

convinced it will now last much longer than it would have. (Dean I Sill, P.O. Box 334, Monroe, Iowa 50170)



FARM SHOW readers who operate computers in dusty locations may be interested in how we "dust proofed" our computers by filtering the cooling air that's pulled into them. On a desktop model, we reversed the fan on the unit so it pulls air down through a filter "cap" we made out of a plastic container



with 1-in. thick polyester (furnace filter type material) strapped over it. Now air is pulled down through the filter and blown out openings around the computer case, rather than pulled in through all the holes and blown out the top. Since installing the filter, exiting air temperature has not increased over the original setup. It keeps all dust out and the chassis still looks like new without dirt building up around the openings.

On large tower cases, we've had good luck setting the towers on wooden blocks that allow plenty of air to enter, and then enclosing the bottom of the towers in "organdy" dust bags. The top of the bags are sealed to the towers with rubber tubing used like giant rubber bands.

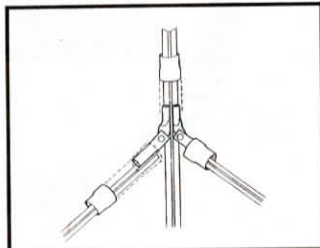
With these filters, we have the peace of mind that if anything malfunctions in the computers, it can't be blamed on dust. (Jon Holtzman, Genetek, 401 Holtzman Rd., Madison, Wis. 53713)



To help pay the farm mortgage, I make custom knives including hunting knives, Damascus knives, carving knives, engraved knives, and custom-design many others. I make knives by grinding them to shape using special knife maker's steel and I also make Damascus or pattern welded knives that are welded like blacksmiths used to weld. Some of my best knives are made out of old roller chains or chain saw chains since they have a lot of carbon in them. In fact, I just finished a knife made out of a piece of roller chain off a New Holland 851 baler. The secret is forging the chain at just the right

roller chain, I can acid-etch the blade so you can see the outline of the roller chain parts in the blade. Makes for a unique conversation piece as well as a top-notch knife.

My knives are all hand-produced with a top-quality finish. Each one is unique. I also teach others what I have learned about knife-making. Write or call for free brochure. (Ed Storch, Storch Knives, Rt. 4, Mannville, Alberta, T0B 2W0 Canada ph 403 763-2214)



We'd like to announce that we've taken over manufacturing of Quik S' Port fence bracing hardware, which has been featured in previous issues of FARM SHOW. This compression-type hardware can be used to brace steel T-posts as well as 1 1/4 by 1 1/4-in. fiberglass T-posts and 1-in. round fiberglass posts. It consists simply of a sleeve and a bracing hinge which can be installed using only a post driver and a hammer. A corner brace can be erected in about 10 min., and an in-line or end brace requires even less time. A corner brace kit sells for under \$16. An in-line or end post kit sells for under \$9. (Dave Knapp, Wis Pro Inc., P.O. Box 149, Mineral Point, Wis. 53565 ph 800 987-3874 or 608 987-3348)

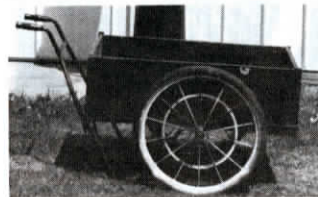
Two years ago FARM SHOW featured my first-of-its-kind "Open Up" cordless electric jar opener (runs on batteries). We'd like to announce that we now have a model powered by a 120-volt motor that can be hard wired to your electrical system.

Like our cordless model, it opens jars and bottles with lids from 1/2 to 4 3/4 in. dia. It has twisting strength 7 times that of the human hand. It's a great gift idea for wives who need a helping hand and has become a necessity for many elderly or disabled who normally wouldn't be able to open jars themselves. It's activated by a pressure switch so when you slip a jar up into it, it automatically begins to turn.

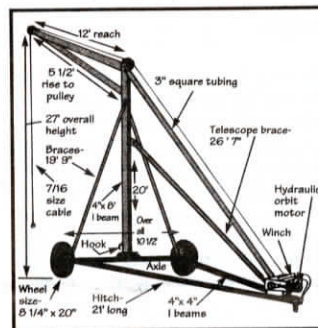
The new 120-volt model sells for \$40. The cordless battery-powered model sells for \$30. (William C. Jones, 209 East Ensey St., Tuscola, Ill. 61953 ph 217 253-3123)

I just read your "Owner's Report" on Belarus tractors in the last issue. Granted, they are a bit crude but they're simple and not unlike American tractors 30 years ago. After 7 years of hard use on my Belarus 250AS, which cost just \$4,000, it still runs as good as new. Uses just 1/4 the fuel of a similar size American tractor I own and has required only two repairs - a broken foot feed and a return fuel line. My 5-year-old 60 hp. Belarus 420AN cost \$10,500, including a Belarus 3,000-lb. loader fitted with an Allied self-levelling joy stick control. This tractor has only been stuck once and that was in a snowy feedlot that even the cows couldn't cross. Fuel consumption is 1/5 that of my 2030 Deere, which got stuck daily even with oversize tires, chains and weights. I've replaced two O-rings and a broken front hub

posts and bouncing the rear end off the ground in an attempt to pull them. How tough can you get? Our highly computerized modern equipment cannot offset the advantage of reliable old-style machines that follow the "KISS" style of design - Keep It Simple Sam - the way Belarus engineers have. (Wayne Wheelhouse, Rt. 4, Box 1A, Rushville, Ill. 62681)



