

AUSTRALIAN GOLDEN FLEECE WOOL

These days Australia rides to new heights of prosperity on a sheep's back. Their wool's so valuable it doesn't pay to kill them, so if you're wondering where all the lamb and mutton's get to, there's your answer. In the shearing sheds the clippers are busy as skilled men clip up to 150 sheep a day and earn themselves about eight pounds, for their trouble. Last season Australia earned 400-million pounds from wool exports. This year wool has soared up to as much as 27 shillings a pound.

Here's the clip from one sheep. Let's see what it's like when it's spread out. No wonder it pays better to keep them for their wool growing! An all-nations scramble for wool for uniforms is one of the chief causes of the steep rise in price. After the clip has been picked over for short or dirty pieces the wool is packed in huge bales for the market. With that load off their minds, the sheep become almost airborne.

Throughout the sheeplands huge flocks move towards the sheds. More than ever in its history, wool means wealth.