

The time of lambing for hothouse lambs is dependent upon the demands of a fancy market. Only those in close proximity to a large city and the possessors of good buildings can enter to this trade. The hothouse lamb may be described as the unseasonable lamb, or, more truly, the early lamb. The market for this commodity opens about the middle of December and the advent of spring lambs terminates it.

SUMMER CARE.

Rams are usually bought in the fall just prior to the breeding season. A ram, newly purchased, should be kept apart from other sheep and dipped before or immediately after arrival upon the farm. This is easily performed by mixing a few gallons of dip and thoroughly soaking the animal to the skin whilst standing. This method is inexpensive and effective.

Overgrown toes are frequently a cause of a ram's inactivity. It is imperative, therefore, that the feet should be trimmed. This is a simple operation, consisting of placing the animal on his rump with the head in front of the operator's legs, as



Scrag ram which was actually used in a flock. Contrast the type of this animal with that shown in the preceding photograph.

in shearing, and cutting the hooves with a sharp jack-knife, so that they are level and the toes are short. If this is neglected, lameness often results. Three minutes once in six weeks is sufficient to keep the feet in proper condition. Care should also be taken to prevent the eaking of manure around the vent.

Sufficient pasture, salt, water and care of feet is all the attention required during the summer. The breeding season is a great strain on a ram, and, unless he is vigorous and in good physical condition, the results will not be gratifying. A little extra grain in this connection, where necessary, is a good investment. A small