

of sheep-breeding can be contemplated and the character of the clip in relation to its manufacturing uses be examined. The study of wool-production must be closely identified with the consideration of mutton and fat-lamb production, since sheep husbandry in the Dominion is organized towards exploitation of the dual capacity of the sheep. In this direction the study of the sheep must be conducted in close association with workers engaged upon the pastures, soil, and other problems of the country. It would seem that general empirical experiments on the profitable type of husbandry for given districts is urgently required, and economic study of the conditions of production, particularly in the good wool districts.

In wool-production the breeder is called upon to strike a balance of those characters in his fleece which are of manufacturing value with the characters which he can most readily cultivate and maintain in his flock on his own particular land. Assistance can only come from close co-operation with institutions engaged in the study of manufacturing conditions and problems, so that the breeder may be aided in his attempt to balance the characters concerned by the correct weighting of their values to him.

It is also important that those persons who are to conduct the research on the production of New Zealand wools should have a training sufficiently comprehensive to enable them to work with a perspective realizing the position of their raw materials in relation to the industry as a whole, and also in such contact with work in progress in other countries and institutions that they may more readily be able to view their own problems in the light of other experience. Again, the question of personnel presents itself. It is suggested that—

(1) Immediate steps be taken to secure the co-operation of the British Research Association for the Woollen and Worsted Industries in the examination of New Zealand wools by the techniques already established and in the light of work conducted in other countries.

(2) Immediate steps be taken to extend the training of post-graduate research workers in the field of agriculture, zoology, and genetics into the fields of wool research by means of scholarships or fellowships to the above institution for periods of not less than two years, with guaranteed employment on completion of training.

(3) A provisional appointment be made of an officer to visit that institution and familiarize himself with work in progress and the uses of New Zealand wools in manufacture, and to act subsequently as a field liaison officer in New Zealand with that institution and the New Zealand students in training.

(4) Until the training of the above work is complete no definite scheme be embarked upon for the establishment of any actual sheep-breeding research institution.

(5) The work already in progress in New Zealand be encouraged, and that field demonstrations of the economic aspects of wool and meat production be undertaken.

(6) The establishment of a central institution of similar constitution to that of the Dairy Research Institute be contemplated, it being desirable that research on sheep-breeding should not be allied to or obscured in relation with educational institutions or programmes, and should be conducted in an organization with independent control of its experimental material. Such an organization would serve for co-ordination of effort, as the depository of information, with definite powers of co-operation with bodies such as the British Research Association, and as the advisory nucleus in educational campaigns.