

Home for Defectives, Richmond.—The Education Department, from whom we originally took over this estate, has arranged with us to retake it. They are building accommodation for a special school for girls, and in due course we will betake ourselves to Tokanui, as the extent of this estate is really too small for our purposes. However, in order to add to the safety of the more helpless in case of fire, the dining-room downstairs was extended and converted into a dormitory, to which the boys were removed.

Farming Operations.

The following summary of expenditure and receipts in connection with the farms at the mental hospitals demonstrates another successful year:—

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries and wages	4,199	16	1	By Cash sales of produce, &c. .. .	6,640	5	6
Feed	3,136	2	5	Value of produce grown on farms and			
Seeds, &c., manures	1,043	2	1	consumed in the mental hospitals..	14,942	13	11
Implements, harness, repairs, &c. ..	778	7	4				
Stock	637	2	11				
Rents, rates, &c.	883	16	8				
Fencing, roading, &c.	278	19	3				
Harvesting, threshing, &c.	114	18	4				
Railages	113	9	6				
Buildings	61	7	2				
Sundries.. .. .	421	14	1				
Balance	9,914	3	7				
	<u>£21,582</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>5</u>				
					<u>£21,582</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>5</u>

The value of produce consumed is shown at wholesale rates ruling in the particular district. Compared with the previous year, the cash sales increased by £803 and the value of produce consumed by £313. The credit balance of the year's transactions was £695 higher. The fluctuation is partly accounted for by the addition of Tokanui.

Hereunder is a statement of expenditure on individual farms:—

	Auckland.	Christchurch.	Seacliff.	Hokitika.	Nelson.	Porirua.	Tokanui.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries and wages	250 0 0	510 0 0	2,181 0 0	136 15 9	248 15 0	386 15 0	486 10 4	4,199 16 1
Feed ..	193 12 3	241 1 7	1,606 3 4	25 14 3	16 13 7	907 19 6	144 17 11	3,136 2 5
Seeds, &c., manures	158 15 1	112 3 2	216 5 0	24 19 7	104 18 10	221 8 0	204 12 5	1,043 2 1
Implements, harness, repairs, &c.	33 17 3	169 8 3	221 1 2	5 4 0	38 17 0	86 4 4	223 15 4	778 7 4
Stock ..	5 0 0	142 17 2	24 3 0	65 4 5	106 8 0	95 10 10	197 19 6	637 2 11
Rent, rates, &c. ..	..	431 11 3	336 17 11	..	..	115 7 6	..	883 16 8
Fencing, roading, &c.	10 4 6	90 13 2	82 19 5	..	20 15 4	63 7 1	10 19 9	278 19 3
Harvesting, threshing, &c.	..	54 0 6	..	..	11 2 9	..	49 15 1	114 18 4
Railage ..	..	18 12 4	57 8 6	..	..	..	37 8 8	113 9 6
Buildings ..	..	36 7 2	35 0 0	..	..	..	..	61 7 2
Sundries ..	32 6 3	187 6 0	142 4 7	..	..	59 17 3	..	421 14 1
Totals ..	683 15 4	1,994 0 7	4,893 2 11	257 18 0	547 10 6	1,936 9 6	1,355 19 0	11,668 15 10

The statement of receipts is extended in the following table:—

Mental Hospital.	Produce sold for Cash.	Value of Produce consumed.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	691 1 3	2,670 1 3	3,361 2 6
Christchurch	1,935 2 1	3,112 9 4	5,047 11 5
Seacliff	2,201 1 10	4,433 19 5	6,635 1 3
Hokitika	..	427 1 5	427 1 5
Nelson	258 2 9	1,044 13 9	1,302 16 6
Porirua	1,440 13 3	2,460 15 6	3,901 8 9
Tokanui	114 4 4	793 13 3	907 17 7
Totals...	6,640 5 6	14,942 13 11	21,582 19 5

These returns are highly satisfactory, for if they did not pay the cost of management the farms would remain an essential part of our system. In their beauty and spaciousness and in their varied interests we have a suitable environment for the treatment of mental disorder, and, while providing open-air occupation and recreation for patients, they ensure a plentiful supply of fresh wholesome food.