

BUILDING REVOLUTION MAY SOLVE NATION'S HOUSING PROBLEM

~~When the pre-fabricated house is built in a matter of~~

The pre-fabricated house is a dream no longer. In Hull they've erected one, ready for occupation, in a matter of a few days after the raw materials were being worked on in the factory. The Tarran House is not a stop-gap; it's a real, permanent dwelling, claiming to be in every way as good as brick and in many ways better. Nor is it a bungalow. Upstairs, this ^{demonstration} house built at Hull is fitted on thoroughly up-to-date lines. Everything was made in ~~a~~ factories; only the assembly is done on the spot. Walls, floors and roof are made in sections.

This one is for an outside wall. The framework of the sections is of wood. / Paper, insulated against damp, goes inside the frame and the waterproof concrete is poured in. Unlike ordinary building, work in the factory goes on in all weathers. The ~~main~~ concrete, before being left to set, is being grooved ~~here~~, to make a ~~pleasant~~ pleasing finish. Concrete piers on a light foundation have been prepared on the site and building begins as soon as the sections arrive. As most of the labour is unskilled (women can do a lot of it) ~~by the way~~, only 10% of the cost is incurred on the site. That will make for cheaper houses, when they get down to big-scale production. Much of the joining is done with simple wing nuts.

Where the sections meet they're treated with bituminous paint. A perfectly water-tight joint is made by running an electric iron along it; the same principle that's used in caulking a ship's deck.

Homes built on this principle could supply 200,000 ~~ma~~
a year of the 4-million houses required to make up the
shortage. Let it be emphasised that there's nothing
temporary about them. ~~They have chimneys on and the~~
~~interior complete it is a house that will last as~~
~~long as a brick one~~

This type of pre-fabricated house may mean real homes for
all, quite soon after the war.