The Role of the National Kitchen in the Economy of the Home.

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(ABSTRACT.)

THE national kitchen movement is one of the greatest social reforms resulting from the war. If true economy and health are to be considered in raising our nation from C3 to A1 standard then national kitchens have come to stay.

Aims.—Substitution of skilfully prepared and properly cooked nourishing food for make-shift meals, economy of labour by collective preparation of our food, economy of fuel, proper food-values, cleanliness and hygienic conditions.

Since England developed industrially large numbers of her people have aggregated into small areas; it is in these congested areas where housing is poor, and there are few facilities for house-craft, that the food-problem is acute, and where national kitchens will minimise and finally dispose of food difficulties.

The Ministry of Food will advance to any Local Authority the full capital expenditure if any scheme submitted is approved, upon a loan covering a period of ten years, free of interest, repayable by ten annual instalments.

The National Kitchens Division will lend every assistance possible to Local Authorities and be ready to give advice upon building, plant equipment, etc., and also the standardized working of kitchens, restaurants, and canteens.

For economy, efficiency, and health national kitchens can do much to add to the physical and material well-being and happiness of the community.

The following took part in the discussion on this paper :—Mr. Barnett (Coventry), Alderman Taggart (Liverpool), Miss Florence Petty (London).