FOREWORD

THIS Report is the work of Mr. John Dower, A.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., who was requested to study the problems relating to the establishment of National Parks in England and Wales. It is published for information and as a basis for discussion.

As is indicated in the Report, further preliminary work is necessary on this subject. This is being undertaken and, in the meantime, the Government are not committed to acceptance of the recommendations and conclusions of this Report.

National Parks in England and Wales

AND COUNTRY PLANNING

JOHN DOWER

PART I.—PURPOSES AND REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL PARKS

1. National Parks, as one of the major objectives of post-war town and country planning, rest on a firm basis of popular desire, informed opinion and Ministerial approval. Of the last the following statements give evidence.

small island of matchless but most vulnerable beauty. It is reckless folly to squander and destroy it"... The Paymaster-General (Sir W. of National Parks and of the protection of our coast from ill-considered would satisfy the country if it did not provide for the preservation of extensive areas of great natural beauty, and of the coastline. The question 21st April, 1942:-" It is clear that no national planning of the use of land of youth-hostels to give our young people a chance to roam about and get as green belts and the preservation of the coastline. I give the illustration of the Lake District. Is there anyone who really doubts that a district the foregoing statement, added :-- "We are a large population living in a Strauss, M.P.) in the House of Commons, 29th April, 1942, after repeating importance of this " building development will be carefully examined and we fully realize the what your chairman said about National Parks; they are all-important for the future"... The Minister of Town and Country Planning (Mr. W. S. Morrison, M.P.) at Manchester, 13th October, 1943:—"My Ministry is value?" . . . Lord Portal at the annual meeting of the Council for the their exercise under those sort of conditions? Has not that some spiritual such as that ought not to be a National Park, combined with some scheme determined that the amenities of the country shall be preserved, and I have in Preservation of Rural England, 6th November, 1942 :-- "I . . . reiterate Jowitt, M.P.) in the same debate :-- "We must surely consider such questions mind that we should set apart certain areas as National Parks" The Minister of Works and Planning (Lord Portal) in the House of Lords . . . The Joint Parliamentary Secretary (Mr. Henry

^{2.} These statements—reinforced by the findings of Lord Justice Scott's Committee* that "the establisment of National Parks in Britain is long overdue" and their recommendation that "within the first year" of peace "the demarcation of National Parks and nature reserves be completed, and the National Parks Authority be set up," and by the references in the Government's White Paper on The Control of Land Use† to the "preservation of land for national parks" and "the establishment of national parks," as part of the programme of post-war reconstruction—make it needless to embark here on any general argument of the "case" for National Parks. It may be

Report of Committee on Land Utilization in Rural Areas, 1942 (Cmd. 6378); pararaphs 178 and 241.

The Control of Land Use, 1944 (Cmd. 6537); paragraphs I and 36.

The meaning of "National Parks"

modified by farming or other human uses. no such country here. Our remotest areas have long supported some settled "virgin" country, whether of high mountains, forests or jungle. We have over, the many "National Parks" which already exist in the United States state action more drastic than the true purpose justifies or requires. "National" may well suggest a comprehensive public acquisition or other "National Park," for the name, though firmly established here and abroad, is somewhat misleading. "Park" has an obvious flavour either of the town Scottish Highlands, whose landscape has not been to a significant degree are no considerable stretches in England and Wales, and few even in the population and, even in the most mountainous and infertile districts, there tion to this island. Most of the American and African Parks are continuously purpose, do not sufficiently indicate the nature of a National Park in applica-Africa and other countries, though they give a fair notion of the scale and (whose first great Park, the Yellowstone, dates back to 1872), Canada, South the tree-dotted pasture land surrounding a large country house; while park with its railings and shrubberies and "Keep off the grass" notices, or of 3. It is important to be clear at the outset what is or should be meant by a More-

=

4. A National Park may be defined, in application to Great Britain, as an extensive area of beautiful and relatively wild country in which, for the nation's benefit and by appropriate national decision and action, (a) the characteristic landscape beauty is strictly preserved, (b) access and facilities for public open-air enjoyment are amply provided, (c) wild life and buildings and places of architectural and historic interest are suitably protected, while (d) established farming use is effectively maintained. The several requirements and qualifications of this definition are all important, and may suitably form the framework for more extended comment.

