

feeder open. Fig. 4 is close-up view of the two wooden supports placed periodically along the feeder to hold it off the ground and to keep it open.

Probably the most common method of feeding hay is to cart out what is required for the day and toss it on the ground where it is consumed by the sheep. Although it may be claimed that this method has some advantages,

it also has some serious disadvantages in that it is a wasteful method, as sheep trample over and dirty the hay, rain will spoil it, and wind will remove it.

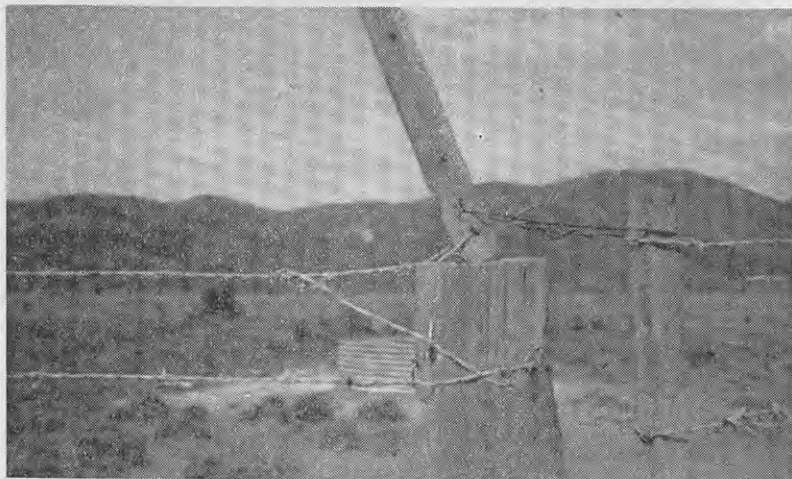
On travelling through the country one sees many types of hay feeders, all of which do the job quite satisfactorily. The following details of one observed by the writer may be of interest.

It is somewhat similar to the bag feeder mentioned above, except that heavy gauge, interlocking wire netting is used instead of bags, and the whole is raised higher off the ground. Fig. 6 gives an end view of the feeder, showing the construction and supports, while Fig. 7 is a close-up of the side view.

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Simple Fastener For Wire Gate

WHERE none of the many efficient designs of wooden or metal gates is provided on farms the most popular substitute is the wire structure commonly known as the "Taranaki" gate. Its principal advantages are simplicity and cheapness of construction, but against these there is often a serious loss in efficiency, especially where sheep are concerned, because of the difficulty experienced in keeping a gate of this nature properly strained. With a view to overcoming this difficulty and at the same time providing a means whereby gates may be easily opened and shut, many adoptions of the leverage principle have been incorporated into home-made gate



A simple arrangement for keeping a wire gate properly strained, which at the same time provides a means by which it may be easily opened and shut.

[C. R. Taylor, photo.]

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fasteners, but none, in the opinion of the writer, is so neat, simple, and efficient as the one shown in the accompanying illustration.

The construction details of this excellent little wire-gate fastener are few, and the materials required are easily obtained. All that is needed is a piece of durable timber about 18 inches long by 3in x 2in, two short pieces of plain galvanised wire, and a few staples.

The piece of timber which is used as a lever is rounded slightly at the end resting on top of the strainer post, while the other end may be either tapered down to form a handle or left as it is. At the rounded end two small holes are bored—one approximately 2 or 2½ inches from its extremity, and the other a similar distance above, or towards, the handle end. A piece of plain wire is threaded through the bottom hole and its two ends securely fastened to the fence

side of the strainer. This not only holds the wooden lever in position, but also acts as a hinge on which it turns. The top hole is then used for the customary wire loop that fits over the batten forming the main pillar of the gate.

The actual length of each piece of wire can be found only by trial, but there is nothing difficult in this. When the gate is closed the lever will be hard over to the left and lying along or parallel to the top wire of the fence. To open the gate the lever is brought into an upright position, which relieves the extreme tension on the gate loop, and the gate may be opened without the slightest trouble. The reversal of this procedure is employed to shut the gate.

—C. R. TAYLOR, Fields Instructor, Whakatane.