

"Tune-up" the Rig

ONLY a few weeks remain before threshing season will be here with a rush. Be sure you are ready. Get your Case "Steamer" out and go over it.

See that the boiler is thoroughly clean inside. Polish piston rod and valve stem. Look for lost motion at both ends of connecting rod, and adjust the brasses if necessary. Re-pack the pump and possibly the governor stem. Clean oil holes and grease cups so that lubricant will pass freely to all bearings. Be sure that leads to water-column are clear. We suggest that you have on hand a supply of water glasses, with proper gaskets. The safety valve is probably all right, but be sure it "pops" when it should. Scrape out exhaust nozzle, giving the steam a clear passage, directly up the stack. Replace worn clutch shoes; also repaint boiler and stack.



Look for the EAGLE Our Trade Mark.

Overhaul the separator belting and re-lace or re-place where needed. Wash out every bearing with kerosene and see that oil holes are open. Replace worn teeth in cylinder and concave, and look for harmful endplay in cylinder. 1/64 inch is right. Examine every box and bearing and take up or re-babbitt where needed. Tighten loose nuts and replace lost bolts.

Be sure you have the supplies and tools you will need. It is well to have some spare parts on hand to guard against possible delays. Check up your stock of parts with the list suggested in your "Case Thresher Manual," and order what you lack. If you have no copy of our "Thresher Manual," you should have one, and we will send one on request.

Remember that time is money to the thresherman, and right now is the time to save time.

J. I. CASE THRESHING MACHINE CO., Inc.

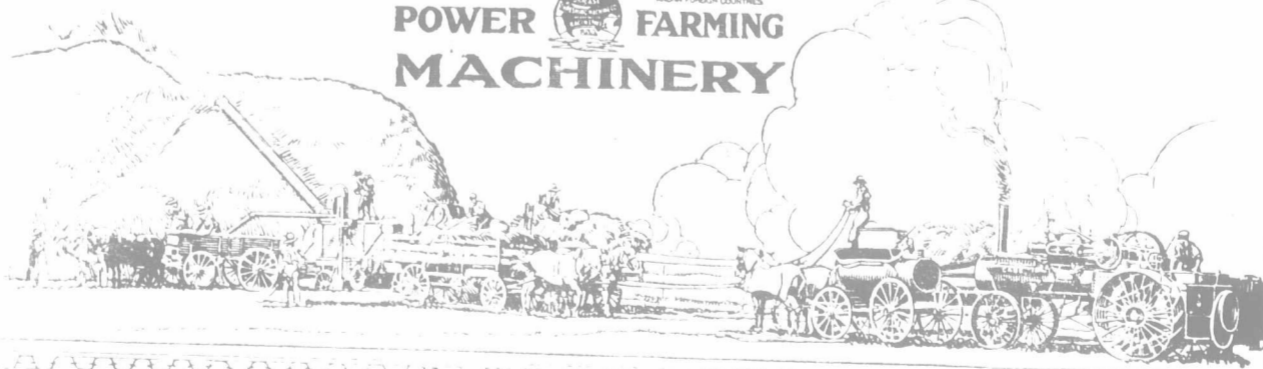
Dept. DP-5, 345-9 DUFFERIN ST., TORONTO, ONTARIO

Making Superior Farm Machinery Since 1842

To avoid confusion, the J. I. CASE THRESHING MACHINE COMPANY desires to have it known that it is not owned and never has been interested in or in any way connected or affiliated with the J. I. Case Plow Works, or the Wallis Tractor Company, or the J. I. Case Plow Works Co.

CASE
POWER FARMING
MACHINERY

NOTE: We want the public to know that our plows and harrows are NOT the Case plows and harrows made by the J. I. Case Plow Works Co.



Getting Acquainted With the Birds.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":
Just a word from an interested reader of "Nature's Diary," about the work of the downy woodpeckers and nuthatches on the farm during the winter.

A small stick about six feet long with a suet-filled box the size of a good big bone fastened on top of it, was placed solidly in a snow-bank about three feet from one of the windows, early in the winter, and was about the most popular free-lunch counter in the district, and gave a splendid chance to study the woodpeckers and nuthatches—also a good view of coloring and the birds' manner of clinging. Only one chickadee came that we noted, but more may have paid visits when no one was there to watch.

Like most people of our acquaintance, we hadn't known that the "downies" varied so widely in color and in individual specimens. But there were at least two pairs of the woodpeckers that were almost black all over, excepting for the wing-bars, which were a light ashy. The breasts were almost black, and the backs a very dark ashy. The red caps on the male was quite as vivid in hue as that worn by the downies of the clearly-defined black-and-white type shown in pictures. They are all amusingly careful eaters, clinging so closely to the box that the soft breast feathers catch and hold safely any suet-crums that drop, and often we saw the birds making sure of these bits. We learned to distinguish a number of them apart, from the fact that in some birds the white spots on the shoulder were almost a continuous bar, and in others were clearly defined rows of spots. That the box was seldom without a visitor, and often had two feeding at once, while a third clung to the post waiting a chance, showed that numbers had found it. Several times four nuthatches were there at the same time, and their peculiar upside-down way of working is very amusing. They seemed fond of flying away with a lump to some nearby tree, but the woodpeckers became so tame that we often opened a door not four feet away from them without disturbing the feasters, and several times I walked past the stick, within a foot of it without making the little fellow, then eating, fly away, though he "hid" on the other side and kept a bright eye on the intruder.

The nuthatches have been gone for some weeks, but the downies are still patronizing the box, though not in such numbers as formerly, and they are more busy in the orchard. An examination of some quinces and lilacs, where they spend a lot of time, showed the advantage of coaxing those birds all winter. Last summer we noted an unusual number of Cecropia larvae in the lilacs but after destroying a few we thought no more about them for, though destructive enough, they are seldom in large enough numbers anywhere to be a menace. However, this month, March, I have already found 21 Cecropia cocoons in a short row of lilacs and one in a cherry tree, which is rather surprising and suggests that it will be wise to watch for larvae this year. Fortunately the birds had found and emptied all but five that were under snow-level and completely covered with old leaves and twigs blown in and matted by fall winds and winter snows, so that the woodpeckers couldn't see them. This seems valuable work, since a hungry Cecropia worm can denude a lilac branch of its leaves in short order, and doubtless doesn't confine its attention to lilacs and other ornamental shrubs.

The result of our observations is that we are thoroughly convinced that no further winter will find us without a box or two near the windows, and a store of suet ready for the useful birds, for certainly no one has yet found a more easy way of combining profit and entertainment for the farmer and gardener who, of all people, should understand and value the birds.

A. C. B.

A well-known clergyman, called to other duties, says a writer in the Western Christian Advocate, preached his last sermon before the installation of his successor. The local weekly paper, in announcing the order of services, gave it as follows:
"Sermon by the Reverend Blank; solo and quartet, 'Hushed at Length'."