The potential National Park areas

5. First and obviously, the concern of National Parks must be broadly confined to relatively wild country, for, generally speaking, it is only in such country that the public at large either desires or can satisfactorily be given a wide measure of recreational access. This relatively wild country,* of mountains and moors with the associated farm lands of their valleys and fringes, of heaths, of rocky or infertile coastlines, and of the rougher parts of numerous downs, hills and forests, comprises over one-third of the land area of Great Britain—in England and Wales about one-fifth or some 12,000 out of 58,000 square miles, and in Scotland (with which, except where it is specifically mentioned, this report is not concerned) fully two-thirds. The whole of this total extent is not, however, either required or, indeed, available and suitable

co-operative action of central and local planning authorities as a reserve for miles in England and Wales. This is considerably more than is required for initial, or indeed early, establishment as National Parks, and may well be in shown to be desirable in the public interest; and over all of it the authority possible future National Parks. Within this reserve no substantial "developexcess of what will ever be required: but, while a sufficient number of large extensive and free from inconsistent uses-amounting to some 8,000 square stretches for such uses. But when all necessary deductions have been made responsible for National Parks should hold at least a "watching brief". Parks, the whole of the remainder should be generally safeguarded by the and varied units are progressively selected, delimited and established as National there still remain potential National Park areas—sufficiently wild, beautiful servation and recreation. Considerable stretches are being used, more or or regional action under "open-space" or "green-belt" schemes for preaction though usually of value, and sometimes of critical importance, for local for National Parks. Some of it, though wild enough, is insufficiently beautiful, for instance the industrial section of the Pennines. A good deal is in isolated Park requirements; and it may be found necessary to set aside some further ranges or other purposes which cannot be successfully combined with National less intensively, for large-scale afforestation, quarrying and mining, military patches, such as the Malvern Hills and Cannock Chase, too small for national ", other than for agriculture or forestry, should be permitted unless

Selection of areas

and Parliament. and Country Planning, who would be responsible for them to the Government all selections and boundaries subject to the approval of the Minister of Town full Government authority: this, I suggest, will best be provided by making of Town and Country Planning and other Departments. And it must carry use of water resources, as these are progressively determined by the Ministry and forestry, the location of industry, the groundwork of transport and the national plans for land utilization, including the development of agriculture determined allocations of land, and must be integrated with all relevant of the local authorities concerned. It must be consistent with other nationally land utilization, existing or threatened disfigurements, transport and accommodation facilities, and the financial and administrative strength or weakness wild life, suitability for rambling access, popularity, existing and potential it must take into account a wide range of factors, including landscape beauty, gation of all areas which are, or are claimed to be, in any way suitable, and to be disappointed, and must be capable of reasoned defence against inevitable as National Parks or to be treated as reserves for future National Parks-with be no easy matter. The choice will be invidious, since some hopes are bound the no less important corollary of deciding what areas are not to be so treated (without which local authorities will not know where they stand)-will clearly The task of selecting and delimiting the areas which are to be established It must rest on an adequate and disinterested survey and investi-

7. It is clear that the decisive selection and precise delimitation of the areas to become National Parks should follow, not precede, the determination of National Parks policy, at least in its essential features and prospective scale of operations. A detailed examination of areas with hard-and-fast recommendations as to choice and boundaries would, therefore, be out of place in this report. Nevertheless, it seems desirable that I should give—if only to provide a general notion of their number and extent, and as a basis for the citing of examples—preliminary lists covering all the areas which it will probably be

