



SOME time ago we tried a test for our own satisfaction as well as yours. We got in contact with 110 threshermen from Maine to California, asking them what jack they were using. Fifty-five of them answered that they were using our Jacks, twenty-eight were using other makes and twenty-seven had none at all.

With such overwhelming results you can't very well doubt the good judgment of your fellow threshermen.

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Just a Little Talk with the Men who Make No. 1 Hard

This is a bad season for the thresherman. In the first place the grain was late in maturing, which delayed the harvest. In the second place the wet weather has made it exceedingly difficult to thresh. The man with the new outfit or who has his outfit in good repair will not notice these things so much, but the man whose rig is old will undoubtedly experience his share of the difficulties. The wet weather will also materially eat into the thresherman's profits. It is necessary with a modern outfit to have a big crew and in a great many cases this crew has to be paid whether they are idle or whether they are not, which will entail considerable expense on the man running the outfit.

The threshing business is one very difficult to adjust. The threshing season is short at the best and the work must be done at the proper time or not done at all. Much depends on the weather man and if he be unfavorably disposed the lot of the thresherman is by no means easy and his losses are likely to be in excess of profits.

The thresherman is a man that we must have. There is no use in raising a crop unless we can turn it into a marketable product and it requires the agency of the threshing machine to do this.

It would seem that some provision could be made whereby the thresherman at all times would be assured of a competence. He is entitled to it. He works harder than any living man during the threshing season and his business cares and worries are by no means few. The outfit with which he does his work involves a considerable amount of expense and he has but few days in which to make it earn a revenue.

Why would it not be a good proposition to have all outfits up to the standard. They, in a sense, belong to the public anyhow, because the public needs them. This being true, let the thresherman be paid according to the condition of the grain and the weather. If everything be right, the thresherman can make money, but if things go wrong, he can lose a lot of it.

In the old days of the horse power rig, outside conditions did not matter so much. The amount tied up in a threshing outfit was small and if the outfit itself never turned a wheel the attendant expense in the way of interest charges etc. were small. But with a modern threshing outfit that runs up into the thousand of dollars the matter is entirely different. If the outfit is obliged to lie idle, the interest charge that is piling up is considerable. It is probably this thing more than anything else that is increasing the popularity of the small threshing outfit. Two or three farmers get together and buy a rig in which to do their own threshing. If the weather be unfavorable, they can get their own grain threshed any-how, and if the weather conditions be normal they can thresh for a few of their neighbors and earn a little money on the side.

It is fair to assume that as the years go by and as traction cultivation becomes more and more popular the individual threshing outfit will grow more and more into popularity.

In the mean time, however, that doesn't solve the problem of the man who is losing money in the threshing game. Such men are deserving of sympathy. They are filling a public need. They are the men that are entitled to consideration when it comes to the payment of bills.



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