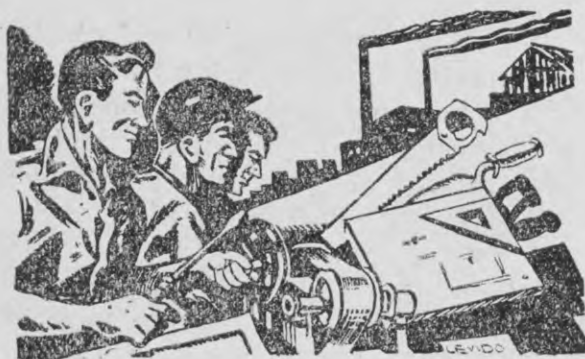


connected with building. This restriction does not apply to "B" class training, but there are certain trades, such as motor engineering, radio, electrical trades, fitting and turning in which it is expected that the services will have trained far more tradesmen than will be required for peacetime. Inexperienced men wanting training in these trades cannot expect either help or encouragement.

The principle then is clear. The Rehabilitation Dept. is offering training or subsidies to encourage men to acquire skills the country needs and to maintain them until they acquire those skills. As they learn the subsidy is reduced till at the end of the agreed term the employee is entitled to full journeyman's wages, but these the employer and not the Government must find.

As a rule it can be taken that, except in plumbing, the term of training will not exceed three years. Where the trainee requires his own kit of tools, an interest-free loan of up to L50 will be made. The terms of repayment are by arrangement. It will be appreciated that this training costs the taxpayer quite a lot. The Government feels that this is justified because of the advantage the country receives from the additional tradesmen produced. But



some safeguard is necessary against wasting money training men who do not mean to stick at the job so in the

contract of training the student is asked to undertake to remain in the trade for a specified time, not less than three years, excluding the training period.

To obtain trade training application should be made through your Rehabilitation Officer soon after you get back to New Zealand. He will put the application before the Committee and if the training is recommended there should be little further difficulty. But remember that once you are qualified you must stand on your own feet, so make the most of the training. Quite possibly you can make a start now by taking a correspondence course with NZ School of Education. Or there may be a Unit or Formation Class in the subject. If you are interested see your Unit Education Representative and ask him what's doing.

The increase in interest in trade training has been very marked in New Zealand. In Auckland recently the authorities had on hand ninety-five applications for carpentry training, twenty-one for painting, paper-hanging and glazing, twelve for bricklaying and ten for plastering.

The figures to the end of July are interesting as showing the very real eagerness for training when it is made financially possible. To that date 3,570 ex-servicemen had been approved for various forms of trade training of whom 2,793 were ex-overseas; 732 men were under training at that date in the full-time training centres, 190 at the various branches of the Disabled Servicemen's Re-establishment League and 793 were training with private employers on a subsidy basis. In addition 332 men had resumed apprenticeships under subsidy arrangements. No fewer than 908 had already completed training. During July a further 288 were approved for training, 123 commenced their training and 49 completed their courses. These figures clearly show how the scheme has