Western Canada's Light Tractor Plowing Demonstration

D URING the month of July at the Brandon Fair, the Third Light Tractor Plowing Demonstration was staged. Elaborate preparations had been made for this event, but the weather-man realizing that Western Canada needed rain, and needed it badly, decided that he couldn't wait any longer, and the much needed rain came, but the Plowing Demonstration was seriously interfered with.

However, the manufacturers were on the job, and quite a large array of farmers got there also. If we were to count in the thousands of farmers who "got stuck in the mud" on the way, and who never reached the city of Brandon at all, the plowing demonstration would have had quite a nice crowd.

One thing the demonstration did prove was that a tractor can plow in almost any condition of soil.

A start was made on Tuesday, July the 23rd. It was decided that upon that day nothing more would be done than to stake out the lines. Tuesday evening we witnessed what was almost a deluge, with the result that the light loam in the Brandon district was turned into a mud-puddle. However, a start was made on Wednesday morning, and it was with some difficulty that the heavier tractors were able to move off and pull their loads. Nevertheless, everyone finished up their job, and all were in readiness for a big day on Thursday. A start was made on Thursday morning, and it looked for awhile as if the plowing fields would witness a record crowd, automobiles were lining up beside the field, etc. Everyone got away to a good start, but the weather-man again interfered, and by eleven o'clock it was raining, and raining hard, with the result that the plowing had to be finished under conditions that were by no means favorable to the Demonstration.

It is unnecessary within the scope of this article to go into details. The illustrations in this issue practically tell the story of who was there and what they did. It might be said, however, that a more representative Demonstration from the standpoint of tractors entered has never before been pulled off. Forty-four machines were in, and this was only three less than the number taking part in the big National Tractor Show at Salina, Kansas. Practically every type of light tractor was to be found on the field, three wheelers, two wheelers, four wheelers, and caterpillars; two cylinder machines and four cylinder machines; machines that burned kerosene and machines that burned kerosene and machines that pulled two plows, machines that pulled three plows, machines that pulled four plows, and some that pulled five plows; all types, all sizes, all sorts of designs—and all sorts of prices.

The Demonstration was held under the auspices of the Exhibition at Brandon. It was directly in charge of E. W. Hamilton, of "The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer," assisted by Professor J. MacGregor Smith, of the Agricultural University of Saskatchewan, and Professor L. J. Smith, of the Manitoba Agricultural College. The direct field management was in the hands of these two latter gentlemen, who also checked the fuel, and saw that each tractor burned its advertised fuel, and scaled the tanks.

In detail the entry list might be summed as follows:

Advance Rumely Company— This firm demonstrated two tractors, a 14-28 pulling four plows, and a 10-20 pulling three plows. The 10-20 machine made its first appearance in the Canadjan West at the Demonstration, and while it is almost a small model of the company's famous "Oil-Pull," it is a most likely looking tractor and should give a good account of itself in the future.

Anglo-Canadian Engine Company—This concern demonstrated a 9-18 Moline Universal, pulling two plows. This is a combination machine, and one which is adapted to the use of a large number of implements, and is meeting with considerable success in the Canadian West.

Canadian Avery—This concern demonstrated four tractors of the famous Avery type, extending from the Baby 5-10 pulling one plow, down through the 8-16, 12-25 and 18-36 pulling 2, 3 and 4 plows respectively. The Avery line made a beautiful train of tractors as they went down the field, and, of course, did the usual Avery job, which is par-excellence.

Canadian Fairbanks - Morse Company—This concern demonstrated the famous Wallis 15-25, pulling three plows. This is a three-wheel machine. It attracted considerable favorable attention, and should prove a profitable adjunct to the Fairbanks line for 1919.

J. I. Case Threshing Machine Co.-This concern demonstrated their 9-18 pulling two plows, and their 10-20 pulling three plows. Case is always on the job. Never behindhand, always in at the start and right on time at the finish, with a nice piece of good work on the credit side.

Cushman Motor Works—This concern demonstrated for the first time the Cushman tractor, and pulled its load of three plows in a b. sinesslike manner.

N. J. Dineen Company—This is a new concern on the Canadian market, handling the "Little Giant" tractor. This is a 16-horse power (drawbar) machine pulling four plows.

Emerson-Brantingham Implement Company—This concern had a 10-20 pulling three plows. The writer has attended practically every plowing demonstration that has been held in the United States and Canada for the past ten years, and the absence of Emerson-Brantingham from such a demonstration would be cause for wonder.

Ford Motor Company—This is the first time that the Fordson has been in a public demonstration in Western Canada. The little 11-22, with Rogers at the wheel, cut quite a figure on the plowing field.

General Utilities Company— This concern demonstrated the 12-25 Port Huron pulling three plows. The name "Port Huron" is well known in the Canadian West in the steam thresher line. This is the first time, however, that the Port Huron Gas Tractor has made its appearance in Western Canada. It is a friction drive type, and has excited considerable favorable comment.

Gilson Manufacturing Company—The Gilson 15-30 pulling three plows performed a very nice piece of work. The machine is of standard design, and will no doubt be heard of in the future.

Goold, Shapley and Muir—This concern has stuck to the tractor business through thick and thin, and are to be complimented on the progress they have made. Gray Tractor Company—This

Gray Tractor Company—This concern demonstrated the Gray Drum Tractor, pulling four plows. This tractor is unlike others in that the main drive wheel is a wide drum, for which several advantages are claimed. It was this firm's intention to show the adaptability of this 'tractor for pulling discs, harrows, etc., but the weather conditions did not permit.

Guilbault's Limited—With the Cleveland Tractor, this concern demonstrated the 12-20 caterpillar, pulling three plows. Cleveland Tractors have been placed on the Canadian market in large quantities, and no doubt much will be heard from them in the near future.

Happy Farmer Company—This concern demonstrated two traciors, the Nilson 16-27 pulling four plows, and the Happy Farmer 12-24 pulling three. The Happy Farmer is by no means new on the Western Canadian market, but this is the first season for the Nilson. Both these machines gave a good account of themselves.

Hart-Parr Company—This concern demonstrated the new Hart-Parr 30, pulling three plows. This is a machine c. standard design, but for which several new features are claimed.

International Harvester Company—Here is another concern that follows demonstrations year in and year out, and with their 10-20 Titan pulling three plows, their 10-20 Mogul pulling three plows, and their 15-30 International pulling four plows, a row of tractors was demonstrated which made a beautiful showing.

H. A. Jones—This concern demonstrated the Bates 12-20 pulling three plows. This was a caterpillar machine, being one of the two caterpillar types on the field. Excellent work was done in the demonstration.

Massey-Harris Company-This was the first appearance of the Massey-Harris Company in the tractor field, and in their 12-25 pulling three plows, they had a machine that did nost excellent work. Always on the job. Between Massey-Harris tractor and Massey-Harris plows, we find an outfit for which we predict a very bright future. They did some excellent work on the field, for straightness of furrow and evenness of operation the Massey-Harris outfit in its initial appearance produced a job of plowing that was all that could be desired. It was a credit to the Massey-Harris line of farm machinery.

Minneapolis Steel and Machinery Company—This concern was right on hand with their 16-30 pulling four plows. This machine was of the standard type, and the work done was a credit to the firm.

Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company—This old reliable concern in the thresher business, well known throughout the length and breadth of Canada, were in attendance with the ir 15-Continued on page 61