

SECOND EDITION.

The Soldier's Guide.

CONTAINING FULL INFORMATION AS TO THE PRIVILEGES
AND CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE TO SOLDIERS

OVERSEAS

AND IN NEW ZEALAND

BEFORE DISCHARGE

AND

AFTER DISCHARGE.

Published under the Authority of the Minister of Defence

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

TO THE SOLDIER.

This handbook is designed to aid you in taking up your civilian position. It will be useful for some time to come. **KEEP IT.**

THE SOLDIER'S GUIDE.

INTRODUCTION.

IN these pages the concessions and privileges granted by the State to the soldier are set out in plain terms. So extensive are the organizations of the State set up to assist the soldier while on service and to re-enter civilian life upon being discharged that it has been found necessary to group the information under one cover, arranged for ready reference.

The matter is arranged under three main headings corresponding to the stages of demobilization, and the soldier, by reference to these sections or to the index, will readily find information applying to his own category. The three main divisions are,—

**OVERSEAS.
BEFORE DISCHARGE.
AFTER DISCHARGE.**

As this booklet contains information which may have to be turned to account many months after the return of the soldier to New Zealand, it is hoped that he will retain it permanently.

Where more information is required on important matters the booklet gives an address at which details will be furnished.

Though the soldiers' financial-assistance scheme has by this time largely served its useful purpose, some particulars have been inserted, as they have an important bearing on the general aspect of what is being done for the soldier. When the whole of these activities are realized it is to be hoped that a perusal of this necessarily brief summary will lead to a realization that a tremendous amount of work has been done to lighten the material sacrifices of our men, and that the end of the war does not by any means mark the cessation of the State's interest in the welfare of its soldiers.

[New matter which appears in this edition is indicated by a marginal line.]

BASE RECORDS.**The Soldier's Inquiry Office.**

Before and after discharge the soldier is advised to keep in touch with Base Records, Wellington. He should refer all his difficulties to Director, Base Records, and it is particularly important that this office should have his correct address. When there is any permanent change of address this should be notified to Base Records.

Neglect of this precaution in regard to address may lead to difficulty in obtaining medals, war gratuity, &c.

All matters relating to pay should be addressed to Officer in Charge of War Expenses, Wellington; those relating to pensions to the local Registrar of Pensions, or the Commissioner of Pensions, Wellington; applications for medical treatment to the nearest Defence Office. All other matters should be referred to Base Records.

OVERSEAS.**Discharge in Sequence.**

The order of return of the troops to New Zealand is according to length of service overseas, those with the longest service returning first.

Married men will be given preference in their class (thus married men who left New Zealand in 1914 will be returned before single men who left New Zealand in 1914, and similarly for other years; but all the men who left New Zealand in 1914 will be returned before those who left New Zealand in 1915).

Discharge Abroad or return to New Zealand out of Sequence.

Applications for discharge abroad or return to New Zealand out of normal sequence, for urgent business and domestic reasons, are cabled to New Zealand so that official inquiry into the *bona fides* of the application may be made before the discharge

is approved. The following classes are being given priority in order of return:—

- (i.) Prisoners of war.
- (ii.) Medical and dental students.
- (iii.) Apprentices.
- (iv.) Public Works employees.
- (v.) School-teachers and Railway-men in their class.

Leave in England.

Leave before embarkation is granted in the following cases:—

Ordinary privilege leave, when entitled to same, if railway and shipping facilities permit—fourteen days.

Sick-leave, if recommended by the Medical Officer, on discharge from hospital—fourteen days, with ration allowance.

Special leave for repatriated prisoners of war—twenty-eight days, with ration allowance; to be extended to two months, if required.

Special business or educational leave—twenty-eight days. Any additional leave granted under this head will be without pay.

Patients in hospital will, if possible, be given leave before embarkation; but if they are unable, owing to their medical condition, to travel before required for embarkation, their relatives will be granted a free railway warrant to visit them in hospital.

No leave is granted which would delay demobilization.

Discharge in England.

Where the soldier desires to be discharged in England, the application is cabled to New Zealand, and a written approval is required from the soldier's next-of-kin.

Return to New Zealand.

A soldier discharged in England who returns to New Zealand within twelve months of the date of discharge is entitled to have refunded to him an amount equal to that which would have been paid for transport to New Zealand with a returning draft. This privilege dated from the 6th September, 1918, but has since been made retrospective. Therefore a man discharged in England before the 6th September, 1918, who returned to New Zealand before the 6th September, 1919, is eligible for the refund at rates existing at time of discharge.

A married soldier who returns with his wife and is eligible for the above concession may claim a refund of the amount which would have been contributed by the Government towards the wife's passage to New Zealand. This, in the case of a private, is £16. Claims should be addressed to the Officer in Charge of War Expenses, Brandon Street, Wellington.

Assisted Passages to New Zealand.

The Defence Department in conjunction with the New Zealand Department of Immigration provides the following concessions to members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force.

For all New Zealand soldiers' wives and their dependants, except those who have reached England or Egypt subsequent to the 31st December, 1917, assisted passages are granted. The New Zealand Government contributes the following to such passages:—

From United Kingdom—

£16 towards third-class passages.

£26 towards first- and second-class passages.

From Egypt—

£10 towards third-class passages.

£16 towards first- and second-class passages.

Soldiers' Fiancees.

In the case of intended wives of New Zealand soldiers, the Immigration Department accepts nominations for their assisted passage, and makes a contribution of £13 towards the cost of either second- or third-class passage.

Applications for assisted passages should be made to the Secretary, Immigration Department, Union Chambers, Customhouse Quay, Wellington, or (if the applicant is in England) to the Immigration Department of the High Commissioner for New Zealand, London.

Soldiers' Wives.

An officer of the Immigration Department meets all ships arriving with soldiers' wives on board, assists them in obtaining accommodation if required, supplies all information, and renders them the same assistance as if they were ordinary immigrants. The Defence Department issues travelling-warrants to soldiers' wives and children to the same destination as the soldier.

Baggage Allowance.

Officers, non-commissioned officers, and other ranks, and all other details returning to New Zealand at Government expense, are entitled to have the following quantity of baggage carried free of charge: First-class passengers, 40 cubic feet; second-class passengers, 20 cubic feet; third-class passengers, 15 cubic feet. Children over three years, one-half of the above. Children under three years, one-quarter of the above. All baggage in excess of the above quantities will be charged at ordinary rates.

This applies only to the voyage to New Zealand. On train services within the Dominion 1 cwt. of baggage will be allowed free for each passenger irrespective of rank. All excess baggage must be paid for by the owners.

The Defence Department does not accept responsibility for the transport of household furniture, motor-cars, pianos, &c.

Flight Cadets in England.

All pupils who passed through the flying schools in New Zealand and who were sent to England for final training are entitled to twenty-eight days' furlough (whether graduated or not) before being returned to country of origin. Officers travel first class, and Cadets second class. As Cadets receive only 1s. 6d. per day from the Imperial Government, the New Zealand Defence Department, to relieve any financial difficulty, makes up their pay to 5s. per day.

Educational Scheme for New Zealand Expeditionary Force in England.

A general scheme of education is in force in England and France in camps, and also to a limited extent in hospitals.

In camps a wide range of educational subjects is taught, including primary and secondary education, commercial courses, economics, civics, and personal hygiene. This education is compulsory for all ranks.

In hospitals a modified educational scheme is carried out adapted to the requirements of soldiers under medical treatment. For soldiers whose health permits, education in hospitals is compulsory for one hour daily. Soldiers are also given occupational work, such as basketmaking, leather-work, weaving, and embroidery, which does much to relieve the tedium of convalescence. The workshops are also of great value for curative exercises, which are given under the direction of medical officers.

Vocational Training.

Disabled soldiers awaiting return to New Zealand are taught trades which will enable them to earn a livelihood when they are discharged as no longer

needing medical treatment. A number of these soldiers have been placed in factories and in business offices in England with this object.

The blind are specially cared for at St. Dunstan's, where a number of suitable trades are taught.

Fit soldiers awaiting demobilization are also enabled to attend vocational classes, and are given opportunities to keep in touch with the latest developments in their trades.

Short intensive courses are given which enable a great deal of knowledge to be acquired in a short time.

Instruction for farmers is given at several farms which have been acquired, and every encouragement is given to soldiers to learn farming, with a view to their taking up land on their return to New Zealand.

University Education Scholarships.

A number of scholarships are provided by the Government for members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in England. They range from £175 to £250, are tenable for three years (extensions are allowed in certain cases), and the scholars are usually allowed to choose the universities which they desire to attend. The military education authorities are endeavouring to place at universities and colleges in Great Britain any men who desire to remain in England.

Applications for university training in England during demobilization should be made by the soldier to the Director of Education, Headquarters, N.Z.E.F., London, on Z.Ed. Form 1.

New Zealand University Scholars.

Upon application to the Senate of the University of New Zealand, permission may be given to scholars of the New Zealand University detained in England to hold their scholarship at a British university.

A number of medical and dental students who were unable to return to New Zealand in time for the college year are carrying on their studies in England, and the Senate has resolved that this shall count as part of their course in New Zealand.

On the Return Voyage.

The education given in England is continued during the return voyage. On the whole the lectures have been well attended, and much useful instruction has been given. The lectures on economics and farming have been especially popular.

BEFORE DISCHARGE.

Demobilization Procedure.

New Zealand has adopted the system of completing the arrangements for demobilization of the soldier before disembarkation. This enables the fit soldier, once clear of the transport, to be absolutely free to take up his civilian life. He need not go near a Defence Office again unless he chooses to personally return his military greatcoat and draw the mufti allowance rather than do it by post. Thus the boarding procedure on transports is highly important to the soldier, as it enables him to know before landing what are his privileges, where he will receive medical treatment, and how he will proceed if it is necessary to claim a pension.

Leave on Disembarkation.

Men not requiring further medical treatment are despatched to their homes direct from the ship at the Department's expense, and are granted twenty-eight days' leave, at the expiration of which they are discharged. The soldier may, if he desire, take civil employment during this period of leave, and may wear plain clothes if he wishes.

Sick men, if able to proceed to their homes, are given one week's sick-leave and ordered to report

at its expiration to a hospital, where they will continue to receive free medical attention from the Defence Department. The soldier is provided with travelling-warrants to his home and to hospital, with free meal tickets and accommodation warrants.

Four-weeks Railway Pass.

Before he leaves the returned transport the soldier receives a warrant which entitles him to secure from a Defence Group office a four-weeks free railway pass, entitling him to travel on any part of the New Zealand railway system. He receives twenty-eight days' leave prior to discharge, and may commence to use the ticket immediately, or he may do so later so long as the privilege is used within three months of the commencement of the leave period prior to discharge. On certain days during the Easter and Christmas holidays, which are set out on the pass, the ticket cannot be used owing to the congestion of traffic, but the prohibited days are allowed for in calculating the twenty-eight days' currency of this privilege. Uniform must be worn when using this pass prior to discharge, and either the leave certificate or the discharge certificate must be shown when demanded by the railway authorities.

