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Noblemen

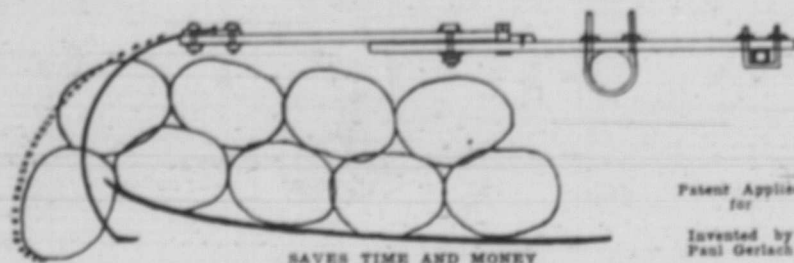
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Recent Machinery Developments

Continued from Page 20

to leave the farm. But both tubs, just as snowy white, are now found in hundreds of country homes, and along with them a full sanitary equipment identical with that found in the best of city homes.

The Small Threshing Outfit

The gas engine has also made the small individual threshing outfit possible. It is not the intention here to go into the comparative merits of large and small outfits, but many farmers are utilizing the small one and drawing grain directly to it instead of stacking. Sometimes two or three farmers go into partnership on one of these small rigs and by changing works manage to get their threshing done in good time.

Good roads machinery has been more or less in evidence for the last 25 years. It is only within the last ten years, however, that it has begun to come into its own. Good roads construction has been checked by the difficulties of the money market, but farmers are realizing as never before that, expressed in terms of cost of haulage, it is sometimes further from their front gate to the elevator than it is from the elevator to the head of the lakes. For building good roads a large assortment of machinery is available.

Cultivating Machinery

One tendency in the use of cultivating machinery is the wider use of the duck-foot cultivator. Though called a cultivator, it is in reality a weeder, and its extended use is due largely to its efficiency as a weed eradicator. The necessity of conserving soil moisture has brought into use various plow attachments of the packer or harrow type. These firm the soil or provide a mulch immediately after the plow, so that no moisture is unnecessarily lost as is the case when the newly turned furrows are left exposed until it is convenient to hitch to a packer or harrow. The tendency now is to adapt all machines to the use of the small tractor. Summer-fallowing especially is hard on horses and the necessity of having it done promptly on time so as to kill weed growth and conserve the summer rains is a further incentive to the use of larger cultivating implements and of power that will drive them. The increase in acreage with the decrease in manpower on our farms is evidence that the efficiency of those who are left is being increased by larger and better seeding machinery. To take the crop off also requires increasingly efficient machinery. Hay and stook loaders help in this work, stook loaders being used in conjunction with both big and small threshing outfits and in stacking. Farmers have waited long and patiently for a successful stooker. One big American firm is reported to have spent around a million dollars in a vain effort to evolve a stooker. But it may come for all that. Ten years ago men were arguing that men would never fight above the clouds. "We failed to get a satisfactory stooker but some fool is likely to hit on the correct idea any time," representative of the firm above referred to once remarked.

Other Ultra Modern Appliances

But modern improvements in farm equipment have not been confined to machinery. Considerable work has been done with other no less essential features of a modern farm. Lightning rods have been studied and the principles of the prevention of loss from lightning put on a scientific basis. The efficiency of properly installed lightning arresters has also been scientifically demonstrated.

The use of sheet metal in building construction has made rapid progress as a result of climbing lumber prices. Steel is taking the place of timber in the frames. Iron stable fixtures have come rapidly into greater favor. The spread of knowledge of animal husbandry has increased the attention given to stable ventilation, while litter carriers are lightening some of the drudgery of chore time.

Such are some of the developments that have taken place in the evolution of farm machinery during the ten short years that have elapsed since the first issue of The Guide came off the press.

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