This condition is quite a common one, and can be avoided only by the initial production of a close and compact sward. The tussocky nature of the cocksfoot itself quite prevents this being accomplished unless a liberal seeding of grasses that will fill in all bare spaces is carried out in the original sowing. Such grasses must be of a mat-forming type, and for this purpose the value of Poa pratensis is often underestimated. Crested dogstail, again, although not a true mat-former, is highly valuable in conjunction with Poa pratensis in binding together the cocksfoot-plants and preventing them being pulled out. On soils where cocksfoot is likely to suffer in the manner described at least 3 lb. of Poa pratensis and 2 lb. of crested dogstail per acre should be included in the mixture.

FIG. 3. COCKSFOOT ON HILLSIDE.

Showing inability of cocksfoot to hold on steep hillsides unless surface is bound by companion mat-forming grasses such as Poa pratensis and crested dogstail. [*E. Bruce Levy, photo.*

It is also highly necessary that on such soils the cocksfoot should not be checked in its early growth, and quite light grazing during the first two seasons is advocated. In many cases, again—and this is particularly true of tussock country—continuous grazing results in cocksfoot being virtually eaten out. Under such conditions spelling the ground, especially during spring and early summer, has often a remarkable effect in regenerating cocksfoot.

USE IN SHORT-ROTATION GRASSLAND.

In the cropping-areas of the South Island, where short-rotation grassland lasting from two to four years is a feature, cocksfoot does not occupy an important position. The reason is largely the current opinion that cocksfoot does not yield sufficiently heavily in its earlier