The soldier travelling on the pass will, when travelling by train, be provided free of cost with breakfast, dinner, or tea at the station dining-room where the train stops for this purpose, provided that the meal is necessary for the journey undertaken, and that he shows his pass to the proprietor of the railway dining-room, and signs a receipt for the meal supplied. If he is in mufti he must claim a free meal ticket from the attendant whilst the meal is being served. If the ordinary meal ticket is accepted the soldier will have to pay for his meal.

Steamer Concessions.

During the currency of the privilege rail pass a number of shipping companies grant return passages

by their coastal or inter-Island services on payment of single fare only. The conditions on which these are issued may be obtained from the shipping companies, from Base Records, or from any Defence Office.

Mufti Allowance.

A mufti allowance of £5 5s. is payable to the soldier upon the return of his greatcoat to the nearest Defence Group Office in his district. This must be done within five weeks of the date on which he received notice of discharge, and the warrant must be cashed within four weeks. If the greatcoat is not returned, a deduction of £2 os. 6d. is made from the mufti allowance. Soldiers on returning their greatcoat by post should forward their discharge and clearly indicate their name and address on the parcel.

Medical Treatment.

A soldier of the Expeditionary Force injured or sick on service is first treated in the hospitals attached to or belonging to his division. He is medically boarded periodically. Ultimately he is returned to New Zealand, and his papers come with him. On the voyage home he is again medically boarded, so that when he lands a full history of his case from the date of his injury or disability is available for reference.

On landing he is dealt with according to his condition. He is either sent as an in-patient to a hospital or convalescent home, or as an out-patient to hospital, or to be under the care of the Assistant Director of Medical Services of his district, or he is discharged. Up to discharge he is continually under the care of the Defence Department.

Out-patients' Allowance.

Soldiers who are not provided with board and lodgings while undergoing hospital treatment are granted an allowance of 4s. per day, subject to observance of the regulations and to good behaviour.

They are required to wear the proper badges indicating that they are undergoing medical treatment, and are liable to stoppages of pay for neglect of this regulation, or for other offences which are prejudicial to their successful treatment or recovery.

Artificial Appliances.

Soldiers entitled to artificial limbs, artificial eyes, surgical boots, trusses, splints, elastic stockings, or other surgical appliances, or who require them to be replaced, should apply in writing to the nearest Assistant Director of Medical Services of the district, who will investigate the claim and make arrangements to supply the article. A fully equipped artificial-limb factory has been established in Wellington, and arrangements have been made for repairs and renewals in all the four centres.

Trusses, splints, and elastic stockings will be supplied free of charge for one year after the soldier's discharge. The soldier's travelling-expenses are paid if it is necessary for him to travel in order to be fitted with any appliance.

Surgical boots are made, adjusted, and repaired at the principal orthopaedic hospitals.

Soldier made dentally fit.

The Government undertakes to make good any dental deficiencies caused through the soldier's service. He is dentally treated in hospital in England, and often on the voyage out. If the treatment is not completed on arrival the soldier is instructed by post, by the Deputy Assistant Director of Dental Services of the district to which he belongs, where to apply for the completion of such treatment.

Any soldier who arrives in New Zealand without having been examined prior to or subsequent to embarkation will forward his address to the Director of Dental Services, Headquarters, Wellington, who will arrange for his examination and any treatment

he is entitled to under the following regulation: "A soldier who, as the result of injury, wound, or disease directly traceable to active service, incurs loss or disease of teeth, fracture of either jaw, fracture of artificial plates, crowns, or bridges, will be entitled to receive such dental treatment as may be deemed necessary to enable him to follow his ordinary civil vocation."

Relatives visiting Hospitals.

When a soldier upon landing is found to require in-patient treatment at a hospital, but is well enough to first visit his relatives, he obtains one week's sick-leave for this purpose, but if his condition makes the granting of this privilege unwise in his own interests he goes straight to hospital, and free railway return warrants from their homes to the railway-station nearest to the hospital of the class to which the soldier is entitled will be issued to the soldier's wife and parents on application to Base Records. Where the soldier has no wife or parents one warrant will be issued to the next-of-kin. In addition, should the soldier patient's condition be critical, the next-of-kin or one other relative will be granted an additional privilege of one-half fare once each month so long as the soldier's condition remains critical.

Soldiers' Dependants—Medical Treatment.

The Department of Public Health, Hospitals, and Charitable Aid provides free hospital treatment for the wives and children of soldiers on active service, and the wives and children of returned soldiers who are still undischarged. It also provides free treatment for the parents, sisters, or brothers of soldiers on active service, and also of returned undischarged soldiers, if such relatives are solely dependent upon the soldier for support.

If a course of treatment of a soldier's dependant is commenced, it will not be discontinued because of the soldier's discharge, but will be completed.

All cases not covered by the above are dealt with on their merits by Hospital Boards, which have full power to give free treatment, or treatment at reduced rates, to those who are unable to pay the ordinary maintenance fees.

Maternity Treatment.

The Department has also during the war extended the concession of free treatment at the St. Helens Hospitals for maternity, or maternity wards or hospitals controlled by Hospital Boards, to wives of soldiers on active service; wives of returned soldiers who have been discharged as medically unfit (whether married before the outbreak of the war or afterwards); and wives of men in the Navy who were married expecting to be discharged about the beginning of the war, but were required to remain in the service. Free maternity treatment is available at the St. Helens Hospitals until twelve months after the return of the soldier or sailor to New Zealand.

Hospitals and Convalescent Homes.

There are cases necessitating special treatment—orthopædic or medical—and these are preferably taken at the special institutions organized for the purpose. There are also convalescent homes which are of great value in helping the sick soldier to re-establish himself in good health.

The institutions under the control of the Defence Department are as follows:—

Auckland Military District.

General and Orthopædic: The military annexe to Auckland Hospital is situated in the Domain, in good surroundings. It has accommodation for about two hundred cases, and is provided with very complete orthopædic, massage, and electrical department.

General: The special military ward at Whangarei Hospital has a good massage and electrical department.

General: There is a military ward for general cases attached to Hamilton Hospital.

Kamo Springs: The well-known springs at Kamo, near Whangarei, are extremely efficacious in the cure of nervous and neurasthenic cases. Accommodation for about twenty soldiers is provided here.

Orthopædic: King George V Orthopædic Hospital, Rotorua, takes cases requiring special orthopædic treatment, and accommodates about 160. Extensions will enable a total of 300 beds to be provided. Patients at these Rotorua institutions are able to take full advantage of the facilities for baths, douches, massage, electrical treatment, and X rays.

Convalescent Home, Epsom, near the City of Auckland, is controlled by the Auckland Hospital Board and is under the St. John Ambulance Association. Used for suitable cases transferred from Auckland Hospital only. Accommodation for about twenty.

Convalescent Home for Nurses: Near Fort Caulley, at Devonport, Auckland. Is in charge of a Matron and staffed by V.A.D.s. There is accommodation for about twenty-four convalescent cases.

Wellington Military District.

General: There is a military annexe to Napier Hospital, almost in the grounds of that institution, capable of accommodating forty general cases.

General: A special ward for general military cases is being built at the Masterton Hospital.

Chest Cases, &c.: Featherston Military Hospital is being devoted to cases of chest trouble, and will also be utilized for suitable neurasthenic and heart cases. It has a separate department for infectious

diseases. The wards accommodate 400 patients, but are capable of large extension by utilizing hutments.

Orthopædic and General: Trentham Military Hospital is a large centre for orthopædic treatment and general, accommodating about a thousand patients.

Consumptive Sanatorium: Pukeora Sanatorium, near Waipukurau, Hawke's Bay, is a sanatorium for consumptives, with accommodation for 150 patients. It is situated on an elevated site, surrounded by 326 acres of land, which will afford opportunities of useful open-air occupation under skilled instructors.

Convalescent Home: At Gonville, Wanganui, adjoining the public hospital. Is controlled by the Patriotic Association, and has accommodation for about twenty. Matron in charge.

Convalescent Home, Miramar, Wellington, formerly the Lahmann Home. To be largely used as a hostel for artificial-limb cases. Accommodation for about forty. Matron in charge. Managed by Defence Department.

Canterbury Military District.

General: The St. Saviour's Orphanage, about a mile and a half from Timaru, has been converted into a general military hospital, where some classes of orthopædic cases may also be treated. It is staffed with Nursing Sisters, V.A.D.s, and orderlies, under the control of a military Medical Officer, and has accommodation for about seventy cases. The building is up to date, and has an adequate area of land.

Orthopædic: Chalmers Orthopædic Hospital, Christchurch, comprises a block built as a home for incurables by Miss Chalmers, of Ashburton, and now made available for the treatment of soldiers, 120 of whom can be accommodated in three fine wards, while an extension to take eighty patients is being built. This institution is conducted by a complete orthopædic unit trained in England. It provides electrical and massage treatment, physio-therapeutics, and under-

takes the manufacture of splint and surgical appliances required for special cases. The Defence Department has arranged to pay for the board of fifty out-patients with the Y.M.C.A. who receive treatment at this hospital.

Consumptive Sanatorium, Cashmere Hills, an extension of the Canterbury Hospital Board's sanatorium (where consumptive soldiers are treated), provides additional accommodation for one hundred patients.

Shell-shock, Gas, and Convalescent Cases: Queen Mary Hospital, situated at Hanmer Springs, is conducted by the Defence Department. Accommodation for about 160 patients, who may obtain hot baths and massage treatment. This institution is particularly suitable for shell-shock cases and some classes of patients suffering from the effects of poisonous gas.

Otago Military District.

Orthopædic: Dunedin Public Hospital provides special orthopædic treatment for soldiers, a specialist in this branch being attached to the staff. There is an up-to-date massage and electrical department, physio-theuraphy department, and gymnasium for medical gymnastics.

Jaw and Facial Injuries: A special hospital for the treatment of jaw and facial injuries has been established near the General Hospital, Dunedin. The staff has been trained at the New Zealand Jaw Hospital in England, and about forty patients can be accommodated.

Nervous Cases: Karitane, near Puketeraki, is designed to provide a pleasant open-air life for soldiers who are suffering from nervous breakdown as a result of shell-shock. The patients live in boarded tents, and have a central dining and sitting room. A specialist in nervous diseases has charge of the medical arrangements.

Convalescent Home, Montecillo, situated at Eglinton Road, Dunedin, is conducted by the Red Cross Society with V.A.D. workers. Accommodation for about twenty-four. Matron in charge.

Convalescent Home: Invercargill Convalescent Home, at North Invercargill, is conducted by Patriotic and Red Cross Associations. There is accommodation for about twenty-five recuperating soldiers.

Education and Vocational Training.

