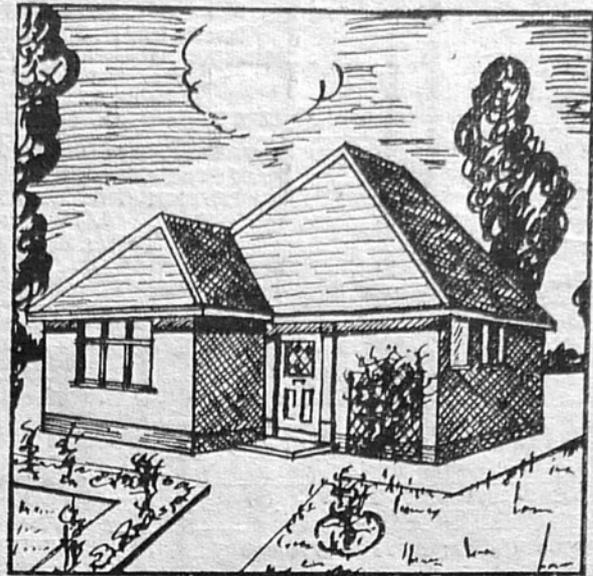
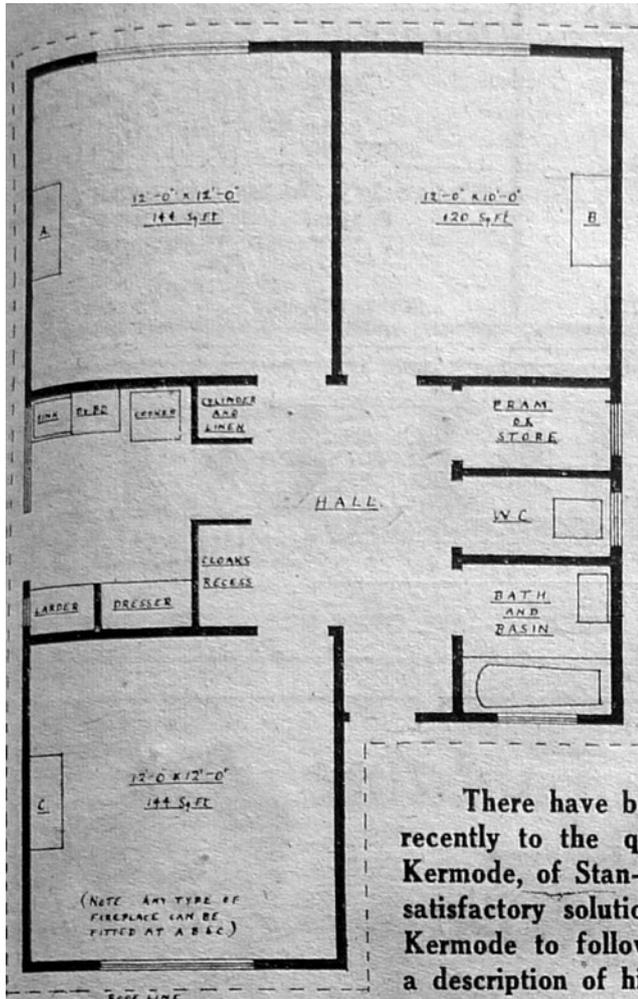


THE KERMODE FACTORY-BUILT BUNGALOW

LOCAL BUILDERS 'SOLUTION' OF HOUSING PROBLEM

Christchurch Times march 3, 1945



The feature of the "Kermode" house is that it combines modern domestic appliances with an attractive exterior, having a life more than three times that of the Government's "Prefab." bungalows.

There have been several references in the Christchurch Times recently to the quickly-built timber dwelling which Mr. Stanley Kermode, of Stan-Kay, Ltd., Christchurch, suggests would provide a satisfactory solution to the post-war housing shortage. We asked Mr. Kermode to follow up our article on the "Tarran" last week with a description of his factory-built bungalow.

As the Government has admitted that all is not well with, the job of providing sufficient post-war homes to satisfy demand, it is only common sense to suggest that careful investigation should be made in to any scheme of house-building that lays any claim to being a possible solution of the problem. It would seem to be particularly wise to look into a method said to provide homes that will: ----

Pay for themselves in 30 years; last considerably longer than that; be classed as Permanent Buildings; and require only 10 per cent, of skilled labour for their erection.

A further advantage of the Kermode bungalow is that a workshop with a labour bill of only £33 could turn out the walls of three per week. The labour cost of making the floor sections, assembling the walls on site and cutting and assembling the roof ready for slating would not exceed £20.

In spite of the present high cost of labour and materials the "Kermode" can be built for £600. Letting at 12/- per week, plus rates, it would pay for itself in 30 years. Two storey houses can be built in a similar way if a small quantity of steel is incorporated in the main

Walls to carry the first floor. Mr. Kermode gave the Christchurch Times' representative the following outline of the construction he proposes.

Concrete foundations. With brick work nine inches high to the underside of the floor joists. **Floor.** 2x3 timber joists and boarded.

Walls. 2x3 timber framed, covered externally with hardboard and lined internally with wallboard. The cavity between the hardboard and wallboard would be filled with wood-wool cement blocks.

Roof. 2x3 timber and covered with ordinary asbestos slates.

Finish. Internally. Walls can be distempered or papered.

Externally. Walls would be distempered or painted cream, buff or any other colour. Brick plinth would be pointed.

Fittings. Any modern domestic appliances can be fitted and outer walls can be recessed for cupboards or wardrobes, if required.

Walls would be made in 44 sections and would be turned out from the workshop with windows fitted and glazed. Roof could be made sectional but there would be no saving in labour or material and it would be best to cut the roof in workshop and assemble on site.

Except to the expert it will be indistinguishable from the brick built house to which we are accustomed.

The ceiling, height would be 8feet (six inches more than the "Tarran") and the floor area is five per cent.

Greater than the "Tarran." The "Kermode" bungalow is built of timber of which 165 cubic feet would be required per bungalow. (One of the large rooms alone as shown on the above plan would hold enough timber to build three bungalows).

Asked where the timber was coming from, Mr. Kermode said:---

One fifth, of the Earth's surface is covered by forests. Russia has never yet cut more than one tenth of the annual growth of timber in that country. If orders are placed with Sweden, Russia, Finland and Canada, supplies would be forthcoming immediately fighting ceases in Europe, and fast enough to enable us to build four million houses in two years