

On a Wartime Housing Limited project in the Maritimes, the contractor is operating a satisfactory on-site pre-fabrication system which may be a sign to other builders of large scale projects across Canada. Young architects are designing modern homes to accommodate the average family and to withstand the different climates of each geographic region.

COMMUNITY PLANNING

While Canada became a full-scale industrial nation within the space of about 75 years, cities grew in a precipitate, unco-ordinated fashion about industrial areas, commercial centres and transport terminals.

In surveying the problem of town planning, the Sub-Committee on Housing and Community Planning found that this undirected expansion of cities culminated in a vast confusion of land values, inadequacy of public facilities and amenities, over-crowding and general under-utilization of a community's potential. The condition known to architects as 'blight' existed all too frequently.

As a remedy for the situation, the Sub-Committee recommended the use of long range master plans in all Canadian cities. Because the starting point for drawing up a master plan is the social requirements and the natural resources of an area, other interests outside a city limits must be brought into agreement. Since the provinces have complete jurisdiction in planning matters where cities (as is often the case in Canada) sprawl across provincial boundaries, the making of a master plan becomes an interprovincial affair. The assent of the provincial governments is essential to the successful establishment of the master plan system. Most of the provinces have planning legislation giving municipalities the authority to draw up master plans and establish planning areas.

The Community Planning Division of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation has already undertaken studies to uncover scientific facts regarding land utilization and community planning.

With the co-operation of the Dominion and Provincial Governments and the various organizations of architects, engineers, town planners and labour leaders, the Community Planning Association of Canada has been launched. The Association is to act as an information service to foster, through all publicity mediums, public understanding of and participation in community planning in Canada.

WHAT TO SEE

(The following films are distributed abroad by the National Film Board of Canada.)

Building a House
Kitchen Come True
Wartime Housing.

WHAT TO READ

Housing and Community Planning - Report IV of Advisory Committee on Reconstruction - The King's Printer, Ottawa.
Housing - Appendix to Rowell-Sirois Report, prepared by A.E. Grauer.
Citizen's Forum Study Bulletins on Housing - Canadian Association for Adult Education, 119 Isabella Street, Toronto, Ont.