

When you get back

We have tried to make the information given here as complete and accurate as possible, but it should be remembered that changing conditions may invalidate some of it. These articles can be regarded, therefore, only as a general guide. They do not bind *Korero* or any authority.

Engineering Draughting

The Public Works Department absorbs about six to eight draughting cadets annually, but outside the Department vacancies are few. The normal procedure is to take youths with University Entrance (drawing and mathematics with a high percentage of marks are necessary subjects) or equivalent qualifications, and train them in the Department. Adults do not enter the Service as cadets, the initial salary rates being low.

Adult draughtsmen are sometimes employed on the temporary staff, and if an opportunity of this nature is sought, study should be directed towards passing such examinations as A.M.I. Struct. E., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.I.C.E., and A.N.Z.I.A., but it should be remembered that vacancies are dependent on the activity of the Department, which is seldom predictable so far ahead. In a similar fashion, Bachelors of Engineering are occasionally employed at about £300 per annum.

Engineering draughting may be considered to cover any of the specialized branches of engineering, according to the course followed by the person concerned—mechanical, electrical, civil.

The work of the more senior draughtsman is highly technical and involves designing and computation with attendant proficiency in mathematics, while the preparation of specifications and estimates calls for a certain knowledge of contract law and familiarity with trade practices.

In the Public Works Department, draughtsmen, generally, may rise in salary from about £250 per annum to about £470 per annum according to qualifications and appointment rather than entirely on length of service.

Local bodies in the larger centres—e.g., City Councils—and certain of the bigger engineering firms employ draughtsmen, but as a general rule the conditions of entry are much the same as for the Public Works Department. The number of ex-servicemen not already in the employ of the institutions concerned that could be absorbed in this occupation is extremely small.



Survey Draughting and Computing

This work is closely allied to the profession of surveying, but, unlike the latter, it is suited to disabled men, provided they have the use of their hands and good eyesight with no suggestion of colour-blindness.

Those who take up this work under normal conditions mostly join the Lands and Survey Department as draughting cadets. Appointments are made through the Public Service Commissioner's Office, the minimum examination requirement being Public Service Entrance. The training period lasts from five to seven years, during which time cadets are required to pass departmental examinations in draughtsmanship and computing. The work is skilled and interesting with good opportunities for advancement for the keen cadet.

The best draughting cadets in the Lands and Survey Department each year may become survey cadets, provided, of course, that they have the University Entrance