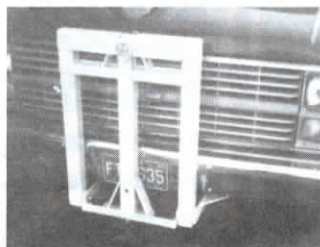


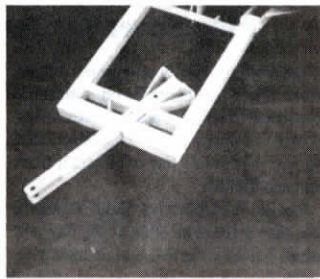
Reader Letters



I have a 1946 Chevrolet 3/4-ton pickup that has been in constant use ever since it left the factory. I bought it used in 1954 and have hauled loads up to 3 tons. The odometer went bad some years ago so I don't know how many miles it has but it's all original except for the engine and radiator. I replaced the 228 cu. in. engine with a 235 Chevy engine. The truck even has the original paint. I keep the truck in a heated shop, along with my 1976 Nova. I've never had even a minute's trouble of any kind with this pickup. **(Carl R. Petzel, 7745 Skyline Rd. S., Rt. 3, Salem, Ore. 97302)**



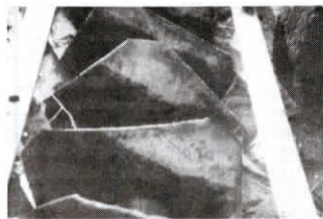
because you have to be right on when hooking them up. Our "Bumper Jumper", designed by a farmer, is easy to use because the tongue is extendable and will move from



side to side. Once hooked up, you pull ahead and drop the locking pin in and off you go. When not in use, it folds neatly in front of the grill below hood or sight level.

It sells for \$169 and is undercoated so you can paint it to match your pickup. Takes about an hour to install by welding or bolting to pickup frame. **(Ron Muth, Owner-Operator, AIC Distributing, 112 Central Ave., Hawarden, Iowa 51023 ph 712 552-1509)**

I'm sending along a photo of a new-style disk I designed and built that's got square "disc" blades with squared-off corners. Soil in this



area is very hard to work and this provides much more aggressive tillage than round blades. I'm 75 and have retired from farming so I'm looking for a farm to test it on. I've also designed a new corn planter and a stripper-type combine that doesn't cut the head off. However, I haven't built full-size models of either of them yet - just scale models. **(Richard Guy, Bethune, Colo. 80805 ph 719 346-7451)**

I made a grease bank for my Case rigid frame 4-WD drive tractor. It has 30 grease zerks. Eight of them are on the U-joints and need to be greased every 50 hrs., 8 need to be greased every 10 hrs., and the rest of them vary. The 10-hr. zerks are located on the king pins. If you don't keep them greased and the king pin wears out, the seals for the drive shaft from the differential to the planetaries go out along with the shaft guides. I simplified greasing by running 3/16-in. dia. brake line from the grease fittings to a grease bank made out of parts from a junked Minneapolis Moline corn picker. Now, instead of crawling all over the tractor, I'm able to grease 16 of the most difficult-to-reach zerks while standing next to the tractor. It would be easy to add any number of fittings to the bank as long as you can run the grease lines so they're out of the way.

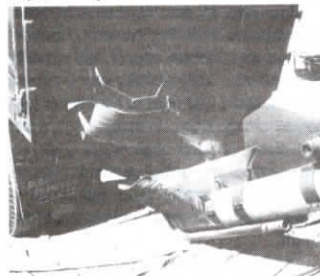
This modification gives me peace of mind because it makes it easy to keep the tractor greased at all times - and helps me keep my clothes clean. **(Richard Wurtzberger, Rt. 2, Box 136, Sleepy Eye, Minn. 56085 ph 507 794-6869)**

I designed a big outdoor wood-burning furnace that we use to heat our house, barn and swimming pool and to provide hot water. It could be used to heat any building around the farm. I ran underground pipes to each building and our in-ground pool. I only have to feed the furnace once a day and can use big logs 2 to 3 ft. long. I had the furnace built to my specifications by a fabricator. I get my wood by cutting up dead trees in the nearby Laurel Mountains. **(Donald A. Gales, Rt. 3, Box 212, Confluence, Penn. 15424)**

Your readers might be interested in this new tow bar for the front of pickups. Most tow hitches on the market are difficult to use

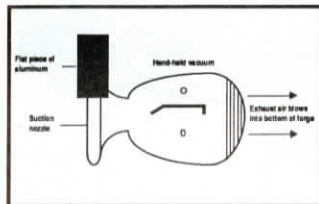
We enjoy reading FARM SHOW very much. We plan to take advantage of an idea printed in your Vol. 15, No. 1 issue about a rock picker built by two Canadian farmers. We plan to add a pickup header like the one on their machine to our rock picker, which doesn't pick rocks off the ground too well but does unload easily to a truck or trailer. I'll probably modify their header with a pto-driven rotor.

