

Reports on Club Activities

WESTERN SOUTHLAND.

Dipton.—Resignations of J. Crawford (chairman) and A. W. Mayer (treasurer) accepted with regret; the former is leaving the district and hopes to attend Lincoln College at a later date. Appreciation of the splendid work done for the club by the retiring office-bearers was endorsed by all present. W. King was unanimously elected to fill the office of chairman, and it was agreed that the present secretary, D. B. Milligan, should undertake the dual position of secretary-treasurer. Three new members were enrolled. A team was selected to debate with the Farmers' Union at the next meeting, the subject of the debate to be "That the Farm Is An Ideal Place to Rear a Family." There was an attendance of eleven members out of a total of nineteen.

Orepuki.—One new member enrolled. Arrangements finalised to enable members to travel to Invercargill to take part in the forthcoming field day and debate. Suggested that soldiers in district at present on furlough from the Middle East be asked to attend the next meeting and relate some of their experiences. Portion of travelling expenses paid to members who travelled to Dunedin to attend recent Council Meeting. Short speeches given by various club members. Lengthy discussion on Y.F.C. national essay competition. Minutes of District Committee and the Otago-Southland Council meetings discussed, and also the report of the Council Executive. Fifteen members present out of total of thirty-three.

Woodlands.—Arrangements for a field day at the local luen flax factory; also a dance the following week. Two teams selected to take part in the annual debating contest to be held at Invercargill. A. S. Trotter and K. J. Hargest gave interesting reports on the annual general meeting of the Federation held

at Palmerston North. Talk by Mr. Gibson Smith on "The Care and Treatment of Ewes and Lambs at Lambing Time." Eight members present out of a membership of fourteen.

Wyndham.—Team selected for debate. Question box evening. Twelve present out of fourteen.

SOUTH OTAGO.

Clutha Valley.—Business meeting. Decided to make up a football team and challenge the Clydevale linen flax factory. Fifteen members present out of total of twenty-two.

Milton.—Annual meeting. Officers elected; Advisory President, Mr. A. B. Stewart; chairman, R. G. Robinson; deputy chairman, L. C. Allison and C. Tweedie; secretary, A. T. Allen. Challenge accepted from the Farmers' Union for a debate; team selected, C. Tweedie, R. G. Robinson, A. T. Allison, and A. Sommerville. Mr. U. Walker (Bruce County Clerk) gave a lecture on "County Affairs"; in his talk the speaker touched on the rating system. There was an attendance of ten members out of a total of seventeen.

Warepa.—Reports by three club delegates to the South Otago District Committee meeting. Visit arranged to Benhar Pottery Works. Secretary instructed to write to Rabbit Board, Dunedin, for full information regarding taxes and levies on proceeds from sales of rabbit-skins. Mr. J. B. Cook, Toiro, spoke on "Trapping and Skinning Rabbits"; he also dealt with the cleaning and stretching of the skins, and related his recent experiences in poisoning rabbits. A general discussion then took place on the poisoning of rabbits with strychnine. Ten members present. At the previous meeting eleven members attended; a report was given by L. Christie on the visit by club members to the South Otago Freezing Works and the linen flax factory. Mr. A. J. McD. Millar, River Trust engineer, spoke on "Soil Erosion"; the seriousness of the advance of erosion in New Zealand was stressed, the speaker stating that, apart from winning the war, the soil-erosion problem was the most important one confronting the Government today. The local Public Library took a new lease of life when the new librarian, a club member, issued books to members after the meeting. Due to the initiative of the club members, the library has been transferred from the school to the hall and reopened. It is intended to procure some new books when sufficient funds are available.

DUNEDIN.

Palmerston.—Lecture by Mr. S. H. Saxby, Department of Agriculture, on "Eye-spot in Wheat." Attendance of nine out of eighteen.

West Taieri.—Two new members enrolled. Y.F.C. badges procured and distributed to members. Letter received from the advisory president of the Mosgiel District High School Y.F.C., asking for assistance with the newly-formed club. Lecture by Mr. A. Millar on "The Care of the Ewe at Lambing Time." Sixteen members present out of a total of seventeen.

SOUTH CANTERBURY.

Fairlie.—The meeting took the form of an open one to all farmers in the district, the secretary, B. J. O'Neill, presiding. Messrs. Bevan and McLean, of Lincoln College, addressed the meeting; Mr. Bevan spoke on "Plant Research" and the work of the college, and Mr. McLean on "Veterinary Problems." At the previous meeting arrangements were finalised for the proposed tour by the Lincoln College lecturers. A very interesting address on "Potatoes" was given by Mr. A. J. Salt, a local farmer. Ten members were in attendance out of eighteen.