^{*}The areas coloured yellow on the maps of the Land Utilization Survey give the best available picture of the distribution of the "relatively wild country." The main adjustments needed to give a closer picture are the addition of (a) various coastline stretches, (b) most of the narrower valleys (mainly pale green) contained by the larger yellow masses, and (c) several of the rougher and more open woodland areas (dark green) such as the New Forest; and the omnssion of many of the smaller yellow areas, largely representing ill-drained or neglected farmland

geographical distribution of these areas is shown in broad approximation on Map II (see page 12). As I have already indicated, there is no suggestion of the witnesses before the National Park Committee in 1930.* On the although nearly all of them were suggested, in whole or in part, by one or more that anything like the whole of these areas should ever become National Parks, necessary to consider, sooner or later, when National Parks are selected. The

only that rather less than half, by both number and extent, should be chosen extent) are in my opinion unsuitable, on one ground or another, for selection contrary, more than half of the areas (covering about one-third of the total

as National Parks: and of the rest, though all seem to me suitable, I suggest

and established during the first few years' operation of a National Parks

system.

desirable to establish as such at a later stage; and (C) Other Amenity Areas NOT suggested as National Parks, i.e. areas which it will probably be necessary should be given some designated status, whether as county or regional "Parks" or "Reserves", or as "National Forest Parks" where the Forestry Comotherwise deserving and requiring the special concern of local and central planning authorities, supported as may be by the National Trust and other consider suitable for National Parks, and some at least of which it will be where there are stretches of special value for their flora and fauna. mission has large holdings of land, or as national or local "Nature Reserves and wild life, and to increase appropriately their facilities for open-air recreation voluntary agencies, in order to safeguard their landscape beauty, farming use taken, but which, in my opinion, are unlikely to be found suitable, although to pass under review when the decisive selections of National Parks are under-Reserves for possible future National Parks, i.e. those further areas which as National Parks during the first period of operations (say 5 years); (B) i.e. those areas which I consider most suitable, and desirable for establishment purely personal judgment—in three divisions: (A) Suggested National Parks. In some cases it may be found desirable that these areas, or parts of them 8. The preliminary lists which follow are therefore given-necessarily on a

division are shown on Map I (see page 11). The first six areas are suggested arrangements for collaboration, respectively with the Duchy of Cornwall and that Dartmoor (No. 3) and The Roman Wall (No. 10) would require special as a first instalment: four outstanding mountain and moorland areas, and with the Ancient Monuments service of the Ministry of Works. four areas are suggested as a second, and early, instalment. It should be noted parts" of the Cornish Coast (No. 6, consist of (a) the Land's End and Lizard the two finest extensive stretches of unspoilt rocky coastline. The remaining Division A: Suggested National Parks. The ten areas comprising this The "selected

† For consideration of Nature Reserves, and wild life conservation generally, see para

Mountains and the Brecon Beacons (No. 8). designation applies to the contiguous but distinct mountain areas of the Black should eventually be administered together. A similar possibility of successive be found desirable to designate these separately and successively, though they to near Westward Ho! (the northern part of this being in Devon): it might peninsulas and (b) the stretch from Padstow Bay northwards round Hartland

0)	9) E	(8) E	7) 0	6) C	(5) P	(4) T	(3) D	2) S	T	
(10) The Roman Wall	(9) Exmoor and North Devon Coast	Black Mountains and Brecon Beacons	(7) Craven Pennines (Wharfe, Aire and Ribble)	(6) Cornish Coast (selected parts)	Pembroke Coast	The Peak District and Dovedale	Dartmoor	(2) Snowdonia	(1) The Lake District	
:	h Dev	and B	Whar	ected	:	and I	:	:	:	
:	on Coas	recon Be	fe, Aire	parts)	:	Dovedale	:	:	:	
:	:	acons	and R	:	:	:	:	:	:	
:	:	i	ibble)	:	:	:	:	:	:	
:	:	:		:	:	:	:	:	:	
170	280	470	380	180	100	530	310	320	860	Approx. square miles
3,600				2,300						niles

