

Reader Letters

I'm 13 years old and my dad subscribes to FARM SHOW. The reason I'm writing is that I had an L John Deere tractor given to me but it isn't all there. I need the front spindles, steering arms, front wheels and some other parts. My dad hasn't had any luck finding the parts at used tractor places. I'm wondering if a FARM SHOW reader might have an old L junker on his place. The L is a small tractor made in the 1940's. I garden a lot and want it for garden work.

Tommy Scheuerman
23991 Co. Road P
Dolores, Col. 81323

Brown Carburetor Co., Inc., of Utah has moved to Groton, S. Dak. to better serve the majority of our customers who are in the Midwest. Many FARM SHOW readers have become our customers so please pass along our new address and phone number below.

Jim Cofield
Brown Carburetor Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 298
Groton, S. Dak. 57445
(ph 605 397-2305).

Thanks for your FARM SHOW story about how I paired up two Deere balers to operate them both at the same time in the field with one tractor (Vol. 10, No. 2). The article was right to the point and told it like it is. I've had many letters and calls about the baler hookup and thought I'd let you know I've begun selling a manual for \$45 telling how to plan and build it, including detailed pictures.

Bob Stewart
Rt. 2, Box 2552
Zillah, Wash. 98953

We'd like to let FARM SHOW readers know that Rural Singles of America is going strong. Single men and women who want to meet other singles throughout the United States run listings in our monthly magazine and also get the names and phone numbers of other like-minded singles. At this time we're planning a big summer festival for August 8-10 on my farm near Mankato, Minn. Rural singles from throughout the country will be in attendance for old-time dances, outdoor barbecues, and lots of socializing. Anyone is welcome whether or not you're a subscriber to Rural Singles of America. Campsites are available on the farm. Cost for the entire weekend, including campsites and food, is just \$30.

Dean E. Budde
Rural Singles of America
Rt. 2, Box 126,
Mankato, Minn. 56001

FARM SHOW featured our McKee Automatic Chain-Tightener in Vol. 9, No. 5. The tightener was created for Deere row crop bean heads as an inexpensive alternative for heads with chains that had stretched or worn and needed to be replaced. We had a

tremendous response for kits to fit 454, 653, and 853 heads but also had many requests for a kit for the newer "A" series headers. After extensive field tests we now have such a kit ready. It installs in 15 minutes with no welding. Like the other kit it saves you the cost of buying new chain and eliminates the hassle of frequent work stoppages to tighten and service chains. Kit for a 6-row "A" series head sells for \$395.

Ken McKee
McKee Unltd Inc.
Rt. 2, Box 40
Emerson, Iowa 51533
(ph 712 824-7817)

In many publications, I have noticed that there has been increased interest in arch type "Bridge Hitches" to pull field equipment in tandem. The unit that really caught my eye was one in a recent issue of FARM SHOW, made by Richard Althous of Mendota, Ill.

While Althous was working on his hitch, we at Balzer Mfg. were also developing a hitch to pull a mounted or pull-type chisel plow behind our stalk shredders. In looking at the design options, we considered using the lower links of the tractor 3-pt. hitch in the raised positions as the attaching point — like Althous did.

When I conferred by phone with the engineering departments of two tractor manufacturers, they warned that the tractor warranty may be voided, in part, if a piece of tillage equipment were to be pulled from the lower links in the raised position.

The problem is that 3-pt. linkages are designed to pull almost horizontal — in line with the draft line of the equipment being pulled. When a piece of high draft equipment (such as a



chisel plow) is connected to the 3-pt. lower links in the raised position, it can put more stress on the linkages and lift mechanism than they are designed to handle.

Another and potentially more costly and dangerous problem is that the draft of the implement is transferred to the tractor at a much higher point. This causes a significantly higher weight transfer to the rear drive axle. With a 2 wheel drive tractor, the front end will be lifted off the ground relatively earlier, causing a very dangerous situation. While a 4 wheel drive tractor may not have the front wheels coming off the ground, the weight transfer may cause too much torque being transmitted through to the rear axle, causing excessive drive train wear and/or failure.

We decided that the best method to

You Asked For It

EDITOR'S NOTE: Looking for the manufacturer or marketer of a product you'd like to buy or get repaired? Or for an item you read about in a previous issue of FARM SHOW?

We'd be happy to do what we can to help. If we don't have the answers, we can probably put you in touch with who does.

Contact: Research Dept., FARM SHOW Magazine, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 612 469-5572).

Sometimes readers ask questions about equipment we can't track down. Please write to us if you know where we can get more information about the following equipment. Contact: Research Dept., FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044.

- 1) Bearings for a Zagahene wheel rake for hay.
- 2) Supplier of repair parts and diagrams for windmills.
- 3) Sunflower and pumpkin seed sheller.
- 4) Repair parts for a "Pora-Trol" cattle oiler.
- 5) Plans for a do-it-yourself combine grain loss monitor.
- 6) Stainless steel auger flighting or wear strips.

