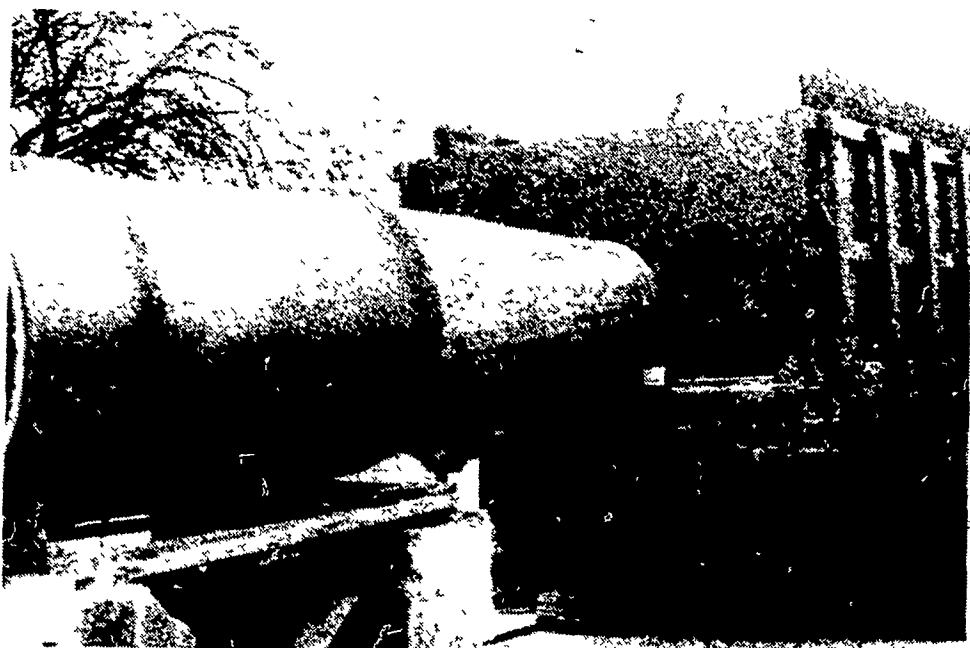


On-truck grain drying made possible



A labor saver with additional benefits of minimum noise and pollution, the S.S. Truck Body Grain Dryer underwent testing in Delaware this year.

KENTON, Del. -- A Delaware farmer, near here, has been granted a U.S. patent for his invention that dries all kinds of grain right inside truck bodies. Visitors to the Pennsylvania Farm Show will be able to see and inspect it outside at space 50. C. Stanley Short, Sr., devised the new process using above floor perforated ducts and side panels for hot air movement through the

grain to perform the drying process to desired moisture content.

The SS Truck Grain Dryer, as it has been named, went through many expensive trial and error improvements before it was perfected according to Short.

Short says this process opens up new markets for export or to mills which require dried grains, which

were not available before to wet grain growers without other drying facilities.

An official moisture test of corn was made recently on the Short farm using a sample 22 ton load. The load of corn from the field tested 20.5 per cent moisture. The SS Truck Grain Dryer was turned on at 9 a.m. and off at 12 noon. The dried corn then tested at 15.7 per cent moisture.

Growing several hundred acres of small grains each year, Short has had his invention tested both on the farm and by officials. It can be purchased on advanced order.

Farm trucks and semi-trailers equipped with the patented SS Truck Body Grain Dryer may be loaded with grain in the fields. The truck is then connected to a large heater-fan unit which dries the grain right on the truck. The procedure involves practically no labor, no air pollution, no cracking fines and very little noise. The patented process takes 100 to 200 minutes, depending on the moisture content of the load of grain.

The large combination motor-fan-heater unit can deliver over 20,000 cubic feet of air per minute. The unit is heated by a nearly 5 million BTU gas-fired burner, and air at 100 to 200 degrees Fahrenheit is delivered by a 12-bladed 38-inch fan.

The fan forces the heated

air through the entire 2-foot diameter center duct which is perforated so that the heated air moves uniformly through the load of grain, both laterally and vertically. The air moving laterally picks up moisture from the grain and passes through the perforated side panels, then up through a narrow flue space up over the truck body sides. After the grain is dried to the desired moisture content, the burner gas fire is

turned off, the fan is left running to cool the grain to complete the grain drying process. It is important to probe the grain from top to floor to get an accurate average sample.

