

could evidently be secured by various forms of co-operation in such work, and these we shall now proceed to discuss. But in doing so it should be made quite plain that New Town will not propose to force any of the suggested arrangements upon its inhabitants, but will rather hold itself in readiness to meet promptly the demands that they may make for such assistance.

Grouped

Co-operative
Homes.

So far, like the Master Builder, we have been thinking of homes for "father and mother and troops of children"; but there are other household groups. For these, and also for the ordinary family, various types of co-operative housekeeping have been proposed, and successful experiments have been made. At Letchworth one such scheme provides a common restaurant with permanent staff for catering and for the care of the outside of the houses, the common colonnade etc.; whilst another is simpler, a common mid-day meal only being provided for the group, each housekeeper taking responsibility for it for a month in turn. For women only there are flats in London of the former type, and residences in Garden Suburb, Hampstead were tried on a slightly different plan.

After the war, dwelling-places for single people, reduced families and other small groups will doubtless be in demand. Some competent woman may find her place as House-mother to a larger Home House—with small flats or suites of rooms and some larger rooms in common. A successful homestead of this kind would grow along its own lines; but some analogy may be found in a residential College or Hostel or in a so-called Hydropathic Establishment. A quadrangular group of cottage houses suggests itself as a possible form. Why should almshouses and mediæval colleges monopolise this pleasant arrangement? In a later part of this chapter another plan of co-operative work and living is proposed.