

230. The Committee feels certain that the successful establishment in New Zealand of a system of diplomas in professional engineering on the basis recommended would quickly lead to their recognition and acceptance by overseas Institutions.

RECOMMENDATIONS—

That the Education Department and the Engineers Registration Board co-operate in drawing up prescriptions and conditions for qualifying examinations for diplomas in professional engineering, as circumstances warrant, and in conducting or arranging for these examinations.

That diplomas in professional engineering be issued under the authority of the Education Department.

That any necessary regulations be prepared and administered by the Education Department after approval by the Engineers Registration Board.

13. BURSARIES, SCHOLARSHIPS, LOANS, AND OTHER FORMS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(1) GENERAL POLICY

231. Perhaps the greatest single problem which the Committee has had to consider is how to obtain a sufficient intake to provide for the 120 professional engineers who will be required annually for some time to come. The statistics in so far as they are available have been considered in Section 8. In this section it is proposed to set out the steps which the Committee considers should be taken to make certain that no suitable entrants to the profession are lost to it purely through lack of financial resources to complete the necessary course.

232. It is interesting to note that one of the causes of the increases in the rolls at the University Schools of Engineering has been the number of returned servicemen who, by taking advantage of the generous bursaries of the Rehabilitation Department, are qualifying for a profession that would in the ordinary course be denied to them. It would seem, therefore, that a similar policy for civilians might well have the effect of increasing the number of engineering students. In fact, some such action is made necessary for the engineering profession by the action taken to increase the numbers in other professions.

233. As indicated in Section 8, the anticipated requirement of trained professional engineers is, say, 75 graduates and 45 non-graduates annually. The provision of bursaries under more generous conditions than at present exist is considered necessary for both types of students, for somewhat different reasons, in so far as the effect on the supply of engineers is concerned. The provision of bursaries to diploma students, in order that they may take at least one full-time year, is necessary if the scheme is to be successful. It will have the effect of producing trained engineers more quickly by reducing the period hitherto taken to qualify. The provision of bursaries to degree students will increase the supply by ensuring that no one is debarred purely on financial grounds.

(2) ASSISTANCE AT PRESENT AVAILABLE

234. It may be as well at this stage to indicate briefly in general terms the assistance at present available from public funds to any one who wishes to become a professional engineer. It should be mentioned that most bursary schemes contain detailed provisions designed to cover special cases. The list below does not attempt to cover all these points.