

WE are informed from a reliable source in the United States that if the Great War had continued for another year, implements would only have been procurable by farmers after their orders had been investigated. An inspector would have been sent to see whether or not a new plow, mower or binder was actually required. He would have decided in many cases that with the necessary repairs the old ones would have to run another season or two.

We believe that more trouble comes under the latter part of the question topic, that is, in the actual care and operation. So we ask you to ask yourself the question, "Am I doing everything I can to make the best use of the implements I have?" The implement companies are doing their utmost to produce efficient implements, and because they may be carelessly or inefficiently operated, are they to blame? Certainly not. Of course, there are poor implements as well as poor operators. The question is: What are you going to do about it? Kick, or try to improve things all around. If you have to pay a big price for a gang plow, it is in your interests to get the best and also to make it last as long as possible. You should make it last ten years, and that period will be a very large percentage of the total time you will be farming. Do you want to sit on your plow and do poor work? Of course you don't. The writer holds no plea for the implement companies, but there is too much good machinery needlessly wasted for which they are often blamed. From

(1) The large number of queries regarding the purchase and operation of machinery.

(2) The interest already shown in the demonstration work in the draft of plows at plowing matches.

(3) The clever advertisements announcing the introduction of new machines of all kinds.

(4) The shortage of reliable help and the fact that much new machinery has to be procured (especially machines adapted to power work).

The writer is convinced that the return of the old-time Ontario field trials of farm machinery of all kinds would fill a long-felt want. They could be held in the summer. It would be to the mutual interest of manufacturer and farmer.

There would be considerable

Better Machinery or Better Operation of what we have ---Which?

By PROFESSOR J. MacGREGOR SMITH, University of Saskatchewan

work for those in charge. Plans would have to be well organized. To escape criticism, do nothing, say nothing, attempt nothing, be nothing. There will be adverse criticism in every district, but it can be done if the right men in the district are put in charge. Remember after you place them

farmers in the surrounding district would like to see the different makes of plows tried out, the draft tested, and the important adjustments pointed out. This would be of great benefit in the case of engine hitches. Perhaps there is a new cultivator on the market. A new attachment may



The "Wallis" tractor handling two drills

in charge, support them. A few cannot do it all. The old antagonistic days between rival companies are passing. Co-operation is replacing competition. What is for the good of

be for sale to attach behind a gang plow and many went to see if it beats a section of the old drag harrow.

These are suggestions. A start could be made and later on in



The job as done by the drills through the power supplied by the "Wallis" tractor

one is for the good of all.

Let us suppose a community decides to have such a demonstration in connection with the annual plowing match, or summer fair. The agricultural society or the Grain Growers' Association would call a meeting in co-operation with the local implement men. If they seemed indifferent their respective head offices would be glad to co-operate, explain the proposition to them, and tell them that the

suitable districts tests of stumping machinery could be conducted. A demonstration in the use of blasting powder would be worth while in a bush country or where stones were in abundance. It could be put on by a representative of one of the dynamite companies that advertise so much in the agricultural press.

More manure spreaders will be required in the future. The field is a better place than the show-room to demonstrate what each

type can do. Would it not interest you to see half a dozen at actual work? Seeing is believing, and you could see for yourself and decide. You would see the effect of narrow and wide wheels, of widespread attachments, how many horses were required. You would go home and say, "We are going to get a spreader and I know the one to buy."

Some of these things at the summer fair would beat throwing eggs at a coon. The results would be more satisfactory and far reaching. They will mean greater success in your business of farming.

There are districts where a dozen or more tractors are going into this spring. The prospective owners would be more confident of success if they knew how many plows each was going to pull. We are well aware that in some cases local demonstrations have been held by the various companies with splendid results. We refer particularly to the newer types about which we know little as far as their Canadian records are concerned. The power required to pull the plow could be ascertained, the draw bar horse-power explained to those interested. The experts could tell every trick they know.

There is not any doubt that the motor contests of the past have served their purpose in so far as the improvement of the tractor is concerned, but on the other hand the data means very little to the average man. Like the famous people from Missouri, it is a case of "Show Me."

We want good implements always, and we want to see them operated under our local conditions before we buy. Implement companies do not want dissatisfied customers. Such demonstrations should be arranged to take in a wide range of territory, and be held at some central point. They should be located with the idea of service to the greatest number, and not by means of "pull."

Start something. We hear about better crops, better stock, better marketing, greater production, but what about our implements? They represent a large investment. Their selection should be given very careful thought. Then they should be maintained in good condition. If you have no plowing match in your district, get one going. If you have had one in the past, add some new features. Make it more worth while every year.

