

**Smörgåsbord**



Harold Johnson  
Editor

**"Rotary" combines coming on strong** — Allis Chalmers will be in the field this fall with a prototype Gleaner rotary combine that's even bigger than the huge N6 introduced a year ago. We're told the new N7 will have a 300 bu. grain tank and "a lot more threshing capacity" than the N6. That promises to put the new N7 in its own exclusive "monster" class, considering that the high-capacity N6 comes with a 12 row (30 in.) header, 6,339 sq. in. of total separating area, and a 245 bu. grain tank.

"With our rotary design, we've been able to increase combine capacity 50% for only at 25% increase in cost," an Allis Chalmers spokesman told FARM SHOW. "This held true when we went from the conventional Gleaner L to the N6, and again when we went from the N6 to the N7."

Also new in rotaries is the 1420 Axial Flow from International (which is one step smaller than the 1440) and White's new 9700 Axial Flow. White reportedly will have 60 of the new 9700's in the field this fall, along with a new 24 hr. parts availability program.

At 25,700 lbs., the 9700 outweighs the Gleaner N6 by about 7,000 lbs., the IH 1480 Axial Flow by about 5,200 lbs., and the New Holland TR-70 by about 11,000 lbs. It boasts 7,199 sq. in. of total cleaning area (chaff, sieve and pneumatic area).

"Despite its extra weight and capacity, its height and width is about the same, or less, than the competition," says White of its new 9700.

Also new from White is the revolutionary 5100 Seed Boss air planter for corn and soybeans. Billed as the answer to Deere's popular Max-Emerge, it was engineered and designed "from the ground up" by White. Changing it from corn to soybeans, or vice versa, takes less than a minute per row. The air operated seed metering mechanism uses no metal fingers, fluted steel cups or long distance pneumatic tubes. It features an exclusive dual depth gauge wheel mounting which White claims "takes positive depth control to new levels."

**Tenderfoot Shifter:** Coming out this fall from M & W Gear Co. is the Tenderfoot Shifter, a gear box attachment designed to correct shifting problems on IH tractors. The Tenderfoot is a channeled plate that bolts to the tractor gear box and attaches to the clutch pedal. "When the clutch is used, it presses a

button on the plate which essentially locks fluid inside the box, keeping pressure up rather than letting it dissipate," explains a spokesman. "It eliminates most of the common problems, such as not being able to shift at higher rpm's." The device fits IH tractor models listed in the photo and sells as a kit for \$199.95. For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, M & W Gear Co., Gibson City, Ill. 60936 (ph 217 784-4261).

**Where can I get a directory of major farm shows throughout the U.S. and Canada?** Many readers ask us that question and we've got the answer. Century Communications puts out a directory and it's a dandy. What's more, a limited number of copies are available on a "first come, first serve" basis.

The just-published directory, inserted into the July, 1979 issue of Century's Agri-Marketing magazine, gives a rundown on some 200 different farm and agriculture trade shows, expositions and fairs. For each, it lists the date, location and contact address, and the number of exhibitors and visitors at "last year's" show.

If you'd like a copy, send your check for \$3.00 to: FARM SHOW Followup, c/o Century Communications, Suite G, 5520 Toughy Ave., Skokie, Ill. 60077 (ph 312 676-4060). Make your check payable to Century Communications.

Here, excerpted from the directory, are some of the major farm shows to be held yet this year (from Sept. 1) and in 1980:

**Ag Expo**, Jan. 15-17, Spokane, Wa.; **Agri-Trade Exposition**, Feb. 21-23, Billings, Mont.; **American Pork Congress**, Mar. 5-7, St. Louis, Mo.; **California Farm Equipment Show**, Feb. 12-14, Tulare; **Canada Western Agribition**, Nov. 23-30, Regina; **Canada Farm Show**, Jan. 29-Feb. 1, Toronto; **Empire Farm Days**, Mid-August, New York state; **Farm Progress Show**, Sept. 25-27, Crawfordsville, Ind.; **Farm Store Trade Show**, Jan. 17-19, Kansas City, Mo.; **Gateway Farm Expo**, May 16-18, Kearney, Neb.

