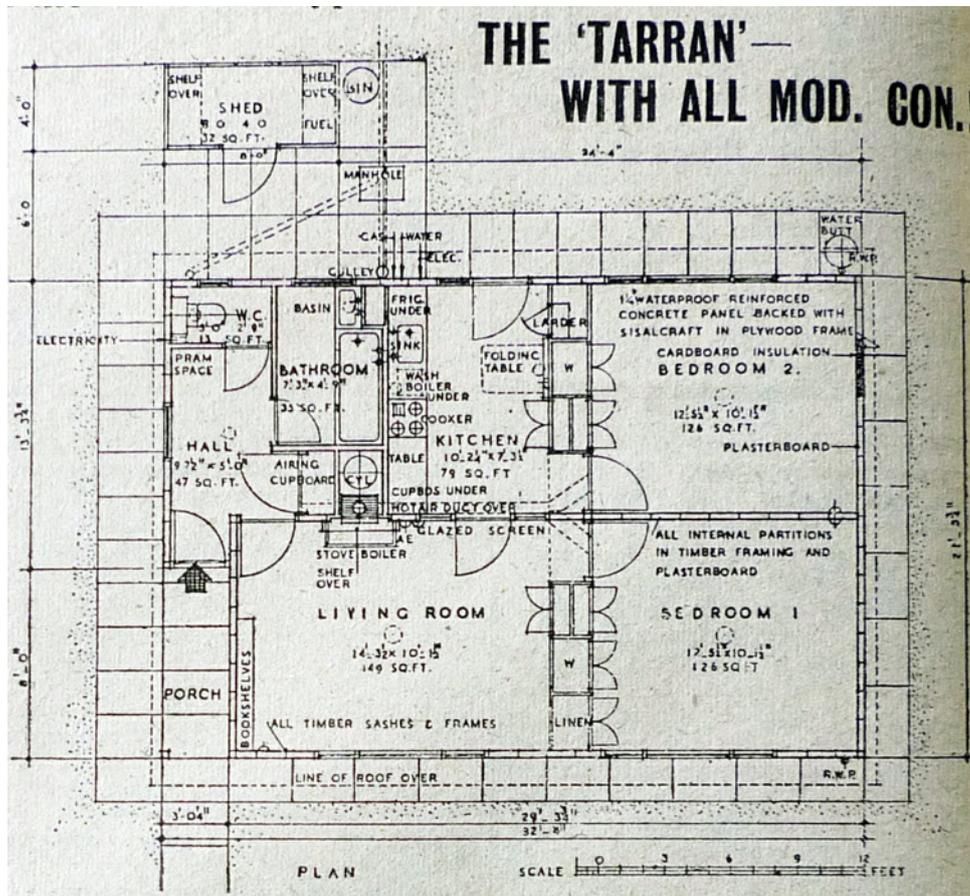


COUNCIL'S CHOICE OF "PREFAB" BUNGALOW

FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE 'TARRAN' TYPE

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HAVING sent a deputation to London recently to make a thorough inspection of prefabricated houses, the Council listened to a description of the different types outlined by Councillor E. J. Slinn at their meeting last week, and then decided to ask for fifty of the "Tarran" type.

Of the five available types of prefabricated bungalow, the Christchurch deputation inspected four. All types are very similar, built as they are around a mass produced "plumbing unit." Councillors Northover and Cobb said they would like to have all houses provided with such a complete and convenient kitchen lay-out.

This "unit" is the collection of equipment shown between the

kitchen and the bathroom on the accompanying plan and including the stove and boiler heating the living room. It is sent out ready for installation and only requires connecting to the mains supply.

The Christchurch deputation said they liked the look of the "Tarran" bungalow best of all and the "Phoenix" next.

The following is a full description of the "Tarran."The "plumbing unit" will consist, on the kitchen side, of refrigerator (gas or electric), fitted under draining board. Combined sink and draining board with hot and cold water supply to sink and hot water supply to washing boiler. Washing boiler (gas or electric) with flap work-top and compartment for wringer, which is hinged to lie flat when not in use. Cupboard under sink which will contain gas meter. Gas or electric cooker. Working bench with two drawers and two cupboards under, one cupboard being fitted as a vegetable store. Plate rack over cooker. Cupboard, shelving and dish cloth rail over draining board. Pot rack and pot lid rack. Lighting and kettle points and an electric control and fuse panel.

On the living room side there is a solid fuel stove with back boiler. On the hall side, airing cupboard fitted with slatted shelving. Hot water cylinder and cold water storage cistern. On the bathroom side, lavatory basin and bath, h. and c. water supply, heated towel rail, lighting point over lavatory basin and cupboards underneath, shelves at end of bath. The living room fire is arranged, to supply warm air through ducts at ceiling level to discharge into the two bedrooms.

A feature of the prefabricated dwellings which was stressed by Councillor Slinn was the ample in-built cupboard accommodation which avoided the necessity for much additional furniture.

There are two groups of cupboards—the kitchen and bedroom group, and the living room and bedroom group.

The former includes: In the kitchen, larder with shelving and adequate ventilation, folding table, brooms and brushes cupboard fitted with shelves. A lighting point and power plug for an electric iron is included over the kitchen folding table unit.

In the living room and bedroom group there is, in the living room, utility cupboard; upper portion fitted with shelves and lower part with three drawers. In the bedroom, wardrobe, linen cupboard fitted with shelves and soiled linen compartment, and cupboard fitted with shelves.

The official description of the "Tarran "discloses that the walls are " Butt jointed prefabricated units of full storey height formed of resin bonded plywood framing, faced externally with 1½in. thick waterproof concrete infilling on waterproof paper backing. Units are bolted together with wing nuts, and bituminous edges at joints are welded together with a hot iron. Metal flashing to sill." Internal partitioning and ceiling are of plaster board (ceiling height 7ft. 6in.). Roof is covered with corrugated asbestos cement sheeting. Windows and frames are of timber.

It is stated in the Government memorandum "Temporary Accommodation," that the houses will be provided and owned by the Government. Sites will be acquired and developed by the local authority, who will choose the tenants, fix and receive the rents, manage the property and keep it in repair.

The local authority also has to construct the roads and sewers, and ensure that the other main services, i.e., water, gas and electricity, are available by the time the houses are due for erection.

The Ministry of Works erects the bungalows, connects up the services, provides fencing for back gardens only and does external painting in colours selected by the local authority from the limited range available. **Land, it is pointed out, should be acquired now, and its advance acquisition and preparation for, at any rate, the first instalment of the bungalows is of first importance.** The Government has made recommendations in regard to lay-out, securing a sunny aspect for the living room, the construction of roads and the provision of open spaces and sites for communal facilities. It suggests an average spacing of 50 feet between the bungalows.

Councillor Slinn had been told, whilst making his inspection, that a bungalow had been equipped with utility furniture at a cost of about £75.