

## INVENTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

APPLICATIONS for patents, published with abridged specifications in the *New Zealand Patent Office Journal* from 30th January to 27th February, 1930, include the following of agricultural interest:—

No. 62544: Manure-distributor; H. T. Lowry, Patumahoe. No. 62412: Garden-stake; W. A. Hughes, Cromwell. No. 62601: Marking meat-products; Swift and Co., Chicago, U.S.A. No. 64081: Watering-appliance for animals; W. G. Beatty, Fergus, Ontario. No. 61410: Animal-trap; F. L. Clark, Upper Hutt. No. 63794: Dried powder from whey; N.Z. Sugar of Milk and Casein Co., Ltd., Dunedin. No. 64135: Milking-machine; Aktiebolaget Separator, Stockholm, Sweden. No. 61124: Wool-cleaning; H. G. Howell, Taradale, and T. R. Howell, Napier. No. 61543: Separator-bowl; Aktiebolaget Separator, Stockholm, Sweden. No. 62551: Dosing animals; C. M. McDonald, Invercargill-Glencoe R.D. No. 62552: Dosing sheep with tablets; C. M. McDonald, Invercargill-Glencoe R.D. No. 63511: Manure-distributor; J. M. Malcolm, Auckland. No. 63890: Treating clover-seeds; Warren-Teed Seed Co., Chicago, U.S.A. No. 63987: Flax-treatment; W. E. Langguth, Auckland. No. 64022: Ventilation of cream-can; C. W. Holman and W. Black, Hamilton. No. 64098: Manure distributor; J. Bamford and C. J. Bamford, Utttoxeter, England. No. 64111: Steel post; G. D. Watson, Sydney, N.S.W.

Copies of full specifications and drawings in respect of any of the above may be obtained from the Commissioner of Patents, Wellington, price 1s. prepaid.

## COMMERCIAL GROUND LIMESTONES EXAMINED.

A NUMBER of commercial ground limestones were examined during the year 1928-29 at the Chemical Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture for quality and fineness of grinding. The Chief Chemist remarks on these in his annual report as follows:—

Y/299, from the Gore district, was a fairly well ground limestone containing 81 per cent. carbonate of lime. Y/338, from Westport, was a high-grade limestone (94.25 per cent. carbonate) of moderate fineness. Y/149, from Kakahu, Canterbury, was well ground, and contained 85 per cent. carbonate of lime. Y/669 was a finely ground stone, containing 89 per cent. carbonate of lime, from Dunback, Otago. Y/734, from Oamaru, was 97.5 per cent. pure, and was a well-ground sample. Y/574-76 were from Southland; Y/574 and 575 contained 60 per cent. and 76.5 per cent. carbonate of lime respectively; Y/576 was of much greater purity—91.5 per cent.—and was very finely ground. Y/557, from Limehills, Southland, was ground to a satisfactory fineness, and contained 90 per cent. carbonate of lime. Y/1073, from Toko, Taranaki, contained 86 per cent. carbonate, and might with advantage have been more finely ground. Y/1076 was a fairly well-ground stone of low grade, from the North Auckland District; it contained 64.1 per cent. carbonate of lime. Y/838, from Silverdale, Auckland, was a well-ground stone, containing 74 per cent. carbonate of lime. The prices charged for these commercial ground limestones (where stated) varied from 12s. to 18s. per ton, bags extra. Several samples of quicklime and slaked lime were also analysed. These were all found to be well "burnt" from good-quality limestones.

*Noxious Weeds Orders.*—The Hawke's Bay County Council has declared African boxthorn to be a noxious weed within its jurisdiction. The Heathcote County Council has similarly declared the following plants (at the same time revoking all its previous orders in reference to noxious weeds): Blackberry, ragwort, African boxthorn, Bathurst burr, burdock, Cape honey-flower, dock, fennel, goat's rue, hakea, Japanese wineberry, lantana, ox-eye daisy, pennycress, periwinkle, St. John's wort, toad flax, viper's bugloss, winged thistle, Californian thistle, sweetbrier, barberry, broom, Capeweed, cut-leaved psoralea, elderberry, foxglove, gorse, hemlock, kangaroo acacia, lupin, Paterson's curse, prickly pear, pennyroyal, spiderwort, tauhinu, tutsan, wild turnip, woolly nightshade. Thistles: Any species of *Carlina* (stemless thistle), *Carduus* (common plume or Scotch thistle), *Cnicus* (woolly-headed thistle), *Centaurea* (star thistle), *Silybum* (milk thistle).