personal selection, is probably in fairly close accord with the corsensus of informed opinion) is followed when the official selection is made, I would stress of less than about 250 square miles each. If the Parks in the first instalment one or two Parks only, nor-so far as inland Parks are concerned-with areas accompanying their establishment, will lead to the most serious consequencesare too few, or too small, the concentration of visitors, attracted by the publicity the importance of starting with several National Parks of ample size, not with modation and other facilities, in objections by the resident population, and in damage to amenities, in overloading and dislocation of transport, accom-Whether or not this choice and priority of areas (which, though given as in initial discredit to the National Parks administration.

I suggest, have priority of consideration for a third instalment, except in so far as it may be found practicable to make satisfactory provision for their formations and of markedly different landscape types. Though, in my opinion, rather less straightforwardly suitable than those in Division A, these areas should areas are listed in this division. They fall naturally into three groups, the first of which differs substantially from the other two. It consists of four quite separate and distinct from the areas in Division A-of younger geological preservation and appropriate recreational use by county or regional action. The Broads (No. 1), in particular, are an area of unique waterway and fenland character, which it is of the utmost importance to conserve and to open as further areas, worthy of National Park treatment, which are geographically from those of a regular National Park. It may prove better to deal with the existing misuses and disfigurements; and the requirements differ materially But there are many complications, both of drainage, navigation, etc., and of fully as possible to such public enjoyment as is consistent with its conservation Division B: Reserves for possible future National Parks. Twelve further

country planning, have made its recommendations inadequate and out of date: and I have not thought it necessary to review them. But the Report remains a valuable assembly of facts and opinions, on which I have drawn freely, and to which I acknowledge my debt. I have also used, and am indebted to, a number of unofficial publications, including particularly those of the Standing Committee on National Parks (through which since 1936 the principal voluntary bodies concerned have pursued a joint policy)—"The case for National Parks in Great Britain," 1938; "National Parks," 1944; and an unpublished "priority selection" list of National Park areas submitted in 1941 to the Planning Department of the Ministry of Works and Buildings. * Report of the National Park Committee, April 1931 (Cmd. 3851); see especially paragraphs 37-41 and Appendices II and III. This Report, prepared under the chairmanship of Dr. (now Lord) Addison, is the only official document which deals directly with National Parks policy for this country. Preparation under the shadow of the economic crisis, and subsequent developments, particularly in the scope and system of

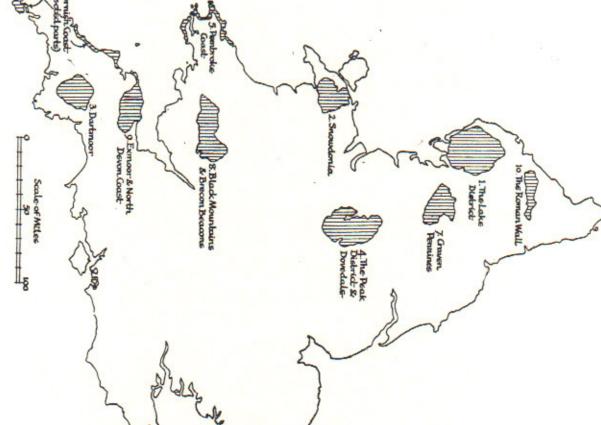
should include the protection of substantial areas of mere and marsh as strict Nature Reserves. The other two groups, which are not in any order of priority, comprise all the best that remains, after taking the areas included in Division A, in the moorland and mountain masses of the North (Cheviots and Pennines) and of Wales and the Welsh Marches. These are, in effect, the two great reserves from which further National Parks or extensions of existing Parks—not necessarily corresponding precisely to the unit areas as listed—could progressively be drawn, as policy, finance and administrative capacity allowed.

