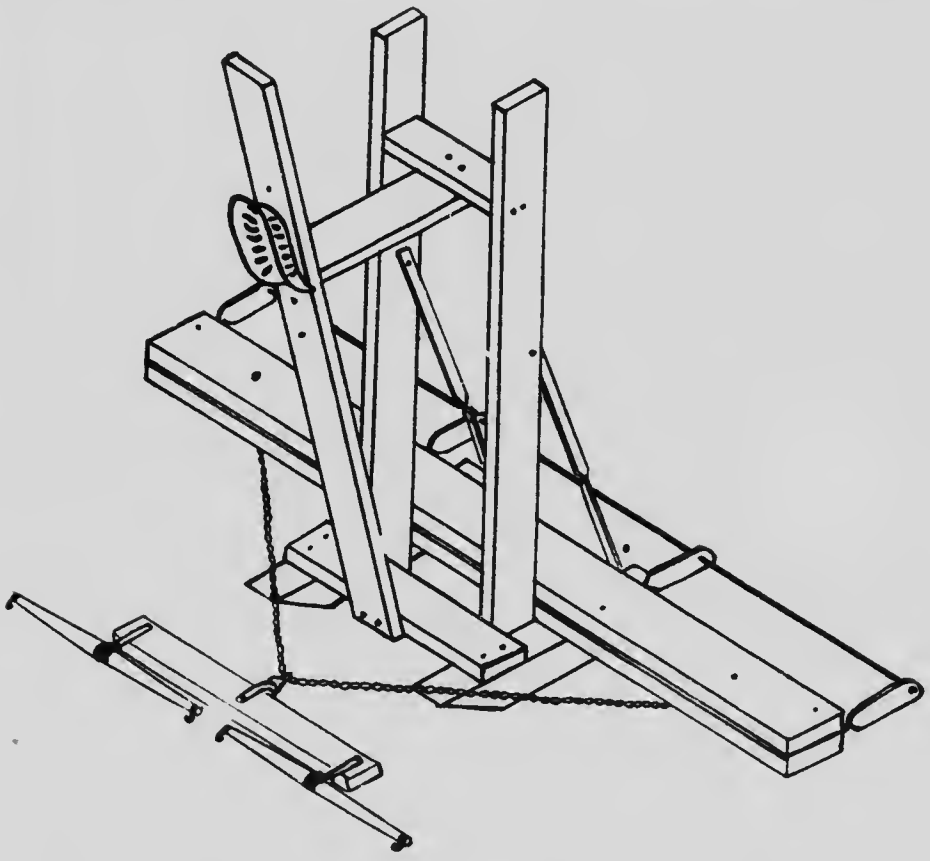
WHY DRY FARMING DIFFERS FROM ORDINARY FARMING.

The secret of successful dry farming depends on summer-fallow, or as some prefer to express it, summer tillage. The necessity of summer-fallowing every year one-half or at least one-third of the cultivated area on each farm represents the difference between dry farming and ordinary farming. The reason for, or the need of, summer-fallow is that there is not sufficient rainfall each season to produce a crop. By preventing *all* growth of vegetation during the summer the moisture that falls (fifty-five per cent of the total precipitation is received during May, June, July and August) soaks into the firm subsoil and is there retained for use by the crop the following season. By having this reservoir of moisture to supplement the rains that fall on the growing grain, some crop at least is produced even in the driest season that has ever occurred in the dry areas of southern Alberta and Saskatchewan. Without attempting a discussion on the best methods of procedure in carrying out a summer-fallow, it is obvious that the best results can be had by ploughing the land before vegetation (such as weeds and volunteer grain) has had an opportunity of growing sufficiently to exhaust the soil of an appreciable quantity of moisture, which means May and early June ploughing. Sufficient surface cultivation must be given from then on until frost time in the autumn to prevent all growth of vegetation if the maximum amount of moisture is to be saved. It might be interesting to note that in ordinary seasons this procedure will moisten the driest subsoils down to a depth of from three to six feet from the surface.



The Rod Cultivator up ended on to the Skids preparatory to being moved from Field to Field