

8. Meanwhile, a press statement by the Hon. the Minister of Education and advertisements in all the newspapers in the four main centres and in the publication *Engineering* invited other interested organizations and persons to submit evidence. A full list of those organizations which have made submissions is set out in Appendix I.

9. The Committee also decided to draft a questionnaire designed to obtain information to assist in answering questions relating to supply and demand. The coverage and the figures obtained from this questionnaire are referred to in Section 8 of the report. Those filling in the questionnaire were invited to make any comments relevant to the inquiry. A large number of thoughtful and valuable criticisms and suggestions were thus made available to the Committee from a wide range of employing authorities and firms.

10. Visits were paid to the following educational institutions :—

16th and 17th September, 1948 : Auckland University College School of Engineering.

16th and 17th September, 1948 : Seddon Memorial Technical College, Auckland.

23rd and 24th September, 1948—

National School of Engineering, Canterbury University College.

Christchurch Technical College.

6th October, 1948—

Wellington Technical College.

Hutt Valley Memorial Technical College, Petone.

11. These visits enabled the Committee to obtain a better knowledge of the facilities and equipment available at most of the institutions specializing in the education of professional engineers. During the visits sufficient time was set aside to hear formal evidence, mainly from the controlling authorities and members of the staff, but also from other interested persons.

4. THE REGISTRATION OF ENGINEERS

(1) THE ENGINEERS REGISTRATION ACT, 1924

12. The Engineers Registration Board was set up under the Engineers Registration Act, 1924, and consists of six persons appointed by the Hon. the Minister of Works, of whom three are nominated by the New Zealand Institution of Engineers, one being representative of civil engineers, one of electrical engineers, and one of mechanical engineers. The Act came into operation on the 1st April, 1925.

13. The Board considers the qualifications of applicants for registration and, where it is satisfied that the applicants' qualifications are adequate, arranges for their names to be entered on the register kept by the Board.

14. The Engineers Registration Amendment Act, 1944, which amended the original Act, increased the significance of the Board's functions by providing for the issue of annual practising certificates and, subject to certain stated exemptions, prohibited local authorities from having unregistered engineers in charge of any engineering work. The register, as now published in the *Gazette*, contains the names of those engineers holding current practising certificates, but not all professional engineers are necessarily registered. There is provision in the Act for penalties to deter persons from representing that they are registered engineers when, in fact, they are not.

(2) FUNCTIONS OF THE ENGINEERS REGISTRATION BOARD

15. The Board's principal functions, and those of most interest to this Committee, are—

- (a) To assess examination qualifications submitted and, as a consequence of this function, to provide examinations for those whose qualifications are not accepted ; and
- (b) To determine whether the practical experience of the applicant is sufficient for registration.