

residing. All have fully complied with sixth years' requirements. Improvements required, £3,896; effected, £8,835; surplus, £4,939. There is 1,986 acres grassed, fenced, and stocked with 28 horses, 88 cows, 224 other cattle, and 1,375 sheep. The selectors are industrious working-men, some few working exclusively on their holdings, the remainder working on their selections, sawmills, roads, trades, carting, shearing, &c., about district, besides being engaged more or less in the dairying industry. Settlement well situated. Selectors favourably situated dispose of their milling-timber to local sawmills. Of the latter, two are in active operation in the settlement, and thus the settlers secure payment whilst the land is being partly cleared; besides, in providing the timber they often obtain employment near home. Creamery, school, and telephone are distant about three miles; whilst there is a post-office in the settlement and others within easy reach. Since last report a substantial bridge has been erected over the Mangatainoka River, thus insuring access at all times. The roads are metalled.

*Pahiatua No. 2.*—Area, 2,415 acres, divided into fourteen sections, averaging 172 acres each. Of fourteen required to reside, twelve are residing, one is exempt temporarily and resides in locality. There are four single and eight married men residing, also seven women and twenty children. One of the resident and one of the non-resident selectors are defaulters as to improvements, the former to the extent of £60, and the latter £144; both have been called upon to comply. Improvements required, £3,098 6s. 8d.; effected, £4,330; surplus, £1,231 13s. 4d. There is 1,051 acres grassed, partly fenced, and stocked with 24 horses, 40 cows, 132 other cattle, and 2,478 sheep. Selectors, who are steady industrious working-men, are engaged on their holdings, Government roads, and about district; some few supply local butter-factory. Settlement is making steady progress; all land in the locality is occupied, and application for a school in centre of block has been made and favourably entertained. Post-office and butter-factory within easy distance. Access partly by dray-road, remainder horse-tracks.

*Pahiatua No. 4.*—Area, 958 acres, divided into five sections, ranging from 99 to 280 acres, averaging about 191 acres each. Of five required to reside, one single and two married men are residing, with their wives and eleven children. Of two non-resident, one is expected to comply shortly, one is doubtful, and both are defaulters as to improvements. Improvements required, £1,288 19s. 11d.; effected, £974; deficiency, £314 19s. 11d. The grassed portion is partly fenced, and stocked with horses, cattle, and sheep. The selectors are struggling working-men with limited means, who work on their holdings, on Government roads, and about district. Stock: 4 horses, 10 cows, 48 sheep. Access, dray-roads mostly metalled.

*Hall.*—Area, 2,794 acres, divided into fifteen sections, held by eighteen selectors, averaging about 186 acres to each holding. Of fifteen required to reside, four married men, with their wives and eight children, and three single men are residing, two are deceased, whilst five married men are not residing. Of these, two are defaulters as to improvements, one was granted leave of absence, one transfer pending, two are living in locality. Improvements required, £4,124 8s. 3d.; effected, £6,302; surplus, £2,177 11s. 9d. The Land Board has recently dealt with defaulters, and all are expected to comply shortly. There is 1,682 acres grassed, most of which is fenced and stocked with sheep, cattle, and horses, &c. Of the residents, three are large suppliers to local creamery and five utilise the land for grazing purposes. Of the non-residents, one is or was engaged in business, the remainder are struggling working-men who work mostly in the locality and also effect improvements in their holdings. Settlement is situated between Ballance and Woodville; most of the land is hilly. With two exceptions the required improvements have been effected, but there can be no doubt absentees tend to retard progress. Stock: 34 horses, 86 cows, 259 other cattle, 1,475 sheep. Access, southern portion by metalled roads, the remainder by bridle-tracks now being widened in places. Manawatu Bridge, now in course of construction, will facilitate access to settlement, also to and from Woodville and Ballance.

*Woodville No. 2.*—Area, 1,330 acres, divided into seven sections, ranging from 100 to 230 acres, averaging 190 acres to each selector. All have complied with improvement and residential conditions. Improvements required, £1,782 12s. 6d.; effected, £2,292; surplus, £509 7s. 6d. There is 659 acres grassed, mostly fenced, and stocked with 17 horses, 9 cows, 173 other cattle, and 950 sheep. Selectors are industrious and struggling; they work on sections, roads, and about the district. Settlement has made fair progress. School and post-office within easy distance. Access: dray-road, part of which is metalled.

*Mecalickstone.*—Area, 1,900 acres, divided into ten sections, held by nine selectors, and ranging from 97 to 300 acres, averaging about 211 acres each. Residence and improvement conditions complied with. Seven married men with their wives and seventeen children, also two single men, are residing. Improvements required, £1,545; effected, £3,647; surplus, £2,102. There is 1,158 acres grassed, partly fenced, and stocked with 21 horses, 51 cows, 91 other cattle, and 1,614 sheep. Selectors are steady industrious working-men, who work on their holdings, Government roads, and about the district. Settlement is making steady and satisfactory progress. School and post-office in proximity. Access, summer dray-roads and bridle-tracks.

*Kaikoura.*—Area, 400 acres, divided into two sections. Residence and improvement conditions complied with. Improvements required, £550; effected, £733; surplus, £183. There is 195 acres grassed, part fenced, and stocked with 11 horses, 8 cows, 12 other cattle, and 220 sheep. Selectors are steady industrious working-men. Settlement situated on Alfredton-Weber Road, within easy distance of school and post-office. Access: dray-road, part of which is metalled.

*Rising Sun.*—Area, 1,800 acres, divided into nine sections of 200 acres each. Of nine required to reside, six married men with their wives and twenty-six children, one widow, and two single men are residing. Improvements required, £2,140; effected, £3,799; surplus, £1,659. All have complied with sixth year's requirements. There is 980 acres grassed, most of which is fenced, and stocked with sheep, cattle, horses, and utilised for grazing purposes. The selectors are hard-working struggling men, who work on their holdings, Government roads, and about the district.