

Economizing Time and Labor

Practical Suggestions---Prize Letters-- How Farmers and Implement Dealers can Co-operate

FIRST PRIZE LETTER

In past years the implements dealer's motto seems to have been: "Sell, sell, sell!" Induce and encourage farmers to buy on time, regardless of their financial condition. Take a note at 10 per cent., then dun 'im! hound 'im! Get the money and make his life a misery until the note was paid.

boding to midnight pickling and sunrise bagging up and loading of grain perhaps my experience may be a help. I have a small crushing outfit (2 1/2 h.p. engine, 6 inch plate crusher) mounted on 6 in. x 6 in. skids, 10 ft. long, engine on one end, the crusher on the other. This combination is in a building 12 ft. x 14 ft. Along one side, at the height

An advantage not thought of at first was that no bags were left scattered over the field, to be torn by cattle, horses, gophers, etc., and that in case of a rain or snowstorm the grain could be easily and quickly covered over or taken back to the buildings. This way of pickling grain saved much labor and valuable time. The cost of gasoline for the light work was very little, only about half-a-gallon per 100 bushels.

Needless to say the engine ran many other machines, grindstone, emery wheel, churn, cement mixer, grain blower, saw, etc. Anyone of a mechanical turn could easily and cheaply put in a small power plant as described above.

A few farmers will be in a position to install milking machines, put in hay slings, purchase corn and potato planting and harvesting machines, perhaps be able to take their cream to the creamery with a car, but the majority of us will just have to improve on what we have.

Make a Harrow Cart

Here is an idea for a harrow cart which may save some son's father weary legs. Take two old buggy wheels and axle. In the middle of the axle clamp a nice straight-peeled poplar pole. Brace it. Bolt an old binder seat to the pole, fasten the other end to the draw bar of the harrows and, presto! You will have a harrow cart hard to beat, easy to draw and up out of the dust.

So then to sum up to help overcome the labor shortage this spring: (1) Have things ready, seed cleaned, grain crushed, hay in the loft, harness repaired, implements overhauled, whiffle trees on every machine. (2) Plan

VERY PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

The farmer who starts spring work with first class equipment in the shape of horses, harness and implements, with every item in the best working order and arrangements made for good service in needed repairs is undoubtedly in a position to get thru his season with the minimum loss of time and expense.

In harness I find it is essential to have duplicate for hames, at least one pair for each eight horses and besides spare parts complete harness for one horse in eight, always available is none too much over that regularly used.

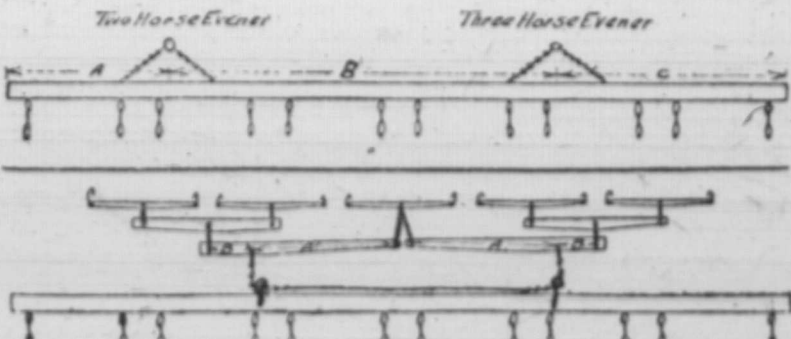
The help of the implement dealer in providing good service can be greatly increased by the intelligent co-operation of the farmer. The agent cannot give real service as long as many farmers cannot decide on buying their new drill or plow, or harrows, till his neighbor is on the land. Over 75 per cent. of these implements generally go out after seeding starts. Days are lost waiting for them to be set up and more in adjustments to be made when seeding should be in full swing. It is for the farmer to order in time, it is for the agent to see implements are set up right.

In most cases he should be in the field to see a gang plow, or drill, or binder set to do perfect work. The loss of time thru lack of this is tremendous. In the matter of repairs I think it good policy for any farmer to give his dealer a list of his implements which can be kept on file. In phoning or writing for repairs or sending a message with a neighbor the number of part, name of plow, with year of manufacture, all are a source of error and the wrong part being sent. I have known a seeder stand idle a week for such a cause and harvest showed a loss of \$500 for the delay. The weak point on implement service is, when a man hurries in for a repair or new casting the answer is: "I'll send for it." To depend on that is ruinous. I find that any dealer will consent to keep in stock parts the farmer may need if the farmer will suggest that he do so, for his benefit. Shares of different grades are widely used, your dealer should know the share you prefer and stock it. His service in the rush season will also be better if a complete list of parts needed for all machines on the farm is given to him in good time. A complete overhauling of farm equipment in March is necessary for this.

Repairs are generally cash. Arrangements are necessary to facilitate phone orders and I think it essential that a farmer should be entitled to and supplied with a list of parts with price and shipping weight for each machine.

This will refer particularly to mail order houses selling machinery. Their service will never be really appreciated unless they establish branch agencies in rural districts to supply parts and new

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The upper half of this illustration shows how the horses might be hitched. The comparative lengths of the parts A, B, and C, are 2, 3, and 5, respectively. The lower half is a chain and pulley hitch easily arranged. The pulleys are at equal distances from the ends and the distance "A," i.e., from where the chain holding the chain is attached to the centre of the draft which is at the centre of the middle whiffle-tree is four times the length of B. This illustrates the method mentioned in the accompanying letter.

It is time for a change. Let the implement dealer's motto and motive be "service." Let him acquaint himself with local conditions co-operate with the farmers; make a list of each farmer's implements in his territory and with the farmer's help prepare an estimate of the new machines or repairs that may possibly be needed.

The mail order houses might offer more inducements to farmers who order co-operatively.

