

During the season ending 31st July, 1935, an average of 422 cows was milked, giving a total milk-yield of 2,960,943 lb. at an average milk test of 3·86. The average factory cream test was 39·86, and the average estimated yield per cow 245·74 lb. of butterfat.

Sheep to the number of 1,815 were shorn during the season, a clip of 46 bales, weighing 17,435 lb., being obtained.

Excellent progress continues to be made in the pig industry. By giving close attention to the breeding of young pigs, and with plentiful supplies of skim-milk and fodder at hand, a total of 827 pigs was disposed of. Out of this total, 589 pigs were supplied to the New Zealand Co-operative Pig-marketing Association, while 214 weaners and stores were sold both in the open market and privately, good prices being the general rule.

Activities in the garden have been carried on as usual, and, while adverse weather conditions have been the cause of a smaller return than was expected, a small cash profit on working should result. In the nursery section the beds of young trees grown for planting out on the institution farm gave good results, and a total of 3,125 plants were supplied during the year for this purpose.

An area of approximately 6 acres of tobacco was harvested in March, and 3,940 lb. of dried leaf was forwarded to Auckland to be held in bond to await a suitable market.

From the orchard 2,742 cases of apples were sold both privately and through auction-rooms, the receipts reaching the satisfactory total of £463 11s. 6d. In addition to this, 110 cases were supplied to supplement inmates rations. During the early spring the grafting of trees was carried out on an extensive scale.

The output of honey from the apiary totalled 3,380 lb. for the season, an increase of 389 lb. on the returns for the previous year. Operations at the apiary have been extended by the addition of twenty colonies of bees.

The following crops were harvested during the year: Ensilage, 415 tons; hay, 203 tons; oaten sheaves, 36 tons; maize (for green feed), 250 tons; swede turnips, 1,685 tons; potatoes, 58 tons; horse-carrots, 35 tons; and barley, 45 bushels.

The institution provided entries in the live-stock division, and in all classes of farm and garden produce, at the 1935 show organized by the Te Awamutu Agricultural, Pastoral, and Horticultural Association, and was successful in obtaining eight first and ten minor prizes. In the Home Industries section a comprehensive display of all classes of produce, together with examples of the work performed by inmates as part of their daily tasks, assisted to a large extent in the success of that portion of the exhibition, and was the subject of favourable comment from many quarters.

I desire to express my thanks to the staff of this institution for their loyal co-operation throughout the year.

POINT HALSWELL BORSTAL INSTITUTION.

(Superintendent, Miss A. ESCOTT.)

At the commencement of the year there were 24 inmates in the Borstal Institution and 5 in the Reformatory. During the year 20 girls were received into the Borstal and 26 released on probationary license, leaving 18 in the institution at the end of 1935.

Thirty-one older women were received into the Reformatory, and 29 discharged or transferred elsewhere, leaving 7 in custody at the end of the year.

The conduct and industry of the inmates have been good. The general health of the inmates has also been exceptionally good. Our industries are being well maintained. During the year an up-to-date electric mangle and drying-presses have been installed. These facilities have greatly improved the working-conditions in the laundry, and the work is now put through expeditiously.

Apart from laundry-work the girls take their turn in working in the vegetable-garden (which supplies practically all the vegetables required for the institution), also in housework, cooking, sewing, and poultry-rearing.

School, drill, and games are carried on regularly, games and physical exercises in conjunction with the fresh air and regular life have a most beneficial effect on the health of the girls. Swimming at Shelly Bay during the summer months is also included in the healthy exercises. The inter-house games shield is always keenly competed for between the two houses, the Fergusson House girls holding it for the current year.

During the winter, members of the Wesley Bible Class came out and played basketball and indoor games with the girls. The visits of these kind people are eagerly looked forward to and thoroughly enjoyed. Thursday evening is always reserved for entertainments, and I wish to express my thanks to the ladies who have helped to make these evenings so pleasant for the girls.

The after-care and supervision of the girls on their return to the outside world is still undertaken by the Borstal Association, and our thanks are due to those ladies who give so much time and thought to this work.

Religious services are held regularly every Sunday and individual talks given.

Again our thanks are due to all those who remembered the inmates during the festive seasons; to the Borstal Association for gifts for each girl, and providing fruit and cake for tea on Christmas Day; to Mrs. Sprott and members of the women's organizations of the Church of England for a delightful party on New Year's Day; and to Mrs. Glover and officers of the Salvation Army for a concert and supper given to the inmates later in the year.

The Visiting Committee, with Mr. G. C. Edwards in the Chair, has met regularly at the institution, and after any necessary business has been attended to, the members have visited the various working parties, giving the inmates helpful and kindly advice.