



## GIVES PROCESS OF MANUFACTURE

### Wool Needs Much Preparation Before Ready For Loom

By S. E. NEWMAN

Wool, after being removed from the sheep by shearing, contains substances which render it unfit for the manufacture of fabrics without considerable preparation. These include the greases naturally secreted by the sheep, as well as dirt, manure and vegetable matter, such as burrs, seeds and cockles which have become entangled in the wool.

Many grades of wool contain burrs, seed and shives of such peculiar structure that their removal is quite impossible by carding.

So the wool must go over sorting tables and be sorted by hand, (the sorter takes each fleece from the bag shakes it out and first skirts it, then separates into the various grades. We make six grades from the average grease wool used by this mill. (Fine wools are used more for clothing.)

The best wool comes off the shoulders, others follow in order, side, back, thighs, breech, and belly. One fleece will not contain more than three sorts.

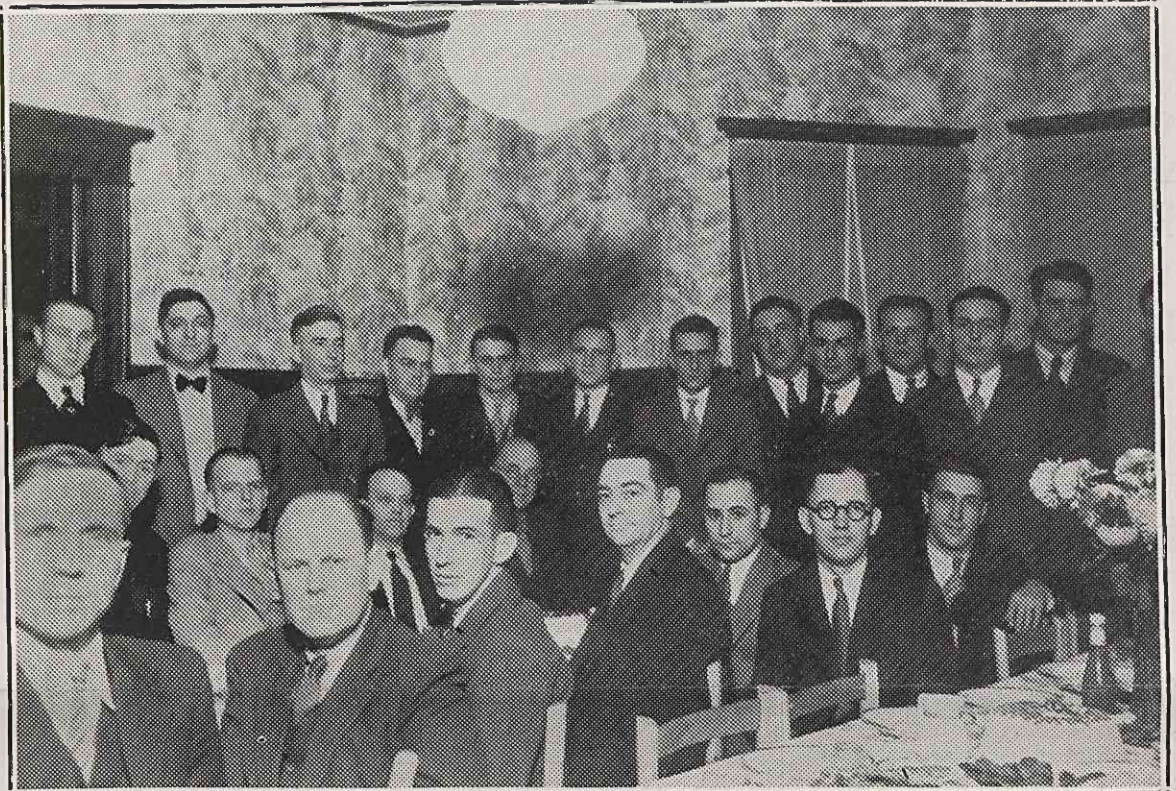
All wool as it comes from the sorting tables is blended in large bins and is now ready to start the scouring process.

First the wool is run through the opening machine, which opens up the wool and blows out a lot of trash, from this it drops into the large scouring machine and passes through four bowls. First and second bowls contain soap and soda solutions. Third and fourth bowls contain warm water for rinsing only. From the last bowl the wool goes through squeeze rolls and directly into a large drying machine where the heat must be even and at a certain temperature.

The percentage of shrinkage varies from 20 per cent to 80 percent, nevertheless a good buyer will be able to estimate within two or three per cent.

The factors to be considered in this connection are the breed, the soil, the climate, and the care with which the sheep are raised, as well as the diligence with which the fleeces are put up. Fine wools always shrink more heavily than coarse wools. The

## Foremen and Loom Fixers Stage Annual Dinner



The above picture was taken at a dinner given the loom fixers by Mr. El Burcham, foreman of the weaving department, at his home on Church street, recently. This is an annual event and is looked forward to each year. Guests of the occasion were Mr. Carl Poindexter, Mr. Benson, Mr. Millard Darnell, and Mr. Noah Darnell. The meal was prepared by Mrs. Burcham, Mrs. Bob Hall, and Mrs. Free Pardue. Music was provided by the Darnell string band and Mr. Ernest Day.

average shrinkage of United States wool is about 55 per cent. Fine domestics shrink about 60 per cent. Lower grades about 45 per cent. Fine territory wools about 60 per cent; lower grades about 55 per cent. Pulled wools average 27 per cent. The custom wool averages from 40 per cent to 45 per cent in this plant. The wool is then put through a cleaning machine and from this to the bagging rack, and is now ready for the stock room, or to start on the manufacturing process.

### Carbonizing

Mechanical removal of burrs from wool being impractical in many cases, it becomes necessary to resort to carbonizing or the preparation of suitable reagents which when exposed to heat disintegrates the vegetable matters leaving the wool unimpaired. In carbonizing raw stock the wool is scoured and then saturated with the reagent in a cold water solution of proper strength which is determined by the character of

the burrs to be removed. In this plant sulphuric acid is used.

The stock is now ready for the dryer which must remove all the water before any actual carbonizing will take place.

Moving aprons carry the stock through compartments heated by steam pipes and in which circulation and ventilation are maintained by powerful fans.

The wool enters one end and emerges at the other, a gradual concentration of acid in the burr and exposure to high temperatures will complete the reaction changing the burr to the hydro-cellulose, previously described in which form it can be crushed and dusted from the wool.

Now to place the carbonized wool in the best condition it should be neutralized.

### Neutralizing

The use of unneutralized wool in the process of manufacturing often causes trouble in fulling operations and dyeing.

The acid reacts with the soap used in the fulling and precipi-

## Home of Roy Chipman Burns

A fire of unknown origin destroyed the home of Roy Chipman, of East Elkin, On Thursday, December 7th, around four o'clock in the morning. Mr. Chipman had the misfortune not to save any of his furniture or clothing. He and his family barely escaping injury. The noise of the roof falling in woke Mr. Chipman and they had only a few minutes in which to escape.

tates fat in the soap used in the fibre of the fabric which not only materially lengthens the fulling time but in subsequent dyeing operations in which streaky goods are sure to result. This is why reneutralizing is done in this plant.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Cleat Simmons, a daughter, Betty Charles, November 20, 1933.