Reader Letters

(Continued from previous page)

neighborhood to put a Farmhand loader on his tractor really had something, because he could drive down the field, pick up hay out of a windrow, and dump

it into a stack in the field. It eliminated a lot of work.

The loader could be raised up to 30 ft. high so you could make a really big stack. One drawback was that the loader was mounted on a big, clumsy frame which made it difficult to mount or remove. As a result, once the loader was mounted, it was impractical to use the tractor for anything else. In later years most farmers mounted the loader on a Farmall H or Allis-Chalmers WC tractor and used that tractor just for loading and haying work.

I often exhibit my toy Farmhand at shows. A lot of older men have stories to tell about their experiences with this loader. ***(Ken Java, 3186 Benson Rd., Frederic, Wis. 54837 ph 715 327-8445)***

Our new ATZ Power Broom works great for moving snow, dirt or gravel and does a great job of lawn dethatching and cleanup. It throws snow up to 15 ft. and cleans packed snow down to the hard surface. Models are available for ATV's, utility vehicles, tractors and skid steer loaders.

The broom is driven by its own engine and operates off the vehicle's 12-volt battery. The broom controls are located at the operator's fingertips for easy use. A self-contained chassis carries the weight of the 24-in. dia. broom on its own large diameter castor wheels, putting minimal weight on the vehicle and allowing the broom to accurately follow the ground contour. It's covered by an impact-resistant high density polyethylene top. A quick tach mount lets one person easily get the broom on or off in minutes.

Available in 4 and 5-ft. widths. ***(Miles Olsen, Load Pro, 2310 Hanselman Ave., Saskatoon, Sask. S7L 5Z3 ph 306 934-3832; fax 306 934-1615; E-mail: info@etec.ca; Website: www.etec.ca).***

Two years ago I bought a 1949 John Deere M tractor that had been damaged in a garage fire. I had to completely rebuild the tractor and replace all the tires as well as the seat and steering wheel. I replaced the engine with a 251 cu. in. V-6 Buick car engine equipped with a 4-barrel carburetor. To adapt the engine I had to modify the bell housing and front pedestal. I cut the bell housing in half and reworked it, also making a new input shaft. I also made a set of headers in such a way that the exhaust goes through the holes that were already in there

without cutting the head.

The project took about 10 months to complete. I repainted the tractor and put on new tires. I often take my rebuilt tractor to shows where it draws a lot of compliments. ***(Patrick G. Prom, 12661 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, Minn. 55347 ph 952 944-9266; E-mail: p/prom@msn.com)***

Thank you for the article on my patriotic "flag corn". (Editor's Note: He paints the kernels on an ear of field corn to depict a U.S. flag. See Vol. 25, No. 6). I've been swamped with orders from all over the U.S. and still get more orders every few days. Since I started this hobby I have painted 2,400 ears. They sell for $11 postpaid. ***(Bud Thompson, Box 116, Roseville, Ill. 61473 ph 309 426-2253)***

I recently read your article on tractor restoration and would like to add my name to your list. We do all kinds of repairs, modifications and restoration work on just about anything we can get in the door. Although our primary business is heavy-duty truck repair, we seem to be getting into more and more restoration work. I guess we're the only ones in our area crazy enough to do it. We currently are involved in a model 18 Galion grader, of unknown age; a mid 1960's Deere 3010 industrial; and a 1964 Bristol double decker bus that the owner wants to keep looking original while upgrading the running gear and drivetrain to American standard components. ***(Dennis C. Lewis, Lewis Leasing & Equipment, 4181 Flint Asphalt Dr., Burton, Mich. 48529 (ph 810 743-2266; E-mail: Trustyiron@aol.com)***

I have a Honey Bee header attached to my International Harvester tractor. The problem is that the tractor's radiator air intake is located right where the swath is cut at the platform. Dust would plug up the radiator after only a couple of hours in the field. To solve the problem I used the air intake off an old Massey combine, cutting it at an angle to fit. Then I mounted a furnace air filter behind the radiator. This setup keeps fine dust out of the radiator. I clean the filter out about once a year.