Also, I read some time back about a new system for breaking up rocks in the field with electricity. I think the idea would work best on frozen rocks. Have you or any of your readers heard any more about this system? **(Arent Smit, Rt. 3, Waterville, Nova Scotia, Canada)**



We use a set of aprons made out of heavy rubber conveyor belt material to direct flow of grain from side hatches to the center to unload grain fast into a hopper. Normally we can only use the side hatches to speed unloading at elevators because they're too wide apart for dumping into hoppers on the farm. We use canvas tarp ties to support the belting at center where grain pressure is the heaviest. **(Gale Goble, Weldon, Ill.)**

Here's a couple ideas that have worked out great for me. I use a small hand-held vac-



uum cleaner to pump air into my shop forge. I position the vacuum so exhaust blows into the forge and cover the suction nozzle with a flat piece of aluminum, which is held in place by suction when the unit is turned on. I can vary the amount of air pumped into the forge by sliding the aluminum strip up and down. Works great.

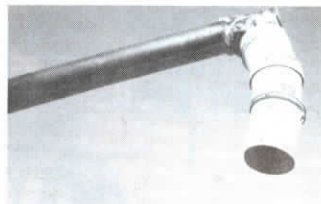
Another idea I had was to make an inexpensive shop heater out of a 30-gal. gas household water heater that was junked because of a leak. I removed the outside tin cover and insulation, and cut out the bottom of the tank, removing the burner. Then I cut out the top 2-in. dia. flue pipe and removed the cold water piping by cutting it off just inside the top of the tank, capping both water pipes at the top of the tank. I remounted the burner unit in the open bottom end of the tank, holding it in place with a homemade bracket, and attached a 6-in. flue to the top of the tank. The last step was to remount the tank on its original legs and hook it up to a gas line, bypassing the thermostat. Once the pilot light is lit, you can turn the stove on and off by hand using a manual gas valve. **(Charles Bissell, 5400 Palm Ave. #1, Atascadero, Calif. 93422)**

I mounted two minimum till coulters ahead of each row unit on my Deere 7000 planter by extending the hitch about 2 ft. to make room for an extra toolbar across the front of the planter. The planter already had one coulters on each row unit - I added two per row on the new up-front toolbar, for a total of three coulters per row. It works great for no-till but I prefer to disk corn stalks or bean stubble once before running through with the planter. **(Jim Berens, 35546-146th Ave., Zeeland, Mich. 49464)**

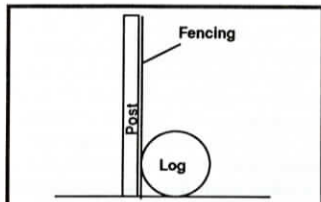
Thanks for running the story in your last issue (Vol. 15, No. 6) about my high-pressure grease gun made out of a 5-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder. The drawing you ran with the story showed how it works but I'm sending along a photo of the real thing. My only complaint about your story is that it sounded like you have to carry the cylinder itself



around along with the grease gun and some of my friends kidded me that I must get tired carrying that thing around all over the farm. What we actually do is hang the cylinder on the back of the tractor or truck, and use a long hose on a reel to do the greasing. We fill the cylinder with grease using a pressure canister (see photo) and then hook up the hose to the cylinder and use hydraulic pressure to force it out the hose.

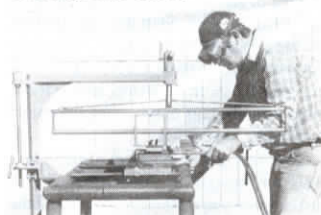


I'm sending along another photo of a flexible spout I made for grain augers using some 30-lb. grease and oil buckets that are tapered at the top so the bottom of a bucket will fit over the top of the next bucket. Makes a nifty directional spout for directing grain. **(Lawrence Grabber, HC73, Box 27, Hemingford, Neb. 69348 ph 308 487-3697)**



Here's an idea for hog farmers who prefer to raise hogs on pasture rather than in confinement. One big problem is that hogs always try to dig their way out under the fencing. I've solved the problem by placing big logs (dead trees from the woods) along the outside of the hog fence, as tight to the fence as possible. I've found that to be heavy enough, the logs should be 12 in. dia. or larger and at least 8 ft. long, although I've used logs 28 in. dia. and only 4 ft. long and they worked fine. The larger the log the better. If the hog can't push an obstacle out of the way or see around it, he will stay put. **(Roger H. Smith, 3424 Osborne Rd., Delton, Mich. 49046 ph 616 671-5555)**

We mounted a cow bell on front of our swather to alert wildlife that might be in the path of the machine. It has saved many animals. **(Bruce Burke, 5531 Wilkins Ave., Oakdale, Calif. 95361)**



I recently discovered FARM SHOW and think it's a fascinating publication. Many ingenious and sophisticated projects come out of farm shops and it's good to see attention drawn to them. You might be interested in telling readers about a radial-arm flamecutter I built in my shop a few years back. Most anyone with metalworking experience can build one and the cost is low since most all the materials needed to build it can be found in a typical farm's scrap pile. Most important, it works as well as any commercially available machine. Any existing cutting torch can be used with the cutter to make ruler-straight cuts in steel plate or to cut perfect circles or arcs to precise tolerances. The unit bolts to any existing welding table or bench and makes linear cuts up to 36 in. long and circular cuts up to 36 in. dia., handing material up to 8 in. thick. Torch can be angled for beveled cuts.

My project went so well I put together a booklet detailing construction and have been selling it through the classified ads in national magazines. My booklet contains 38 photos, 10 diagrams, 2 pages of detailed plans, and complete step-by-step instructions. Sells for \$9.70 (shipping included). **(Richard B. Walker, Walker Publications, P.O. Box 17924, Irvine, Calif. 92713)**