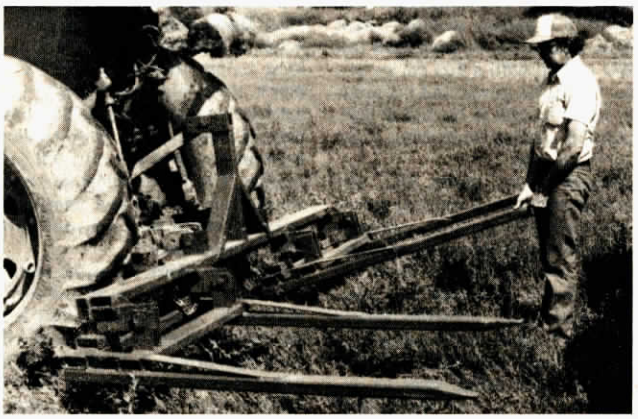

Double Bale Carrier

South Dakota farmer Milo Sayler, of Menno, had problems with the tines digging into the ground when he tried to pick up 2 round bales at once on hilly terrain.

He solved the problem by making a carrier with two sets of forks that hinge off the frame of his home-made bale carrier. Each pair of forks hinges independently, enabling the carrier to pick up bales sitting side by side on a hill, or on uneven ground. The pair of forks on the "high" side of the hill will slide over the ground rather than digging in, Sayler points out.

The carrier is 5½ ft. wide and the forks, spaced 40 in. apart, are made of ¼ in. by 2 in. by 4 in. tubing.

The carrier attaches to any Category II or III, 3 pt. hitch.

Other uses include moving pallets, plywood and small buildings.

Sayler custom builds the two-bale carrier for $570.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Milo Sayler, R.R., Menno, S. Dak. 57045 (ph 605 387-2847).

Home-Built Farm Loader

"I cut a K-6 International down to fit inside a medium-size Farmhand loader, then turned it around so the weight was over the drive tires," says Darrel F. Spader about the loader he built for use on his Fedora, S. Dak., ranch.

"The drive tires are 11 by 24 and the rims came off a combine. It took some time to fit the rims to the truck hubs. The truck springs were left on. It needs heavy-duty springs to keep it from rocking when carrying a load.

"The motor is a 223 Ford 6-cyl. with a 4-speed transmission which is connected to a 4-wheel drive transfer case from a ¾-ton Dodge power wagon that brings the drive train back to the 2-speed drive axle on the truck. This gives us 16 forward gears and 4 in reverse.

"We split the brake line to the drive axle and have a brake pedal for each of the drive wheels. When it is loaded, we can pivot on one wheel because the steering wheels are very light when carrying a load. We run a hydraulic pump off the front of the motor with a chain drive. If we were to build another one, we would make it a shaft drive with two universal joints.

"It'll go down the road as fast as a truck. In the field we can carry big bales at 15 to 20 mph., sometimes even carrying two. It has saved us a lot of front ends on our tractors and is the best snow pusher I have ever seen. The cab is made of plywood."

Spader figures he has about $1,100 invested in the entire machine.

Wood-Fired Crop Dryer

"It cost me just $136 and, in two seasons, it's dried 21,000 bu. of corn," says Fred Seeman, Chenoa, Ill., about his built-from scratch, wood fired dryer that features a huge 12-ft. long firebox.

Fred has used the dryer furnace two seasons, drying 9,000 bu. of his corn crop in 1981 and 12,000 bu. last fall. His costs, had he hauled the corn into town along with the rest of his crop, would have ranged from 11 to 14 per bu. Corn dried with the new furnace cost just 2 to 3 cents per bu. for electricity to power the fan.

"I spend very little time tending it — maybe 5 min. every 3 to 5 hours on my way out of the field with another load of grain," he points out. "The only problem is keeping the fire from burning too hot."

The unique furnace consists of a used 2,000 gal. fuel tank transversed end to end by 5 large pipes. Seeman made the pipes from old 100-lb. LP tanks welded together with the ends cut off. The tanks are made from heavy 10 ga. steel able to withstand high temperatures in the furnace. The pipes run through either end of the tank and are completely sealed from the fire chamber inside.

Covering the outside of the tank — with several inches in between — is a corrugated steel canopy. The canopy, along with the inside pipes, are the heat exchanging chambers that pick up corn drying heat.

"An air funnel leads down to the dryer fan. The fan pulls air in through the pipes and from the outer shell of the furnace where hot air is collected off the outer surface of the firebox. All of the hot air pulled into the furnace is clean. All smoke and ash exits through the smokestack," explains Seeman.

He uses the burner on a 3,000 bu. bin. The furnace is mounted on a trailer, so it can be moved from building to building. He empties it just once a season, cleaning out about a half pickup load of ashes.

Propane tanks used to build the dryer were bought used from a local propane dealer for $1.50 apiece. The fuel tank was purchased at a local sale. The only change Seeman says he'd make would be to install a centrifugal fan so hot air entering the bin wouldn't be pulled directly over the fan motor, as on his current model.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fred Seeman, Rt. 2, Chenoa, Ill. 61726 (ph 815 945-4151).

Drill Monitor

"Since I pull my seeder behind a packer, it's often difficult to tell if the feed shaft is turning, espcially in dusty conditions. So, I built a monitor that slowly revolves as the feed shaft turns, telling me the drill is seeding," explains Richard Anderson, Claremont, S. Dak.

The monitor is driven off the drill's feed shaft via a chain that runs from the shaft to a sprocket mounted on a jack stand bolted to the drill frame. The sprocket turns a pulley that turns a second pulley which spins the monitor. A V-belt with a ½ turn connects the two pulleys.

Four amber reflectors bolt, one on each end, to two pieces of flat stock connected to the top pulley.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Anderson, Claremont, S. Dak. 57432 (ph 605 294-5816).