

An electric wireless set was donated to the institution by Mr. F. Findlay and Mr. E. C. Day, of Hamilton, and is greatly appreciated by the inmates.

The evening educational class was conducted throughout the year, the average roll being 47 and the average attendance 33·7. The work, with a few minor exceptions, was of a similar nature to that of previous years, but as mentioned in former reports the continual, yet unavoidable, changing of classes, due to the discharge of the inmates, does not permit of work being carried out to any set plan. However, in many cases good progress has been made. Several inmates have been taking special courses in book-keeping, and one or two have made good progress. These inmates attended regularly and were given as much individual attention as possible. Mr. Don, Art Instructor, and Mr. Gillies, Geography Instructor, of the Auckland Teachers' Training College staff, visited the classes, and both gave interesting and instructive addresses which were greatly appreciated. Due to the courtesy of the Auckland Museum, two films dealing with bird and animal life around the coast of New Zealand were shown. The Director of the Institute has promised further films and a series of lantern slides for the coming year. During the year a number of debates were held, and in these the inmates freely participated. Lecturettes were given from time to time on current historical and geographical topics.

For those doing indoor work and requiring physical development drill-classes were held on two evenings each week.

In the field of sport it is satisfactory to note that the inmates were again able to uphold their reputation for sportsmanlike play and irreproachable conduct. Although the team entered in the senior grade competitions under the control of the Waipa Rugby Union did not win any trophies it put up some very good performances and finished third in the series of games for the championship. Local competition games were also staged between teams representing different branches of the institutional activities, and these created considerable interest.

The cricket teams played a number of matches with teams from Hamilton and Te Awamutu. These games were played in the true cricket spirit, and were thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned.

Good conduct and industry enables inmates to qualify for membership of a special class which is permitted to indulge in appropriate games during the evenings.

Religious services were again provided during the year by visiting chaplains from Te Awamutu and Kihikihi.

In view of the fact that revenue from the principal farm activity—dairying—was considerably reduced as the result of lower production and lower values for butterfat, it is satisfactory to record that the total revenue for the year, which amounted to £11,237 3s. 5d., showed a decline of only £819 1s. 11d. compared with the previous year. For the past few years there has been ample productive work on the property to absorb the whole of the available labour. No permanent pasture was laid down during the year, but some preliminary development work was undertaken.

During the year a new water-supply was provided for the paddocks in the vicinity of No. 1 dairy. The bore was put down a depth of 247 ft., water being 96 ft. from ground-level. The supply is an excellent one, the water having been tested to 600 gallons per hour.

During the year the whole of the dairy herds and heifers were subjected to the tuberculin test by a Veterinarian from the Department of Agriculture. Altogether 497 dairy cows were tested, and the reactors disposed of.

During the season ended 31st July, 1934, an average of 460 cows were milked, resulting in a milk-yield of 3,381,061 lb., at an average test of 4·16 per cent. The average factory cream-test was 40·55 per cent., and the average estimated butterfat yield per cow was 298·77 lb. Compared with the previous season, there were increases of 6 in the number of cows milked, of 0·16 per cent. in the average milk test, 0·15 in the average factory cream-test, and of 4·11 lb. in the estimated butterfat-yield per cow. The total milk-yield decreased by 88,710 lb. and the factory butterfat-supply by 2,272½ lb.

The supply of beef and mutton for the ration-requirements of the Auckland Prison was continued during the year with satisfactory results.

Good progress was made with the pig industry, and 552 porkers were sold during the year, also 113 weaners and stores. Eight porkers were killed for rations.

An area of approximately five acres of tobacco was harvested in March, 1934, and 6,491 lb. of dried leaf was forwarded to Auckland. This leaf is being held in store to mature for subsequent manufacture to a smoking-mixture for prison use. The growing crop for the current season is looking very well, and a good yield can be expected.

Practically no revenue was obtained from the orchard, the crop being ruined by late frosts experienced during the year 1933.

An increase of 217 lb. of honey was recorded in production from the apiary for the season, the total honey received for disposal being 2,991 lb.

The rearing of pheasants for the Internal Affairs Department was continued, and last season seventy-two birds were disposed of to that Department for liberation.

Several entries of live-stock and all classes of farm and garden produce were provided in the 1934 show organized by the Te Awamutu Agricultural, Pastoral, and Horticultural Association, and the institution was successful in obtaining a number of prizes. In the home industries section an exhibition of all kinds of farm and garden produce and samples of all classes of work which the inmates perform as part of their daily tasks was well received.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the staff for their loyal co-operation.