

APR 13 1943

Here Are Questions, Answers Explaining New Draft Changes

WASHINGTON, (INS). — Here are some questions and answers designed to explain the new draft regulations issued by the War Manpower Commission today:

Q. What were the main provisions of the new regulations?

A. They eliminated Class 3-B and also eliminated wives only and collateral dependents as cause for deferment.

Q. What is Class 3-B?

A. It is composed of men with dependents who are engaged in activities deemed essential to the war effort. There are now approximately 2,000,000 in it.

Q. What happens to those men?

A. They will be reclassified by local draft boards, and except in rare cases, be placed either in 1-A, 2-B, 2-A, or sent back to 3-A to take their chances on induction with the rest of the nation's fathers when induction of fathers finally starts.

Q. What happens to men with wives only or with collateral dependents, such as parents, invalid brothers or sisters or other relatives?

A. They probably will be put in 1-A unless such action would cause undue hardship to the dependents. In the latter case, they will be put in a new class, known as 3-D.

Q. Will men in 3-A be reclassified?

A. Yes. There are now about 7,000,000 men in 3-A.

Q. What happens to them?

A. If they have wives only or just collateral dependents, they will be placed in Class 1-A or 2-A or 2-B with few exceptions. The exceptions are the men engaged in agriculture and conscientious objectors and cases in which the action would cause undue hardship. If they have children with whom they maintain a bona fide family relationship they will be kept in 3-A.

Q. Will fathers be called in the draft?

A. Yes, at some future date, probably in late Summer but not until Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey national draft director, issues a specific order to local draft boards to start induction of such fathers.

Q. What about fathers whose children were born after the war started?

A. Any child born on or after Sept. 15, 1942, will not be considered as cause for deferment or as a dependent entitling a man to classification 3-A.

Q. Are men in 2-A or 2-B affected by the new orders?

A. No. However, most men in 2-A or 2-B have been deferred for six months only to allow time for training of replacements for them and their cases will be reconsidered by local draft boards at the end of every six months so that they will be liable to possible reclassification at that time.

Q. Does it affect men in 2-C, or single men engaged in agricultural work necessary to the war effort?

A. No, such men are deferred indefinitely.

Q. Why were the orders necessary?

A. Because local draft boards were scraping the bottom of the manpower barrel. There are only between 900,000 and 1,000,000 men now in Class 1-A. Counting rejections for physical and other reasons, there is scarcely enough to last to meet demands of the armed forces for a month and a half. The new order is designed to allow induction in the following order: Single men, single men with collateral dependents, men with wives only and finally fathers.

Q. Do the new orders affect all men of draft age, 18 to 45?

A. No. They affect only men from 18 to 37, inclusive, or those whom the Army and Navy will accept for military service. However, men 38 to 44 inclusive, are being reclassified to find men for needed jobs such as those on the farm and in skilled work in war plants. If a man rejects a skilled job offered through reclassification, local draft boards will ask the Army for a waiver for his induction. The reclassification of other men in that age group will be made just in case the Army decides to eventually call them.

Q. Do the regulations change the recent order of the War Manpower Commission for induction of men in non-deferrable jobs such as bartenders?

A. No. Regardless of the number of children, men in jobs deemed non-deferrable must register with the U. S. Employment Service, accept war jobs offered them or face ultimate induction.

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