

meeting and also a debate at Paengaroa. He was impressed by the very evident enthusiasm displayed in both of these centres. Since the annual general meeting in July a further 18 clubs had been added to the total—mostly clubs revived, and some newly formed. Considering that we were still at war, this was certainly an achievement, and a good sign for future progress.

Reports were received from the various sub-committees dealing with the Y.F.C. memorial, cultural and aesthetic values, rehabilitation, and increased production. The last-named occasioned considerable discussion, and finally a policy was evolved from the recommendations submitted from both islands. This will be published in circular form and forwarded to all units of the organisation.

The meeting was addressed by Mr. Smithell, Superintendent of Physical Education, Education Department, on the County Badge Scheme. A remit had been forwarded by the Canterbury Council urging the adoption of some such scheme among Y.F.C. members in New Zealand. Mr. Smithell outlined the scheme in operation in England. It was decided that no action in the matter would be taken until the scheme had been submitted to the four councils for their comments and recommendations.

A remit from the Canterbury Council, dealing with the urgency of the problem relating to the spread of nasella tussock, was discussed; on the information that steps were being taken for the eradication of the pest, the remit was carried pro forma. Other remits, in connection with Y.F.C. scholarships and the inter-changing of representatives of clubs during the slack period, were carried.

Post-war Goal

The Organising Secretary said there was a very definite improvement in the position of the movement throughout the Dominion, and a number of clubs had been already revived, besides new ones formed. The outlook for the coming year looked very bright; he urged that all units undertake a campaign in the autumn for the re-establishment of the movement on its pre-war basis. With increased assistance from the Department of Agriculture, and the return of many members from overseas, together with the younger generation growing up in the rural community, he was confident that much could be done. He set the post-war goal at 25,000 members in 800 clubs, and considered that this was by no means impossible within the next few years. Many districts had hardly been touched before the war, so far as thorough organisation was concern-

ed; the field was there, and it was waiting to be exploited. In connection with the Y.F.C. section of the "Journal," he urged that clubs and district committees should send in regular reports of their activities, which were not only of value to other units, but were in themselves excellent propaganda. He deplored the fact that with over 90 clubs at present active and holding regular meetings, he was receiving reports monthly from barely one-third.

Policy was discussed at length, and it was resolved that every effort should

be made to revive clubs in recess and to establish new ones. In connection with the "Journal of Agriculture" it was decided to ask the councils to set up sub-committees to consider ways and means to improve the Y.F.C. section and to bring down recommendations at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. It was considered that, with the increasing volume of business, the usual one day of the annual general meeting did not allow sufficient time for complete discussion, and it was decided to place the matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

Y.F.C. Policy to Aid Food Production

THE following points were decided upon at the recent meeting of the Y.F.C. Dominion Executive Committee:—

1. The Y.F.C. Federation, realising the urgent need for increased production of foodstuffs to maintain the existing scale of rationing in Great Britain, and to assist in feeding the starving populations of liberated countries, appeals to all units of its organisation to consider ways and means whereby practical assistance can be rendered.

2. All units of the federation should frame their policy to provide every assistance to Y.F.C. members to increase primary production. To that end the following recommendations are made:

(a) That all members endeavour to develop their unit, to enable it to carry out to the fullest extent the aims and objects of the Y.F.C. movement.

(b) That all clubs endeavour to hold regular meetings, at which lectures, instruction, and discussion can be arranged with a direct bearing on increased production.

(c) That every consideration be given to the holding of field days with a view to providing practical instruction on subjects relative to production.

(d) That all district committees and councils conduct a survey of available talent in the way of lecturers and demonstrators in their respective areas, and advise the various units to which such lecturers, etc., are available.

(e) That all district committees give consideration to the fostering of inter-club competitions and field days to the fullest extent that prevailing conditions will permit.

(f) That all members make every possible effort to avail themselves of

the facilities afforded by the Y.F.C. to expand their knowledge, in order that they may improve their farming practice and increase production generally. A close study of the material in the monthly issues of the "Journal of Agriculture" is strongly recommended; members should also take the fullest advantage of the services offered by the Department.

3. In order that the recommendations embodied in (2) may be implemented, councils should undertake a survey of the units within their areas, with the idea of improving the link between clubs, district committees, and councils, and to obtain more complete representation at meetings.

4. That councils investigate the financial position of each of its district committees, and endeavour to ensure that they are not curbed in any activity they may wish to undertake, such as field days, organised lecture tours, competitions, etc.; and that councils consider the expenditure, if necessary, of funds in order to promote activities having a direct bearing on increased production, such as the sponsoring of series of instructive talks over the radio—in the form of a Y.F.C. session if possible—and the payment of travelling expenses of lecturers and demonstrators to various centres when necessary.

Western Southland Field Day and Debates

THE annual combined field day of the Western Southland District Young Farmers' Club was held recently, when an interesting and instructive programme was carried out for the benefit of a large party of club members. The first visit was to the city gasworks, and this was followed by inspections of a city pumping station,