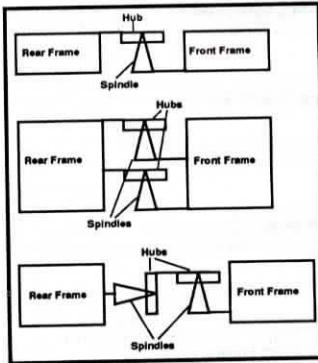
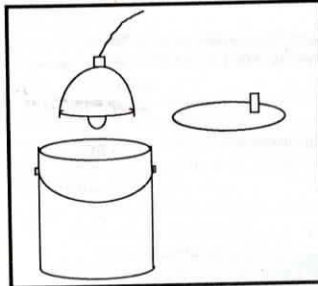




make articulated pivot joints between the front and back half of a home-built tractor or other machine. It's very practical, effective,

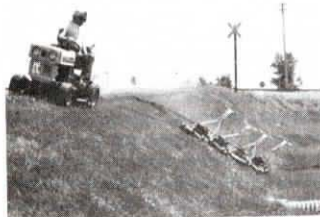


and economical. On a large machine, you can use two hubs and spindles, with one set mounted above the other. The idea can also be used to make a swivel connection. (T. Lawrie, 2604-7 Ave. N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 1A4 Canada ph 403 283-2885)



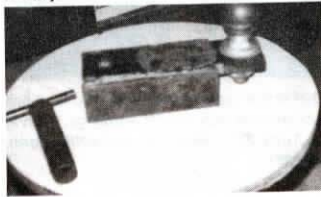
To keep calves warm in cold weather, we put an aluminum heating bulb safety shield - fitted with a 150 or 200 watt bulb, instead of a heating bulb - inside a 5-gal. steel oil pail. We put the cover back on top, running the cord through the oil spout in the lid. We then set the pail in the straw bedding of a calf hutch. Acts like a hot water bottle and it's safe because the bulb is held away from any combustible surface.

Another idea we've had that works great is to fill a mastitis syringe with oil and store it on the silo unloader. Works great for oiling adjusting screws and nuts and it's always there when you need it. (E.E. Donovan & Sons, Rt. 2, Mallorytown, Ont. K0E 1R0 Canada ph 613 659-2798)



My uncle Ed Bleich, Paxton, Ill., has been mowing steep roadsides this way for years. He hooks up four push mowers, connecting

the front right corner and back left corners of the mowers together and then runs a chain from the four ganged mowers up to his riding mower. He can shorten or lengthen the chain as needed to mow down to the bottom of any ditch. When he's done, the push mowers can still be used normally. (Delaine Bleich, 1512 W. 215 St., Torrance, Calif. 90501)



I have four different trailers with three different hookups. Two have trailer house hookups, one has a 1 1/2 in. ball, and the other just takes a pin. So I made two of these quick-change hitches. They're fitted with ball hitches and fit snugly over the drawbar, held in place by large pins. Sure beats bolting on different size balls every time you hook up a trailer. I've used them for 5 years with no problems. (Donald Albright, Rt. 3, Box 445, Perkins, Okla. 74059)



This tractor was built over a period of more than 20 years. My Dad built the frame and fitted it with narrowed-up axles from a Model T Ford, and then put it away in a shed for over 20 years. Two years ago I decided to finish it. The frame is made of 3-in. channel iron. The transmission comes from a Model A Ford and the seat from a 4020 John Deere. The steering sector was salvaged from an old International pickup and the battery is under the seat. The tractor's powered by a 12-hp. Briggs & Stratton engine. I used a V-belt for the final drive so I could put a foot clutch on it. When you push down the pedal it has a brake that contacts the final drive pulley.

We use the tractor for hauling grain augers, small trailers, and anything we need brought into the shop. (Norman Matteson, Rt. 2, Box 46, Inkster, N.Dak. 58244 ph 701 869-2685)

When reworking a motor, spray all the parts with "Pam", a non-stick kitchen spray. Then when you start it up again, the motor runs like new with no need to break it in. (Ernie Boyd, New Underwood, S.Dak. 57761)



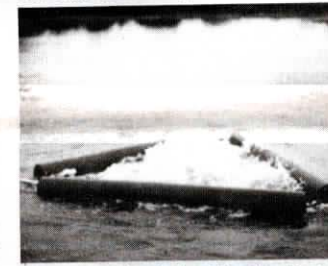
I bought this IHC model M tractor - equipped with rubber tires - new in 1939 for \$1,350. It has worn out three sets of tires, had three engine overhauls, one right rear broken axle, and one new radiator. It was rolled one time and it also caught on fire once while operating a mounted corn picker. Over the course of these 53 years we equipped it with a hydraulic system, including power steering, and also a 12-volt system and an IHC front-end loader. In one year alone it picked 400 acres of ear corn. In 1992, it loaded approximately 100 loads of manure. I'm retired but still on the farm at 88 years old and this IHC

tractor takes care of all my odd jobs. I can truly say this was my best buy of all time. (Willis Strabele, Rt. 2, 10664 SR 613, Paulding, Ohio 45879)

