

middle class suburban housing developments constructed by private contractors, the houses are essentially put together, "piece by piece".

Moving down the price scale, in a typical, "tract house", development of say 200 houses, the general contractor would sub-contract the construction to small labour contractors who might take on the building of 10 or 20 units. This work, in turn, would be jobbed out to the various labour trades on a piecework basis. Consequently, the possibilities of assembly-line economies of scale are often lost.

By far the most popular style of large-scale home construction is the single storey house built of hollow cement blocks on a concrete slab and roofed with galvanized, corrugated sheets. This system is universal throughout the Philippines. For local builders it has several advantages.

- Materials are readily available and require very little preparation.
- It is simple and therefore requires minimal supervision.
- It lends itself to sub-contracting and labour peicework rates.
- It is relatively cheap, C\$12.00 to C\$15.00 per sq.ft.
- It is popular and readily saleable to any buyer who can afford it.

This construction system is graphically illustrated by Photos 61 to 69 in ANNEX 6.

It is only with the recent emphasis on very basic low-cost housing that real progress has been made in construction methods. (See Photos and writeups on four NHA display houses, ANNEX 3). In general, both the contractors and building trades have an entrenched resistance to labour saving building techniques and this attitude has retarded the acceptance of more efficient methods.