

confined mainly to palpation at many works. The incidence of the disease in North Island lamb and mutton carcasses is low, being definitely higher in South Island works.

*Pregnancy Toxæmia.*—The Live-stock Superintendent, Christchurch, reports :—

Owing to the mild weather experienced during the winter and early spring, and the green feed available for in-lamb ewes, the incidence of this disease throughout most parts of the district has been comparatively low. The Mackenzie country was an exception, as heavy snows and a severe spring were experienced, and some owners lost considerable numbers of ewes.

The mild season at present being experienced augurs well for next season's lambing.

*Loss of New-born Lambs.*—In Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, and Marlborough a considerable loss of new-born lambs was experienced last spring. In some cases what appeared to be full-time lambs were born dead, or died immediately after birth. In some instances up to 10 per cent. of the lambs failed to get on their feet. A preliminary investigation failed to reveal the cause.

*Parasitic Gastro-enteritis.*—The losses from this cause were below normal. Many owners are now using phenothiazine very successfully in the control of parasites in young stock. The judicious use of this worm medicine, combined with good nutrition and management of lambs and hoggets, appears to give good results. The nutritional aspect of worm control is still of paramount importance, and much can be done by giving the young susceptible animals the best of the grazing available to enable a natural immunity to be built up.

In an inquiry carried out into lamb unthriftiness in Southland and parts of Otago, the importance and nutritive properties of the type of pasture, and its proper control by suitable grazing, are clearly brought out as factors in the cause of the trouble. Lambs did quite well on the mothers up to about shearing-time, when they commenced to go off. The lambs began to scour, appeared sluggish, and were generally unthrifty. The problem was examined from three angles—the deficiency angle, the parasitic angle, and the nutritional angle.

Examinations showed no known deficiency, while nothing significant was revealed in the parasitic inquiry. Certain peculiar grazing and pasture conditions exist in the affected districts, owing to other farming projects being carried on simultaneously. Proper grazing control of pastures is not maintained, and the quality of the pasture consumed by the young stock is low. A high plane of nutrition in the growing animal is not being maintained under the existing conditions, and more attention will require to be paid to the state of the pastures if fat-lamb raising is to be carried on simultaneously with the other farm operations in the affected areas.

This investigation is a confirmation of the recommendations made over many years regarding the rearing of lambs and hoggets where special stress has always been placed on nutrition and management as major factors in the control of parasites in young stock.

*Contagious Ecthyma.*—Many farmers are using the vaccine against this disease. A high degree of protection is effected in the preventive field. There was an increase in the incidence of this disease in parts of the North Island, where vaccination is now used more extensively, with good results.

*Facial Eczema.*—No serious disease of this nature was seen during the year.

*Liver-fluke and Black Disease.*—These diseases are showing a tendency to spread in Hawke's Bay, and farmers in the affected areas would be well advised to take active steps to deal with the liver-fluke menace. Advice on the control of this parasite is readily available from officers of the Live-stock Division in the district.

*Blackleg in Sheep.*—Vaccination against this disease in sheep is now extensively practised in many parts of the Wellington district. The disease has been diagnosed in many other districts—in Auckland Province, in parts of Canterbury, and in parts of Otago. The vaccination of a small number of flocks has been carried out in Canterbury.