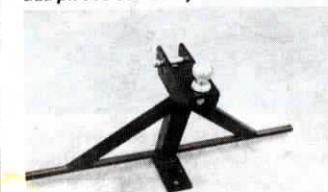


You can reach up as high as 12 ft. to prune trees with our new chain saw extension tool. It fits most popular lightweight chainsaws by simply removing the cutterbar and mounting the wand extension. It comes with its own factory-installed cutterbar. The wand is made from lightweight extruded aluminum and the chain drive is safely enclosed. A shoulder strap and handle make it easy to handle. The cutterbar and chain are lubricated by an oiling system inside the wand. (Bob Neely, Mid-Continent Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 563, Newton, Kan. 67114 ph 800 279-6812)

Thank you for your article on our wind-powered Little River Pond Mill (Vol. 16, No. 5) which circulates pond and lagoon water to eliminate algae and reduce weed growth. As a followup, I'd like to introduce your readers to the Algae Buster which does the same job but is designed for pond owners who don't have enough wind because of



buildings or other shelter. The Algae Buster is just as effective as the wind powered Pond Mill. It's fitted with a water-tight 1/2 hp. 110-volt motor that drives a prop. Motor and prop are enclosed in protective screens and are supported by floats just below the surface. Sells for \$1,395 (U.S.) and can be fitted with a timer (\$35) or a thermostat (\$179). (Basil J. Leonard, Environ-Mills International, Rt. 4, Sunderland, Ontario L0C 1H0 Canada ph 705 357-2406)

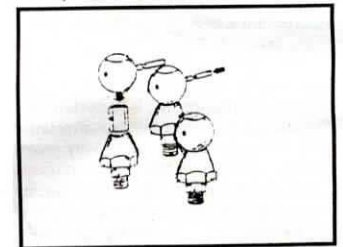


I first built this 3-pt. gooseneck adaptor hitch for tractors a year ago for a neighbor who was having trouble pulling his gooseneck livestock trailer in and out of messy feedlots. With this adaptor, any gooseneck trailer can be pulled with any tractor with a 3-pt. hitch. I don't know if anything similar is on the market. I've seen other farmers weld a bracket and ball to the back of a quick-coupler hitch but that could possibly interfere with other 3-pt. equipment. My hitch can be quickly removed when not needed.

It comes with a standard 2 5/16-in. ball and can be used on either Cat. II or III 3-pt. Sells for \$80 plus shipping. (Lenny Vidlak, Rt. 1, Box 107, Linwood, Neb. 68036 ph 402 543-2479)

After reading about the 3-pt. mounted drawbar Page Chamberlain of Canaedeia, N.Y., built for his smaller "chose" tractors (Vol. 16, No. 6), I built one for my small horsepower tractor and added another hitch to the top of the unit to move gooseneck trailers. Works very well. Don't know why I didn't think of it myself.

I was also interested in the article in the same issue about making an air compressor from an old pickup engine. I would like to warn anyone who makes one of these that turning the engine backwards will ruin the rod and main bearings because they will get no lubrication since the oil pump will turn backwards, producing no oil pressure. If I were to make one, I'd put the transmission in reverse so the engine would turn in the right direction. Also, I would remove the push rods and rocker arms and put light springs on both intake and exhaust valves. I believe that with these changes, using an engine as a compressor will work fine to pump a lot of air. (Edward E. Schulte, Rt. 3, Mexico, Mo. 65265)



One of my "best buys" is my Adapt-A-Ball trailer hitch. It has a 6-sided shank that three different size balls slip on to. The inside of each ball is also 6-sided and is held in place by a pin. Comes with 1 7/8, 2, and 2 5/16-in. balls and sells for \$39.95. It only takes 15 to 20 sec. to change balls and you're on your way and it makes it easy to take the chrome-plated balls off when not needed. The company's address is Adapt-A-Ball, P.O. Box 585, Wyandotte, Mich. 48192 ph 313 283-4471. (Leo L. Bowers, P.O. Box 162, Grand Rivers, Kent. 42045)



This lift extension lets us load big round bales onto flatbed wagons with a tractor 3-pt. hitch. Without the extension, the 3-pt. mounted bale spear would not be able to raise bales up high enough. I wanted to be able to pick up bales in the field, load them onto a wagon and then tow the wagon home with the same tractor. This extension lets me lift bales high enough for most wagons and also gooseneck or drop deck trailers. When we get back to the farmyard, we use a backhoe to load bales onto our tractor-trailer for over-the-road transport.

I used a standard 3-pt. bale spear but built a bracket that moves the bale spear back about 2 ft. (the bale spear can be detached from the extension bracket and attached directly to the 3-pt., if desired). A standard 8-in. stroke hydraulic cylinder tilts the bale spear forward and back. The extension bracket itself, made out of heavy tubing and flat iron, attaches to the 3-pt. like any other 3-pt. equipment. Front weights are recommended because of the extra leverage and the tractor should be at least 80 hp. to handle it. I would like to license this idea to a manufacturer. (Kenneth M. Allison, Rt. 1, Fairmount City, Penn. 16224)