



E. Dutton, photo

#### WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS TO SPEND £200,000 FOR ELECTRIC POWER—THE MAKURI GORGE, NEAR PAHIATUA.

The Government's big hydro-electric scheme includes the establishment of a plant for the generation of 600 h.p. per annum at Makuri, at an estimated cost of £200,000. From this point light and power would be supplied to Palmerston North, Masterton, Woodville, Pahiatua, Feilding, Levin, and Intermediate towns. The Premier estimates that power would be retailed at £10 per h.p. per annum, as against £15 to £30 at present with coal. Electric light would be supplied at 2d per unit, and power worked out at 1d intermittent and 4d for continuous working per unit, while this would allow the State a profit of £3 to £4 per h.p. The Makuri works will be only nineteen miles from Palmerston in an air-line, and there is no gauging the possibilities which the construction of this power station would open for the district.