flax, the tow being claimed by the millers. At New Zealand rates of labour the cost would be very much higher. Moreover, it would not be wise to start an industry on the basis of the present price for first-class Irish-grown scutched fibre. Altogether, the growing of this and other crops which require at the back of them an industrial organization, which we do not at present possess, can hardly be considered to come within the scope of practical farm-management in New Zealand.

ROTATIONAL GRAZING OF PASTURES.

Before concluding I may make a few observations on the rotational grazing of pastures. We all know that continuous light stocking of grass land is bad for the pasture, and an altogether uneconomical method of using it. This patent fact seems to have led some to argue that the opposite extreme — subdivision into many small paddocks—is the proper course to adopt.

Experience teaches one to avoid being overemphatic about anything connected with farming, but my knowledge on this point satisfies me at present that the following statements are true :—

1. Subdivision progressively increases the cost per acre of erecting and maintaining fences.

2. Where stock are shifted to fresh ground they are apt to wander around before settling to feed, particularly in small paddocks, in which much of the feed is consequently trodden and soiled before it can be used. This does not happen to anything like the extent in a paddock of decent size.

3. Grass has ample time to freshen and recover when four changes at the outside—that is, four grazing-paddocks—are provided. The better the land the more rapidly pasture will freshen after the removal of stock, and consequently less subdivision is required.

4. I have compared the carrying-capacity of an area of 25¼ acres divided into six small paddocks, at our Ruakura Farm, with similar but larger areas of pasture of value not greater than the above, and find that the small paddocks do not carry a proportionately heavier stocking. During the past year the first-mentioned paddock in six subdivisions carried stock equal to three and three-eighths sheep per acre per annum for the months September, 1915, to May, 1916, and, except during the month of December, chaff, crushed oats, and hay were fed in the paddock. The adjoining paddock of 18½ acres, undivided, carried during the same period three and two-eighths sheep per acre, although this paddock had less natural advantages than the other, and supplementary feeding was confined to the months September, April, and May. Field