MID-CANTERBURY.

Methven.—Three new members enrolled. R. Wightman (chairman), A. McKay, and J. Watson were appointed to make necessary ar-

rangements for the stock-judging competition. A McKay gave reports on the monthly meeting of the A. and P. Association, and the meeting of the District Executive Committee. It was decided that two debates be held against the Darfield club at the next meeting, the subjects being "That a Post-war Policy of European Immigration would be in the best interests of New Zealand," and "That World Free-trade Would be Beneficial to New Zealand." The usual mock meeting took place. Mr. Penrose, of Leeston, gave a very interesting talk on "Bee-keeping and Bees Generally." Twenty-seven members present.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Ellesmere.—National Y.F.C. essay competition discussed. Decided to hold another dance to raise funds for Xmas parcels for members overseas. Mr. C. Howe, Consulting Officer, New Zealand Dairy Board, gave a talk on "Diseases in Dairy Cattle," dealing mainly with mastitis. Seventeen present.

Darfield.—Arrangements for club ball. Debate to be held with Methven club, subject, "That a Post-war Policy of European Immigration Would be in the Best Interests of New Zealand." Debate to be held at Methven.

NORTH CANTERBURY.

Seargill-Omihi.—Discussion on the means by which the club could bring to public notice the growing menace of nasella tussock. Letter to be written to the County Council urging that nasella tussock be declared a noxious weed. Preparation for field day to be held in October. An address was given by Mr. S. E. L. Roberts entitled "The Future of the Country and the Duty of the Young Farmers." Twenty members present.

MANAWATU.

Bunnythorpe.—J. Wood selected as acting-chairman. Arrangements for the sending of parcels to members overseas. Discussion on Y.F.C. section at the Women's Institute show; decided that the exhibit be made more comprehensive. A. Slack to be acting-chairman at the next meeting. Extract from the Y.F.C. Constitution read by T. Hyde; B. Naylor selected to read a further extract at next meeting. Letter of condolence to be sent to the family of the late Air-Gunner Norman Maul. Address by Mr. Hewitt (Massey College) on "Sheep Farming." Eleven members present.

Rongotea.—General business. Church parade to be held on October 3 at Rongotea Methodist Church. Rev. Gould to be speaker at next meeting. Address by Mr. Roberts on "Farming in Relation to Public Health." At the previous meeting W. M. Hunt was appointed to the position of hon. secretary. Mr. R. O. Gloyd selected to represent the club on the Feilding A. and P. Association. The meeting then adjourned to enable members to attend the W.D.F.U. meeting, where a lantern lecture on "Vegetable Production" was given by Miss Cocks-Johnston. Attendances of eleven and sixteen were recorded respectively at the two meetings.

SOUTHERN HAWKE'S BAY.

Mangatainoka.—Annual meeting. Officers elected; Advisory president, Mr. F. E. Ward; chairman, I. Algie; secretary and treasurer, H. Baird; vice-chairman, A. Bolstad; hon. auditor, Mr. R. P. Boagie; committee, club officials, with addition of K. Fryde, E. Bryant, J. Cotter, W. Reichenbach, and J. Moynahan. Eight members present. This club has revived its activities after being in recess for over a year; the members generally are determined to make every effort to carry on.

WAIRARAPA.

Alfredton.—Address by Mr. J. L. Heckler on "Farming in General"; the speaker dealt with some very interesting features, including the origin of the horse and other domestic

Methven Y.F.C.

Annual Dog Trials

THERE was a good attendance of members at the Methven Y.F.C. annual dog trials held recently on Mr. R. J. Low's property. There were thirteen entries in each of the two competitions. The winners in the first event, "head and long pull," were: A. Molloy's "Tip" 1st; I. Wilson's "Tyke" 2nd; M. Poff's "Bob" 3rd; J. Watson's "Darky" 4th. The awards in the second event, "driving," were: A. Molloy's "Tip" 1st; T. Wilson's "Scot" 2nd; J. Watson's "Darky" 3rd; T. Mangan's "Mack" 4th. The dog gaining the most points for the day was A. Molloy's "Tip," whose owner received the Young Farmers' Club Cup, valued at 5 guineas, and Mr. A. G. Rawlinson's miniature cup, valued at 25/-. J. Watson's "Darky" was the runner-up. The special prize donated by Mr. J. E. Harris for the best management of a dog was awarded to A. Molloy. Donations towards the other prizes were received from Messrs. L. L. Richards, A. F. Marr and R. J. Low. Mr. C. Cran kindly acted as judge. A very enjoyable afternoon tea was supplied by Mrs. Low, with the assistance of other ladies.

—J. A. WATSON, *Hon. Secretary, Methven, Y.F.C.*