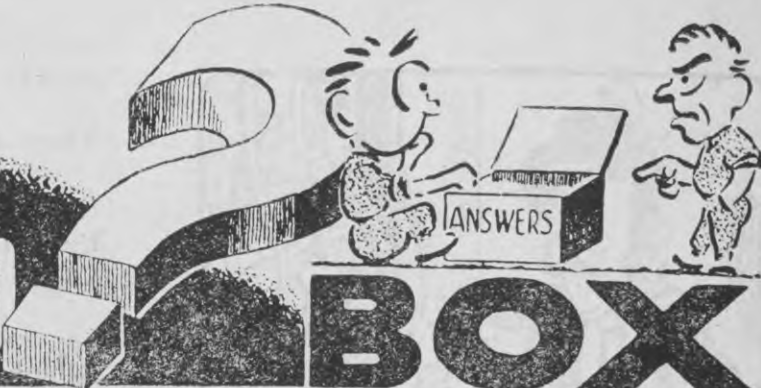


The QUESTION BOX



Question.—I hear that there is now an "Extension Period" added to the original year for trade training. I want to go in for the carpentry training. Does this extension period mean that it will take me longer to reach the award wage?

Answer.—No. The full award wage is paid in the second year. It was found that the original one-year term was not sufficient to enable a man to compete on equal terms with conventionally trained carpenters, and the period was extended into the second year, but this does not affect you at all financially. And it is a big advantage in other ways, as you emerge from your training a better tradesman.

Question.—While I was on a visit to New Zealand the war broke out and I stayed there and later enlisted in the Army. Am I eligible for rehabilitation benefits? I am a British subject, but I don't think that technically I can claim to be a New Zealander.

Answer.—Yes. There have been a number of cases like yours. The Board has ruled that "rehabilitation benefits are available to officers and men of other British countries who enlisted with the New Zealand Forces or who served with them." This covers your case completely.

Question.—What exactly is the Servicemen's Employment Division of the National Service Department and where does it fit in?

Answer.—The Servicemen's Employment Division is an agent of the Rehabilitation Board specially constituted

to advise and place ex-servicemen seeking employment. No returned serviceman is subject to direction, except for a few men returned to New Zealand for a specified job of work. The Division puts you in touch with possible employers, and advises you as to what is available in your own particular line. It uses the valuable employer contacts of the National Service Department and has branches throughout New Zealand, working in close co-operation with the Rehabilitation Officers. A somewhat similar service is being carried out by the Commercial Services Contacts Centres run by private businessmen. These institutions exist purely to help you get the sort of job you want. You can use them or not, as you wish.

Question.—What is my chance of being graded "A" to enable me to purchase a farm when I get back? I have ten years' farming experience, but have been four years in the Army. Will the Grading Committee grade me down on that account?

Answer.—Your grading will depend on what the Farming Committee think of your experience. Thus you would almost certainly be graded "A" by the committee of the district where you gained your experience, but a committee for an area where conditions were very different might grade you "B" for that district or type of farming. Slight rustiness on account of war service will not affect the grading, as is shown by the fact that more than two out of every three applicants receive an "A" grading.