

could be done but it might necessitate New Zealand putting all her eggs in one basket.

Similarly if New Zealand were to concentrate on expanding her Navy to include more cruisers and aircraft carriers and destroyers, the expense involved would be enormous also, even though shared by the British taxpayer.



There are few soldiers who will not agree that a period of army training is good for a youth. Six months' compulsory training for every youth on leaving school, with subsequent refresher periods in camp, would be sufficient to produce a well-trained

soldier. The period of training could be done in New Zealand or in garrison duty in the Pacific. A scheme like this would entail a fairly substantial permanent staff of instructors and specialists, who would be invaluable should war again threaten. The period of training would interfere little with a youth's career, for facilities could be provided to keep him up to his study or trade in camp. From the points of view of character and physique a period in camp would be highly beneficial to all who could pass the required medical examination.

Such a scheme would apply, of course only to training for the army. A much longer period would be required to train youths for the Air Force and for the Navy, but both services would offer many attractions to New Zealand youth that would compensate for a longer time of training.

Until the research in progress on atomic bombs is completed and the Great Powers announce their views on maintenance of collective security it will be difficult, in fact almost impossible, for any nation to formulate any definite policy of defence. New Zealand will have to await developments with the rest of the world. But one thing seems clear. Some system of compulsory military service will have to be introduced and maintained for many years to come—in fact, until that Utopian state is reached when the threat of war has been removed forever.

The Jap Jeep.

Rather unique among the spoils of war was a Japanese equivalent of the jeep which was captured near Meik-tila in Burma. It was purchased from its captors by two American Air Force officers in exchange for a carton of cigarettes. The vehicle is a four-wheel drive three-seater built in 1941, with a maximum speed stated to be 47 m.p.h. and a petrol consumption of nearly 35 miles per gallon. It has rather more graceful lines than those of the utilitarian jeep but its interior accommodation shows much the same austerity. The engine is of the air cooled "V" twin type.