

POROPORO.

This scheme, of an area of 2,604 acres, is situated approximately eight miles inland from Port Awanui on the main East Coast Road just north of the Waiapu River.

There are twelve units and four other workers, with ninety-eight dependants dependent on the scheme for their livelihood.

Very little development work was undertaken on the scheme proper during the year. Twenty-two chains of fencing were erected and the existing fencing maintained. On the Whenuakura units two cow-sheds were erected and 80½ chains of subsidiary drains were dug. The whole area is now in grass, and future work will comprise maintenance and the improvement of pastures generally. From a butterfat-production point of view the prospects for the coming season are not bright, owing to the fact that feed is short and very little winter feed has been grown. The sheep country is looking well.

The live-stock carried by the scheme as at the 31st March, 1935, is as follows: Sheep, 4,492; dairy cattle, 261; run cattle, 537; horses, 25.

During the year sales included 92 bales of wool, 2,820 sheep, and 120 sheep-skins.

TUPAROA.

This is a "blanket" scheme covering twenty-eight separate blocks, the majority of which are grouped between the Tuparoa Village and the northern boundary of the Akuaku Block, and between Whareponga Village on the sea side and the main highway. The area is 8,777 acres.

With the exception of some subdivisional fencing, very little development work has been undertaken this year.

During the year 500 acres were cleared of variegated thistles which infest the Whareponga area and require continual cutting to keep in check.

There are thirteen units, five other workers and one hundred and one dependants maintained by the scheme, and although the health of the inhabitants is good the condition of the living-quarters can be classed only as fair.

The live-stock position as at the 31st March, 1935, was as follows: Dairy cattle, 337; run cattle, 925; sheep, 7,310; horses, 14.

The scheme produced 133 bales of wool, and sheep to the value of £1,447 Os. 3d. were sold or transferred to other schemes during the year.

The dairying returns are not available.

MOHAKA.

This scheme, which covers an area of some 19,709 acres, is situated on the East Coast adjacent to the Mohaka River, and comprises parts of the Mohaka, Putere, Waihua, and Waipapa Blocks.

There are 57 units located on the scheme, who support some 296 dependants.

The following work was undertaken during the year: Clearing and stumping, 280 acres; scrub-cutting, 45 acres; bushfelling, 50 acres; ploughing, 462 acres; sowing grass-seed, 426 acres; winter feed, 50 acres; fencing, 1,374 chains; draining, 15 chains; buildings erected, 9 cowsheds, 1 cottage; and blackberry cleared, 133 acres.

The Mohaka lands are infested with blackberry and contain areas hard to control. A good deal of cutting and burning has been undertaken by units, and goats are now being used on badly infested areas to good purpose. Ragwort is being watched closely and sprayed with sodium chlorate at appropriate intervals.

Scheme stock comprises 106 cows, 58 store cattle, and 5 horses, and units' stock aggregate 3,410 sheep, 1,236 cows, 102 calves, 21 store cattle, 55 horses, and 186 goats.

The main tribe on this area is the Pahauwera, and the people are, generally speaking, keen to become self-supporting.

What land has been laid down in permanent pasture is in good heart. The bulk of the country being light, the use of fertilizers and very careful management are necessary. The health and living-conditions of the people are good, there being a noticeable improvement in the children since the inauguration of the scheme.

KAHUNGUNU.

This scheme contains 8,230 acres, and is situated in the Wairoa County to the north-west of the Mohaka development scheme and on the northern bank of the Mohaka River.

There are four units and two other workers supporting thirty-five dependants.

The following work was undertaken during the year: Clearing and stumping, 31 acres; scrub-cutting, 5 acres; ploughing, 81 acres; cropping (swedes), 40 acres; sowing grass-seed, 108 acres; and fencing, 138 chains.

Live-stock returns at 31st March, 1935, were as follows: 627 lambs, 43 cows and heifers, and 8 horses.

The units already established on this scheme are members of the Pahauwera Tribe, and it is expected that several more settlers will be allotted holdings next season. The land laid down in permanent pasture is in good order, but there is a large area covered in blackberry, scrub, and light bush awaiting development.