

SHEARING SHEEP BY USE OF MACHINE

Western Ranchmen Dispensing With Hand Work By Adopting New Methods

SHEAR TWENTY MILLION

The Men Who Strip the Flocks of Their Wool Are Nomads Who Wander from State to State—Montana Man Holds the Record.

MARTINDALE, MON.—The great sheep camp of the United States is here in the Northwest. The shearing of the twenty or more million sheep that produce wool, like the garnering of wheat and other big crops, requires the employment for a more or less shortened period of a large number of men. The local labor supply is entirely insufficient and were it not for the existence of a partly organized body of nomads, who start in at the south and work their way north as the season broadens, great difficulty would be met with.

Many of these shearers are Easterners, New York furnishing quite a number. Before reaching Montana or Wyoming they have relieved thousands of sheep of their fleeces. They begin down in Texas or perhaps Arizona and work north, taking in Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, Wyoming and the Dakotas before they land in this state.

These men are well paid and most of them end the season with from \$200 to \$300 in their pockets. All are experts. Most of them still use the wrist thong and hand shears, but in the last few years shearing by machinery has come in vogue and is rapidly superseding all other methods.

The better hand shearers average 100 sheep a day, and there are a few who have a record of 200 in twelve hours. It is hard work. A man must stand with legs stiff for hours, he must lean over until he can almost reach his toes and he must all the time be holding down a struggling, frightened animal.

These hand workers are paid at the rate of seven or eight cents for each fleece dropped, and for each three or four shearers there is a man who gathers up the wool at a quarter of a cent for each fleece tied up and delivered to the packer. The grading is done in advance of the shearing, so that subsequent trouble is avoided.

After the shearing has been accomplished the wool is sacked in loose bale-like burlap forms and turned over to the freighters.

In the last four or five years the shearing machine has pushed to the front. An ingenious mechanic has devised a shear which can be worked either by hand or mechanical power, and which has proven a tremendous economy. The machine is declared by sheep men to be as far ahead of the old hand shears as the self-blinder is in advance of the old fashioned cradle.

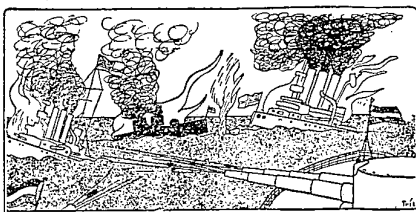
R. M. Marvick, a Montana young man, holds the world's record both for hand and machine shearing. At Bower Brothers' ranch near here he sheared 500 seven pound (to the fleece) wethers in 14 hours 46 minutes, taking off 2,550 pounds of wool with a machine. This record will likely stand for a long time.

The man's work is almost as mechanical as that of the machine he uses. He starts in by grabbing the animal by the right hind leg with his left hand, turning it easily over on its back. He then pulls it into an upright position, with its hindquarters on the ground, and the body resting between his legs. He begins by parting the wool at the forward end of the brisket and starts the clippers going. Bent over at an angle of 70 or 80 degrees, he keeps firm, turning the animal as though it were in a vise and keeping the skin stretched tight. When half way through he has attained the position of having partly stepped back, while the sheep is flat on its side. It is no trick for him to finish the animal in two minutes, and he has turned out as many as twenty-eight in an hour.

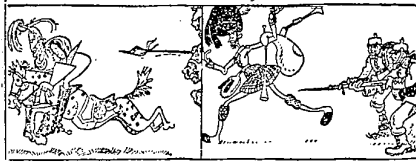
Besides the advantage in time and labor cost the machine does not hack or cut the sheep, and it is possible to get from a half to a pound and a half more wool off each animal. The staple is longer and this means a better price. Usually it is not desirable to send a hand-sheared sheep to the market until a week after the clip, as it takes that long to keep them into presentable shape. This is avoided by the use of the mechanical contrivance, which leaves the animal evenly clipped and free from cuts.

The hand power machine is the most universal use among the smaller flock masters.

GERMANY'S DEFIANCE TO THE BRITISH.



We are not afraid of your Fleet.



We'll drive your Horse Guards to the devil. We'll teach your Highlanders how to play the pipes.



—only for Heaven's sake keep your Suffragettes at home.

(The above is one of the few humorous illustrations to be found in the German press since the war began.)

HER RICHES GO TO CHARITY

New Jersey Woman Leaves \$100,000

Although Thought to Be Poor.

NEW YORK.—Mrs. Amelia Marks, 59 years old, who died apparently destitute in New Brunswick, N. J., in a small home in the poorest section of the town, left \$100,000 to charity, cutting off her nine nephews and nieces, her only surviving relatives, with \$5 each.

Mrs. Marks and her husband, Israel Marks, resided in two dingy rooms on the second floor of a ramshackle wooden building. On the ground floor was a second-hand clothing store conducted by Mark's son. Neither was seen on the streets except at rare intervals. They always had the appearance of extreme poverty, but there were stories of their hidden wealth. They had the reputation of being misers.



The wife's money.

She met him at the door with a happy smile and taking his face between her hands said as he kissed him: "Many happy returns of the day, dear old boy! Did you think I had forgotten it? It was your birthday."

A smile of pleased surprise crossed his face as he said: "Why, yes, I had most forgotten it myself. My, but you are doted up tonight," he continued, holding her off at arm's length. "Of course I'd wear the dress you like best on your birthday."

"You raise the drape over us, as it's a festive occasion. Hurry, for every thing is about ready, and she bustled away to the kitchen.

