

The revenue for this year is £53,922 11s. 5d., as against £27,490 11s. for the previous year, and is made up as under :—

						1936-37.			1937-38.		
						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Butterfat ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,439	5	4	6,323	2	1
Fat sheep ..	..	..	..	..	..	11,800	12	0	29,425	2	6
Store sheep ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,640	8	9			
Wool ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,823	0	10	8,302	16	0
Cattle ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,152	0	3	8,144	17	0
Pigs ..	..	..	..	..	..	525	7	0	698	14	9
Sundries ..	..	..	..	..	..	109	16	10	1,027	19	1
						£27,490	11	0	£53,922	11	5

Total Work completed on the Thirty-seven Blocks.

						Chains.		
Fencing ..	..	..	..	..	..	20,917		
Shelter-belts ..	..	..	..	..	..	875		
Roads (internal) metalled ..	..	..	..	..	..	944		
Roads formed, not metalled ..	..	..	..	..	..	655		
Drains ..	..	..	..	..	..	3,790		
						Acres.		
Stumping, clearing, and burning ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,181		
Bush and scrub felled ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,549		
Ploughing and cultivation ..	..	..	..	..	..	6,532		
Sown in grass ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,278		
Sown in crops ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000		
Top-dressed ..	..	..	..	..	..	7,278		
						Number.		
Water-supplies (systems) ..	..	..	..	..	..	30		
Houses, new and repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	85		
Cow-sheds ..	..	..	..	..	..	45		
Store-sheds ..	..	..	..	..	..	48		
Cattle-yards ..	..	..	..	..	..	8		
Sheep-yards ..	..	..	..	..	..	22		
Dips ..	..	..	..	..	..	3		
Posts split ..	..	..	..	..	..	199,400		
Strainers split ..	..	..	..	..	..	9,840		
Battens ..	..	..	..	..	..	977,400		

The population of the blocks and people dependent on them for livelihood is as follows :—

Prospective settlers ..	..	..	..	..	..	86
Married men residing on blocks ..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Single men residing on blocks ..	..	..	..	..	..	331
Married men not residing ..	..	..	..	..	..	102
Single men not residing ..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Women and children residing on blocks ..	..	..	..	..	..	377
*Women and children not residing on blocks ..	..	..	..	..	..	306

1,252

Figures for the original four main blocks—Pururu, Ngatamahine, Lee’s, and Mairoa—for the years ending 31st March, 1935, and 31st March, 1938, are given hereunder for comparison :—

Sales.						1934-35.	1937-38.
						£	£
Butterfat ..	..	..	..	..	..	617	4,770
Fat lambs ..	..	..	..	..	..	941	392
Fat sheep ..	..	..	..	..	..	181	2,880
Store sheep ..	..	..	..	..	..	550	489
Wool ..	..	..	..	..	..	286	1,841
Dairy cattle ..	..	..	..	..	..	382	309
Run cattle ..	..	..	..	..	..	185	1,844
Pigs ..	..	..	..	..	..	62	474

The reduction shown in sales of fat lambs is due to the fact that the number of Southdown-cross lambs bred has been considerably reduced. It is intended in the future to restrict this branch of farming to the more intensely farmed sections, where the conditions are most favourable. Of the total lambs bred (13,771) there were this year 10,861 Romney-cross lambs.

In regard to store sheep, it was not necessary this year to cull so heavily. The returns for butterfat and pigs have increased approximately eight times, and fat cattle sold shows a satisfactory increase both in price and quality.

* Estimated.