I'm planning to build a self-propelled chopper using components and equipment salvaged from around my farm. I need a few additional parts so I'm looking for a junked New Holland 1880 self-propelled forage harvester. Can anyone tell me where to find one? (Bob Stewart, Rt. 2, Box 2552, Zillah, Wash. 98953 ph 509 829-5783).

Could you send me the address of the man who devised a tool to reshape field cultivator shanks to their original curvature? I really need to rework my cultivator. (Paul Speck, Glenwood, Iowa)

Vol. 9, No. 5 featured two shank straighteners (copies available for \$2.00). For more information write to: FARM SHOW Followup, Tough-T Mfg., P.O. Box 79, Glenfield, N. Dak. 58443 (ph 701 785-2555). Or, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Assie Industries Ltd., P.O. Box 400, St. Brieux, Sask. S0K 3V0 (ph 306 275-2175).

Does FARM SHOW know of any company that manufactures a hydraulic lever that lets you operate tractor hydraulics by hand from the rear end of the tractor so the operator wouldn't have to climb in and out of the tractor cab to

adjust the cylinder? As it is, it sometimes takes one man 30 minutes to hook up a cylinder because he has to crawl in the cab so often to make small adjustments. (Warren Fetherhuff, Keckla, S. Dak. 57446).

FARM SHOW (Vol. 8, No. 2, back issues available for \$2.00) featured a story on remote hydraulic controls for Deere tractors that let you operate the hydraulics while standing on the ground behind the tractor. For information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, K & M Mfg., Renville, Minn. 56284 (ph 800 328-1752; in Minn. 800 992-1702).

Last year FARM SHOW ran an article about making flytaps by cutting strips of old leather and soaking them in an insecticide solution. I lent the copy to a friend and he misplaced it. What's the name of the veterinarian who developed this idea? (John Primovic, Bridgeport, Oh.)

Do-it-yourself flytaps were developed by Mandan, N. Dak. veterinarian Dr. Don Hastings, Box 911, Bismarck, N.D. 58501. The article appeared in Vol. 9, No. 5, 1985. Copies of that back issue are available for \$2.

I'd like to purchase a small sawdust-burning, steam-powered generator. I don't expect to sell any electricity. I'd like to experiment with burning off-grade shelled corn or pelleted vegetation. I believe that \$2.00 corn might be affordable energy. Do any FARM SHOW readers know where I can buy such a generator? (Alvin Mahrenholz, R.R. 4, Box 470, Poplarville, MS 39470).

I'm looking for ideas on building a heavy-duty post driver that'll drive 8-in. square railroad ties into rocky or low ground. I was wondering if any FARM SHOW readers have made such a machine, or have any ideas I can use? (Robert Crampton, Rt. 3, Box 71, Staples, Minn. 56479).

connect our "Bridge Hitch" to the tractor was to redesign our shredder tongue and connect the hitch at some point along the tongue. This method of attachment adds relatively small loads on the tractor drive axles and has little effect on tractor control.

I would recommend that anybody contemplating making their own "Bridge Hitch" consider the above concerns before proceeding and attaching to the 3-pt. arms in the raised position.

Eric Loose
Chief Engineer
Balzer Mfg. Corp.
Mountain Lake, MN 56159
(ph 507 427-3133)

The article on the heat and pregnancy detector for dairy cows marketed by TechAmerica Group Inc., Elwood, Kan., in your last issue (Vol. 10, No. 3) is misleading in that it says the kit will tell you 24 hrs. after insemination if a cow is pregnant or not. I called the company and they said the kit should be used 24 days after insemination and that even then it can only be used to show a strong indication of pregnancy, and is not a 100% guarantee of pregnancy. The article also indicates that just one drop of milk is needed to determine pregnancy and heat rather than, as explained by the company, a

whole series of daily tests, each of which costs \$2.71.

Tom Duis, Instructor
S.E. Community College
Rt. 2, Box 35A
Beatrice, Neb. 68310

I have a couple old 2-cyl. Eagle tractors that were built in the 1920's by Eagle Mfg. at Appleton, Wis. I'm hoping to write up some sort of history of the company and would like to hear from other Eagle owners.

There seems to be no surviving company records. So, to figure out production dates of the various models, I would like to receive serial numbers, model and horsepower, and "year built" data for these machines. I would also like to obtain any literature (original or photocopy) put out by Eagle.

The Eagle was a fairly popular tractor in Ontario at one time and saw plenty of service running threshing machines and sawmills. A 22 to 45 hp. Eagle still worked the threshing circuit in our neighborhood as late as 1960.

I am a new subscriber to FARM SHOW. It is a unique publication, second to none.

Rick Manner
Box 62
Lynden, Ont. LOR 1T0