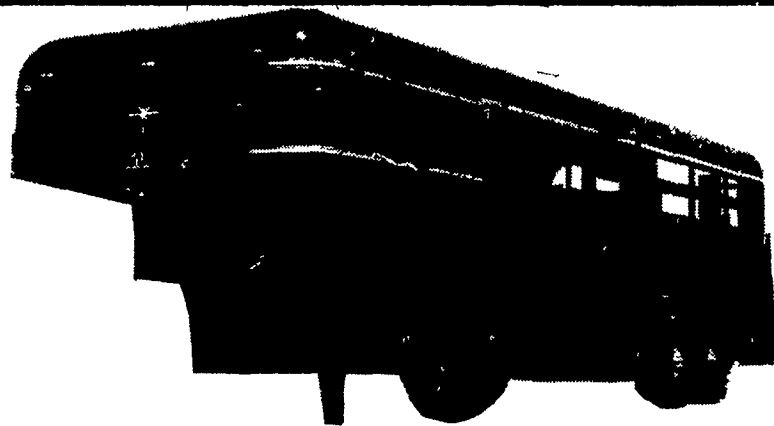
The fan's electric motor should be 15 horsepower or more. Some motors may be single phase with "step up unit" 220 volt. However 3-phase is more efficient if 3-phase is available. Some fans may be PTO tractor

equipped. This process has been farm and officially tested.

The large fan-heater-motor units are advance ordered special, from long experienced reputable manufacturers. Each farmer must comply with local zoning, and gas, and electrical regulations; and should inquire and arrange in advance with local gas and electrical contractors for supply and service.

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'Parity office' opened

SPRING GROVE - Pennsylvania now has a temporary "parity office," headed by Bernard Gardner, Spring Grove R3. After recent meetings with the Virginia delegation of American Agriculture, Gardner has agreed to coordinate strike action within Pennsylvania and to serve as an information office.

American Agriculture scheduled a meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Bergland in Omaha, Nebraska, yesterday. While Gardner would have liked to attend that gathering, he questions the ultimate value of the conference.

"The government insists that they won't do anything until they see if the new Farm Bill works. So why should we spend our own money and time traveling out there if it's already been determined that nothing is going to be done?" he wonders. And what are we supposed to do while they're finding out if it works? Starve?"

Local farmers, while expressing sympathy with the cause and concern for the problems which have prompted the strike demands, have mostly remained uninvolved in actual participation.

According to Gardner, Virginia activists recently sponsored a rally supporting American Agriculture demands, with about 800 farmers attending. The possibility of holding a similar rally in Pennsylvania, with a featured speaker from Georgia, is being considered.

The upcoming Pennsylvania State Farm Show has also come under some criticism from strike supporters Gardner feels that implement companies should not be spending

monies for such exhibits and advertising because those costs help raise the price to the farmer-buyer.

A key aim of supporters of American Agriculture is to eliminate "middlemen" in the food production and marketing chains. Goals are to establish large farmer-run grain marketing facilities and input-buying cooperatives as a step toward easing the cost-price headache.

To help raise money to finance the strike movement, American Agriculture has undertaken a fund raising hat and bumper sticker sale, with the items available in this area through the Spring Grove parity office. Hats are \$5; and bumper stickers go for \$1, postage paid.

xxx DIVORCE SETTLEMENTS

When a divorce settlement involves a lump-sum payment, the amount generally is not considered income for the recipient and is not deductible for the ex-husband. However, if the settlement provides that payments are to be spread out over a span of ten years or more, they are treated the same as open-end alimony - the ex-wife must report the payments as income and the former husband may deduct them on his tax return.

xxx Between 1975 and 1976, central cities gained 2,650,000 persons through immigration, but 4,605,000 persons left for a net loss of 1,955,000. Nearly two-thirds of people leaving the central cities - some 3,499,000 - settled in the suburbs. The other third - about 1,106,000 - settled in non-metropolitan areas



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