To dry grain in bins in locations where electricity isn't available, I place 8-in. dia. piece of perforated drain tile in the bottom of the bin. The tile is placed in a coil, with one end attached to the air intake of a grain vac. It pulls air down evenly through the grain to dry in. I've used it to dry grain with moisture content up to 18 percent. ***(Ben Kambeitz, Box 23027, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada T1B 4C7 ph 403 528-1499)***

I designed and built a motorized rope-making machine that allows one person to twist strips of fabric into rope. It lets you make low-cost rope out of bedspreads, drapes, or even curtains. There's no limit to the types of materials you can use, in addition to ordinary twine.

Photo by Joe Whittle

The rope can be made to any length you want - I've made rope up to 100 ft. long. It makes a great hobby and can also provide income, because you can demonstrate how to make the rope and sell it at bazaars, fairs, etc.

I could make plans available for a fee on how to make your own rope making machine. ***(Glen Franz, 1108 Engleside, Joseph, Oregon 97846 ph 541 432-4036)***

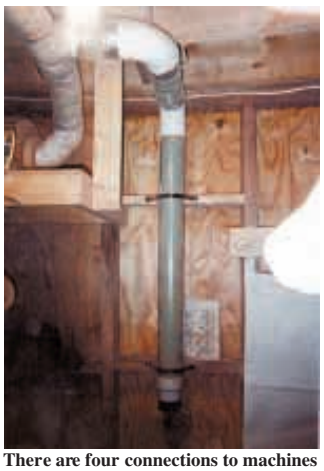
Exhaust system consists of 4-in. dia. sewer pipe and elbows hooked up to a blower that's belt-driven by a 1 hp electric motor.

All shops have a problem with cleanliness. My shop has an exhaust system that I built at minimal cost. It works quite well.

The exhaust system consists of 4-in. dia. sewer pipe and elbows that hook up to a blower that's belt-driven by a 1 hp electric motor. There are four outlets for connecting the pipe to machines or to an adapter for floor cleaning. I used 4 to 3-in. reducers at each connector. RV sewer drain bayonet connectors are force fit into the 3-in. end of the reducers and can be closed when not in use by the use of RV drain caps. Heavy duty RV drain hose is used to connect individual machines to the exhaust system whenever the machines are in use. An adapter also lets me use light duty hose and shop vac accessories for floor and machine dust removal.

The blower was built from a lawn mower bearing housing attached to a 9-in. plywood disc. The impeller vanes were made from sections of 3-in. aluminum angle iron. The blower's outer housing is made from 5/8-in. thick plywood, grooved to accept galvanized metal that fits closely to the impeller and is held together by several bolts.

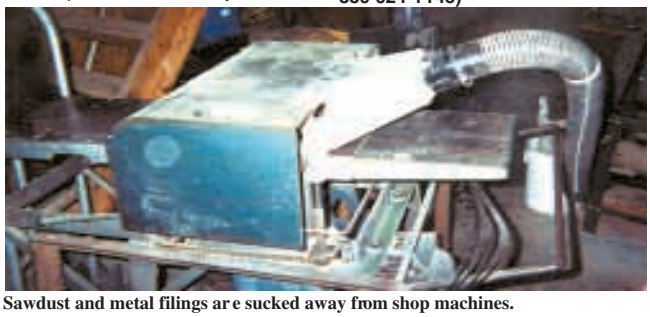
Sawdust and shavings, etc., are blown into a pile outside the shop for later disposal. The overall system is 80



There are four connections to machines and an adapter for floor cleaning.

to 90 percent effective in getting rid of shop waste."

The "plumbing" system is spirally wrapped with aluminum electric fence wire and grounded to discharge static electricity. **(T. E. Salsman, Southern Tool and Engineering, 124 Jolly Ridge Road, Richmond, Ky. 40475 ph 859 624-1145)**



Sawdust and metal filings are sucked away from shop machines.