

educational angle at the time they leave secondary school to carry on with higher education. It has been decided that, in the cases where the Rehabilitation Board approves of post-secondary educational assistance for such children, tuition and examination fees and a contribution to the cost of books will be made, and, in addition, where full-time study is approved, a sustenance allowance will be payable, varying from £1 12s. 6d. per week to £3 3s. per week at the age of twenty-one years.

2. Where apprenticeships are entered upon the Department will also, within certain limitations, afford suitable financial assistance.

(v) Engineering Profession

The Rehabilitation Engineers Advisory Committee has been set up in Wellington to advise the Rehabilitation Board of all matters affecting the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen members of the Engineering Profession and ex-servicemen desirous of entering the profession or completing their training. The Committee comprises one representative from each of the following :—

- The Rehabilitation Board (as Chairman).
- The New Zealand Institution of Engineers.
- The Professional Engineers Association.
- The Public Service.

It was considered desirable for a central body to be set up to advise on the co-ordination of the practical and theoretical training of engineering students and the prospects of employment in the field of engineering. The intention is not only to guide ex-servicemen in avenues of engineering education, but also to follow up their academic training by providing contact with engineer employers and eventually to find employment for them in the professional engineering field.

SECTION X.—FARM TRAINING AND SETTLEMENT

(i) Administration

1. During the year under review Mr. P. W. Smallfield, Director of the Rural Development Division, Department of Agriculture, joined the Farm Advisory Committee in place of Mr. R. B. Tennent. This Committee met on a number of occasions and carried out investigations into—

- (1) Courses at agricultural colleges.
- (2) Co-operative farming in New Zealand.
- (3) Establishment of disabled servicemen's farms.
- (4) Offering of properties by ballot.
- (5) Rural housing.
- (6) Grading of farm applicants.
- (7) Provision of workers' homes in rural areas.
- (8) Poultry-farming.
- (9) Settlement of ex-servicemen as tobacco-growers.
- (10) Provision of stock for ex-servicemen.
- (11) Settlement of ex-servicemen as market-gardeners.
- (12) Establishment of ex-servicemen in citrus orchards.
- (13) Farm settlement for ex-servicemen generally.

2. The grading system has continued to prove a valuable method of classifying applicants according to their qualifications. The organization is working smoothly, and the past year has resulted in a large number of men being graded. This was particularly noticeable towards the end of the year when many large drafts returned from overseas. A record number of applications for grading was dealt with during the month of March, and this is expected to be the peak period. Once again, thanks must be expressed to the private farmers who have given up so much of their time to act as Chairmen of the Farming Sub-committees.