Soldiers who return fit and are discharged are cared for by the Repatriation Board, but soldiers in hospital and out-patients remain under the care of the Defence Department. During their convalescence every facility is given them to improve their education and to acquire a knowledge of useful trades.

The address of the Director of Vocational Training in New Zealand is Base Records, Wellington. Vocation Officers, who are all returned soldiers, have been appointed at the following centres:—

Auckland ..	Kitchener Street, Auckland.
Wellington ..	39 Johnston Street, Wellington.
Christchurch	District Headquarters (Medical), Christchurch.
Dunedin ..	District Headquarters (Medical), Dunedin.

It is the duty of these officers to get in touch with returned soldiers in hospital and out-patients, to explain to them the educational advantages obtainable, and to give them encouragement and assistance in learning trades which will enable them to earn their living after their discharge.

Vocation Officers will be glad to give full information on all subjects relating to the educational and vocational training of soldiers prior to discharge.

Among the subjects taught under this scheme in New Zealand are those included under primary and

secondary education, economics, personal hygiene, typing, shorthand and commercial training, architecture and building-construction, carpentry, engineering, wool-classing and all branches of farming, tailoring, and book-keeping. The instructors appointed are in nearly all cases returned soldiers.

Technical schools are taken advantage of, especially in the case of out-patients, and special classes for returned soldiers only are established where the numbers warrant them being formed. All instruction is provided free of cost to the soldier.

Workshops at Hospitals.

Workshops have been built in connection with the hospitals and convalescent homes at Auckland Annexe; Epsom; Devonport; King George V, Rotorua; Rotorua Sanatorium; Napier; Trentham; Chalmers Military Orthopaedic Hospital, Christchurch; Hanmer; Cashmere Hills Consumptive Hospital; Timaru; Dunedin Hospital; Invercargill; and others are in course of erection. These workshops are provided by the New Zealand Branch of the Red Cross, who also supply the equipment used.

In hospital workshops special curative instruction is also given in basketmaking, leather-work, toy-making, spinning and weaving, woodwork, and needlework—in most cases by ladies who had voluntarily undertaken this work during the war, and were therefore well known to the soldiers.

Where articles made by soldiers are sold to the public, the proceeds, without any deduction for material, are set aside for the benefit of the recreation fund of the hospital.

Farms.

Farms are established at Hanmer and Waipukurau, where practical and theoretical instruction is given

in farming, with a view to encouraging soldiers to settle on the land.

Libraries.

Libraries of technical works have been established at hospitals, in order that soldiers may have access to books dealing with the trades and occupations in which they will be engaged after discharge.

University Fees.

The Defence Department pays the fees of soldiers attending University classes before discharge.

Pay and Allowances.

It is unnecessary to go into the details of the whole schedule of pay and allowances to members of the Expeditionary Force at this stage, when they are reaching the point of ceasing to draw them, but it is important to state the position in regard to allowances to soldiers' dependants, as these have been constantly developed and liberalized during the war period.

The Defence Department, in case of death, continues its allowances and the soldier's voluntary allotments of pay to actual dependants after the date on which the member of the Forces died or was reported missing, until such time as the War Pensions Board determines the right to a pension of the person receiving such pay, but not longer than thirteen weeks.

Cases have arisen where New-Zealanders in the Imperial service who have been paid the difference between the New Zealand and Imperial rates have died on active service. In such an event the Minister of Defence has authorized the continuance of this payment up to six months from the date of notification of death, so as to prevent hardship to the dependants pending the grant of a pension by the Imperial authorities.

Allowances are payable from the date of application, and the current scale is as follows :—

Warrant Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men.

Wife or guardian of motherless children, 3s. per day.

Child under sixteen years of age, 1s. 6d. per day.

Widowed mother dependent on soldier, if total income apart from allotment does not exceed 15s. a week or she does not possess capital in excess of £500, 1s. 6d. per day. This allowance is payable to a widowed mother who is solely or partially dependent on one son in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, provided he makes an allotment in her favour of not less than 3s. a day. This provision, however, may be proportionately relaxed in particular cases where a soldier establishes that he is unable to make such an allotment or can only make a smaller allotment by reason of having to provide for the maintenance of his wife or other dependants. In this respect each case will be dealt with on its merits. In the case of a married soldier who had made an allotment for his wife and family, the allowance to his widowed mother may be increased to the amount of the assistance given to her by the soldier for twelve months prior to his enlistment, up to a maximum of 3s. per day.

The general principle is that the allowance is given to supplement the soldier's allotment which the widowed mother finds is in itself insufficient for her support.

The condition permitting an income apart from allotment of 15s. per week enables those receiving the old-age pension, including the war bonus, or the widow's pension, to receive the full benefit of the widowed mother's allowance. In carrying out the provisions of this section the Pay Branch of the Defence Department took the broad view

that the widow's pension is not a direct or separate benefit to the mother, but is a payment in respect of her children only.

Other dependants, being relatives, provided they were in receipt of assistance from the soldier for twelve months prior to enlistment, amount equivalent to pre-enlistment support by soldier, with a maximum of 10s. 6d. a week.

Military Prisoners' Dependants.

Payment of allowances is continued to the dependants of military prisoners who accepted active service and subsequently committed offences against discipline, providing that it is shown that real dependency existed, and that an allotment was payable prior to the commission of the offence.

In the case of men who committed offences in order to avoid active service, the payment of allowances is made only under the most exceptional circumstances, such as proved destitution of a degree which would normally entitle the dependants to obtain charitable aid.

Separation Allowance Retrospective.

The allowance to wives and guardians of motherless children has been increased from time to time, and the Government has decided to pay the full rate of 3s. per day as from the date of embarkation for all married men from the beginning of the war.

In the case of soldiers deceased prior to the 31st December, 1917, payment will be made up to the date of decease or to the date separation allowance was paid, if later.

It will not be necessary for application to be made in respect of married soldiers undischarged on the 30th April, 1919, but in the case of married soldiers deceased or discharged prior to that date applications will be required before payments are issued.

These applications should be sent by letter to the Officer in Charge War Expenses, Wellington, and should contain the following particulars:—

Regimental number, rank, and full name of soldier.

Reinforcement to which attached.

Date of discharge or decease.

Full name and address of applicant.

Soldiers' Financial Assistance.

New Zealand's initial efforts in connection with the war drew into the Expeditionary Force men who as a rule had small obligations, but the widening of the call eventually resulted in the enlistment of those who had regular obligations which could not be met out of their pay as a soldier. To meet this class—to bridge this gap between the soldier's pay and his obligations to his family so as to avoid undue hardship caused by military service—the Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board was set up, and the Government undertook to make grants as a free gift, with no obligation to refund the money.

The regulations were extended, after experience of the working of the system, to permit of payment of such obligations as interest and insurance covering a longer period than that actually served by the soldier. A half-year's interest, for instance, may be paid by the Board if it falls due during the soldier's service, in spite of the fact that he might only have served a few months before obtaining his discharge. There has been no attempt to cut down the assistance by adopting a strictly proportionate system of payment to length of service, the Board always interpreting the regulations in a liberal spirit.

In the case of the soldier's death, financial assistance is continued for a period not exceeding twenty-six weeks.

Retrospective Applications.—As a general rule financial assistance is only payable to a soldier, but as experience has shown that many men belonging to the Main Body and earlier drafts of Reinforcements were not aware, until their return to the Dominion, that grants could be received to meet the special obligations set out later, the Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board has been authorized to consider applications which were not covered by the earlier regulations, and to make such retrospective grants as in its opinion the merits of each case warrant.

As applications cannot be received indefinitely, the new regulations provide that the soldier already returned to New Zealand must apply *within three months* of the date of their gazetting—viz., 10th June, 1919; and, in the case of men still to be returned, *within three months of the date of their arrival* in the Dominion. It should be noted that whatever assistance is granted can only be in respect of liabilities incurred since the inception of the financial-assistance scheme on the 16th January, 1917.

The Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board has further been authorized, in approved cases, to grant financial assistance for a period of six months after the date of discharge.

Applications for financial assistance should be made to the Secretary, Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board, Sussex Chambers, Wellington. Grants are made for the following purposes:—

(a.) RENT (HOUSE OR ROOMS).—The term "rent" applies to furnished or unfurnished houses, or to furnished or unfurnished rooms.

Storage of Furniture.—Special rents will be taken into consideration according to the merits of the case.

Board and Lodgings.—Where the applicant pays an amount for board and lodgings only, the item will be considered according to the merits of the case.

(b.) INTEREST PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF LOANS OR MORTGAGES, OR IN RESPECT OF AGREEMENTS FOR THE

PURCHASE OF A DWELLINGHOUSE OR BUSINESS PREMISES.—*This does not include repayment of principal.* Where payments are on table rates, which include repayments of principal, arrangements should be made for payment of interest on a flat rate, and for a cessation of that portion of the payment representing a refund of the loan. The State Advances to Settlers Department and many building and loan companies will readily agree to this course, as the mortgagee is debarred (under War Regulations for the Protection of Soldiers' Property, dated 1st October, 1917—*New Zealand Gazette*, 1917, p. 3710) from exercising any power of sale without the leave of the Attorney-General, and in this respect there is no distinction made between mortgages under a table for the reduction of principal and mortgage at a flat rate of interest; but the arrangement had best be put on record.

(c.) INTEREST AND INSTALMENTS PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF AGREEMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF FURNITURE OR OTHER CHATTELS.—This includes also pianos, organs, sewing-machines, &c. The Board has power to continue payment of instalments due under a hire-purchase agreement, but does not include outstanding debts owing on goods purchased in the ordinary way, and will not consider any application for payment in respect of clothing, groceries, or other like matters. New liabilities incurred under this heading will not under any circumstances be entertained by the Board.

(d.) RATES AND TAXES.—The full demand for rates and taxes will be paid, even though such amounts vary from time to time.

(e.) INSURANCE PREMIUMS.—*Life insurance* on the soldier and his dependants according to the merits of the case. The Board will consider payment of insurance and war loading (if any) on the full sum assured under policies taken out some time prior to the date of enlistment, or prior to the date of being called in the ballot, subject always to circumstances

warranting a grant; and, in the case of new policies, will consider payment of ordinary premiums and war loading, where there is no existing policy, up to a sum of £300, should the circumstances warrant such a grant.

In the case of new policies the policy must be actually taken out—*i.e.*, the first premium must be paid by the soldier—so as to enable the policy to be issued and the number of same to be supplied to the Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board. The new policy should be a life one, and war loading should not exceed £7 10s. per cent. If, however, the soldier prefers to insure in an insurance office where the war loading is in excess of £7 10s. per cent. he will have to make his own arrangements to meet such excess war loading.

Fire insurance includes policies on house, furniture, personal effects, business premises, stock, &c.

Lodge Fees.—The actual fees to be paid by the soldier during his military service will be considered.

