

occur; occasionally pigs over a fairly wide age-range and up to the heavy porker are affected. The trouble should be treated by isolating affected pigs, feeding light laxative diet including molasses and cod-liver oil, teaspoonful daily, in milk. It is advisable to spray houses and bedding with creasote and oil.

During the past season regular reports have been made by the Meat Inspectors on all lines of pigs in which the percentage of tuberculosis or pleurisy has been unduly high. These have been referred by the District Superintendent to the Inspector of Stock in the district concerned so that conditions on the farm could be noted and advice given if necessary. The following are extracts from reports of Mr. E. A. McKinlay, Inspector of Stock, for Hamilton on some of the many farms visited, pleurisy up to 16 per cent. to 20 per cent. having been found in pigs raised on them: (1) Stores had been run in the open without houses for a time during a period of wet, cold weather. (2) Conditions very bad, poor draughty houses, pigs sleeping mostly in the open under trees. (3) One small house, many sleep in the open. (4) Unsatisfactory, no house or shelter. (5) House raised on piles and draughty, piggery exposed. (6) Heavy wet land, houses draughty, runs small and dirty.

In other instances conditions were good, but pigs had been bought at sales and seeds of disease already sown. It has been felt that feeding is an important factor in disease-control, particularly more complete feeding of the younger pigs, sufficient starchy foods in winter, and mineral supply. However, amongst those pig-farming successfully there is a wide diversity in feeding, including skim alone, whey and meat-meal, maize and roots, extensive grazing, and sty-feeding. The above reports suggest that poor housing and lack of shelter are two of the most important factors leading to excessive pleurisy.

Pigs can be reared free from pleurisy. A recent experiment at Ruakura, carried out by the Fields Division to test certain feeding-methods, concerned thirty pigs. These were raised to the eight-weeks stage on a standard milk-meal ration and thereafter run in different lots under different conditions of feed and management. Housing mostly was not elaborate, but draught-proof and floored. Paddocks or pens were reasonably sheltered and clean—used for pigs for the first time twelve months previously. Feeding was of various types after eight weeks, but milk and meal were fed at regular hours and in measured amounts. No cases of pleurisy were found on slaughter.

In a second instance, out of 120 pigs put through, only three were found to have pleurisy. The owner here was an enthusiast and a great believer in good housing and the value of bedding, which was changed daily and sometimes twice daily. The three pleurisy cases were believed to be three pigs which refused to sleep inside.

PREVENTION OF PLEURISY.

Prevention of pleurisy therefore appears to depend on attention to the following points:—

Housing.—The house must be tight-walled to be free from draughts, but ventilated below the roof, and have wooden floor; felt or wood beneath an iron roof keeps it warmer in winter and cooler in summer. Designs for houses are readily available. Provision of a concreted yard in front of the house is useful, particularly in wet country, as