

CHAPTER II

THE FRAMEWORK OF NEW TOWN

*" In the compass of a pale
Keep law and form and due proportion
Showing, as in a model, our firm estate."—SHAKSPERE.*

The Framework.

THE general principles which it is the desire of the promoters of New Town to express have been set out in the previous chapter. The first expression of these must be through the general administration. It has been already indicated within what limits our enterprise is undertaken, and the forms of administration will necessarily conform to these limitations. We do not wish to lay down rigid rules, or make any attempt to forestall every contingency; but to carry out an enterprise of this character there must be a framework sufficiently well defined, and this framework must be such that all the undertakings of the town, industrial and other, shall fit naturally into it. The whole must express a unity; there must be cohesion between the parts, but a cohesion evidenced by elasticity and resilience. To this end we shall try to show how, in the general administration of the town, we propose to interpret our main theme of association, and, in particular, of self-government. Subsequent chapters will show how, in unison with these methods of general administration, we propose to apply the same principles in the several departments of the civic life.

We realise to the full that the success of our enterprise is bound up with that of sound administration. Anything short of this is unfair to the ideals we enter-