

it being realised that this is one of the most valuable and important subjects that can be taught in schools.

Policy

The matter of policy was discussed at length. The chairman intimated that the Federation's policy had been framed from time to time to meet altered circumstances, and he could see no reason under present conditions to diverge from the policy laid down at the annual general meeting. A motion was carried reaffirming the Federation's policy as laid down at the annual general meeting.

Y.F.C. Pamphlet

The Y.F.C. pamphlet, instructions regarding the preparation of which had been given at the annual general meeting, was read for consideration. The following motion was carried: "That the pamphlet as submitted to the meeting be paraphrased, with appropriate sub-headings, and printed for distribution to high school teachers and others, and that a dodger be prepared and distributed to school pupils; the matter of preparation, printing costs, and distribution to be left in the hands of the secretary, in collaboration with Mr. S. A. La Roche, of the Canterbury Council."

Competitions

The matter of national competitions was discussed and it was decided that an essay competition should be held, in both senior and junior classes. A motion was carried as follows: "That the subject of the essay for national competition be 'Citizenship and the part that can be played by the young farmer'; the length of the essay not to count in judging, but the material to be of not less than one thousand words; the closing date to be August 31, 1943."

Resolutions Passed

Other resolutions passed included the following: "That future series of the Y.F.C. Roll of Honour should be headed so as to indicate that the Roll applies to all members serving with the armed forces"; "That, owing to the uncertain economic position obtaining at the present time, further consideration of a Y.F.C. Land Settlement Scheme be deferred until the next Dominion Executive Committee Meeting, and that the Land Settlement sub-committee be asked to acquaint that meeting with the latest steps taken by the Government in respect of land settlement"; "That, having regard to the approval given by the Federation to the formation of clubs in secondary schools, and recognising the value of such clubs at the present time, and appreciating the need to enrol new

members from fourteen to eighteen years of age, a request be issued to all councils and district committees urging that every endeavour should be made to put this policy into practice."

The venue of the next annual general meeting of the Federation came up for discussion; Mr. Morton, referring to the fact that it would be held in Palmerston North, asked if consideration could be given to the meeting taking place at Massey College. On behalf of the college he offered the hospitality and facilities available. Ap-

preciation was expressed to Mr. Morton and to the college. Mr. Avery (chairman, Wellington Council), in thanking Mr. Morton, stated that the offer would be put before the next meeting of the Wellington Council, which body would be responsible for the local arrangements for the annual general meeting.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Dominion Executive Committee would be held in Christchurch during the first week in April, if possible.

Canterbury Y.F.C. Council Meeting

A MEETING of the Canterbury Council was held in Christchurch on November 17. Those present included Messrs. T. E. Streeter (chairman), H. G. Stephens, L. W. McCaskill, H. L. Chisnall, R. S. France, J. Barclay, S. Watson, and R. Whiteman. Messrs. D. S. Ross (Dominion President) and S. Freeman (Organising Secretary) were present by invitation. The meeting was a very representative one. Reports indicated that in the Canterbury Council area, out of the original 41 clubs in existence before the war, 21 were still active; as there appeared to be reasonably strong clubs still functioning in each of the six main districts, the position was considered, under existing circumstances, to be quite satisfactory.

The Dominion President, Mr. Ross, in an address, stated that he was gratified to see such a good representation at the meeting. While fully aware of the difficulties confronting the organisation, he appealed to delegates to exert every effort to maintain the existing clubs, and reminded them of the immense value of the movement, both from the educational standpoint and from the point of view of leadership.

The organisation had demonstrated, so far, its ability to carry on in spite of the war; clubs generally would, doubtless, suffer further depletion of membership, but this should call for greater effort and sacrifice on the part of those left. The necessity to enrol new members was apparent. He pointed out that there would shortly be numbers of lads leaving secondary schools, who would be choosing farming as a calling; every Y.F.C. member should realise his responsibility and endeavour to assist these schoolboys who have their lives before them. He considered that club work could be made more attractive; field days could still be held and lectures and demonstrations encouraged.

There was also the definite promise to members overseas to carry on with the organisation. The Federation had laid down a policy, but it had to be

planned locally to suit the requirements of individual districts. The District Committees could assist materially; so long as they were functioning, so long would the movement prosper. These committees should meet regularly, work out a definite policy, and put it into effect.

Mr. Ross reminded members that this was his second term of office; he would particularly like to see the movement in a healthy condition, ready to hand over to a new Dominion President at the end of the Federation year, more especially as there was a likelihood of the incoming President being selected from amongst the active members. He suggested that perhaps in the New Year it might be possible for the chairman of the Canterbury Council and some of the delegates to make a tour of the district committees with a view to stimulating interest. He was encouraged and inspired by the meeting and the attitude of those present, and appealed to them to use every effort to maintain the movement, so as to give a good account of their stewardship when their comrades returned from

Concrete on the Farm

Although concrete has been used for hundreds of years as a building material, its application to farming is of comparatively recent origin. Its use in the construction of floors, tanks, silos, troughs, fence-posts, paths, buildings, pipes, field drains, etc., is well recognised and there are few farmers who have not at some time laid down a path or constructed a trough in concrete.

The advantages of concrete lie in the fact that it is relatively cheap to use, easy to prepare, and, once placed, is there for years.

Valuable information on the mixing of concrete and its practical uses on the farm is available in the free illustrated bulletin "Concrete on the Farm," obtainable from the Department of Agriculture, Wellington.