

you, but if your position on your return is no worse than when you bought the place then assistance will not necessarily be forthcoming. This is not really unjust. You bought in a much cheaper market than the man who is now buying a home.

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Q.—I had a farm which I had to leave to join the Army. My father, who is getting on in years, has been trying to look after it, but he hasn't been able to do much and says that the place has gone back. Can I get any help when I get back to put it in proper order?

A.—Yes. If, as a result of your absence overseas the property has gone back, you can get an interest-free loan, repayable only if you sell the place, to help you get it going again. You must remember, however, that owing to shortage of material (fertilizer and fencing wire, for instance) most places have gone back a bit. Where the deterioration is due to general war conditions and not to your service you will not be eligible for a loan of this sort.

By the way, this assistance applies to all sorts of property, not only to farms.

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## A POLICEMAN'S LOT

The recent admission into the New Zealand Police Force of a Maori constable at Gisborne was the first occasion on which a full-blooded native had been appointed to the office, although the candidate had previously performed part-time duties as a native constable. Including Maoris, New Zealand employs one policeman for approximately every thousand of population, and its present total strength is just below 1,700.

You have to be a more than average sort of fellow to gain admission to the force. Recruits must be between the ages of twenty-one and thirty years and not less than 5ft. 9ins. in height, and if you cannot push the tape out to thirty-eight inches on a normal chest measurement you're wasting your time. Form I or better are the educational qualifications, but the requirements also include a stipulation that the candidate should be "of good moral character, smart, active, intelligent and free from bodily complaint or infirmity." Exhaustive inquiries are next made into the applicant's character, antecedents and qualifications, while before appointment he undergoes a course of training at the Training Depot, in which he is drilled and

receives instructions in the duties he will be called upon to perform.

A policeman's work is not confined to the enforcement of the criminal law, for there is quite an impressive array of statutes of a regulatory nature which the police are called upon to administer, wholly or in part. They include the Arms Act, the Licensing Act, the Gaming Act, the Dangerous Drugs Act, the Motor Vehicles Act, the Pawnbrokers Act, and the Second-Hand Dealers Act. They also undertake inquiries and other duties on behalf of other departments of the Government service, principally the Social Security Department, the Registrar-General's Office, the Internal Affairs Department, and the Child Welfare Branch of the Education Department. Police in country districts in many cases hold such additional appointments as clerks and bailiffs of magistrates' courts, inspectors of factories, probation officers, inspectors of sea-fishing, kauri-gum rangers, and sub-enumerators of agricultural and pastoral statistics.

There's more in being a limb of the law than meets the eye!