National Provident Fund.—Every soldier contributor is entitled to a rebate of one-half of his contributions during the time he is serving with the Forces. The Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board will consider the other half of the fees according to the merits of the case.

(f.) OTHER NECESSARY OR REASONABLE EXPENSES NOT BEING EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY.—Under this heading may be included management of businesses, farms, &c., domestic help, attendant, and other special expenses where the state of health of the dependant necessitates special expenditure.

Confinements.—The Board has authority to grant financial assistance to the extent of £5 towards confinement expenses. The Public Health Department has made arrangements under which wives of soldiers who are absent from New Zealand on active service may receive free attention at a St. Helens Hospital

during the period of their confinements, and it is open to each soldier's wife to make application accordingly should she so desire.

Surgical Operations.—The Board has authority to grant financial assistance to the extent of pound for pound up to a maximum amount of £10. Hospital Boards have been informed that the Public Health Department will pay the cost of treatment in hospitals of the wives and children of all soldiers on active service, irrespective of the military or civil status of the soldier.

The soldier desiring financial assistance for other purposes should see the paragraphs relating to repatriation and land.

Soldiers' Farms and Businesses.

During the war the National Efficiency Board, through its organization of Committees of Local Trustees, has performed valuable work for absent soldiers, particularly in connection with farming properties. Upon the recommendation of the Board the Government gazetted regulations on the 5th April, 1917, empowering the Board to undertake the supervision of soldiers' properties. Under these regulations the Board accepted powers of attorney from soldiers proceeding on active service, and in each case appointed a Soldiers' Property Board of Trustees, consisting of local farmers where the property was a farm (including, if necessary, a representative of the absent soldier) to supervise the management of the soldier's farm during his absence. Most of the trusts accepted by the Board from soldiers related to farm properties, a class of business that is particularly suitable for being handled by local trustees. Many of these trusts have now been cancelled as the result of the return of the soldiers, who have taken over their properties again, and the Board has been gratified to receive the thanks of the returned men for looking after their properties during their absence.

These trusts do not by any means represent the total extent of the assistance rendered to soldiers by the Board's organization in connection with the management of their properties and businesses. In numerous cases the Boards of Trustees and Committees of Advice under the National Efficiency Board have made local arrangements for the work of the soldier to be carried on without the necessity for the constitution of a formal trust under the regulations.

Another phase of the Board's activities in the interests of absent soldiers was the protection of soldiers' businesses. For a time the Board was dissatisfied with the limited amount of practical assistance which could be rendered by it to business men (other than farmers) called up for military service. So many of the businesses were personal in their character that the difficulty of carrying on the undertaking successfully in the absence of the principals and under the supervision of amateurs—no matter how willing and anxious to assist—was soon apparent. This inability to assist arose largely from insufficiency in the Board's powers, and because it could not compel those who would benefit by any reduction of competition to contribute towards the business affected by the absence on military service of the principals. The Board at an early date laid down the principle that those likely to benefit by remaining undisturbed in business should contribute to an extent proportionate to such benefit for the upkeep of those who, through the circumstances of age or of more robust health, had the onus of military duty thrown upon them. As long as enlistment was voluntary the matter was not of much moment, but with compulsory enlistment the injustice of the position rapidly appeared, and upon the advice of the National Efficiency Board the Government gazetted regulations on the 27th August, 1918, with the object of affording protection for soldiers' businesses. Under these regulations it is illegal for a person to establish

or carry on any new business without the permission of the National Efficiency Board, and the Board is thus able to control the opening of businesses likely to compete with those of absent soldiers. Where a proposed new business does not affect any existing soldier's business the permit is granted as a matter of course, but where the new business will compete with the protected business of a soldier the license is issued subject to such conditions as the Board may consider necessary to ensure that the person starting the new business will not profit by the absence of the soldier on military service.

AFTER DISCHARGE.

War Gratuities.

The Government has decided to pay a war gratuity to soldiers of the Expeditionary Force, or to their dependants in case of death. As final arrangements had not been made at the time of publication it was impossible to include details in this edition.

War Pensions—Eligibility.

By the War Pensions Act, 1915, and subsequent amendments, provision is made for the payment of pensions to the following:—

- (1.) Any disabled member of the New Zealand Forces.
- (2.) Any dependant of a disabled, deceased, or missing member of the New Zealand Forces.

“Members of the Forces” may include—

- (a.) A member of any New Zealand Expeditionary Force raised for service beyond New Zealand in the present war.
- (b.) A member of any New Zealand Naval Force raised for service beyond New Zealand in the present war.

- (c.) A member of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service who, while domiciled in New Zealand, has served beyond New Zealand in the present war and was in the pay of the New Zealand Government.
- (d.) A member of the New Zealand Defence or Naval Forces temporarily attached to any other portion of His Majesty's Forces who has served beyond New Zealand in the present war and was in receipt of pay from the Imperial Government.
- (e.) Any person, not being a member of any New Zealand Expeditionary or Naval Force, who, while domiciled in New Zealand, has served beyond New Zealand in the present war and was in receipt of pay from the New Zealand Government; and
- (f.) Any person in the pay of the New Zealand Government who has been engaged on active military service in any capacity in New Zealand in connection with the present war.

The war-pensions scheme may, by Order in Council, be extended to apply to the officers and men of transports, mine-sweepers, and other vessels controlled by the New Zealand Government for the purpose of carrying on the war.

Applications.

Forms of application for pensions may be obtained from the local Registrar of Pensions, or from the Commissioner of Pensions at Wellington.

Dependants.

In the case of dependants the definition is a wide one, including, in addition to wife, child, parent, step-parent, grandparent, brother, sister, and mother-in-law, the cases of those persons, not necessarily relatives, who satisfy the War Pensions Board that they have suffered material loss of income or property by

reason of the death or disablement of a member of the Forces and that they have not adequate means of support.

Wives.

Wives entitled to claim pensions may include those who were married in New Zealand within two years after discharge of husband, but marriages outside of New Zealand after disablement are not recognized without proof of engagement before husband's departure. Pensions to wives are at the discretion of the War Pensions Board, having regard to the extent of the husband's disablement and his ability to support his family. To ensure widows' benefits in the event of husband's death from war service after discharge, a wife must have been married at date of disablement or produce evidence of engagement before husband's departure from New Zealand. Pensions are granted to widows and children for death from war service by right, without regard to income and property.

Widowed Mother.

The pension of a widowed mother whose son was her sole support is not less than the pension which would have been payable to a wife.

Advance Payments.

To facilitate the dealing with original claims a system has been instituted whereby the Pensions Department has been authorized, immediately upon receipt of a claim from a soldier whose medical papers show that his earning-capacity was affected by a war disability, to pay a flat-rate allowance of £1 10s. a week pending the Board's decision being obtained, a provisional certificate being issued to enable the soldier to collect an initial instalment of £6 10s. on the 23rd day of the month in which he

is discharged. If the pension eventually granted by the Board is greater than that provisionally paid the balance is made up to the soldier, and if the grant is less no refund is asked for.

Pensions payable outside New Zealand.

Pensions may be paid outside New Zealand to members of the Forces, their wives, children, and parents, but not to any other dependants.

Supplementary Pensions.

In addition to the scale of pension for disablement the Pensions Board has power to award a supplementary pension up to £1 weekly to disabled soldiers where earning-capacity precludes the enjoyment of pre-war standard of living, with a limit of £5 per week to all the pensions payable in respect of his disablement; and a supplementary pension up to 15s. weekly to widows if this is necessary to maintain their pre-war standard of living, with a limit of £4 per week.

If a disabled soldier requires an attendant, a payment up to £1 weekly may be made for this purpose.

Income Exemption for Old-age and Widows' Pensions.

Any pension payable under the War Pensions Act is exempted as income in the computation of old-age and widows' pensions under the Pensions Act, 1913.

Imperial Pensions.

The Pensions Board is empowered to pay the difference between Imperial pensions and the New Zealand rates in the case of *bona fide* residents of New Zealand who, as Imperial Reservists, were mobilized in New Zealand or who enlisted in New Zealand for service in the Imperial Forces.

The New Zealand pension schedules are as follow :—

Rates of Pension in case of Death.

Rank or Rating.	Weekly Pension.		
	To the Wife without a Child.	To Wife with a Child or Children.	To each Child.
Private, bombardier, lance-corporal, gunner, driver, sapper, trumpeter, bugler	£ s. d. 1 10 0	£ s. d. 2 0 0	s. 10
Able seaman and equivalent ratings .. Corporal ..	1 11 0	2 1 0	10
Farrier, shoeing-smith, saddler, or fitter (If bombardier, lance-corporal, gunner, or private)			
Lance-sergeant (not paid as such) .. Leading seaman and equivalent ratings	1 12 0	2 2 0	10
Sergeant, farrier-corporal, shoeing-smith corporal, saddler-corporal, corporal-fitter, farrier-sergeant, saddler-sergeant, armourer-sergeant, sergeant-fitter			
Lance-sergeant (paid as such) .. Petty officer and equivalent ratings ..	1 14 0	2 4 0	10
Squadron, battery, or company sergeant-major, quartermaster-sergeant, colour-sergeant, staff sergeant, pay-clerk			
Chief petty officer and equivalent ratings Regimental sergeant-major, regimental quartermaster-sergeant	1 15 0	2 5 0	10
Warrant officer and equivalent ranks (Navy)			
2nd Lieutenant, Lieutenant (Army) .. Commissioned warrant officer and equivalent ranks; sub-lieutenant and equivalent ranks (Navy)	2 5 0	2 15 0	10
Captain (Army) ..			
Lieutenant under eight years' seniority and equivalent ranks (Navy)	2 10 0	3 0 0	10
Major ..			
Lieutenant of eight years' seniority and equivalent ranks (Navy)	2 17 0	3 7 0	10
Lieut.-Colonel ..			
Captain under three years' seniority and equivalent ranks; Commanders and equivalent ranks (Navy)	3 6 0	3 16 0	10
Colonel ..			
Captain of three years' seniority and equivalent ranks (Navy)	3 8 0	3 18 0	10
Brigadier-General, Major-General ..			
Commodores, first and second class; Rear-Admiral and other equivalent ranks	3 10 0	4 0 0	10

Rates of Pension in case of Disablement.

