

ON THE FARM FLOCK

that if you already have a horse clipper, all that you will need is the drive shaft and knives. The college purchased such an outfit this year and used it with the horse-clipper gear. It was a decided success. The cost of the machine was \$9.00 at Winnipeg.

The time of shearing must be determined by the farmer according to the weather and his conditions. The weather should be bright and warm when shearing commences. About the middle of May is generally considered to be a satisfactory time. At the time of writing—May 19th—the college flock are all shorn and they are doing nicely.

Have a clean floor on which to clip your sheep. Put a bundle of hay in the centre of the floor and place a blanket over it, preferably a large canvas. This bundle of hay covered with the blanket will serve as a pad to set the sheep on, and they will accordingly remain quieter while the clipping is in progress. Catch your sheep, set it on its rump, with shoulders leaning back against your knees. Hold the head back under one arm. Take the shears and commence as shown in the accompanying cut. First clip off the belly and open up at the neck so that the fleece divides and falls both ways. Commence then at the neck and work down to the dock, clipping the one side and allowing the wool to roll down ahead of you. Turn the sheep and clip the other side in the same manner. When you have finished, the fleece will all be in one piece.

ROLLING AND TYING THE FLEECE

Lay it flat on a clean floor with the cut ends down. Throw the broken pieces into the centre and then roll in the outsides. Roll the fleece from one end into a neat roll—draw out some of the wool and twist it like a rope until you have a piece of sufficient length to tie the fleece. When fleeces are tied in the above manner they are not injured by coarse fibres that so often detach themselves from the cord used when tying the fleeces. Cord may also be used, but if so, some kind of woollen cord should be obtained, thus preventing injury to the wool. The fibres of the cord being of a vegetable nature, will not take the dye, but leave noticeable marks in the cloth. If a good cloth is desired, they must be removed. This adds expense to the preparation of the wool, and therefore wool dealers discriminate against fleeces tied with rough, coarse twine. Binder twine should not be used.

PACKING WOOL.

Pack the wool in sacks. Bear in mind the same ideas as you have when tying it. Use sacks from which coarse fibres will not detach themselves and become mixed with the wool. Put the wool in the