

SIR,—

Waitahuna, 1st July, 1891.

I have the honour, by direction of the Waitahuna Farmers' Club, to acknowledge receipt of your circular memorandum of the 27th May, requesting them to communicate their views on any subject relating to the welfare of the agricultural and pastoral industries. I am further directed to state that the club are of opinion that the farming community are to be congratulated on having at length a department to watch over their interest, and on having a Minister in charge who is practically acquainted with their requirements. They will avail themselves of his kind permission to communicate with him on any subject that the club may deem worthy of his consideration.

I have, &c.

JAMES MOGGATH,
Secretary, Waitahuna Farmers' Club.

No. 2.

SIR,—

Stock Department, Wellington, 11th April, 1891.

The Hon. the Minister of Agriculture, having been requested to legislate, *re* the yearly licensing of stallions, is anxious to obtain an expression of opinion thereon. I am therefore directed to ask you to kindly place the matter before your committee, and advise me of the result of their deliberations.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary, ———.

JOHN D. RITCHIE, Chief Inspector of Stock.

REPLIES TO ABOVE CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR,—

Auckland, 26th June, 1891.

I have the honour to forward you copy of resolution, *re* proposed tax on stallions, carried unanimously at a large meeting of the association.

I have, &c.,

ARTHUR ATKIN,

Hon. Sec., Auckland Provincial Agricultural Association.

The Hon. J. McKenzie, Minister of Lands.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this association, it is doubtful whether the taxing of stallions will be of any material benefit to the breeders of horses, and, unless great caution is exercised, will lead not only to an increase of officials, but will probably be harassing in its effects on country settlers.

SIR,—

Office Whangarei Farmers' Club, Whangarei, 29th May, 1891.

I have the honour to hereby acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of the 2nd instant, with the enclosed circular attached thereto. According to your request I called a meeting of the above club on the 21st instant, when there was a large attendance. The question was fully gone into, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted—namely: "That, in the opinion of this club, all stallions should be licensed at not less than ten guineas each, and that it be necessary for all such horses to undergo a veterinary examination by a duly-qualified vet., and that the result of such examination be printed on the advertising cards of such horse."

Club consists of seventy-five members.

I have, &c.,

J. MELVILLE GUILDING,

Secretary and Treasurer, Whangarei Farmers' Club.

Grattan Cooke, Esq., Stock Inspector.

SIR,—

3rd June, 1891.

I have the honour to inform you that the Mangere Farmers' Club, at a meeting held on Tuesday, the 26th May, passed the following resolution, which I am instructed to forward to you in reply to your circular of the 20th April:—

Resolved, That this club is of opinion that stallions should be licensed, and that the fees for service shall not be recoverable by law for unlicensed stallions; and that the license fees so collected be handed to the agricultural and pastoral association of the province.

I have, &c.,

JOHN C. HUBBARD,

Secretary, Mangere Farmers' Club.

J. D. Ritchie, Esq., Chief Inspector of Stock Department, Wellington.

SIR,—

Waikato Farmers' Club, Cambridge, 29th May, 1891.

I have the honour, by direction of the chairman of the above club, to convey to you the following resolution *re* the licensing of stallions carried at our last meeting:—

Resolved, That this club is in favour of a tax on all entire horses of two years old and upwards, native horses included, only upon the understanding that such tax will be used exclusively in providing premiums for first-class stallions to stand in central districts at fixed fees.

I have, &c.,

MARTIN BUTLER,

Secretary Waikato Farmers' Club.

J. D. Ritchie, Esq., Chief Inspector of Stock, Wellington.