

The improvements in the fat lambs, wool, and butterfat are no doubt in a large measure due to the use of fertilizers, the benefit of which is also evident in the composition and appearance of the pastures.

Schedule 8 shows the amounts of lime and superphosphate used on the four main blocks as at 31st March, 1935, and 31st March, 1936—the total being 208 tons of superphosphate and 402 tons of lime. The pulverizer installed at Waitanguru by the Public Works Department is now producing a crushed limestone of higher lime content and satisfactory fineness. In Schedule 8 is also shown the return per acre of grass at Pururu and Lee's. This comparison is only an indication of the production and is confined to the two blocks as being the only ones of which all of the grass has been newly laid down. In the case of Pururu, approximately 100 acres of the 433 were mainly sown this autumn, and at Lee's about 60 acres of new pasture was in the same position. The figures indicate that the management in the two cases was approximately of the same value.

Vital Statistics.—On the four main blocks an average of 331 men were employed. These included 42 prospective settlers who are living on the schemes and their dependants, numbering 254.

Schedule 9 shows that on all of the blocks under this Branch there were 506 men employed and that the total number of them and their dependants is 962 persons.

SCHEDULE 1.—IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED TO 31ST MARCH, 1936.

Improvements.				Ngatamahine.	Pururu.	Lee's.	Mairoa.	Totals.
Fencing, new and repairs	..	..	(chains)	941	1,412	684	1,375½	4,412½
Roads—								
Formed and metalled	..	..	„	194	97	106	} 80*	564†
Formed and unmetalled	..	..	„	31	56	..		
Clearing and stumping	..	..	(acres)	165	617	170	237	1,189
Ploughing and cultivating	..	..	„	155	539	162	143	999
Pastures—								
Permanent	..	..	„	{ 392‡ 1,075§ }	433	180	19	2,099
Temporary	..	..	„		3	11½	..	14½
Swedes	..	..	„	52	79	29	135	295
Green feed	..	..	„	..	..	14	..	14
Hay	..	..	(tons)	75	80	30	..	185
Ensilage	..	..	„	30	..	30	..	60
Water-supply	..	..	(sheds connected)	5	6	1	2	14
Top-dressed	..	..	(acres)	..	433	180	198	811
Drains	..	..	(chains)	208	59	181	92½	540½
Cowshed and yards	..	..	(number)	7	9	4	3	23
Manure-sheds	..	..	„	3	1	1	3	8
Houses	..	..	„	13	14	4	7	40
				(plus 2 cottages)				

* Including 42 chains formed and 38 chains metalled. † Including 435 chains metalled and 129 chains formed.
in new permanent pasture. § 1,075 acres in old grass, unploughed, patches scrub and fern, and requires logging and stumping. ‡ 392 acres

SCHEDULE 2.—IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED ON THE FOUR MAIN BLOCKS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1935, AND 31ST MARCH, 1936.

				31st March, 1935.	31st March, 1936.	Increase.
Houses	..	..	(number)	40	40	..
Cow-sheds	..	..	„	18	23	5
Fencing, new and renovated	..	..	(chains)	1,960	4,412	2,452
Draining	..	..	„	160	540	380
Stumping and clearing	..	..	(acres)	620	1,189	569
Ploughing and cultivating	..	..	„	577	999	422
Pastures, permanent	..	..	„	750	1,024	274
Crops, swedes, &c.	..	..	„	152	295	143
Hay harvested	..	..	(tons)	100	185	85
Ensilage	..	..	„	30	60	30
Roads formed and metalled	..	..	(chains)	140	435	} 124
Roads formed	..	..	„	300	129	

SCHEDULE 3.—PURURU, NGATAMAHINE, LEE'S, AND MAIROA BLOCKS.

Stock carried on the above blocks as at 31st March, 1936, together with the value, both standard and market:—

Stock.				1935.	1936.
Sheep	..	..	..	3,224	2,800
Dairy stock	..	..	..	421	574
Run cattle	..	..	..	347	233
Horses	..	..	..	38	48
Pigs	..	..	..	31	148

The value of above at Department's standard value, £6,454.
The value of above at a reasonable market value, £8,918.