

outburst of house-building which must follow the war, not more than twelve houses to the acre shall be erected in urban or eight in rural districts.

If, then, such an effort to find a new expression of general social ideals in a united venture is regarded as desirable in itself, the question arises at once as to what is the most suitable and effective form that can be devised. A large number of different considerations led, with quite remarkable agreement, to the conviction that the right method was to plan a New Town, set in a New Countryside, within whose borders an interlinked system of human associations for the various purposes of life might be consciously developed. From whatever side the problem is attacked, there are seen to be immense advantages in a solution which provides the opportunity for something like a simultaneous new start in all those departments of life which we feel are unsatisfactorily arranged to-day. In this way we can break through some of the vicious circles which hamper more sectional efforts to improve our civilisation. For example, some look for national salvation in a new system of education, but soon find that their schemes are impossible or are frustrated because of the bad conditions in the children's homes. The housing reformer can make little advance, because of the existence of low wages and unprocurable land. Those who are anxious to give a higher place to women in all social life are in turn hampered by existing conditions of home and of employment. Those who would bring the town-dwellers into closer contact with Nature and with her productive processes, and those who would give a wider culture to over-driven countryside labourers, are alike confronted by the evils of the huge congestion of our cities and the emptiness of much of our country, and would leap at any opportunity of fashioning anew a more healthy distribution of population. As a recent example of the recognition of this interdependence of