

the autumn, and the balance—16 acres—in the spring. The autumn-sown crop was a very poor one, the yield being 4 tons, and this is attributed to the dry weather already referred to. From the 16 acres sown in the spring 20 tons of splendid sheaf was harvested, and this is now in stack, and will be cut as required. For winter use 6 tons of clover hay was saved and stacked. During an average year 45 tons of chaff are consumed, so that it will be necessary to purchase chaff this year in order to make up the deficiency caused by the failure of our own crop.

Manuring.—The unoccupied portions of the nursery were sown with rye, for ploughing in as a manurial crop. This is a very hardy and quick-growing plant, and, if sown early in the year, requires to be ploughed in a month after sowing. Next year it is proposed to apply ground limestone to a large portion of the nursery, and also sow down what land can be spared for two years with clover. It is only by such methods that the fertility of the soil can be maintained, as the quantity of stable manure available is sufficient only for dressing land intended for seed-beds, where heavy demands are made upon the soil by crops of seedlings.

Nursery Extension.—Work under this heading comprised chiefly the clearing and ploughing of a portion of the nursery-area adjoining the Cemetery Reserve, which has remained in its wild state, covered with a dense growth of manuka and other native plants. This work will be gone on with as time permits; and it is intended to use the land for paddocks or for cropping purposes, as it is mostly poor and irregular in shape, and unsuited for laying out into nursery beds.

The number of trees sent out during the year is 5,320,230, and their value £9,021 11s. 7d. (details in schedule appended), and the output of trees to date is 33,719,305, valued at £69,540 10s. 1d. Trees at present in the nursery number 7,049,650 (see Schedule V), and are valued at £8,476 17s. 1d., and the number of trees raised since the commencement of the nursery is 40,768,955, and their value is £78,017 7s. 2d.

The costs of the various operations during the year are as follows: Sizing, 2s. 1d. per thousand; lining out, 2s. 3d. per thousand; lifting trees for plantations, 2s. 4d. per thousand.

The average daily number of workmen employed during the year was 24.50.

Details of expenditure and other tabulated information relating to the growing of trees are attached hereto.

Following is a record of the rainfall and temperature:—

Schedule 1.

Month.	Rainfall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Temperature.		Number of Days Frosts occurred.
			Maximum.	Minimum.	
1911.	In.		Deg. Fahr.	Deg. Fahr.	
April	10.72	17	78	40	..
May	7.63	12	70	28	3
June	4.25	12	62	24	10
July	1.29	7	61	22	15
August	3.21	10	63	24	17
September	5.80	12	68	22	10
October	4.21	14	69	24	7
November	6.54	20	76	30	3
December	6.55	16	78	35	..
1912.					
January	1.76	9	84	36	..
February	1.55	10	89	40	..
March	6.39	16	74	34	..
Totals	59.90	155	..	..	65

Schedule II.—Statement of Expenditure.

	For Year.			To Date.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tree-planting and maintenance—						
Tree-growing	2,047	8	3	22,311	17	9
General maintenance and repairs	257	6	11	3,518	17	0
Tree-seeds	253	17	9	2,405	11	0
Manures	52	6	4	921	10	1
Horse-feed, purchased and grown	228	12	5	1,585	2	6
Miscellaneous works	51	2	3	325	6	2
Stock and material—Tools, implements	135	17	1	1,018	13	10
Permanent works—						
Buildings	26	12	10	2,775	12	0
Nursery-formation	86	1	9	2,294	19	11
Fencing	6	4	6	221	12	8
Water-supply .. .. .	..	..	..	660	18	10
Seed-frames .. .. .	..	..	..	1,649	4	9
Supervision and clerical—						
Proportion of Superintending Nurseryman's salary	100	0	0	..	..	..
Proportion of Nurseryman's salary	197	10	0	2,631	16	8
Clerical assistance	50	0	0	..	..	..
	£3,493	0	1	£42,321	3	2