Rank or Rating.	Maximum Weekly Pension.		
	To the Member.	To the Wife.	To each Child.
Private, bombardier, lance-corporal, trooper, gunner, driver, sapper, trumpeter, bugler	£ s. d. 2 0 0	£ s. d. 1 0 0	s. 10
Able seaman and equivalent ratings .. Corporal ..	2 0 0	1 0 0	10
Farrier, shoeing-smith, saddler, or fitter (If bombardier, lance-corporal, gunner, or private)			
Lance-sergeant (not paid as such) .. Leading seaman and equivalent ratings	2 0 0	1 0 0	10
Sergeant, farrier-corporal, shoeing-smith corporal, saddler-corporal, corporal-fitter, farrier-sergeant, saddler-sergeant, armourer-sergeant, sergeant-fitter			
Lance-sergeant (paid as such) .. Petty officer and equivalent ratings ..	2 0 0	1 0 0	10
Squadron, battery, or company sergeant-major, quartermaster-sergeant, colour-sergeant, staff sergeant, pay-clerk			
Chief petty officer and equivalent ratings Regimental sergeant-major, regimental quartermaster-sergeant	2 0 0	1 0 0	10
Warrant officer and equivalent ranks (Navy)			
2nd Lieutenant, Lieutenant (Army) .. Commissioned warrant officer and equivalent ranks; Sub-Lieutenant and equivalent ranks (Navy)	2 2 6	1 1 3	10
Captain (Army) ..			
Lieutenant under eight years' seniority and equivalent ranks (Navy)	2 5 0	1 2 6	10
Major ..			
Lieutenant of eight years' seniority and equivalent ranks (Navy)	2 12 0	1 6 0	10
Lieut.-Colonel ..			
Captain under three years' seniority and equivalent ranks; superiors (Navy)	3 1 0	1 10 6	10
Colonel ..			
Captain of three years' seniority and equivalent ranks (Navy)	3 3 0	1 11 6	10
Brigadier-General, Major-General ..			
Commodores, first and second class; Rear-Admiral and other equivalent ranks	3 5 0	1 12 6	10

Medical Treatment.

The Defence Department will provide medical treatment for discharged soldiers who are suffering from a recurrence of illness arising out of and directly caused by their service in the Forces, such as the re-opening of a wound, muscular rheumatism, neurasthenia, pneumonia, or any other ailment which renders them unfit to follow their daily avocations. Application for such treatment may be made personally to the nearest Defence Office, to the nearest Hospital Superintendent, or to the Assistant Director of Medical Services of the district. Application may also be made by letter or telephone to the Assistant Director of Medical Services in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, or Dunedin, or to the Director-General of Medical Services at Wellington. Private treatment at the Government expense is not allowed.

Repatriation Board's Organization.

What is being done to assist the disabled soldier while in hospital to prepare himself for civilian life is described in a separate article. The fit soldier will, as a rule, show the spirit of initiative and enterprise which won such a good opinion for New Zealand troops during the war. He will, however, in many cases require help to quickly re-establish himself in an occupation or profession, and in this effort he is entitled to secure the assistance of the State, associated with helpers well acquainted with business conditions.

This form of help for the soldier is organized by the Repatriation Board. The central body comprises the following Ministers of the Crown: The Hon. W. H. Herries (Minister of Railways), who is Chairman during the absence of the Right Hon. W. F. Massey (Prime Minister) at the Peace Conference; the Hon. W. D. S. MacDonald (Minister of Agriculture); the Hon. J. A. Hanan (Minister of

Education); and the Hon. D. H. Guthrie (Minister of Lands). The Secretary of the Board is Mr. J. D. Gray, Old Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

The Director of Repatriation is Mr. J. R. Samson, Aitken Street, Wellington; and there are the following District Repatriation Officers associated with the District Repatriation Boards in the four chief centres:—

Auckland District Repatriation Officer: New Zealand Insurance Building, Queen Street, Auckland.

Wellington District Repatriation Officer: Nathan's Building, opposite General Post Office, Wellington.

Christchurch District Repatriation Officer: National Mutual Building, Hereford Street, Christchurch.

Dunedin District Repatriation Officer: Water Street, Dunedin.

The Repatriation Department also has offices and a paid staff at the following centres:—

Hamilton.	Nelson.
Gisborne.	Blenheim.
Napier.	Greymouth.
New Plymouth.	Timaru.
Wanganui.	Oamaru.
Palmerston North.	Invercargill.
Masterton.	

To make the organization easily accessible to the soldier throughout the Dominion a further series of Committees of honorary members is being established in the following towns and such other centres as may be recommended by District Boards:—

Kaitiā.	Morrinsville.
Whangarei.	Thames.
Dargaville.	Coromandel.
Helensville.	Paeroa.
Cambridge.	Te Aroha.

Waihi.	Waipawa.
Tauranga.	Waipukurau.
Opotiki.	Dannevirke.
Rotorua.	Woodville.
Te Awamutu.	Pahiatua.
Te Kuiti.	Motueka.
Ohura.	Westport.
Taumarunui.	Reefton.
Ohakune.	Hokitika.
Taihape.	Kaikoura.
Hunterville.	Rangiora.
Marton.	Ashburton.
Bull's.	Geraldine.
Feilding.	Temuka.
Levin.	Fairlie.
Stratford.	Waimate.
Eltham.	Balclutha.
Hawera.	Gore.
Patea.	Clyde.
Wairoa.	Roxburgh.
Hastings.	

These honorary Committees will exercise the same functions as the Boards, and their recommendations for expenditure will be dealt with by the most conveniently situated Repatriation Board Officer.

Maori Soldiers.

Applications from Maori soldiers of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force come before the same Boards and Committees as those from pakeha soldiers, and will be treated in exactly the same way; but where it is likely that applications will be received from Maoris, their special interests are safeguarded by the appointment to the Board or Committee of a Maori member (in most cases a returned soldier).

The wide range of assistance which may be given to the soldier is summarized in the following extracts from the draft regulations.

Sustenance during Unemployment.

Grants to an unemployed soldier for sustenance up to such an amount as will ensure—

- (a.) To a soldier a weekly income, inclusive of pension, of £2 2s.:
- (b.) To a soldier with a wife, a weekly income, inclusive of their combined pensions, of £2 12s.:
- (c.) To a soldier with a wife and one child, a weekly income, inclusive of their combined pensions, of £2 15s. 6d.:
- (d.) To a soldier with a wife and two children, a weekly income, inclusive of their combined pensions, of £2 19s.:
- (e.) To a soldier with a wife and three children, a weekly income, inclusive of their combined pensions, of £3 2s. 6d.
- (f.) To a soldier with a wife and four children or more, a weekly income (inclusive of their combined pensions payable to a soldier, his wife, and four children) of £3 6s.

A widower with children is entitled to the same sustenance allowance as if his wife were living.

It has also been decided to pay sustenance at the above rates to any dependant of a soldier who can establish pre-war dependency, and was thus qualified to receive the separation allowance payable by the Defence Department while the soldier was on active service.

Educational and Vocational Training.

Free tuition and sustenance at the rate set forth in the foregoing paragraph may be granted, together with a tuition allowance of 8s. per week, in the following cases:—

- (a.) For applicants entered for education and training in technical schools or other State educational institutions.
- (b.) For applicants entered as students for training in commercial or professional occupations.

Special Vocational Training Classes.

Separate vocational training classes have been established by the Repatriation Department in connection with the technical colleges at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin. Discharged soldiers will receive there intensive training of from five to seven hours per day, and sustenance will be paid to the trainees. The classes are well equipped with machinery, tools, motor-cars, &c., and special attention is being given to the practical part of the work. The principal subjects being taught are commercial (book-keeping, correspondence, and general office practice), engineering (mechanical, motor mechanics, and electrical), and woodwork (cabinet-making and carpentering).

Boot-factory.

Arrangements have been completed by the Repatriation Department for the establishment of a model boot-factory at Auckland, where discharged soldiers (including disabled men) will receive practical training in every branch of the boot- and shoe-making industry. A very complete plant of up-to-date machinery is being installed, and competent tradesmen engaged as instructors. It is anticipated that after, say, six months' training men will be quite competent to earn the full wage as laid down under the Arbitration Court award. In connection with this factory a room has been provided where lectures will be given on the theory of boot and shoe making, anatomy of the foot, &c.

Text-books.

District Repatriation Boards and Local Committees are authorized to make a grant up to a maximum of £5 5s. to discharged soldiers who have been approved for educational training, for the purpose of purchasing text-books actually necessary for their studies.

Apprenticeship.

In the case of an apprentice whose training has been interrupted by war service, sustenance during the time the apprentice is completing his apprenticeship at a rate which will bring his income, inclusive of any pensions, up to £3 per week. Any member of the Military or Naval Forces has a statutory right to revive his contract of apprenticeship so as to complete his term.

Vocational Training in Workshops, &c.

Financial assistance in the case of applicants approved by an Industrial Committee and receiving training in private workshops, &c.

Other Training.

Payment of such fees as are necessary in order to provide for the vocational or professional training of a discharged soldier.

Soldiers' Widows.

Training facilities in useful occupations for soldiers' widows without child, and sustenance whilst undergoing such training at such rate as will bring their income (inclusive of pensions) up to £1 15s. per week.

Purchase of Business and Plant.

Soldiers who desire financial assistance for the purchase or establishment of a business, or the purchase of plant and equipment, should apply in writing to the District Repatriation Officer or Secretary of Local Committee, as the case may be.

Assistance by way of loans not exceeding £300 may be granted with or without security for a term not exceeding ten years. No interest is chargeable on the first £50, but the remainder will be subject to 5 per cent. interest per annum.

Purchase of Furniture, Tools, Equipment, &c.

The Department may grant a discharged soldier or soldier's widow financial assistance by way of loan (without interest) of an amount not exceeding £50 in each case for the purchase of furniture, tools of trade, and professional instruments, or such other articles of personal equipment as is deemed necessary to the applicant in exercising his calling.

Vocational Training of Disabled Soldiers.

The Repatriation Department makes full provision for the training in new trades and industries of discharged soldiers who, by reason of physical disabilities due to active service, are unable to follow their pre-war occupations. Particulars of the financial assistance granted during this period of training are set out in the preceding paragraphs. Any discharged soldier who is in need of retraining should state his case to the Repatriation Committee nearest to his home.

Public Service Medical Examination.

Fees for medical examination of returned soldiers accepted for Public Service appointments are paid by the Repatriation Department.

Obtaining Employment.

An important function of the Repatriation Board is the finding of employment for soldiers. Every District Board and Local Committee is an employment agency, which will always use every endeavour to find a suitable opening for any unemployed soldier who applies for work. If the soldier has to travel to his employment second-class fare is paid.

Transportation.

The Department may also grant a free passage beyond New Zealand to an incapacitated soldier, or the widow of a deceased soldier, if satisfied that such a change of location is desirable or necessary.

EDUCATION IN FARMING.**Courses at State Farms.**

Many returned soldiers seek a change of occupation on resuming civil life, and the most important new sphere for their activities is on the land; but knowledge is necessary for success, and the Agricultural Department is placing its resources at their disposal. It will provide, free of charge, instruction in the following subjects:—

- Stock breeding and management.
- Fattening of stock for butchering.
- Management of dairy herds, and the routine work of dairy-farming.
- Sheep-breeding and sheep-farming.
- Horse breeding and management.
- Pig breeding and management.
- General principles of agriculture.
- Preparation of land for crops.
- Sowing procedure and harvesting of grain crops.
- Preparation of land for pasture, laying down pasture, and management.
- Selection and application of manures suitable for various classes of soil.
- Practical farming generally.

