

done in other countries along the lines indicated. In addition to this, we need in every province and city wise enabling legislation and a qualified board to administer the same.

In any effort to frame housing and city planning legislation and to provide machinery to meet Canadian needs, European experience will teach us much, but, in the main, our problems are Canadian problems deeply affected by our local conditions, ideals and existing organization. We cannot, without careful consideration, transplant a German or even an English solution to Canadian soil. The same thorough study which evolved a Town Planning and Housing Act for Great Britain must precede workable and satisfactory legislation for Canada. Where so much is involved, it is folly to expect a ready-made solution on the shelves of any public library.

Housing legislation must also be framed as an inseparable part of such work. We are all so absorbed, necessarily, no doubt, in our own businesses, that we have failed to realize the development of housing conditions which shame our civilization. Is it necessary in Canada for thousands of families to occupy but one room each and thousands of other families to occupy but two rooms each? Is it really necessary in Canada that thousands of houses built for one family and with one set of sanitary conveniences only should house two, three, four and even six families? Do we expect permanent progress and decent family life to continue under these conditions? Only those faced with it, know of the distressing and degrading effects of over-crowding. We all know that the morals of a community are moulded largely by home environment. The very existence of the family life upon which we pride ourselves is dependent upon decent housing. Living conditions have a psychological as well as a material side. Ideals and refinement surely die unless a reasonably favourable environment is provided for their exercise and development. Our boast should be, not how