It certainly was a pretty sight that greeted the eyes of Phil Armstrong when he entered the dining room. The three children in gaily attired, while he took in the decorations, the pretty shod candles, the flowers and a mysterious stand by his place, covered with a linen drape. An envelope was pinned on the cover addressed to him. He opened it while his wife tied on the baby's bib and lifted him into his high chair. If ready.

"This business assistant applies for a position in your private office and is especially recommended by your loving wife. Many happy birthdays be yours. The flowers are from the children."

He raised the drape and there was a handsome typewriter. He had many times expressed a wish for one, but never felt able to buy it.

MARKET FOR COCKLEBURRS

Arkansas Farmer Makes a Shipment

to Indian Doctor. A shipment of a peck of cockleburrs, consigned to Spokane, Wash., was in the unusual product given the Wells Fargo Express Company here by J. Deirich, a Ponce County farmer. The selling of cockleburrs, which the physician says are used by an Indian shaman in Spokane in compound with a snake, is very uncommon, but, suddenly she screamed as if untold fear and dread.

"Don't!" she cried. "Don't touch me!" "Because—because you're dead!" You begged me to take your life, and I did. So now you must be dead. As I do not," she continued, turning aside with a slight shudder, "desire to have a dead person about the house, if you do not leave it I shall be obliged to send for an undertaker."

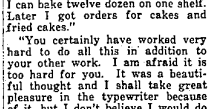
And opening the door suddenly, she left him with only the ticking clock to reason it out with.

BETTER LIGHTS AT LESS PRICES

Those Interested in Lighting Fixtures

One of the most beautiful exhibits of lighting fixtures in the state is that of the Mano Light Co., Detroit. Modern ideas in lighting are vastly different than even a few years ago, and the exquisite effects now produced are wonderful in variety, artistic beauty and harmony. It is to be supposed that fixtures of extreme richness would cost a big sum, but by special arrangements the Mano Light Co. are now selling showery, single lights, and in fact everything in the lighting and fixture line at from 1-2 to 1-3 less than usual. A postal card will bring the catalog, and it should be sent for. The Mano Light Co. is at 90 Gist Ave., Detroit, where a beautiful exhibit will repay a visit at any time.

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS

JELLIED CHICKEN.

Cut into pieces a tender chicken, and cover with cold water, season with salt and pepper. Boil until the meat can be easily removed from the bones. Strain the broth and remove the grease. Dissolve half a package of gelatin in cold water and add to the chicken broth. Cut the meat in small pieces and place lightly in an oval vegetable dish, pour the broth over and place on the ice. This is improved in looks by putting slices of hard-boiled eggs around the edge of the dish before the hot broth is poured in. Slices of lemon make good garnish.

OUR NUTTY NOVELETTE

THE MURDERER.

When the prunes are ripe and juicy. On the huckleberry vine; Will marry you a splendid runner and an even better dodger, and at the end of 10 puffing minutes he gave up in despair.

"Pasadena!" he cried passionately. "I offer you my life. I repeat, I offer you my life. Will you take it?" He was on his knees, but the parlor clock never stopped ticking. Looking at him insouciantly with her gorgeous tango eyes, she rejected.

"Yes," she said at length, "I will take it."

He jumped up with a spring and agility. "My own!" he cried, and pursued her around the parlor.

She was a splendid runner and an even better dodger, and at the end of 10 puffing minutes he gave up in despair. "But, Pasadena!" he exclaimed respectfully. "That's a heck of a way. First to accept me and then run like the dickens—I should say, like a startled fawn."

And he reached for her again, for his many chest felt cold without her, but suddenly she screamed as if untold fear and dread.

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"Because—because you're dead!" You begged me to take your life, and I did. So now you must be dead. As I do not," she continued, turning aside with a slight shudder, "desire to have a dead person about the house, if you do not leave it I shall be obliged to send for an undertaker."

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DETROIT THEATRES

AT THE GAYETY.

The Gayety is taking on a holiday aspect these days and the shows are growing better every week. The clean cut policy of this house is making good and no visitor to Detroit should miss the remarkable fun show "on tap."

This week there is a show which will make everybody happy—is called Girls From Happyland, with our old friend, genial Stevens, in the comedian role, and he is "some pumpkins" as the laughter he creates evinces. There is a chorus which for dancing and singing ability is far above the average. They have figures which are fully displayed in some snappy costumes and then there are Edna Hill, Billy Lockwood, Dohman and the rest of the bunch all working hard and with scenic equipment to back them to the limit.

From now until Christmas there will be shows of the highest order, as Manager James has been insistent that the Gayety have the best on the "wheel" for the holidays. Ladies' matinees continue to be a big draw card. There is a matinee every day in the week so visitors will always have ample opportunity to see the attractions.

AT THE FOLLY.

Jean Bedini set the pace with the new shows at the Folly and the pace continues unabated. While the Folly shows are burlesque of the liveliest sort—with lots of spice and pretty girls galore, still the crowds pack the house, showing the policy is a big winner.

The present show is called Girls From Paris—it is a French conception that has a dash of daring all through—with all the new songs predominating, fuzzy wuzzy, dashing dances and a chorus who turn things upside down. For rich fun and a pleasant time a visit to any of the daily matinees of evening performances at the Folly will delight you. Smoking permitted. Situated just opposite the Postoffice on Lafayette—the location is handy to all the interurbans.

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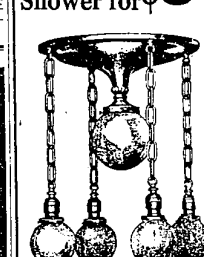
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