

whereas others prefer letting them return to the ewes two or three times, thus weaning them gradually. I find upon reading the opinions of two of the best authorities on sheep in America that they have exactly opposite views upon this point. Accordingly, the conclusion may be that there is method and merit in both plans, and I leave that point to the reader's discretion. It is essential, however, that the lambs be thoroughly accustomed to feeding before they are weaned. Furthermore, plenty of good food should be given immediately after weaning to prevent the lambs dropping off a great deal. Such foods as crushed oats, bran, oil cake and alfalfa or clover, as well as pulped roots, will do admirably for this purpose. If alfalfa or clover are not to be had, give some other good succulent roughage.

The udders of the ewes should be given attention after the lambs are weaned, no matter which method has been followed when separating the lambs from their mothers. If this is not done very often, the udders of the ewes that are heavy milkers will be damaged. Milk the ewes by hand if necessary, and be sure that they are examined several times shortly after the lambs have been removed.

MARKETING LAMBS.

Several methods of marketing lambs are practised. At times it is the practice to market lambs early when they are fat from their mothers' sides. In case this is practised, the lambs must come early, and a fancy market must be found for them. Some men who have given it attention may have worked up a small trade here, but as the Manitoba farmer usually does not have the necessary equipment to handle early lambs—or the necessary market—this practice is at once eliminated, as far as general farm conditions in this province are concerned. On the other hand, a very general practice is to market the lambs in the fall, shortly after weaning. If this method is to be followed, full use should be made of the lamb creep. In this way lambs may be made to grow as fast as possible, and be in condition to bring the highest price on the market.

It is generally thought that it is preferable to market the lambs in the fall, rather than to hold them over until the next spring. This, of course, will depend on conditions. If the lambs are well grown and fat, they will be better marketed in the fall. On the other hand, if they are lacking in size, and are not in very high condition, they should be fed over the winter, and put on the market in the spring. Lambs make quicker gains and bring higher prices than wethers. It is said by most sheep men that for this reason they prefer to put their lambs on the market. Further, it is not necessary to keep the lambs so long, which will certainly be quite a saving.