

higher prices than prime loin cuts. White pigs do not have this defect, nor do some of the coloured breeds, of which the Tamworth is one. The question of "seedy cut" has not been considered by our breeders to be of any importance so far as local requirements are concerned, but it must be taken seriously when exploiting the British market, and breeders are advised to make it a strong point when selecting their types for future breeding.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, farmers are advised not to allow prejudices in regard to a certain type of pig to overrule them in their future operations. Prejudice can be carried too far in relation to live-stock, especially pigs, and may result in retarding the expansion of the bacon industry. They should keep in mind the requirements for overseas trade, and build up to that standard, establishing harmony between producer and exporter, together with the confidence of the British curer. The possibilities are here in New Zealand with its exceptional facilities for the breeding and growing of pigs, and given proper organization there is good reason to anticipate the building-up of a large export trade.

LUCERNE-GROWING IN SOUTH AUCKLAND.

EXPERIENCE OF A CAMBRIDGE STAND.

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LUCERNE is undoubtedly gaining in popularity in the Auckland Provincial District, and the total area devoted to the crop has steadily increased during the last five years. A number of co-operative trials have been carried out between different farmers and the Department of Agriculture, and much useful information gained, of which the following record is a good example.

In 1920 Mr. L. B. Dougherty, of "Green Hill," Cambridge, decided to put an area of 5 acres of his dairy farm into lucerne. He applied to the Department at Auckland for advice. A co-operative trial was set out with the object of demonstrating the value of cropping preliminary to sowing in lucerne, and later to try some control measures for root fungus (*Rhizoctonia medicaginis*). This root parasite has shown up on many areas of lucerne in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty during the last five years.

The area was ploughed out of permanent pasture in August, 1920, and sown in soft turnips in December following. The crop, owing to unfavourable weather, proved a comparative failure. In the following autumn (March, 1921) the ground was prepared for barley and vetches. This crop did well and was grazed off with pigs.

The soil was ploughed in the August following, disked twice in September, and 16 cwt. of ground limestone was applied on 23rd of that month. It received two strokes of the tine harrows on the following