

Formation.—Under this heading the ploughing of fire-breaks was the principal work carried on, some four miles being broken up for the first time. The forming of road-cuttings and culverts also engaged attention in order to give access to planted areas. Grading operations were also carried out in several swampy areas.

General Upkeep.—Under this heading the reploughing of fire-breaks was one of the principal works carried on, some twelve miles of ground being turned over, thus providing an effectual barrier to fires.

The replanting of failures on No. 1 Plantation was pushed on. Pruning and cutting of double leaders were also carried on over the greater part of the same area.

A heavy north-west gale in the late autumn did damage to trees, a large number being blown over, and requiring immediate straightening and firming.

Buildings.—A camp was formed for the workmen at a spot convenient to the area being operated upon. All material required for the erection of the new huts at the prison camp was carted from Culverden by the nursery team of horses.

Pests.—Both rabbits and hares have been kept well in check by dogs and guns, and very few of either of these pests are now within the enclosed area. A green aphid appeared on the *Betula alba* during the summer, and, spreading rapidly from tree to tree, soon affected the whole of this variety. While dealing with some lightly, others were severely attacked, and in some instances entire defoliation ensued. A white blight has appeared on Austrian pine in isolated cases, but, with the exception of one or two trees, no damage has so far been done.

Prison Labour.—The number of prisoners available for forestry operations throughout the year was very small, a daily average of only 7·31 men being employed; consequently, the total value of this labour for the year is very much below that of former years, although the quality is up to the average. Accommodation is available for forty prisoners, but the number of men in camp during the year has usually been below twenty, thus necessitating the employment of additional free labour to cope with the work in hand.

Details and values of work are as follows: Pitting (129,230 pits), £96 18s. 6d.; tree-planting (366,120 trees), £183 0s. 8d.; formation, £20 18s. 6d.; clearing 74 acres, £62 12s. 9d.; general maintenance, £1 10s.; horse-feed, £1 7s.; fencing, 12s. Total value for the year, £396 19s. 5d., which works out at £56 14s. 2d. per man for the year.

Statements of values and expenditures are appended.

Schedule II.—Statement of Expenditure.

	For Year.			To Date.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Planting operations and maintenance—						
Tree-planting	459	15	2	2,388	15	6
Pitting	749	1	8	3,251	15	7
Clearing	214	19	3	1,078	1	11
Cartage of trees	23	16	6	59	19	6
General upkeep of plantation	276	10	0	1,926	14	3
General repairs	3	2	4	11	2	10
Horse-feed	30	9	9	123	17	3
Permanent works—						
Fencing	270	16	10	1,021	13	11
Formation	41	14	10	972	18	7
Buildings	43	8	10	722	0	9
Stock, implements, &c.—Tools, implements	30	4	1	360	13	5
Supervision and clerical—						
Salaries—						
Supervision of free labour	160	0	0	611	14	4
„ „ prison labour	80	0	0	342	16	8
Nurseryman's proportion of clerical assistance	45	0	0	327	7	0
	2,428	19	3	13,199	11	6
Estimated value of prison labour (apportioned in above items)	396	19	5	4,261	9	9
Actual expenditure	£2,031	19	10	£8,938	1	9

Schedule III.—Tree Account.

	Number.
Trees received during the year	1,146,905
Less to replace blanks	34,200
Planted on new area	1,112,705
Previously planted	2,839,246
Total number planted on 1,451½ acres (average age, six years)	3,951,951