

The paddock was again top-dressed at the end of June, 1926, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. super per acre, and the records of stocking were kept until the end of September, 1927, when the carrying-capacity for the year worked out at two sheep and one-eighth of a cattle beast per acre. The considerable decrease in the proportion of cattle was due partly to difficulty in securing sufficient stock, and to the fact that the combination of top-dressing and heavier stocking in the previous season had cleaned up the paddock sufficiently to allow of the cattle on the farm being used on new areas. However, there is no doubt that the proportion of cattle to sheep could have been increased with benefit to the paddock and little reduction in the number of sheep carried.

In addition to the increased carrying-capacity, the benefits of the top-dressing were most marked in improvement of the pasture sward, the better wintering of the stock, and (it was held) the increased wool



GENERAL VIEW OF THE COUNTRY EXPERIMENTED ON.

return per sheep. Moreover, most of the sheep-stocking during the spring and summer was done with ewes and lambs. Perhaps one of the most interesting items noted towards the end of the second year was the manner in which the blackberry had been prevented from seeding through being kept closely grazed by the sheep, and by the choking effect of the stronger growth of paspalum and danthonia around the crowns.

#### PADDOCK NO. 2.

This area, also of 20 acres, slopes generally to the south and west, and the pasture consists mainly of brown-top, with paspalum and danthonia on the drier slopes. A considerable portion of the paddock was covered with a dense growth of bracken, together with patches of hard fern and manuka. [Strong] blackberry had taken charge in some