

so well as last year, and that the wheat is shrivelled and light. Potato crops are also reported to be poor, owing to the dry season. A large number of lambs have left the district during the month, although the slaughtermen's strike is affecting the demand for fat sheep. Heavy rains during the latter end of the month gave root crops and grass a fresh start, and the country is commencing to look green again.—*G. Reid.*

OAMARU.—The weather of last month was variable, and has changed rapidly most of the time. The harvest is now general, and farmers are finding that crops are showing very uneven yields. A bad north-west gale caused a certain amount of damage on the 13th instant, but luckily the greater part of crop was in the stook. Green crops are looking very well, and the country has derived considerable benefit from recent rain.—*W. F. Flower.*

PALMERSTON SOUTH.—During the month weather-conditions were varied, excessive heat being followed by cold wind and rain. Heavy gales about the middle of the month did considerable damage to standing crops. Total rainfall, 1.30 in., 88 points falling since the 25th, which, although hindering harvest, has helped the turnip crop greatly, and these are now looking well. Stacking is the order of the day, a few farmers having threshed. Although the crops are below the average some good samples are to be found. One farmer has threshed 78 and 64 bushels per acre of Garton autumn-sown oats. The Hessian fly has made its appearance in wheat crops, but to no serious extent.—*C. S. Dalgliesh.*

DUNEDIN.—The weather for February was most unseasonable—in fact, some of the worst on record. Gales of wind and cold rain were experienced nearly every day. The dairy-farmers have had difficulty in securing their crops of oats, which in any case are very light. The pastures, not being heavily stocked, are very good. Mangel crops are practically a failure. Turnips also, with few exceptions, are a very light crop, the dull, windy, cold weather having retarded all growth. Potatoes promise a fair yield, and blight is not showing to any extent.—*J. R. Renton.*

MOSGIEL.—The month was mild up till the 12th, when it blew a south-west gale, which did considerable damage to any ripe crops standing. The 13th was the severest day felt in the district for many years, when a south-west gale blew, with cold rain-showers, snow falling on the surrounding hills, and this continued over the next day. The oldest settlers in the district have not seen snow so low down on the Maungatua in a February before. The storm knocked the crops about so much that they can only be cut one way, thus causing delay and expense to the farmers. Early turnips are looking well, but those late sown are backward. So far they are free from blight. Mr. A. Birtles, Momona, sprayed a paddock of potatoes five times with Bordeaux mixture, and the crop is free from blight, while the adjoining crops not sprayed are blighted. Mangels are looking well, and so are all pastures. There is abundance of feed on the flat and hill country. Harvesting is in full swing, but labour is hard to get. The mills have started to thresh out of the stook in the West Taieri district.—*H. McLeod.*

MANIOTOTO.—From the 1st to the 10th fair weather prevailed, but from the 11th to the 13th heavy gales raged, doing much damage to any crops not cut. In Paerau district, crops—turnips and oats—and pastures are looking exceptionally well. Stock in general is healthy, and is in good condition.—*A. T. N. Simpson.*

CLYDE.—The weather for February was very dry. We were treated to one or two showers, but what rain there was produced no growth of any sort. Crops that were being harvested looked very well until the 13th instant, when we had a terrific gale which played havoc. The heads of some standing crops were stripped clean off, and others were blown clean out by the roots. Stacks were overturned in all directions. Turnips, rape, and potatoes are pretty well a failure owing to dry and windy weather.—*Thomas N. Baxter.*

LAWRENCE.—The weather for the month was very changeable. High winds were experienced, with snow low down on the hills, also slight frosts at night. Some almost ripe crops were severely shaken, and in some cases comparatively green ones were badly knocked about by a gale of wind on the 14th and 15th. Turnips and rape have suffered a good deal from fly and grub. Harvest is now general. The oat crop is on the light side, but wheat has withstood the changeable weather better and will be a fair crop.—*R. Barron.*

OWAKA.—The weather for February was changeable, the first half of the month being very good and the latter part stormy. Harvesting has commenced, but the crops are short in most cases, although there are some heavy crops in parts of the district