

has tended to increase the proportion of fat in the belly region. See also Plate II. This effect is in keeping with the increase in proportion of fat as measured in other parts of the carcass.

The thickness results are in agreement with recent work in England (10), where reduction in the water content of the ration failed to effect any significant improvement in bellies. In view of further work (11) which substantiates the practical farmers' belief that a fasting-period before slaughter improves the belly thickness, it must be noted that the pigs in these series were killed after a uniform fasting-period of twelve to sixteen hours. Incidentally the latter offers a more practical method of improving belly thickness by ensuring such a fasting-period than does the provision of special rations. Further, as pointed out in Part I of this paper, the slaughter of pigs at carcass weights of 140 lb. and over rather than at lighter weights can be of material assistance in avoiding excessively thin bellies.

If thinness of belly is associated with belly distension resulting from bulky diets, it is suggested that the negative results from these investigations are due to the fact that the use of supplements even at relatively high levels does not materially reduce the appetite of pigs for milk. This is a regular feature in New Zealand experience.

INFLUENCE OF DIET ON PROPORTION OF FAT TO LEAN IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CARCASS.

The use of meal with buttermilk increased the proportion of fat in the carcass, and the higher the proportion of meal fed the greater was the deposition of fat. This effect is clear from the efficiency awards summarized in Table VII. Details of group fat-measurements in the loin-cut are set out in Table IX.

Table IX.—Effect on Proportion of Fat: Measurements on Loin-cut.
(Frozen Carcass.)

Group and Series Number.				Average Carcass Weight.	Fat Thickness (average).	Range in Fat Measurements.	Average Marks awarded.	Percentage possible.
SERIES A.								
				Lb.	Millimetres.	Millimetres.		
1	..	..	..	137	25.4	20-32	17.0	86
2	..	..	..	138	27.4	24-34	14.5	73
3	..	..	..	140	31.0	29-36	11.5	57
SERIES B.								
1	..	..	..	136	23.7	20-29	18.0	90
2	..	..	..	138	25.7	22-34	16.0	80
3	..	..	..	139	27.0	23-42	15.0	75
SERIES C.								
1	..	..	..	146	29.0	25-37	8.0	40
2	..	..	..	146	29.6	24-36	7.0	35
3	..	..	..	146	26.0	22-29	12.5	65
4	..	..	..	142	28.0	23-38	10.0	50
5	..	..	..	147	25.75	21-27	14.0	70

NOTE.—Fat measurements taken on loin-cut at last rib, Series A and B at point of eye, and Series C at point $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in from middle line. Reference (1).