(1) The Broads	Approx. squae e miles s	1,929										
s	k Moors and Coast st and Heaths		40	:	Cothi)	and	Towy	(Elan,	ntains	Mou	Elenith	(12)
s 120 k Moors and Coast	Approx. squae e miles s		420	:	:	:	:	orests	Clun F	and	Radnor	Ξ
120 240 240 240 240 240 260	Approx. qua e miles 120 240 240 240 240 260		400	:		:	:	:	:		Plynlin	(10)
120 450 240 wns 240 oquet) 300 Wear and Tees) 640 of Wensleydale) 240	Approx. squae miles 120 240 240 240 oquet) 340 of Wensleydale) 240 280		660	:	Berwyns)	incl.	tains	d Mour	oast an	th Co	Merione	(9)
120 450 240 wns 240 of Wensleydale) 240 280	Approx. squae miles 120 450 210 wns 240 vear and Tees) 640 of Wensleydale) 240 280	1,46										
	## Approx. ## square miles Square miles Square miles		280	:		:	:	f Lune)	s (uppe	Fells	Howgill	8
	### Approx. square miles Square mi		240	:		Wen	part of	(with I	nnines	de Pe	Swaleda	3
	## Approx. square miles 120		640	:		ar ar	ne, We	uth Ty	nes (So	enni	North I	6
120 Moors and Coast 450 t and Heaths 240 nd Marlborough Downs 240	### Approx. square miles Square mi		.300	:		quet)	nd Cox	і (ТіІІ а	heviote	ast C	North-e	5
Moors and Coast t and Heaths	Moors and Coast	1,020										
Moors and Coast	Moors and Coast		240	:	:	1S	Down	borough	d Marl	re an	Berkshi	4
Moors and Coast	Moors and Coast		200	:	:	:	:		and H	Coast	Dorset	(3)
			490	:	:.	:	st	and Coa	Moors	(ork	North Y	(2)
	Approx. squa e miles		120		:	:	:	:	:	ads	The Bro	Ξ

(see explanation in paragraph 8 above). These are set out in four groups—Northern; Western; South-western; and Southern and Eastern. It may be thought that some of the areas in this last group should have been placed, so as to secure a more even distribution of National Parks over the country, in Divisions A of B, in which areas in the North, West and South-west predominate. The answer is that the wilder country most suitable for National Parks is predominantly in the North, West and South-west. Nevertheless I should have included at least two southern areas in Divisions A or B if I were not reasonably satisfied that they would, in future, be adequately dealt with by other agencies; the South Downs by the country and local authorities, and the New Forest by the Forestry Commission. Both have, unfortunately, suffered considerably in places from past misdevelopments. Other areas where the Forestry Commission has a major interest are the Forest of Dean (already a National Forest Park), the South-west Cheviots (Kielder and Kershope Forests), Cannock Chase, Breckland and the Suffolk Heaths.

MAP I

1



Areas suggested for the first 10 National Parks in England and Wales.

Notes.

To show the coastal areas clearly, their depth is, in some parts, exaggerated. Small enclaves of urban and industrial development are disregarded.

^{*}There is no current general name for this well-marked mountain range running from Rhayader south-west almost to Carmarthen: I take the revival of the ancient name "Elenith" from Mr. A. G. Bradley and Mr. Edmund Vale.

(Wales and Welsh Marches)

Scale of Milles

Distribution of areas to be considered when National Parks in England and Wales are selected.

Notes.

To show the coastal areas clearly, their depth is, in some parts, exaggerated. Small enclaves of urban and industrial development are disregarded.

