

eliminating these air pockets. Here was unlimited, or almost unlimited power, and consolidation could be gained by using bigger and heavier implements, and by giving the land an extra discing. All this could be accomplished in much less time than by horses. Ploughing could be done later, and when cultivation was commenced it was finished in a very short time; in fact in such a short time that one could almost say it was done in one operation. But did not this speed eliminate the very important factor of aeration

### Thorough Cultivation

A new phraseology was adopted. It became the practice to speak of working a paddock down instead of working it up. Even the plough was used to bring about consolidation. Recently a splendid paddock of rolling country was seen being ploughed by a swamp plough. The reason given was that it was hoped the deep flat ploughing would bury the yarr seed which was very bad in this paddock. Little if any aeration can possibly take place in this paddock unless a cultivator is used, and the cultivation is spread over a period. In all probability it will be double disced a couple of times in the space of a day or two, and then turnips will likely be sown the next day. It is not intended to infer that consolidation is not necessary, but the point to be emphasised is that consolidation will take place of its own accord if the cultivation is thorough.

Does the question of aeration not open up a big field of inquiry? In the past the control of plant disease such as club-root and dry rot was attempted by treating the seed, and by the use of chemical fertilisers, much in the same manner as our bodily ailments are treated with patent medicines. Just as it would be wiser to return to a better way of living, so in regard to plant diseases it would be advantageous to return to better cultivation, and aeration of soil.

Take care of the cultivation and consolidation will take care of itself.

—H. K. EDIE, Assistant Fields Instructor, Gore.

### Internal Parasites

The annual mortality amongst hoggets from internal parasites is increasing from year to year, and on some properties is assuming enormous proportions. Similarly, losses amongst calves are proportionately high. Important information on this problem is available in the Department's bulletin, "Internal Parasites of Sheep and Calves, and Their Treatment."

## FREIGHTING FOR FREEDOM The Railways in Battledress

Day in, day out, a ceaseless surge of men, munitions and war equipment demands swift movement to a thousand points of application; everywhere freight trains shuttle to the crescendo of national production; civilian traffic, rocketed to unprecedented peaks, must be provided for. The railways are in this battle of transportation with everything they have—hurrying war needs on their way—resourcefully overcoming difficulties inseparable from wartime—striving to continue for civilian benefit as many normal services as the abnormal conditions will permit. Your Railways are fighting for you.

## Railways are Seeing Things Through

### Slaughterings of Stock

THE following returns of slaughterings of stock at meat-export slaughterhouses and abattoirs for the months, May to November, 1942, have been compiled by the Livestock Division:—

District.	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Of which Ewes were	Lambs	Pigs
<b>North Island.</b>						
Meat-export Slaughterhouses—						
Auckland .. .. .	132,342	569,327	55,408	30,215	170,552	101,166
Poverty Bay-Hawkes Bay	33,682	55,386	71,358	42,593	405,694	9,920
Taranaki-Manawatu .. ..	60,934	204,989	19,007	13,426	155,303	52,956
Wairarapa-Wellington .. ..	26,409	22,069	36,829	16,272	123,826	11,065
Totals .. .. .	253,367	851,771	182,602	102,506	855,375	175,107
Abattoirs .. .. .	77,174	23,302	362,715	162,562	39,357	68,991
North Island Totals .. ..	330,541	874,973	545,317	265,068	894,732	244,098
<b>South Island.</b>						
Meat-export Slaughterhouses—						
Nelson-Marlborough .. ..	1,354	10,723	7,516	5,239	38,983	2,979
Canterbury-Westland .. ..	7,728	34,084	105,515	75,560	294,310	14,176
Otago-Southland .. .. .	8,044	37,912	61,474	49,633	516,034	3,382
Totals .. .. .	17,126	82,719	174,505	130,432	849,327	20,537
Abattoirs .. .. .	58,710	13,306	272,328	139,972	33,220	26,618
South Island Totals .. ..	75,836	96,025	446,833	270,404	882,547	47,155
<b>Dominion.</b>						
Meat-expt. Slaughterhouses	270,493	934,490	357,107	232,938	1,704,702	195,644
Abattoirs .. .. .	135,884	36,508	635,043	302,534	72,577	95,609
Grand Totals .. .. .	406,377	970,998	992,150	535,472	1,777,279	291,253
Same Period, 1941—						
Meat-export Slaughterhouses and Abattoirs .. ..	305,999	989,607	958,085	552,681	2,001,134	361,467
Same Period, 1940—						
Meat-export Slaughterhouses and Abattoirs .. ..	346,814	987,520	1,162,688	711,816	1,619,582	334,525

### Slaughterings of Pigs

The 71,455 pigs slaughtered at meat-export slaughterhouses and abattoirs during the month of November, 1942, were distributed in weight ranges approximately as follows:—

Up to 60 lb. .. .. .	170	The grading of porkers was 93 per cent. of 1st quality, 7 per cent. of 2nd quality; and that of baconers was 75 per cent. of Prime 1's, 19 per cent. of Prime 2's, and 6 per cent. of 2nd quality.
61 to 120 lb. .. .. .	18,358	In the different weight ranges of baconers the grading was as follows:—
121 to 160 lb. .. .. .	32,273	121 to 160 lb. .. .. . 81%, 15%, 4% of P1's, P2's and 2nds respectively.
161 to 180 lb. .. .. .	13,230	161 to 180 lb. .. .. . 61%, 29%, 10% of P1's, P2's and 2nds respectively.
Over 180 lb. .. .. .	4,233	
Sundries .. .. .	3,191	