Instruction is obtained by staying on the Department's farms at either Ruakura, near Hamilton, in the Waikato, or at Weraroa, in the Manawatu. The soldier pupil is maintained free while on the farm, or a grant towards his maintenance may be made if he has to board away from the farm. This subject of grants while learning a new occupation is dealt with more fully under the chapter dealing with the facilities offered by the Repatriation Board.

Accommodation at Ruakura is specially reserved for soldiers who through wounds, sickness, &c., are unable to undertake the hardest manual labour. They have facilities for learning the lighter occupa-

tions of poultry-farming, fruitgrowing, and horticulture.

Opportunities of learning the principles of fruit-farming are also available, if required, to the returned soldier at other horticultural farms operated by the Department if the accommodation for living at Ruakura is found to be inadequate.

Fit men can be taken at the Weraroa Farm, where all branches of farm-work proper are carried out.

No definite time is laid down for the duration of the course of instruction at these farms, but it is considered that a fair knowledge may be obtained in six months. This time may be extended in special cases, and it is also competent for the soldier to arrange for a course of less than six months if he so desires.

Tauherenikau Farm.

This farm, operated in connection with the Defence Department, is available for instruction in pastoral work, pig-farming, and also for a limited amount of agricultural work. The operations at this farm are carried out on strictly practical lines. It is proposed to utilize this farm for soldiers whose condition of health renders an open-air life in the specially healthy climate of the Wairarapa desirable.

Penrose Gift Farm.

Further facilities for training returned soldiers in farming on a comprehensive scale will be shortly available at Penrose Gift Farm, near Masterton. This farm, of 730 acres, has been generously given to the Government for soldiers' use by settlers of the Wairarapa, who have also given sufficient stock and contributed a good deal of the capital required for the establishment of the farm.

The Government has made a large grant for the erection of the necessary farm buildings and comfortable quarters to accommodate soldiers desiring to learn farming, and also to assist the financing of the farm for the first year or so, until it becomes, as is anticipated, self-supporting.

A thoroughly practical man will be placed in charge, and soldiers given full opportunities of learning practical farming, including grain-growing, stock breeding and management, and dairy-farming. Instruction will be given by experts in various branches of farming knowledge, and the aim will be to train soldiers to become thoroughly sound practical farmers.

Expert Advice available.

Apart from the system of teaching farming on the various farms, the Agriculture Department has organized a complete system of giving advice to any returned soldier, wherever he may be engaged on the land. He can submit his problem by post, and an expert will advise him promptly. The Department has a large number of printed pamphlets on various phases of production from the land, which are available to the soldier on application to the Head Office, Wellington.

A special section of the Department has been organized for the purpose of assisting farmers with advice, given on their own farms, by experts of the Department.

Training on Private Farms.

Discharged soldiers may also receive training on private farms, and while doing so, in approved cases, will be entitled to a subsidy upon their wages (to be paid by the Repatriation Department) so as to bring the total up to the minimum wage ruling in the district.

LAND-SETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Apply to the Lands Department.

The discharged soldier not only has the advantage of facilities for obtaining land under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, but he has special privileges under the ordinary land-settlement legislation. Thus he is afforded a very wide range of opportunity. To take advantage of the facilities he should read this summary of them, make up his mind which system will best suit his need and qualifications, and get into direct touch with the Land Department's offices in his own district. There are land offices at Auckland, Napier, Gisborne, New Plymouth, Wellington, Nelson, Blenheim, Hokitika, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill. *All applications and correspondence should be addressed to the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the district in which the land is desired.*

Who are eligible.

Any person is eligible who has been a member of a New Zealand Naval or Expeditionary Force, has served beyond New Zealand in connection with the present war, has returned to New Zealand, and has received an honourable discharge, together with any person who immediately prior to the commencement of the present war was a *bona fide* resident of New Zealand, and has also served during the present war with some portion of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces (not being Forces raised in New Zealand), and has received an honourable discharge therefrom.

In addition, all discharged soldiers of an Expeditionary Force who, having been classed as medically fit for service beyond the seas, have served as members of that Force in a camp of military training and remained attached to that camp on the 12th November, 1918 (being the date of the cessation of hostilities with Germany), are entitled to apply for

advances or private land under sections 2 and 3 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Amendment Act, 1917. (See paragraphs headed "Private Land" and "Financial Assistance.")

Soldiers' Dwellings.

The Minister of Lands may set apart land, urban or suburban, for the erection of suitable dwellings under the system followed by the Labour Department's Workers' Dwellings Branch. The principal and interest is repayable over a period of 25½ years in weekly instalments.

There are alternatives to this system at the disposal of the discharged soldier. If he requires assistance to purchase a site with dwelling already erected, an advance not exceeding £1,000 may be made, or, in the event of the site being owned by the applicant, an advance not exceeding £750 may be made towards the erection of a dwelling. Repayment of advances may be secured by flat mortgage for ten years, with interest at 5 per cent., or by instalment mortgage extending over a period of 25½ years, with an annual charge of 7 per cent., which includes interest and sinking fund.

How to apply for Land.

Any discharged soldier wishing to take up land should obtain a provisional application form, answer the questions thereon, and forward it to the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the land district in which he desires to settle. Provisional application forms may be obtained at any land office or from any office of the Repatriation Department. On receipt of a provisional application the Commissioner will supply the applicant with information regarding all available Crown lands in his land district, and the Land Board will endeavour to place the applicant on a suitable holding.

Tenures under which Land may be selected.

There is power to dispose of land under the ordinary tenures of the Land Act, 1908, and the Land for Settlements Act, 1908—*i.e.*, for cash, or occupation with right of purchase, or on renewable lease under the former Act, and renewable lease under the latter Act, also under the "special tenures" of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, which are cash, deferred payment, or a renewable lease with a purchasing clause. The various tenures mentioned may be explained as under, and are given under two headings—*viz.*, "Ordinary Tenures" and "Special Tenures."

Ordinary Tenures.

Cash.—In all cases of purchase of land for cash the applicant is required to pay one-fifth of the purchase-money at the date of the sale, and the balance, with the Crown-grant fee, within thirty days from the date of the approval of the application.

Occupation with Right of Purchase.—Term, twenty-five years; rental, 5 per cent. on the capital value of the land; right of purchase after the license has been held six years, provided the residence and improvement conditions have been complied with. If the licensee does not acquire the freehold prior to the expiration of the term of twenty-five years he has a prior right to a renewable lease.

Renewable Lease under the Land Act.—Term, sixty-six years, with a perpetual right of renewal at a rental based on revaluation; rental, 4 per cent. on the capital value of the land. Land selected under this tenure immediately becomes national endowment, and there is no right to the freehold.

Renewable Lease under the Land for Settlements Act.—Term, thirty-three years, with perpetual right of renewal; rental, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the capital value of the land. Right of purchase at any time during

the currency of the lease. Purchase of the freehold may be made on the deferred-payment system if desired.

Special Tenures.

Cash.—The remarks already made under "Cash" heading apply to cash selections under "Special Tenures."

Deferred Payment under Special Tenures.—Term, twenty years; licensee to deposit 5 per cent. of the purchase-money, and thereafter to pay the balance of 95 per cent. by equal annual payments, together with interest at 5 per cent. payable half-yearly on all outstanding balances. The licensee has the right to pay off the whole or any part of the outstanding money at any time during the currency of the license.

Renewable Lease with Purchasing Clause under Special Tenures.—Term may be for any period not exceeding thirty-three years in the case of settlement land and sixty-six years in the case of Crown land, with perpetual rights of renewal for thirty-three years or sixty-six years as the case may be. Freehold may be acquired, with the approval of the Crown Land Board and the consent of the Minister, at the original capital value or price of the land, at any time during the currency of the lease. Purchase of the freehold may be made on the deferred-payment system if desired.

Private Land.

Under section 3 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Amendment Act, 1917, one or more discharged soldiers may apply to the Land Board with a view to the acquisition by the Crown on their behalf of any private land. The Land Board, however, cannot deal with such application until an offer in writing to sell the land to the Crown has been submitted to the Board by the owner of the land. It can then consider the application and offer and

forward them to the Minister of Lands with such recommendations as it thinks proper. The Minister may thereupon refer the offer to the Land Purchase Board for consideration, and if the land, or any part thereof, is acquired by the Crown it may then be disposed of under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act to the applicant. (See also under heading of "Financial Assistance.")

Land Purchase and Improvement.

Section 2 of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Amendment Act, 1917, provides that financial assistance may be given to discharged soldiers for the following purposes: (a) The purchase of private or Native land with improvements thereon; (b) the acquisition by assignment or transfer of the lease of any land administered by a Land Board; and (c) the discharge of any mortgage affecting any land owned by a discharged soldier or held by him under license or lease from a Land Board. The maximum amount for any of these purposes that may be advanced to any one person is £2,500. Repayment of advances may be secured by flat mortgage for ten years, with interest at 5 per cent., or by instalment mortgage over a period of thirty-six years and a half, with an annual charge of 6 per cent., which includes interest and sinking fund.

In addition, financial assistance may be given to discharged soldiers who own freehold land or are the lessees or licensees of any land administered by a Land Board for any of the following purposes: The clearing, fencing, draining, and general improvement (including erection of buildings) of the land, and the purchase of plant, stock, implements, seeds, trees, &c. Except in the case of a house to be built on other than rural land, the maximum total amount that may be advanced for all the foregoing purposes is £500 (not more than £250 of this being for a dwelling and other buildings) unless there

be special circumstances in which the amount would be inadequate, when the Minister may authorize an additional advance not exceeding £250: Provided, however, that in the case of bush lands the Minister of Lands may authorize an advance not exceeding £1,000 in ordinary cases, or £1,250 in cases where in his opinion special circumstances warrant this amount being advanced.

Advances are secured by a first mortgage over the land, with the addition, at the option of the Minister, of a bill of sale over the stock, implements, &c. The rate of interest is 5 per cent.

Advances for improvements or buildings may be made by progress payments up to 75 per cent. of the value of any work done.

Option to purchase.

Before applying for assistance to purchase land it is necessary for the soldier to secure an option to purchase the property he desires to obtain. In the case of town or suburban properties, or rural land readily accessible, it is desirable that the period of option be not less than four weeks. In the case of land situated in isolated localities the option period should be two months, in order that sufficient time may be given for special inspection, valuations, &c.

How to obtain Advances.

Applications for assistance, giving full particulars, must be made to the Land Board for the district in which the land affected is situated. Before making its recommendation the Board will require the applicant to appear personally before it or before such person as it may appoint. No application for an advance to assist in the purchase of land can be considered unless accompanied by an option to purchase the fee-simple, or lease, or license, as the case may be. The Commissioner of Crown Lands will give all information and assistance.

