

exact a reasonable rental for the use of this land.

"The leasing of our grazing lands has passed the experimental stage, having been thoroughly tested in Whitman, Adams, Franklin, Walla Walla and Columbia counties, in which districts we have already leased over three hundred thousand acres. So far as I am advised, every one of our lessees is entirely satisfied with the arrangement, in fact I might go further and say that a large majority of them have stated that they find the leasing arrangement much preferable to the old plan, by which the range was free to all, and resulted in over-grazing and consequent destruction of the range, so that there was no grass for any one.

"We propose to treat the stockmen fairly, recognizing that they are engaged in a legitimate industry, which should be fostered and encouraged and which furnishes traffic for the company, at the same time the justice of the company receiving a return for the use of its property to offset the taxes and expenses of caring, for it, is manifest.

"Yours Truly,

"THOMAS COOPER.

"Western Land Agent.

"Tacoma, Wash., May 20, 1897."

TWO SHEARING RECORDS.

Nelson Marrs' force of sixteen men have broke the state shearing record twice within a week. The first time on May 19 they fleeced 2200 head. The following is the record of the individual shearers:

W. L. Rogers 20, A. W. Rogers 20, Wm. Churchill 157, M. E. Rogers 156, N. R. Marrs 150, Ed Hammer 150, Mick Beckner 150, R. F. McGhee 145, Wm. Marrs 142, S. E. Ferris 140, Fred Sherman 120, Seth Dickey, 112, H. N. Hazzleton 110, John Giberson 104, Angus McPherson 103, W. L. Dixon 61, Dixon's small showing was due to having cut his hand, forcing him to retire at noon.

Mr. Marrs informs us that on Saturday last his fifteen men sheared 1,578 head of Mike Finnegan's band in half a day. N. J. Beckner made the remarkable tally of 132½ sheep.

DIPPING SHEEP.

The busiest place about Huntington these days is at the sheep dipping camp on Birch creek. Messrs. Hersley & Van

Sicklin have erected large vats in which to dip not only their extensive herds, but others as well, says the Huntington Herald.

This dipping process is made necessary in the case of all sheep to be sent east, whether infected by scab or not, by a law passed by the legislature of Idaho, requiring all sheep to be dipped before being allowed to enter the state, Huntington being the principal gateway into that state from the west, makes sheep dipping an important industry there just now.

They have no difficulty in passing from six to eight thousand head through the vats in a day. Some 40,000 have already been disposed of and the business is just fairly started.

Sheriff Jack Shaw, of Yakima, who has had possession of a band of John Cleman's sheep during a little financial difficulty, got word Tuesday from the herder he had employed, as follows: "Send up some grub. Cattle got into my camp while away last night and ate up everything but the frying pan."

WOOL SITUATION.

People who are attempting to study the causes of operations on the wool market, will be interested in the following table showing the wool raised, imported and held over for several seasons, and

the reasons why present luying is so much a speculation because of the large stock to be carried over into 1898:

Comparison of supply and consumption for 1895 and 1896, with estimate for 1897:

	1895.	1896.
	Pounds.	Pounds.
Carried over from previous year.....	130,520,600	231,724,651
American clip.....	294,996,726	272,474,708
Imports of wool.....	248,989,127	159,776,615
Imports of shoddy, noils, waste, etc.....	20,918,168	17,011,149
Total supply.....	694,724,651	680,986,523
Consumption.....	463,000,500	232,000,000
Carried over to next year.....	231,726,651	448,986,523
Estimated supply, consumption and surplus for 1897:		
Carried over from previous year....	448,986,523	
American clip of 1897 (estimated)....	272,474,709	
Imports of wool from Jan. to July, 1897, estimated at 50 per cent of the imports of 1896.....	79,888,007	
Imports of shoddy, noils, waste, etc. from Jan. to July, '97 (estimated)....	8,505,574	
Total estimated supply for 1897....	809,854,812	
Estimated consumption.....	463,000,000	
Carried over to 1898.....	346,854,812	

On the 24th 24 carloads of sheep were shipped from The Dalles east over the Northern Pacific, and Kerr & Buckley will ship fourteen cars over the Great Northern to summer range in Montana.

Free Gift to Sheepmen!

Valuable book premium to purchasers of COOPER SHEEP DIP between April 1 and July 1: "The Diseases of Sheep—Their Prevention and Cure." 65 pages. Apply WILLIAM COOPER AND NEPHEWS, Galveston, Texas. Send receipt or say where bought. If you cannot buy locally, send \$1.75 for \$2.00 (100 gal) packet to

C. G. Roberts, 247 Ash St., Portland, Ore.



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