61-year-old pensioner who lives on the farm with his family, estimates that there are at least 150 coloureds living there.

Many of them had lived there for a long time, he said. He came to Klipfontein in 1943 and worked in the area as a building contractor until his retirement three years ago.

Mr Gunn says he does not pay rent for his house. He is allowed to live on the farm free.

His house is a solid wood and iron structure, and his son and son-in-law, both masons, have built a brick house nearby.

Mr Anderson said that the council would endeavour to improve the living conditions of coloureds on the farm even before the township got under way.