Northern

Northumberland Coast (part)
South-west Cheviots
Bowland Fells
Bowland Fells
Nidderdale Pennines
Industrial Pennines
Charnwood Forest
Cannock Chase
Delamere Forest

Anglesey Coast Lleyn Coast Denbigh Moors Clwydian Range

South-western

The Cotswolds
The Mendips
The Quantocks
Cornish Coast (remaining parts)
South Devon Coast
Blackdown Hills
Dorset Downs

Gardigan Coast
Gower
The Eppynt
South Shropshire Hills
Malvern Hills
Forest of Dean and Lower Wye

Southern and Eastern

The New Forest
Hampshire Downs and Hindhead
South Downs
Forest Ridges (Horsham to Battle)
North Downs
The Chilterns
Breckland
Suffolk Heaths and Coast

North Norfolk Coast

12. The terms of reference for this report do not extend to Scotland and the foregoing lists are therefore confined to England and Wales. It is, however, exceedingly desirable that National Parks should be established, and areas for further National Parks reserved, in Scotland pari pass with England and Wales, and at a rate of not less than one to three. The mountain masses of the Highlands, with their glens and lochs, are far larger and more continuously wild than any corresponding areas south of the Border; and (in my opinion) at least two selected Highland areas of ample size should become Scottish National Parks simultaneously with the establishment of the first six English and Welsh National Parks. Such action would have, besides its intrinsic merit, the advantage of providing a further insurance against the congestion and other ill-effects which would arise from any scheme which started with too small a number or extent of National Park areas.

A national objective for national decision and action

13. The next requirement of my definition is that National Parks should be in a true and full sense national, if they are to be worthy of their name and purpose. This does not mean that local interests are to be disregarded. On the contrary, the well-being of those who live and work within them must always be a first consideration. But it does mean that their holiday and recreational use should be for people—and especially young people—of every class and kind and from every part of the country, indeed of the world. National Parks are not for any privileged or otherwise restricted section of the population, but for all who care to refresh their minds and spirits and to exercise their bodies in a peaceful setting of natural beauty.* Few national purposes are more vital or more rich in promise of health and happiness than the provision, first, of general and generous opportunity for holidays (by the "holidays with pay" system and otherwise) and, second, of large, open and beautiful tracts

This qualification does, of course, imply one broad restriction, namely, that it is no concern of National Parks to cater for those who prefer a town setting for their bolidays: see paragraph 29 below.

of country in which holidays can be freely and inexpensively enjoyed. To quote from an address by Dr. G. M. Trevelyan to the Annual Conference of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England in 1937—" It is not a question of physical exercise only; it is also a question of spiritual exercise and enjoyment. It is a question of spiritual values. Without vision the people perish, and without sight of the beauty of nature the spiritual power of the British people will be atrophied. The longing, too often a thwarted longing, for natural beauty and the great unspoilt spaces, is a most touching and a most hopeful thing in the modern city population. The condition of any real value in modern city life is holidays spent in the country. . . With shorter hours of work, holidays with pay, and increasing leisure for millions, the question of the proper use of leisure has become a national problem second to none in importance. And it makes the provision of National Parks increasingly and urgently necessary. . . ." This essentially popular and democratic character of the demand and need for National Parks is simple enough in theory. It is far from simple to satisfy in practice, without harm to the beauty and quietude which are its basis. Some of the particular difficulties and dangers are considered in later paragraphs.

