

the occasional growing of leguminous crops, and by the occasional ploughing in of as much crop debris every season as can well be managed, the vegetable mould in the soil will be increased, and also the natural drainage capacity of the surface soil. By the use of deep-rooting grasses, clovers, and forage plants when laying down to grass, instead of so much perennial rye, the depth of top soil, on land thus treated, could be largely increased within quite a limited number of years. By doubling the depth of the cultivatable soil in the Marton Junction area, and by drainage, it is safe to predict that the yield of the crops obtained could be likewise doubled if given intelligent cultivation; and, since the moisture-content of the soil in its present condition is so small during the summer months, this fact must necessarily restrict the variety of crops it is capable of producing in a satisfactory manner, until, by gradually deepening the top soil and by subsoil drainage, the present conditions have been materially altered, and both the quality and capacity of the land thereby improved.

MANURE MIXTURES.

Maize, &c., Mixture.—Superphosphate, 300 lb.; Wanganui bonemeal, 50 lb.; Gear blood manure, 50 lb.; sulphate of potash, 50 lb.; sulphate of ammonia, 50 lb.—Approximate cost, 7s. 5d. per 100 lb.

Cereal Mixture.—Gear blood manure, 100 lb.; Wanganui bonemeal, 100 lb.; imported superphosphate, 50 lb.; sulphate of potash, 12.5 lb.—Approximate cost, 6s. 9d. per 100 lb.

Peas, &c., Mixture.—Gear blood manure, 50 lb.; imported superphosphate, 100 lb.; Wanganui bonemeal, 75 lb.; sulphate of potash, 25 lb.—Approximate cost, 5s. 11d. per 100 lb.

The rough weather in the early part of October affected the fruit crop to a serious extent only in the North Canterbury district, where all fruits were badly damaged. The frosts on the morning of the 15th of the month severely cut plums, strawberries, and apricots.



THE HOMESTEAD AND BYRE ON A DANISH FARM.