**Husker Harvest Days**, Sept. 18-20, Grand Island, Neb.; **International Plowing Maches and Farm Machinery Show**, Sept. 25-29, Chatham, Ont.; **National Custom Applicators Expo**, Sept. 12-13, Eldridge, Iowa; **National Farm Machinery Show**, Feb. 13-16, Louisville, Ky.; **National Western Machinery and Stock Show**, Jan. 10-19, Denver, Colo.; **Northern Farm Show**, Jan. 17-19, Minneapolis, Minn.; **Northwest Agricultural Show**, Jan. 29-31, Portland, Oreg.; **Ohio State Farm Science Review**, Sept. 18-20, Columbus; **Pennsylvania Farm Show**, Jan. 6-11, Harrisburg; **Southern Farm Show**, Jan. 30-Feb. 1, Raleigh, N.C.; **Stockton Ag Expo**, Jan. 22-24, Stockton, Cal.; **Southwest Farm Show**, Mar. 7-9, Ft. Worth, Texas; **3-I Show**, April 24-27, Great Bend, Kan.; **Triumph of Agriculture**, Mar. 10-12, Omaha, Neb.; **Western Farm Show**, Feb. 24-27, Kansas City, Mo.; **Western Fair Farm Show**, Mar. 4-7, London, Ont.; **Western Canada Farm Progress Show**, June 18-21, Regina, Sask.; **Wisconsin Farm Progress Days**, Oct. 9-11, Dodgeville, Wis.; **World Dairy Expo**, Oct. 3-7, Madison Wis.

**Wind Powered Tractor** — Remember that trick photo and story on a windpowered tractor which we told you about in FARM SHOW's May-June issue (Vol. 3, No. 3)? We have now discovered, thanks to FARM SHOW reader Verne Kindschi, Prairie du Sac, Wis., that a real windpowered tractor was introduced 66 years ago. It was no joke, as the following story and photo — reprinted from Verne's copy of the April, 1913, issue of Gas Review magazine — points out:

"H. M. Fletcher of Plainview, Texas, has invented a novel traction plow that is run by wind power. He began experimenting with this remarkable method of operating plows, both for plowing the soil and cultivating crops, a few years ago, and he claims that he has finally perfected the mechanism so that it may now be put to practical



use. Not long ago he made a trip of seventy miles on this plow along one of the public highways leading out of Plainview, the sole motor power being that of the wind. In this section of the Texas panhandle during a large part of the year, the wind is very strong. By means of ingeniously adjusted fans that resemble the wheel of the ordinary windmill, Mr. Fletcher is able to guide the plow in any direction he may see fit, irrespective of the quarter from which the wind is blowing. In his early experiments he found that the most difficult problem to overcome was the lost motion. He remedied this defect by devising a special gearing by which the outfit is moved rapidly and with sufficient power to cut a ten-inch furrow even when the wind pressure is comparatively small.

"It is claimed by Mr. Fletcher that his novel outfit is not only destined to greatly lessen the cost of farming operations in the panhandle country, but that it may be used economically in boring wells, pumping water and in various other ways where steam and more expensive power is now necessary. It does away entirely with the fuel problem, which is an important one in this part of the state, being remotely situated from sources of coal supply and wood.

"During the period that he was perfecting this invention, Mr. Fletcher was the subject of no little badinage on the part of his neighbors. He plodded along, however, with it until he now has the machine in what he claims splended working order. He expects to do a large amount of plowing with it during the coming spring and summer. Mr. Fletcher says that there are millions of wind horse power going to waste upon the Texas plains and that his outfit will harness this energy and put it to practical use."

Verne notes that, like the windpowered tractor, many so-called new ideas aren't always that new. "Many of them were tried many years ago but were never refined like they are today. For example, in just the past few years, tractors have been coming out with differential lock. I own a 1927 Rumely Oil Pull which has the differential lock on it," says Verne, who collects antique farm machinery and old farm magazines.

