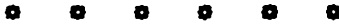


The tenement at its best has always proven unsatisfactory, and although it may be a necessary evil in larger cities, such as London or New York, there can be no excuse for it in Canada. The duplex group house, because of reduced frontage per family and simplified plumbing, offers a solution, less desirable, it is true, than the self-contained group house, but vastly preferable to the tenement. Duplex houses, however, need careful planning, both in regard to the arrangement of rooms within individual apartments, and the grouping of these apartments, if desirable living conditions are to be encouraged.

In all housing work it must be remembered that the children of to-day are the citizens of tomorrow. Their need of air and play space should always be considered.



The workman's home is essentially a house where all the household duties fall upon the shoulders of one woman. It is, therefore, important that the relation of rooms to one another, and conveniences within the rooms, should be planned to lighten those duties. Under such conveniences the bath-room may be included. Three bedrooms have already been suggested as a minimum, except for the smallest type of house. It will be found, however, that to provide three bedrooms, bathroom, closets, and necessary hall space on an upper floor, the first floor will be unduly increased in area, and consequently will constitute an extra, unwarranted charge upon the tenant. It is suggested that in some cases the bathroom may be placed on the first floor with a saving of expense and work, and generally with advantage, provided the arrangement of rooms and stairs is such that privacy is not sacrificed. The workman's wife, with a family of small children, will appreciate the saving in steps which such an arrangement will insure. In addition, there is the equally important saving in cost, due to simplified plumbing and the ease with which a bathroom may be heated.

The kitchen is a workroom and should be planned for comfort and convenience in handling work. For a few hours a day direct sunlight is desirable, but sunlight during a long period, especially in summer, renders the kitchen almost uninhabitable. Good ventilation is extremely important. This can be best accomplished by openings on two sides of the room, but frequently in small houses this is not possible, and it is quite impossible in group houses. Ventilation may be greatly aided by using the kitchen flue as a ventilating flue, if cooking is done by gas. When a coal range is used, a separate flue will be found necessary.

Where expense need not be considered there is a wide range of floor materials for the kitchen. It is extremely doubtful, however, if anything can be found which will give more satisfactory results than a good quality linoleum upon a reasonably well-finished wood floor.

Wall paper is not recommended for kitchen walls. Where the money available will permit, an oil paint will give a very satisfactory washable finish. The least expensive wall finish is cold water paint, which, if renewed often enough, will be perfectly satisfactory.

The enamelled iron sink is the most practical choice. The selection should, however, be confined to the product of a favourably known manufacturer. Frequently, in the more cheaply made products, the finish will rapidly