I made this handy push cart using the frame, wheels and handle off a fence row weed mower that was junked. The end boards are removable. Dimensions of the box are 38 by 23 in. It was made totally from scrap materials. Cost just \$6 for welding angle iron and bridge welding to the 1/2-in. axle. I've used this cart heavily for 6 years with no problems. Compares favorably to "on the market" carts that sell for \$200 or more. (Edgar Sinn, Rt. 1, Box 254A, Princeton, Ill. 61356 ph 815 875-2440)

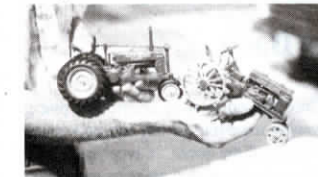


Drawing courtesy GRAINEWS

Thanks for the write-up in the last issue on my bin crane, which reaches 27 ft. high and can handle bins up to 20 ft. dia. I used a heavy-duty winch from a military vehicle, powered by a hydraulic orbit motor. For transport, the crane folds down onto two wheels and is 48 ft. long. This drawing should help explain how I built it. (Peter Husak, Box 1228, Neepawa, Manitoba, Canada R0J 1H0 ph 204 476-3868)



I built this small utility dump "truck" by cutting off most of the body of a Chevette car and mounting a cargo box on back. The box hinges at the back and is dumped by a cable hoist up front. A pulley hangs from a pipe frame that runs up over the front of the box. wheel drive car for better clearance and support. (Ernie Yarema, Rt. 1, Sifton, Manitoba R0L 1X0 Canada ph 204 655-3481)



I enjoy FARM SHOW very much and have subscribed for many years. One time I even saw my brother from Illinois featured in it. Since retiring in 1975, I've been collecting farm toys, primarily 1/16th scale Deere and

IHC's from the 30's and 40's. When I can't find a model I want, I sometimes build them myself, like the two in the enclosed photo. I made a 1934 John Deere "B" and a 1928/29 narrow front Deere "GP" by modifying Ertle John Deere "BR's". If other collectors would be interested in making these conversions, send me a self-addressed stamped envelope and I'll fill you in on the basics. I'd still like to find a 1/16-scale Deere "H" and an IHC F14. If anyone has one to sell, please contact me. (Ben Filer, 2814 Somerset Rd., Lantana, Fla. 33462)

Our new "shredder/bedder cellulose manufacturing plant" can grind 3,000 lbs. of newspaper per hour through a 1-in. screen and compress it into 30-lb. bales encased in plastic bags. Bales measure 17 by 10 by 26 in. and weigh about 30 lbs. Capacity is 120 bales per hour. Shredded newspaper makes great bedding for dairy cows, hogs, poultry, and other livestock operations. Different screen sizes are available allowing newspapers to be ground as fine as 3/16 in. Finely ground newspaper bedding is much more absorbent than the long strips made by conventional round or small square bale choppers and are 50% to 100% more absorbent than straw or wood chips.

The system consists of an 8-ft. dia. tub grinder powered by a 225 hp diesel engine and equipped with a 500-gal. fuel tank. Electric-over-hydraulic controls regulate tub speed and prevent slugs of material while maintaining a consistent grinding output. A hydraulic auger feeds shredded material into a surge tank that collects and agitates the ground product to assure a consistent flow to the baler. Flow of material from the surge tank to the baler is computer-controlled.

Sells for \$121,990 with surge tank and baler. If desired, shredded newspapers can be augered directly into a truck, saving the cost of the surge tank and baler (\$38,500 for the baler). (Steve Egeland, president, Haybuster Mfg. Inc., Box 1940, Jamestown, N. Dak. 58402 ph 701 252-4601).

I read with great interest your reports on Ford-New Holland 276 bi-directional tractors that burned up (Vol. 17, No. 5 and 6). It happened to my 1990 276, too. It caught fire and burned after sitting unused for three days on another farm. A neighbor reported the fire, and by the time the fire department came out it was a total loss. Just four days before we had thoroughly steam cleaned the tractor inside and out so the problem wasn't due to negligence or grease buildup. An investigator for our insurance company found a design flaw by Ford-New Holland. The starter mounted on one side of the engine and the battery on the other side, and the battery cables ran alongside the hydraulic lines. Vibration from the hydraulic lines rubbed insulation off the battery cables and caused a short.

The tractor cost \$46,000 in 1990 when new, and our insurance policy reimbursed us for \$45,000. The main thing I lost was downtime and use of the tractor. Fortunately it was a slow time of the year so we were able to use other tractors to make up for the lost time.

Other than this design flaw, I really liked the tractor. We recently bought a new 1993 Ford-New Holland 9030 that cost \$55,000 and spent another \$18,000 for a windrower for it. I find it quite interesting that the battery cable on this new model is completely separate from the engine and hydraulic lines. (Bill Jehorek, 1350 E. 6th, Ogallala, Neb. 69153 ph 308 284-6478)