

endeavour is made to encourage inmates to develop a habit for study, and all possible facilities are given for this purpose. The predominant part played by education in its widest sense is to stimulate the mind to achieve intellectual attainment by application to study and hobbies during leisure hours, to give a clean healthy outlook on life, and to free the individual from brooding over past events.

The physical side of the educational programme is provided by gymnastics, sports, and drill classes. Manual labour, of course, also plays an important part, bringing into play a combination of the intellectual and physical forces. During the 1936 season two teams were entered in the junior grade Rugby competitions under the control of the Waipa Rugby Union. The A team was successful in winning the Championship Cup and also the Doyle Cup in the knock-out series. The B team also won a fair proportion of games, and altogether sixty-four inmates participated in the matches played. Nine inmates were selected to play in the Waipa junior representatives during the season, matches being played at Te Kuiti, Matamata, and Cambridge. On the whole the games were very keenly contested. During the summer period cricket was indulged in, and the institution team is at the moment unbeaten in the competition matches played each Saturday under the control of the Country Association.

In furtherance of the plan to enhance industrial efficiency and the value of reformatory training, milking-machines were installed in two sheds during the year, and one shed converted from bucket plant to the ordinary reaser type. Work was commenced on the installation of a mechanical steam laundry to provide better facilities and to permit of the labour of a number of inmates hitherto engaged at the old-fashioned washing methods to be applied to more useful and instructive tasks. A start was also made on the erection of chilling-rooms to avoid wastage of meat and milk during the hot, muggy weather and to provide improved conditions for foodstuffs generally. The erection of two additional staff cottages was also put under way, and a new motor-garage erected. The installation of electric current at the camp and No. 3 dairy was completed.

Favoured with a good season for production and a higher level of market values, revenue from the farm increased substantially—for the year under review farm income amounted to approximately £14,741, exclusive of the value of a large quantity of produce consumed at the institution for ration purposes and on the farm itself. Practically all branches of farming are carried out, including cattle-raising and dairying; sheep, horse, and pig raising; and vegetable, fruit, honey, and tobacco culture; and ordinary crop production. The farm itself is in good order and the pastures in good heart. Drains and fences received attention during the year, and young trees raised in the nursery were planted out for shelter-belts. Top-dressing on the usual maintenance basis was carried out as usual and pasture harrowing practised extensively. An area of 155 acres was sown down in permanent pasture.

Dairying continues to occupy a prominent place in the farm activities. During the 1935-36 season an average of 482 cows were milked, the average butterfat production per cow being 295 lb. The total milk-yield was 3,497,748 lb., cream-yield 329,134 lb., and butterfat supplied to factory 132,199 lb. The average cream and milk tests were 40.17 per cent. and 4.07 per cent. respectively. Of the total cream supplied to the factory, 89.24 per cent. was graded finest quality. The aggregate dairy production was a record for the farm. Herd-testing, carried out by inmates, was continued during the year, and by the intelligent use of the breeding data and testing records, coupled with systematic culling of low producers, the Shorthorn and Jersey herds have been maintained at the high standards recorded in the past.

In the sheep section fifty-nine bales of wool were shorn from 2,800 sheep. This wool sold at an average of £20 11s. per bale, or approximately 14d. per pound, four bales of fine hoggets wool fetching 19½d. per pound. The lambing percentage was slightly over 103.8 per cent.

The pig industry, allied to dairying, is gaining in importance each year, and the great advances that are being made in pig-flesh production calls for careful attention to this activity to keep abreast with the latest technique in production. No animal responds more to careful attention and proper feeding than the pig, and trials are conducted from time to time that are not only educative, but also informative as a basis for moulding future policy.

The whole of the farm-work in the nature of ploughing is done by horses, and the teams are favourably known in the district. The inmate teamsters are responsible for the caring of the horses entrusted to them, and the pride they take in their work is remarkable.

The garden provides a useful and healthy avenue for the employment of inmates fitted for light labour, and is valuable in fulfilling the requirements of the institution for fresh vegetables. Surplus garden produce is sold locally and at the auction-rooms. In the nursery section young trees are raised from seed for eventual planting out as shelter-belts on the farm.

Tobacco-culture was again carried out in conjunction with the gardening operations, a yield of 2,168 lb. of air-cured leaf being secured from an area of 4 acres.

The apple orchard, under the supervision of an experienced instructor, is looking exceptionally well. The 1935-36 season was not notable for production, only 1,328 cases being sold during that period. A heavy yield of high-quality fruit is expected during the coming season.

From the apiary 4,385 lb. of honey received found a ready market. During the off-season the latest type of honey-house was erected, modern equipment installed, and better facilities made available for dealing with the product, the educative value of the industry being thus considerably improved.

In the pheasant-rearing section progress is steadily being made, and although the results are not yet as good as desired each season shows a small advance. This industry requires the most careful attention to detail at all stages. All the young birds raised are disposed of to the Internal Affairs Department for liberation. A hundred birds were reared during the season.

The following crops were harvested during the year: Ensilage, 415 tons; hay, 203 tons; oaten sheaves (for chaff), 36 tons; maize (for green feed), 250 tons; swede turnips, 1,750 tons; potatoes, 84 tons; and horse carrots, 5 tons. The majority of the crops are raised for the requirements of the institution and stock, but potatoes are disposed of to all prisons in the North Island.