

*Year 1923.*—In this year ram No. 2 was mated with the same ewes as in 1922, and also had for service the ewes from the 1921 lambing. The lambs produced from this mating were again very good. The ewe lambs were kept and shorn as hoggets at the end of 1924. The wool was excellent to the eye and touch. Samples were taken out of each fleece, and a microscopical examination showed the same good results as in the 1923 hogget wool. This was to be expected, the two lots being full sisters.

*Year 1924.*—For the mating season of 1924 another Romney ram (No. 3) was secured. He was lacking a little in conformation, and although he could be classed as a fine-woolled Romney his wool did not have the same degree of character in it, nor the density, that characterized

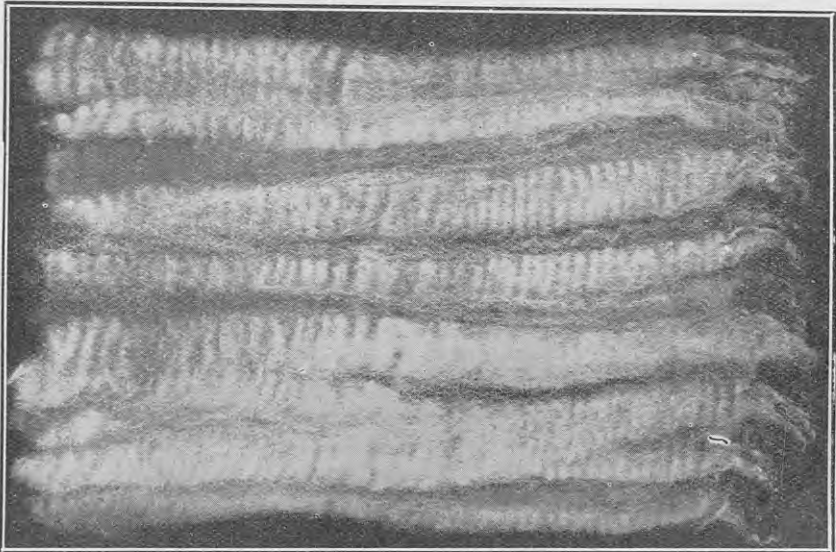


FIG. 5. WOOL FROM HOGGETS, PROGENY OF THE FINE-WOOLLED RAM (NO. 2) AND THE FIRST-CROSS EWES; 1924-25 SHEARING.

[All photos by H. Drake.

the fleece of ram No. 2. These deficiencies are certain to be shown in his progeny, and will be watched for very closely at the 1925 shearing for future guidance.

It may be recorded that the hoggets of 1924 averaged the very satisfactory fleece weight of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  lb. at shearing.

*Summary.*—In 1920 the farm had a line of ewes growing a very inferior wool, rightly termed "hairy." These ewes were mated with a strong-woolled Romney ram (No. 1) for two years in succession. This ram was then disposed of, and some of the oldest original ewes were sold off. In 1922 a fine-woolled Romney ram (No. 2) was brought to the farm and mated with the remainder of the original ewes and ewes from the first mating of ram No. 1. In 1923 more of the original line