

ally heavy winds, particularly at the latter end of the month, with cold showers and a slight fall of snow on the high country. Pastures all through the district are looking well. All chaffcutters and threshing-mills are working full time.—*E. T. Sinclair.*

NELSON.—The odd showers of rain and foggy weather during the month kept the pastures and root crops growing. The native grasses, where they were burnt off during the dry weather, are looking remarkably well. A large percentage of the turnips are young, but they are of good colour and are making good growth. The grain crops are all harvested and threshing-machines are at work. The frost that came about the 24th did some damage to the potatoes, but on the whole they are looking pretty well.—*Gilbert Ward.*

WESTLAND.—The weather last month was very wet and disagreeable, and at times exceptionally cold for the season of the year. The rainfall to date (28th) has been 5.47 in. It has rained on eighteen days, the maximum fall being on the 11th, when 1.05 in. was recorded. Snow fell on the ranges, and owing to the lateness of the season it is likely to remain throughout the winter, and early frosts may be expected in consequence. The weather experienced this summer has been very detrimental to the farmer, delaying agricultural pursuits generally, and is not at all encouraging for dealing with cultivation on an extensive scale. The majority of settlers seem to think that their attention is better directed by dealing with their land for grazing purposes.—*H. J. Walton.*

KAIKOURA.—With the exception of two days' nor'-wester winds, good weather prevailed throughout the month. Harvesting operations are completed, and returns satisfactory. Pastures and green crops are good and promise well for winter feed. Irish blight is prevalent among potatoes which have not been sprayed.—*W. S. Goddall.*

ROTHERHAM.—The weather for the month of March was exceptionally dry, the rainfall being the lowest for some years. We had a slight shower on the 11th instant—the only rain for the month. Pastures are drying up very fast, and unless a good rain comes soon the prospects for winter feed will not be too bright. We had a great deal of north-westerly weather during the month, and a terrific gale, on the 27th and 28th, which caused a big thaw in the back country, the rivers being all in very high flood on the 29th instant. Threshing is well on in this district, but the yields upon the whole are very disappointing. Prices offering for grain, potatoes, and fat stock are good, and farmers generally are in good spirits. Turnips and potatoes are fairly good and free from blight, but badly require rain. The rape crop this year was badly affected by the blight, consequently it did not stand much feeding.—*W. M. Munro.*

RANGIORA.—Early last month very heavy hailstorms did a large amount of damage to the Sheffield district. One farmer, at Waddington, calculates his loss at £600. Paddock of grain were entirely stripped. The weather during the month was fairly fine and allowed nearly all the grain to be harvested and threshed. The results have not been as good as was expected. There was a great rainfall on the hills, but very little on the plains. These rains caused the Waimakariri to overflow at Bealey and also at Belfast, but I have not heard that it did very much damage. Rainfall for month, 0.5 in.; sunshine, 156 hours 5 minutes. Winds, easterly and westerly alternating.—*A. Hughes.*

LINCOLN.—During March a dry spell of weather was experienced. This, whilst it enabled good progress to be made with the threshing of cereals and the harvesting of clovers, was unfavourable to the growth of green crops and pastures. A good rain would now be very welcome. In some localities blight has appeared in the potato crops. Late crops also have been injured by frost. On some farms skim-ploughing of stubbles has been pushed ahead. Leas, however, are at present rather hard for ploughing.—*J. G. Scott.*

FAIRLIE.—A good deal of wet weather was experienced during the month. Root crops and pastures have done well. Potatoes are being dug, and the crop is a very poor one. Large numbers of fat lambs are now going down to the works. High prices are being realized, one mob being sold in the yards at £1 0s. 2d. Ewes are also very dear, two-tooth half-breds bringing up to £1 5s.—*W. B. Manning.*

TIMARU.—During March the weather was very unsettled, with high winds from the north-west and south-west, accompanied by constant showers and heavy rain; there were also a few frosts. Potato-blight has shown up in a few places. The pastures have a good growth of grass, and there should be good winter feed.—*J. C. Huddleston.*