

organization. As such it ought to be awarded without any of the restrictions of the kind referred to in this paragraph. While, therefore, the Committee favours the scheme of granting assistance to engineering cadets, it is strongly of the opinion that the way must be left completely open for others who wish to be quite free to go where they choose when they qualify.

The terms "scholarship" and "loan" which also appear in this section are sufficiently clear not to require any clarification.

### (3) PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT

238. It is hoped that the above discussion will help to remove some of the confusion that undoubtedly exists and so make the specific recommendations of the Committee easier to follow. These recommendations are summarized immediately below and are then dealt with in more detail in turn—

- (i) An increase in the number and the value of the Education Department's Special Bursaries in Engineering.
- (ii) The extension of the system of University college training of engineering cadets.
- (iii) and (iv) The establishment of bursaries and scholarships for students studying for diplomas in professional engineering or associate membership examinations.
- (v) An increase in the number of post-graduate scholarships in engineering.
- (vi) Provision for loans for engineering students.

#### (i) EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL BURSARIES IN ENGINEERING

239. At the present time the Education Department awards a number of bursaries in special fields, including engineering. As will be seen by reference to No. 3 of Table J, the value of these special bursaries is comparatively low. They were established from time to time to encourage students to enter fields of occupation in which there tended to be insufficient entrants. Initially the standard required was not high. The quality of applicants for engineering bursaries in the past few years has been so high, however, that the limit of fifteen annually could have been considerably increased without any noticeable lowering of standard.

240. It has been pointed out that the special bursaries in engineering are the only bursaries open solely to engineering students entering upon a University course. They were introduced to increase the number of degree students at a time when the number of graduates required was very much lower than it is to-day. It is reasonable to ask that this key bursary should now be made sufficiently attractive to compete with incentives offering in other professions and that more bursaries be made available. Nor is it unreasonable to argue that all students who succeed in obtaining a B.E. degree prove themselves worthy of assistance. On the assumption that 75 will graduate each year, there are at least 75 worthy of assistance among those who embark on an engineering course. Even allowing for the fact that some students may obtain assistance from other sources, there should be provision for at least 40 engineering bursaries annually. It is possible that the present conditions are not sufficiently attractive to ensure such a large number of first-class applicants. The Committee has no wish to encourage participation in an undignified scramble, but it considers that the engineering bursary should be made at least as attractive as those for other professions.

#### RECOMMENDATION—

*That the number of engineering bursaries be increased from 15 annually to a minimum of 40, with provision for a further number if sufficient good applicants are forthcoming, and that the total value of the bursary be not less than £110 per annum including boarding-allowance where payable.*