

Production figures for the period 1st February, 1946, to 31st January, 1947, are shown below:—

Production of green leaf—

	Tons.
Total quantity of green leaf cut	18,017
Total quantity subsidized	15,932
Total quantity unsubsidized	2,085

This is a decrease of 9,433 tons.

Consumption of Fibre, &c.—The total amount of fibre, tow, stripper slips, and unscutched fibre (straw) produced was 3,265 tons, made up as follows:—

	Tons.
Fibre	1,867
Tow	394½
Straw (unscutched fibre)	873½
Stripper slips	130

This is a decrease of 1,570 tons from the previous season.

FLOCK HOUSE FARM OF INSTRUCTION

During the year plans for improving the standard of training at Flock House were proceeded with, but unfortunately the improvements to the existing buildings so that more trainees can be accommodated have not yet been carried out. The appointment of a Supervising Instructor to take full charge of the training side of the establishment and the institution of a syllabus of training, however, have paved the way for a more thorough tuition of each trainee. The average number of trainees during the year was 29, and there is at present accommodation for a maximum of 35 boys. The improvements referred to will allow of a maximum of 45 trainees to be accommodated.

Sheep.—The flock comprised 5,650 ewes, of which 1,000 were two-tooths. The overall lambing percentage was 98 per cent. A total of 3,370 fat lambs were sold.

Cattle.—Two hundred and fifty-nine run cattle produced 211 calves, a percentage of 82. A total of 156 cattle were sold during the year.

Dairy Herd.—The dairy herd of 100 cows produced a total of 26,096 lb. butterfat and 41,661 lb. milk. Testing for tuberculosis was continued with a negative result for the milking-herd, but 12 of the two-year-old heifers reacted to a first test. A later test was made, when 4 of those heifers and 2 cows reacted. The latter were disposed of.

Pigs.—A total of 98 pigs were sold during the year. No carcasses were condemned for tuberculosis.

Cropping.—The usual programme was carried out of growing oats, potatoes, peas, sugar-beet, carrots, swedes, chou moellier, and rape, and a considerably increased acreage of wheat was grown, giving an average yield of 46 bushels per acre.

General.—A severe storm in February caused much damage to the fruit crops and to the shelter-belts and forest areas. Flood-protection work has been fully justified, with marked improvement to pastures on country which was previously subject to flooding.