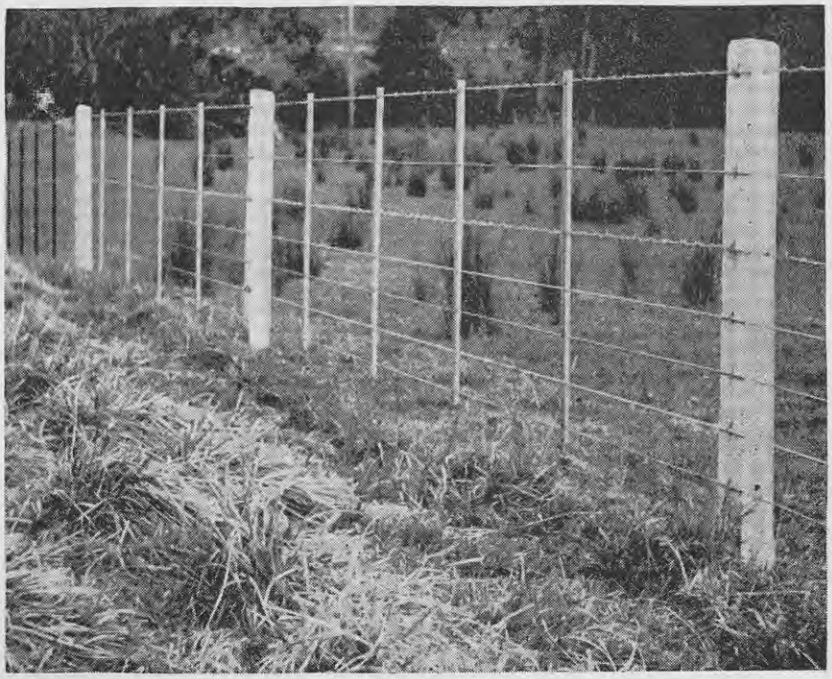
steel, light alloy, and chain materials delivered to fence lines by surface and aerial transport. In 1955 the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Council produced a very readable bulletin, "Airborne Fencing".

The Department of Agriculture has fencing trials at Tangoio and Waerenga-o-kuri Soil Conservation Farms, at Flock House, and at Invermay, and with the agricultural colleges is investigating the use of electric fences on hill country.

This recent survey, therefore, was but one further move in the pattern of development of fencing on our farms. In no way does it give a final answer to the country's needs. Its purpose was to identify the problem further by pointing out that in certain cases the unmodified post, wire, and batten fence is uneconomic and encourage those who are seeking a simple durable fence at reasonable cost.

Fencing Costs Compared

Before details of fence construction and suitability of various fencing materials are discussed a comparison is given, on a cost basis alone, of a number of types of fences which are being erected by farmers at present. Though many miles of fencing of the types listed in the tables are giving service on farms throughout the country, a closer study may further aid the quest for the fence which gives the best value for the money and labour spent.



A typical concrete post and galvanised batten fence with No. 8 and barbed wires.

This fence has alternate concrete and H-section steel posts with galvanised, multi-gauge battens which lock on to the wires with steel pins.

For comparison the specifications and costs of materials for one mile of a standard hardwood post and batten, 7-wire fence are given in Table 1.

Table 2 shows comparative costs of transporting these fencing materials to a fence line and erecting the fence.

Table 3 shows the effect of various modifications on the costs of erecting a standard fence 20 miles from town by road and 1 mile across the farm.

The remarkable saving of £210 afforded by the Hunter-type fence leads us to Table 4 where the specifi-