

RURAL EDUCATION.

WORK IN THE NORTHERN WANGANUI DISTRICT.

AGRICULTURAL education in the district high schools of the northern district of the Wanganui Education Board is being conducted on a sound and original system. Practical field-work is the main feature, and this, being carried out under a capable and enthusiastic director, Mr. R. Browne, is proving an effective means of imparting to the senior boys of the schools in question a good working knowledge of the various processes of rural economy based on correct underlying principles. It is gratifying to know that the lads have been extremely



THE BOYS IN THE MANGEL CROP LISTENING TO A PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION BY MR. R. BROWNE.

interested in the work, and as a consequence many of them are expected to take up farming pursuits in preference to city occupations which have absorbed so many country boys in the past.

Following is a synopsis of the work of this season, the course in each case lasting for a fortnight:—

At Hawera, in early August:—

- (1.) Incubator work; housing and feeding of fowls.
- (2.) Veterinary science, dealing more especially with the dairy cow, and diseases of same.
- (3.) Orchard work: Pruning and spraying of local orchards.
- (4.) Manures and top-dressing; study of pastures.
- (5.) Babcock test; herd-testing.