

in this case. This has the additional disadvantage of impairing the value of the pelt. Here, again, a change to less-stimulating feed is required.

Some years since a considerable mortality occurred every year in the South Island among sheep, usually hoggets, when feeding on turnips. It was due to a disease closely resembling braxy. The cause lay in a germ present in the soil, which gained entrance into the systems of the animals. There is every reason to believe that one important feature in the prevalence of the trouble at that time lay in the dissemination of infection from the carcasses of dead sheep left to rot on the ground-surface. At the same time, apart from this, there can be no doubt that the provision of a run off from the turnips on to a good grass paddock, by providing a variety of diet and a better camping-ground, is an important factor in avoiding loss from this disease. An additional advantage is that the animals do better with a mixture of other food with the turnips, the admixture of grass food aiding the digestion of the whole, and enabling them to obtain the greatest benefit from the turnips eaten. Dry feed, as oaten chaff, hay, &c., would answer the same purpose, but it means expense, and the animals do not always take readily to it.

Southern farmers have largely availed themselves of the knowledge gained regarding this disease, and the losses from it are now very small compared with those of some years ago.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this paper I would once more impress upon sheep-owners the fact that good management is essential to successful sheep-farming, and that by the exercise of care and forethought much loss from disease in its various forms can be avoided. Much of the information given is based on the observations made by Dr. Gilruth, who, during his tenure of office in New Zealand, did an immense amount of good work in connection with sheep-management and sheep-diseases.