Economy with Hitches

The most of our farm implements have been constructed to be drawn by four horses; four horses on the gang-plow, four on the harrows, four on the drill, disc, cultivator, etc. Time can be saved and moisture conserved by leading a horse dragging a section of harrows after the plow. Tie the halter shank to the plow frame just above the furrow wheel allowing enough slack so that the harrow horse can walk on the earth turned up the previous round. I see no reason why two horses pulling three sections of harrows could not be led in the same way, thereby leaving the land all ready for the seeder. Five or six horses can be arranged on harrows. Five horses can be arranged with a pulley hitch as shown in the accompanying sketch. With six horses two might be hitched on each three sections and each such part connected with an iron strap, or four horses might be hitched on six sections on one draw bar and two horses on the draw bar drawing three sections. It is an easy matter to lead a harrow team after the drill. In this way with the three furrowed plow or with nine sections of harrows, or harrows after the seeder, one man can keep six horses working to advantage.

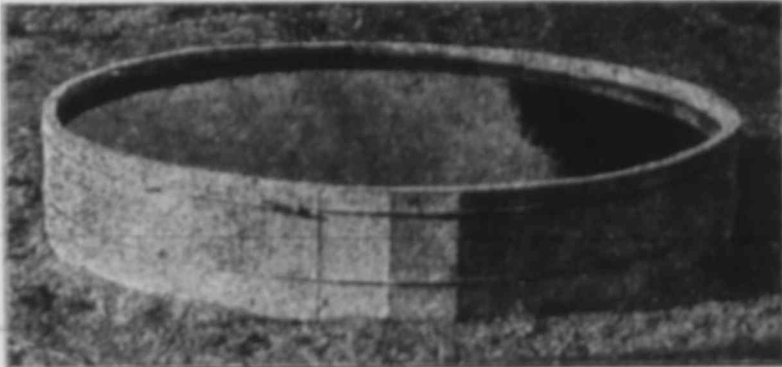
Three furrowed gang plows drawn by six horses have been tried in this district and have proved a success. Why should not more be used? Here is a sketch showing how such an arrangement may be made and which we read about and have used with success for some time.

Some Very Practical Helps

The biggest problem on the farm, especially during the busy season is the never ending, oft recurring chores—milk cows, turn the separator, pump water, wind the pickler, etc. This year the problem will be greater than ever.

To the farmer who this year finds himself woefully short of help, and who may be looking forward with fore-

of the plate, is a line shaft, made from the shaft of an old seed drill. The boxings for this shaft to turn in are simply pieces of hardwood, 2 in. x 4 in., about 5 feet long nailed or bolted to the studing at one end and to the rafter at the other. Holes, the size of the shaft are bored thru the middle of the hardwood pieces. From this shaft a number of belts connect up with various machines. One belt runs a pump jack. The water



Such a tank will save an enormous amount of time and hard labor and will ensure a steadier water supply to stock.

is pumped from a very deep well into a seven barrel trough, from which six or eight horses may drink at one time. The saving of this one chore to a tired man is considerable.

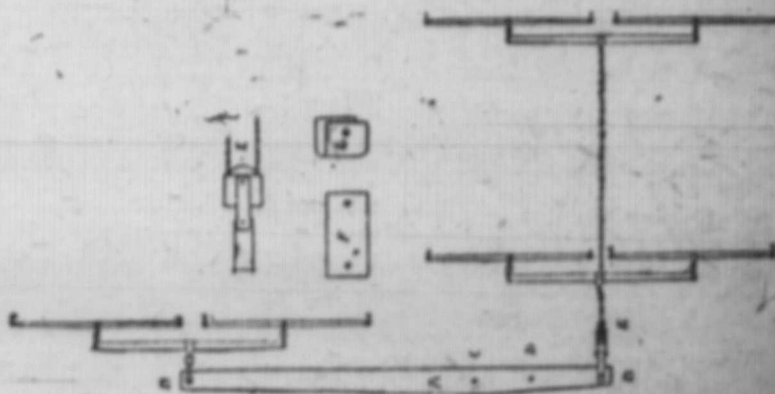
In cleaning seed grain, two belts were dropped from the line shaft, one to run the fanning mill, the other to run a wild oat separator. The grain was dumped into the hopper of the fanning mill; the bagger attachment dumped the grain from one machine to the other and the cleaned grain was finally bagged after passing thru the separator. All of my own and a neighbor's grain was cleaned by one man in this way. Enough grain was crushed up to feed the horses, hogs and cows thru spring work.

Where the handle goes on our grain pickler we keyed on a 12 in. pulley. The pickler was placed right in a wagon box. The wagon with the box on it and the pickler in the box was backed alongside the engine house, a pulley on the line shaft was lined and belted up with the pulley on the pickler. One man fed the machine with solution and grain. The pickled grain was discharged right into the wagon box; pickler, grain and all was hauled to the field and the grain shoveled from the wagon box to the seeder box as needed.

your work. (3) Let the engine do the chores. (4) Try the six horse outfit and when the boys come back from the front they will appreciate the improvements.

HUBERT F. P.

Man.



The gang-plow six-horse hitch suggested by a Washington subscriber. It can be arranged for five or six horses. The double-tree "A" is 14 inches long and 2 in. x 8 in. The end bars are 2 inches in "B" the centre of draft for five horses is 14 2-3 inches from the ends of the right hand end. "C" the centre of draft for six horses is two feet exactly from the centre of the right hand end and also in a chain pulley set in a heavy piece of iron "D" or "E" to which a piece of iron is attached and into which the end of the line is put. The change from five to six horses is easily made by attaching the centre of draft from "D" to "E" and putting a single-tree in place of the double-tree. The horses always walk in the furrow with this arrangement.