very far from being officially accepted before the war. It may fairly be stated that the Government's answer to Parliamentary and public representations undertaken by existing agencies. What this implies in specific machinery and should itself take executive charge where this cannot be satisfactorily necessary administrative measures for their preservation, access and facilities responsibility, should delimit their areas, should direct and supervise all and an appropriate national body, under Ministerial and Parliamentary for the establishment of National Parks was that the powers of local authorities under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, if fully and properly used, should suffice for the purpose.* In the absence of any policy, to state the principle and to note that, self-evident as it may appear, it was of body, or any particular arrangements for joint action. It is sufficient here describe the responsible national body without implying any particular form report-pending which, the phrase "National Parks authority" is used to responsibility for normal local services), are considered in Part II of this of the national body and the local authorities (without impairing the latter's powers and funds, and how these may suitably be applied by the joint action funds; the requisite special provisions should be determined by Parliament provided by the nation. Their distinct cost should be met from national never of its nature provide national Parks. It might well provide a number of local Parks, or by joint action regional Parks, and it is conceivable, though improbable, that such provision might, in time, be made on so considerable a out-dated, view: namely, that local action, even if it made consistently ful or properly used, and that in some important areas they were not being used objections that the powers were not proving sufficient (many palpable misaccepted by Parliament, for positive national planning, this answer was widened by the Town and Country Planning Acts of 1943 and 1944) could and proper use of available powers (now substantially strengthened and at all. There is, however, a more fundamental objection to this recent, if now developments being outside planning control), that they were not being fully limiting conditions, it was increasingly difficult to defend in practice against perhaps inevitable; but whatever its theoretic merits under this and other 14. If National Parks are provided for the nation they should clearly be

scale as to leave no sufficiently clear field for national action. But the result would inevitably be local and piecemeal in character; the essential elements of national decision, national choice and national responsibility would be lacking; and a unique opportunity would have been missed of stinulating the best kinds of open-air recreation, and of giving to the public at large the confident sense of enjoying something that was theirs of right, provided undeniably and permanently by all for all.

The two dominant purposes

stand supreme; all other uses, though by no means excluded, being so limited and controlled as to harmonize with the two dominants. These are (a) that purposes for which the land might be used and developed, shall thereafter National Park is that within it two purposes, out of the numerous possible costs, direct and indirect-are doubtfully worth-while and certainly unrecuired to maintain natural beauty over a wide and varied district-and the together in mutual dependence is evident. The skilled and continuous efforts recreation and for enjoyment of its beauty. That the two purposes must go the visiting public shall have ample access and facilities within it for open-air the characteristic beauty of the landscape shall be preserved, and (b) that justifiable as a national charge, unless the district can be widely visited and sensitive and ignorant of natural beauty-might wish to do in National Parks general, may nevertheless be at variance with and limit each other in detail added that the two purposes, while supporting and justifying each other in be enjoyed is neglected, blotched and evanescent. freely enjoyed. "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." Conversely, the of those scenic delicacies which are only possible "among the introdder and some of the more urban and mechanical facilities they might ask for, wil Some things that the visiting public-or that part of it which is as yet in fullest provision for public enjoyment is but a sorry blessing if the beauty to ways," and of the completely peaceful seclusion which cannot be enjoyed by On the other hand, there will have to be, from place to place, some sacrific have to be prohibited or restricted in the interest of landscape preservation more than a very few at a time. 15. The fundamental decision made when a given area is established as a It must, however, be

Landscape preservation

inadequate, description of the task of maintaining the characteristic landscape beauty of wide areas: inadequate because it suggests a purely negative process and an artificial and lifeless result. The most obvious and urgenerequirements are, indeed, of a negative or restrictive nature. The first essentials to impose control over all kinds of building development or charges in the use of land; and to administer the control so as to prevent, except when they are shown to be essential in the national interest, all developments of changes, other than for agriculture, for open-air recreation and for a limite residential and tourist expansion of the existing centres—small towns an selected larger villages—in each National Park area. Where development of any kind is permitted, careful control must also be exercised over its formstring, size, design, materials and colours—so as to ensure that it harmonizes as fully as possible with its natural setting and with any neighbouring building So far as ordinary "private enterprise" development is concerned, powers for the necessary controls are already generally available under the Town are Country Planning Act, 1932, as amended and reinforced by the Town are Country Planning Acts, 1943 and 1944. The outstanding requirements as

^{*} See, inter alia, House of Commons debate on National Parks, 9th December, 1936; Ministry of Health Circular 1750 on Control of Premature or Unsightly Development in the Country and on the Sea-Coast (December 1938): and the sections on "Preservation of the Countryside" in the 1937-8 and 1938-9 Annual Reports of the Ministry of Health.