Preference at Ballots.

In addition to the privileges extended by the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, the land laws of the Dominion have been amended so as to give preference at ballots to discharged soldiers, and applies to all ballots, whether under the Land Act or the Land for Settlements Act.

Facilities to inspect Lands.

A discharged soldier wishing to inspect land open for selection by discharged soldiers may obtain a refund of railway fare (second-class return) paid by him in going to inspect such land, provided that he becomes an approved applicant for the land inspected.

Rebate of Rent.

Soldiers settled under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act are entitled to the same rebate of rent on prompt payment as are ordinary Crown tenants.

EDUCATIONAL.**Soldiers' Bursaries.**

The National War Funds Council has decided to utilize a large portion of its remaining funds, and to ask the public to make further subscriptions, for the purpose of providing educational bursaries for matriculated returned soldiers who wish to continue their education. Sixty-eight bursaries have already been granted to soldiers who had matriculated, and who now wish to continue their university education. The bursaries are for £50 per annum, to be granted for either four or five years, or such shorter period as may be necessary to enable the soldier to complete his course. The renewal will depend each year upon satisfactory reports as to conduct, industry, and proficiency. Reports are required from the Registrar of the college to which

the student has attached himself, or, in the case of men who have not been to college, from the headmaster of the primary or secondary school which he has attended. Grants are not made to students who can otherwise afford the cost of university education. Applications for bursaries should be made to the Secretary of the War Funds Council, Internal Affairs Department, Wellington.

The War Funds Council proposes, if funds are made available, to extend this system so as to benefit men with Sixth Standard certificates who are desirous of proceeding to matriculation or obtaining a higher educational status at technical or other colleges or evening classes, at the engineering school, or in other ways. The bursaries in these cases would vary in amount, the main object being to cover fees and necessary books and equipment.

War Bursaries to Soldiers' Dependents.

Bursaries are awarded to dependants of killed or disabled members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. To qualify for a war bursary a child must be eligible for—

- (a.) Free education at technical classes ; or
- (b.) A free place at a secondary school, district high school, or technical high school ; or
- (c.) A University or Education bursary at a university college.

A bursary entitles the holder to an allowance in addition to free tuition of £1 10s., or £3 per annum in the case of those qualified under (a), £5 for those under (b), or £10 for those under (c). Lodging-allowance is also payable to bursars who are obliged to live away from home to attend school at the rate of £15 per annum under (a), and £30 under (b) and (c); or, as an alternative, travelling-allowances ranging from £5 to £10 per annum are given where travelling is necessary.

Application should be made through the principal of the school at present attended, or of the school in which tuition is desired.

Relaxing of Examination Conditions.

Members and ex-members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces who are candidates for examinations conducted by the Education Department or the University of New Zealand receive special consideration of claims for relaxation of the regulations governing these examinations if it is shown that by reason of enlistment candidates have been prevented from complying with any of the regulations, provided that they have attained such a standard of proficiency that but for enlistment they would have passed the examinations. In cases of this kind it is naturally difficult for an examining body to satisfy itself as to the candidates having reached any given standard unless an examination test has been imposed, but full inquiry is made into the circumstances of each case, and any evidence that a candidate can produce is carefully considered with the object of relieving him from any prejudicial effect which he may have suffered through his enlistment. The University Senate is empowered by the New Zealand University Act, 1915, in the case of soldiers, to confer and award degrees, diplomas, certificates, scholarships, &c., without examination and without full compliance with the usual conditions.

Soldiers' Matriculation.

Soldiers who have been placed at a disadvantage through service in the Expeditionary Force may be exempted provisionally from the Matriculation Examination on presentation of—(1) A provisional certificate of a Joint Matriculation Board of English Universities; or (2) a similar certificate from the Professorial Board of a New Zealand University; or

(3) a similar certificate from a competent military authority.

If a student enters upon a course of study under the terms of this concession the Professorial Board of his college will advise the Senate, at the end of his first year, whether the matriculation should be confirmed, and, if so, whether it should date from the time of entrance or from the end of the first year.

Soldier Teachers who are uncertificated.

The rule under which an uncertificated teacher suffers a reduction in his salary of 10 per cent. does not apply to soldier teachers for a period of two years after their discharge from active service.

Grading of Teachers.

Active service is reckoned as teaching service for grading purposes, and, as far as circumstances warrant, allowances are made in the case of soldiers in such a way that their positions on the grading-lists are not prejudicially affected by their enlistment.

Ex Training-College Students appointed as Teachers.

An ex training-college student returning from active service and receiving an appointment as a teacher will receive as his commencing salary the minimum salary usually paid to new appointees, plus a sum of £10 per annum for each year of active service, provided that the salary shall not be greater than the maximum for the position.

Free Tuition in Technical Schools.

Free admission to technical schools is granted to discharged soldiers duly certified by the Repatriation Department to be (a) unfitted to re-enter on their previous occupations, (b) likely to benefit by attendance at courses of instruction. Free tuition is given for one year, and for an extension for one

year or more on the recommendation of the controlling authority of the school and the Repatriation Department. Free railway tickets are granted where necessary to enable discharged soldiers to avail themselves of these concessions.

University Fees to Wounded Soldiers.

Wounded soldiers are admitted to University examinations at half the ordinary fees.

Inquiries.

Inquiries regarding university-education concessions to soldiers should be addressed to the Registrar, New Zealand University, P.O. Box 1524, Wellington.

Repatriation to Other Countries.

Persons who arrived in New Zealand or the United Kingdom on or after 1st January, 1914, and subsequently joined or enlisted in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, will be entitled to be repatriated to the country they came from at the public expense, subject to the following conditions:—

Applications from troops who left the United Kingdom or Egypt after the 30th April, 1919, will not be entertained in New Zealand unless accompanied by a recommendation from the General Officer Commanding New Zealand Expeditionary Force in United Kingdom or Egypt respectively, the reason being that by the 30th April, 1919, sufficient notice had been given to troops still abroad to make their applications before embarkation for New Zealand.

Applications made in New Zealand will be addressed to the Director of Base Records, and must be accompanied by proofs of evidence of the fact that the applicant arrived in New Zealand on or after the 1st January, 1914, and subsequently joined the New Zealand Expeditionary Force.

Applications from those discharged or struck off the strength of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force before the 30th June, 1919, will not be entertained unless lodged by the 31st July, 1919.

Applications from those arriving in New Zealand after the 30th June, 1919, must be made before date of discharge.

PUBLIC SERVANTS IN THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Positions kept open.

At the outbreak of hostilities it was decided that leave of absence should be given to any member of the Public Service who desired to enlist in the Expeditionary Forces, and, further, that the position he had held would be kept open for him until his discharge from the Forces. The same arrangements were made with respect to temporary employees who had been continuously employed since the 31st March, 1913.

Superannuation and Sick-leave.

The superannuation contributions of public servants who have joined the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, the Motor-boat Patrol Corps, or the Royal Air Force are paid by the New Zealand Government until the date of discharge from active service or the taking-up of home-service duties.

Public servants who have been discharged from either of the above branches of the Military Forces, and who may be medically unfit for civil duty, should report to their respective Departments for duty without delay. They will then be entitled to the sick-leave allowed by the Public Service Regulations. Should the breakdown of health be permanent, or threaten to become so, the contributor may be retired from the Public Service as medically

unfit, on such annual allowance as his average salary and length of service may entitle him to. Retiring-allowances paid out of the Superannuation Fund are not taken into account by the Military Pensions Board in determining the amount of military pensions.

If a discharged soldier contributor resigns his position in the Public Service he is entitled to receive a refund of his total contributions, including any amount paid into the fund by the Government on his behalf.

If a married soldier contributor be killed in action, or die of wounds, sickness, or from any other cause during his military service, his widow and children (if any) are entitled to the benefits of the Superannuation Fund in addition to the full military pension.

Annual Increments of Salary.

It was decided that employees absent with the Expeditionary Force should be granted the regular scale increments of salary which would have accrued had they remained in New Zealand. In cases where increments were dependent on a satisfactory report as to work and conduct during the preceding period, service with the Expeditionary Forces was deemed sufficient to meet these requirements.

In those cases where certain qualifying examinations were required to be passed before the granting of increments, it was decided to provide the increment and to grant same, provided the officer completed the examination test within a reasonable period after his discharge.

Promotion during Absence.

An employee's right to promotion has been preserved during his absence. Where a vacancy has occurred he has been considered for any position involving promotion for which, taking into account his seniority and fitness, he was regarded as suitable.

In cases where an employee considers his claims to promotion to any position have been overlooked, it has been arranged that he will be given the right of appeal in respect to such matter, provided he exercises it within thirty days after resuming duty. Where an appeal under these circumstances succeeds an equivalent position will be found.

This really means that the Public Service Commissioner is prepared to waive raising any objection to an appeal lodged after the statutory period of thirty days from when the decision was given and adjudicated on by the Appeal Board.

Annual Leave due on Enlistment.

An officer of the Public Service prior to joining the Expeditionary Force was permitted to take any annual leave that may have been due to him. It was also arranged that he would be allowed to accept both civil and Defence pay during the period of such annual leave.

Annual Leave on Discharge.

On his return an employee is granted any annual leave which may have accrued due whilst he was on active service—*e.g.*, if absent for four years, he would be granted the equivalent of four years' annual leave on his return.

In the case of an officer of the Public Service dying whilst on active service, the payment for the number of days accumulated annual leave due to him is made to his estate.

In the case of sick-leave granted to an employee on his discharge from the Forces, the Public Service Commissioner has decided that such special leave shall not count as debarring the employee from participating in the annual leave which would have been granted to him if he had received no special leave. This amounts to a waiver of the regulation providing that a public servant will not be granted

annual leave where sick-leave during the preceding year has exceeded fourteen days.

Where an employee on his discharge from the Forces is still unable to resume duty owing to illness or wounds he is, wherever necessary, specially treated in regard to sick-leave in excess of the ordinary period allowed by the Public Service Regulations.

Preference to Soldiers.

Government Departments, including the Railways, Public Works, and Post and Telegraph Departments, have followed the policy that when engaging men for employment, wherever practicable, preference is to be given to returned soldiers, and that wherever possible, subject to the approval of the Minister, general conditions are to be modified so as to admit of preferential treatment being accorded to returned soldiers.

War Medal and Certificate.

The Imperial authorities have not yet authorized the issue of a general war medal, but in the ordinary course of events it may be anticipated that this will be done immediately after the declaration of peace. Meanwhile the New Zealand Defence Department is preparing rolls of recipients, and making all arrangements for the distribution of the medal. In New Zealand also it is proposed to issue to all members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force an illuminated certificate which will show a record of each man's service. There will be two classes of certificate, which will be issued to—

- (a.) Soldiers who have had oversea service; and to
- (b.) Soldiers with not less than twelve months' home service.

