

As the work entailed is simple, particularly at a time such as the present, when new tanks are both expensive and difficult to procure. The fact that this profitable economy aids the

national war effort is an additional incentive to repair rather than to renew.

—P. S. SYME, Instructor in Agriculture, Warkworth.

Manuring of Maize

ALTHOUGH much valuable information comes from research work, and of that the most valuable probably from the work carried out by the instructor himself in his own district, there is another method from which the Fields Division obtains information.

There is no doubt that field officers are indebted to the farmers in a very large measure for their agricultural outlook and knowledge. As they travel from farm to farm this knowledge is modified and increased as more and more evidence is gained on the numerous diverse matters on which it is necessary for them to have some information.

We know that in even the most carefully carried out trial, some small but important factor may escape notice,

which, if recognised and noted, would show that the results are not accurate, and the investigator must be continu-

ally on guard against errors which will upset the judgment. This applies more so to trials conducted in a rough manner, as they must be by the farmer. The results, however, are always noted and a watch is kept for correction which may be shown to be necessary from evidence gleaned on the same or on other farms.

In the manuring of maize for green-feed the usual practice in my district is to plough the land, sowing the seed and fertiliser in the furrow. One farmer in the Ararimu district began in this manner for a few yards and then decided to sow the fertiliser broadcast at the same rate. The results are shown in the accompanying photograph. In the foreground the maize grew at only half the rate of the maize in the background. On the land in the foreground the fertiliser was sown broadcast, while in the background the fertiliser was sown in the furrow. Thus, the general practice is vindicated. The fertiliser was applied at the rate of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. per acre.

—J. E. BELL, Instructor in Agriculture, Auckland.



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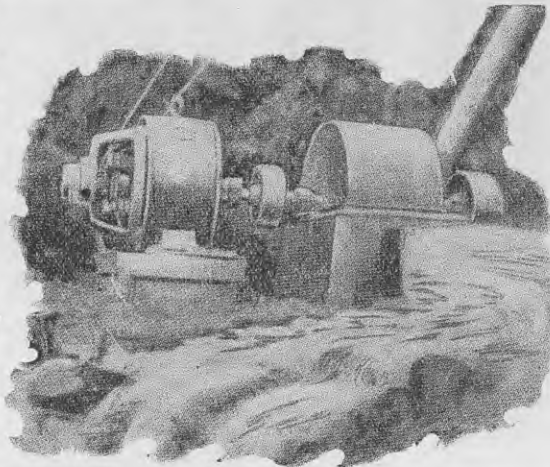
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