

## ***Wind Erosion***

In Victoria this type of erosion occurs to a serious extent in the Mallee, where it is known as "sand drift".

Under normal conditions of ground cover and stability this sand drift, like water erosion, proceeds slowly. With the advent of cultivation on the loose sandy areas, however, the erosive action of the wind has been increased far above that which obtained under natural conditions, and the illustrations give some idea of the disastrous effects of neglecting to preserve adequate vegetative cover.



35. Sand drift, Underbool. Typical example of result of clearing vegetation from tops of sandhills in Mallee. Note roots of stumps exposed.



36. From this ridge south-west of Ouyen the wind has removed the surface soil exposing the underlying formation of limestone. This country is almost beyond reclamation and illustrates the final stage in erosion.



37. Roots of Mallee pine exposed by drift of sand from ridge, near Walpeup.



38. Further along the same ridge showing sand dune advancing.



39. Near Walpeup. Windward side of Mallee "shelter break".



40. Lee side of same "shelter break". A large dune has been deposited on the lee side of trees, and is gradually extending into the paddock.



41. Sand drift, south-west of Ouyen. All soil and portion of subsoil blown from top of ridge. Vegetation on hill would have prevented this happening.



42. A sand ridge south-west of Ouyen under cultivation. These ridges are now comparatively infertile and yield thin stunted crops. From a soil conservation point of view it would be preferable to carry out seeding at right angles to the line of drift.