

by Picklock. derived from the Saxony Merino, which is generally conceded the finest type produced in the world. This breed is confined almost entirely to Germany, and is not raised at all extensively.

American wools are also divided into Territory and Domestic classes. The former refers to Western range wools; the latter, to Eastern and Middle Western, such as is produced on the small farm. Range wool is of a finer character than the other, being either Merino or a Merino cross. It therefore possesses, usually, a higher shrinkage owing to the excessive greasiness of the Merino, but contains little or no straw or chaff which unfortunately are found all too frequently in Eastern wool. These conditions apply in similar fashion to Canadian wools.

BRITISH CLASSIFICATION.

Differences in the spinning qualities of wool on the worsted principle are taken as the basis of the British system of grading. The factor used is called a count. A single count, which represents the standard or unit, will produce, from one pound of seoured wool, a fixed number of yards of spun yarn. Wool twice as fine as the estab-



Grading and packing wool, Alberta Wool Grower's Association.

lished standard will spin as far again, since the weight being the same there must be double the number of fibres, and would thus represent two counts or, as commonly abbreviated, 2s. Therefore, the finer the wool, the higher will be the counts. A comparison of the range of fineness in the various classes can readily be obtained from the foregoing table.

CANADIAN CLASSIFICATION.

No organized method of grading Canadian wools has been pursued on a national scale. This is being overcome, however, now that the sheep industry is in a state of rapid development and is fast becoming a permanent asset in the agricultural system of the country.