

# Veterinary Notes for the Farmer

## Discussions on First-Aid Measures

*Contributed by the Livestock Division*

### Dipping Precautions to Prevent Mortalities

**C**ERTAIN details must be observed in the important operation of dipping if mortalities and loss are to be avoided. The sheep is a susceptible subject to pneumonia and pleurisy if any of the dipping fluid is aspirated into the lungs or if the weather at the time of dipping is not suitable. The work of dipping a flock is a most important part of good flock management, in that clean sheep free from lice and ticks thrive better, are more contented, and the wool will bring a better price of it is free from tick staining. There should be no risk of mortality if certain well-known rules are followed in detail.

The dipping fluid should be made up in accordance with the instructions laid down by the makers of the particular dip being used. All details as to the immersion of the sheep should be carried out to ensure the eradication of lice and ticks. If good results are to be obtained it is necessary for the sheep to be wet right to the skin, and the head must be immersed once or twice during the swim. The sheep requires to be in the bath about one minute for thorough wetting, and the time can be gauged by the amount of fleece and the degree of parasitic infestation present. If the sheep are seriously infested with parasites a



second dipping in about three weeks is necessary, as some eggs may have escaped the first bath and later hatch out.

To ensure accuracy in making up the dip according to the instructions it is necessary to know the capacity of the dip. The dip should be thoroughly cleaned out before filling with water, all sludge and dirt being removed. The capacity should be measured accurately, and the correct amount of the concentrate dip added. If a pow-

der dip is being used the amount should be weighed accurately and made into a paste before being added to the water.

#### *Thorough Stirring Necessary*

Whether a fluid, powder, or paste dip is being used, thorough mixing by stirring of the bath is necessary to ensure that the dip is of the correct strength throughout. If this is not done some of the lighter ingredients of the dip may be concentrated on the surface and some of the heavier in-

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