The Defence Department is now calling for competitive designs from New Zealand artists, and is offering prizes to the extent of £100 for the three best

oversea designs and of £50 for the three best home service designs.

King's Certificate on Discharge.

In addition to the New Zealand certificate referred to above there will be issued to members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force the King's Certificate on Discharge, a handsome document suitable for framing. The British War Office has sent to New Zealand supplies of this certificate for issue to those who were discharged on account of disablement rendering them unfit for further service. A certain number of certificates have been distributed to men discharged on account of disablement, but in order to ensure the correct delivery of the remainder those who are entitled to the certificate but have not received it should make written application to Base Records, Wellington.

A further announcement will be made regarding the issue of the King's Certificate on Discharge to those who were discharged not through disablement.

The "1914-1915 Star."

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the issue of a decoration, designated as above, to all officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the British, Dominion, Colonial, and Indian Forces, including civilian medical practitioners, nursing sisters, nurses, and others employed with military hospitals, who actually served on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war as defined hereunder, between the 5th August, 1914, and the 31st December, 1915, both dates inclusive.

The decoration will be a Star in bronze.

No clasp will be issued with the Star.
The riband will be red, white, and blue, shaded and watered.

Those entitled to the "1914 Star" will not be eligible for the "1914-1915 Star."

All claims will be subject to the approval of the Army Council. For the purpose of this decoration the theatres of war are as follows:—

(a.) Western European theatre: To include all operations in France and Belgium from midnight, 22nd-23rd November, 1914.

(b.) Balkan theatre: To include all operations in—

(1.) Greek Macedonia, Servia, and Bulgaria, from 5th October, 1915; and

(2.) Gallipoli, the Ægean Islands, from 25th April, 1915.

(c.) Egyptian theatre: To include all operations against Turco-German Forces from 5th November, 1914; also operations against Senussite Forces in western Egypt and on borders of Cyrenaica from 3rd November, 1915, but excluding operations for which the Sultan's Sudan Medal has been awarded.

(d.) African theatre: To include all operations set forth below, but excluding local military operations against Native tribes or rebels:—

(1.) In British East Africa, German East Africa, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Uganda, and African Lakes, from 20th August, 1914;

(2.) In German South-west Africa and on adjacent borders of Union of South Africa, from 20th August, 1914, to 9th July, 1915;

(3.) In Kamerun and on eastern and northern frontiers of Nigeria, from 24th August, 1914; and

(4.) In Togoland, from 7th August, 1914, to 26th August, 1914.

(e.) Asiatic theatre: To include all operations—

(1.) In Mesopotamia, from 6th November, 1914, and the various smaller operations specified in the order; and

(2.) Tsing-tau, from 23rd September, 1914, to 7th November, 1914.

(f.) Australasian theatre: To include all operations in—

(1.) German New Guinea and Bismarck Archipelago, as follows:—

(a.) New Britain, from 11th September, 1914, to 21st September, 1914.

(b.) New Ireland, from 16th September, 1914, to 18th October, 1914.

(c.) Kaiser Wilhelm Land, on 24th September, 1914.

(d.) Admiralty Islands, on 21st November, 1914.

(2.) Nauru, on 6th September, 1914.

(3.) German Samoa, on 29th August, 1914.

Rolls showing the names of all members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces entitled to receive this decoration are in course of preparation.

Authority is given for all officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces who are entitled to the above decoration to wear the riband, if they choose to purchase the same, as some time must necessarily elapse before the star and riband will be available for presentation.

Deceased Soldiers' Medals.

In the case of deceased officers and other ranks, applications from their legatees or next-of-kin should, in the former case, be addressed to General Headquarters, New Zealand Military Forces (A.A.G.), and, in the latter case, to the Director of Base Records, Wellington, New Zealand.

The claims of next-of-kin take precedence in the following order of relationship: Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister, eldest surviving half-brother, eldest surviving half-sister.

Customs.

Soldiers' used personal baggage and effects are admitted free of Customs duty whether accompanied by their owners or not.

Presents sent by soldiers to New Zealand, and new goods included in soldiers' baggage, whether accompanied by their owners or not, are admitted without payment of Customs duty provided the amount due does not exceed £3. This amount is deducted before any claim is made.

The concession with respect to presents applies only to members of the *New Zealand Expeditionary Force*, and is liable to be withdrawn in any case where the Collector of Customs is satisfied that it is being abused, as, for instance, where a soldier sends by one mail goods the duty of which approaches the £3 limit, and continues to forward goods of considerable value by subsequent mails. The other concessions apply to all British soldiers whether from New Zealand or not.

Exemption from Income-tax.

Provision was made in the Finance Act exempting from income-tax the pay earned beyond New Zealand, as members of the Expeditionary Forces, by all persons resident in New Zealand and engaged beyond New Zealand in any of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces in connection with the war.

Exemption from Absentee-tax.

In addition to this, provision was also made under the Act to exempt from absentee-tax all persons serving out of New Zealand during the war in any of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces or in any capacity in connection with those Forces.

National Provident Fund Benefits.

Contributors to the National Provident Fund who are members of the Expeditionary Force are

entitled to be exempt from the disability imposed on contributors through absence from New Zealand, as the Act provides that absence on military service shall not be deemed to be absence from New Zealand.

During the time a contributor is so absent on military service his contributions to the fund shall be reducible to one-half.

The Department also established a deduction-from-pay system whereby the moiety of the contributions due from contributors themselves could be automatically deducted from military pay.

In cases where contributors left with the Forces without advising the fund special arrangements are made to secure their rights and membership on return.

Assistance to Friendly Societies.

The Friendly Societies Department has subsidized half the cost of the death benefits of soldier members of friendly societies who have lost their lives whilst on service.

The same Department is also subsidizing the contributions of soldier members to the Sick and Funeral Funds of friendly societies during the period they are on military service, while the Soldiers' Financial Assistance Board has also made a large number of grants to soldiers for the payment of their friendly-society dues.

As it is anticipated that friendly societies may have to withstand an abnormal rate of sickness among their members who have seen active service, arrangements are being made to separate the sick-pay accounts of ordinary members from those of discharged soldiers, with the object of ascertaining approximately the extra liability in respect of "after-discharge" sickness. The Government has undertaken, through the Friendly Societies Department, to subsidize friendly societies for any extra expenditure indicated in this special account to the extent of 50 per cent.

Exchange on New Zealand Notes.

The Government has arranged through the Bank of New Zealand that New Zealand soldiers may exchange New Zealand bank-notes at the International Banking Corporation's Bank at Colon at a fixed rate of 4 dollars 80 cents to the pound sterling, the difference in exchange being met by the New Zealand Government. Similar arrangements have also been made for cashing New Zealand bank-notes at par at Cairo, Capetown, and in Australia.

State Fire Insurance.

The State Fire Insurance Department undertook during the war to waive its rule regarding non-occupancy in respect to all risks owned by soldiers, and no risk owned by a soldier was allowed to lapse on account of its being unoccupied.

Furthermore, the Department made every effort to protect the interest of soldiers before allowing any policy in a soldier's name to lapse, and no policy was allowed to lapse by reason of non-payment of the premium until it was ascertained that the position was satisfactory from the soldier's point of view.

Mining Privileges protected.

Special provision has been made by the Mines Department in the interests of soldiers, in that a mining privilege held under the Mining Act, 1908, shall not be liable to forfeiture at any time after the holder thereof shall have been accepted for service in the war, or until six months after the termination of such service.

In all cases when application has been made, the rents upon mining privileges held by soldiers upon active service have been treated as non-recoverable.

The Public Trustee.

Although the Public Trust Office has not been able to offer specific concessions to soldiers, owing to the

nature of its business, it has, however, administered estates of deceased soldiers at extremely low rates of commission at a cost of many thousands of pounds to the Office; and has also accepted, at purely nominal fees, agencies on behalf of soldiers who are absent on military service.

Protection from Legal Action.

Regulations which were current during the war giving the soldier protection against civil processes of the Courts have been revised, and the period of operation extended. The current regulations for this purpose are as follows:—

1. These regulations may be cited as the Soldiers' Protection Regulations, 1919.

2. In these regulations—

“Soldier” means a member of an Expeditionary Force under the Expeditionary Forces Act, 1915, who is in receipt of military pay as such, or who is on leave without pay after his return to New Zealand from military service beyond the seas:

“Discharged soldier” means a person who has in any manner ceased to be a member of any such Expeditionary Force after military service as such beyond the seas:

“Recently discharged soldier” means a discharged soldier at any time within the twelve months immediately succeeding his return to New Zealand after military service beyond the seas:

“Assisted discharged soldier” means a discharged soldier who is for the time being indebted to the Crown in respect of any loan granted to him, with or without security, under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, or the Repatriation Act, 1918.

3. Without the previous consent in writing of the Attorney-General granted on the recommendation of

a Stipendiary Magistrate it shall not be lawful for any person—

- (a.) To issue any process of execution against the property of a soldier, or recently discharged soldier, or assisted discharged soldier in pursuance of any judgment, decree, or order of any Court in its civil jurisdiction, whether obtained before or after the making of these regulations; or
- (b.) To seize or sell the property of any soldier, recently discharged soldier, or assisted discharged soldier by way of distress for rent; or
- (c.) To file a bankruptcy petition against a soldier, recently discharged soldier, or assisted discharged soldier; or
- (d.) To exercise (otherwise than with the leave of the Supreme Court under the Mortgages Extension Act, 1914) any power of sale conferred by any mortgage, bill of sale, or other security over the property of a soldier, recently discharged soldier, or assisted discharged soldier, whether that mortgage, bill of sale, or security was given before or after the making of these regulations, and whether the person whose property is subject thereto became a soldier, recently discharged soldier, or assisted discharged soldier before or after the date of the mortgage, bill of sale, or security.

As it was suggested that clause 3 might act prejudicially to a discharged soldier by preventing him from getting necessary credit from merchants and others, its operation has been qualified by an amendment which has been gazetted as follows:—

- (1.) Nothing in clause 3 of the regulations hereinbefore referred to shall apply to proceedings taken with respect to the balance for the time being of an account current of any soldier or discharged

soldier with any bank or approved trading company or approved merchant, or with respect to any mortgage, bill of sale, or other security securing such account current, and all such proceedings may be taken accordingly without the consent of the Attorney-General.

(2.) For the purposes of this clause an "approved trading company" or "approved merchant" means any company, firm, or person approved in that behalf by the Attorney-General.

Instalment Mortgages.

It was the policy of the Financial Assistance Board to pay interest only on all mortgages, the Board arranging with the mortgagors for postponement of principal payments in cases where the money was loaned under the system of table mortgages. As most soldiers on their return to civil life are not able to pay these accumulated instalments, the Government has decided to introduce legislation during the next ensuing session to afford the necessary relief.

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[New matter which appears in this edition is indicated by a marginal line.]

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