

to fulfill the same purpose as scouring, but the process is not so effective. Before the wool can be used for manufacture it must be rescoured. The loss in weight through tubwashing ranges from thirty per cent to fifty per cent.

In washing wool the sheep-raiser should carefully estimate the decrease in weight and the cost of labour against the higher price received for the washed product before undertaking the operation.

QUALITY.

Quality refers in this respect to fineness of the fibre or the diameter. The finest wools are arranged in the classifications at the top, each quality following being slightly coarser.

CORRELATION OF AMERICAN, BRITISH AND CANADIAN QUALITIES (GRADES), AND THEIR DISTINCTIVE TERMS.

American.	*British.	Canadian.	
		Domestic.	Range.
Fine	64's to 66's		
One-half Blood	66's	Fine	Fine.
Three-eighths Blood	58's	Fine medium ..	
One-quarter Blood	50's	Medium	Medium.
Low one-quarter Blood	44's to 46's	Low medium ..	
Common	40's	Coarse	Low.
Braid	36's	Luster	

AMERICAN CLASSIFICATION.

The American classification and nomenclature are based upon the quality of Merino wool which, being the finest, was taken originally as the standard. Different crosses between the Merino and the mutton breeds were supposed to produce the inter-



Cross section of wool fibre. Magnified 450 times.

mediate grades. The first cross resulted in so-called one-half blood wool, that is, one-half Merino, and presumably twice as coarse as the Merino parent. The other grades followed similarly to show the relative and corresponding lack of fine wool blood.

Fine is frequently subdivided into three separate classes, known as XXX, XX and X. This comprises an exceptionally fine distinction for Merino wools. XXX represents the highest class obtained from the Spanish Merino, and is surpassed only