in. dia. drum and 2 2/1-in. dia. center shaft, making it one of the heaviest-built on the market. Like all of our three-section models, the center section is 12 ft. and outer sections overlap the center by 6 in. to do a better job leveling ground and pushing rocks out the

way. It sells for $12,500 (U.S.).

We build three-section rollers, from 36 to 45 ft. wide, and single section rollers, from 8 to 25-ft. wide. ***(Howard Moulson, Moulson's Welding, Box 82, Foxwarren, Manitoba, Canada R0J 0R0; ph 204 847-2227)***

Our mechanical onion "topper" isn't the only one on the market, but we think it's the best.

Traditionally, taking the 18-in. tops off onions is done manually, a slow and labor-intensive task. Even our smallest machine, a

4-row unit, will save an estimated $4,000 per year in labor costs on average size operations. We're figuring $400 an acre labor, and the machine will do 10 acres a day.

Here's how it works:

Onions are picked up by a conveyor chain. As they enter the machine, tops are lifted up vertically. Air velocity of up to 60 mph slightly levitates bulbs for proper cutting orientation. Tops are discharged in the air stream at the rear. Weeds and other heavy material are conveyed out on a conveyor belt. A rear cross conveyor and plastic lined chute form a neat windrow at the rear.

It features a self-contained hydraulic system with two remotes, 1,000 rpm pto, two high capacity blowers, 2.00 chain pitch, and is 17 1/2 ft. long.

The 4-row, 60 hp machine sells for $30,000. The 6-row, 75 hp machine sells for $40,000. ***(Dave Shuff, Specialized Parts and Manufacturing Co., P.O. Box 1043, 107 Main St., Parma, Id. 83660; ph 208 722-6936, fax 6937)***

We came up with this low-cost way to carry extra net wrap for our baler along to our jobs. We use old galvanized water heater tanks we get from salvage yards for as little as 50 cents a pound. We cut out one end and drill a hole

in the center of the other. We've mounted them on six of our Massey 1105 tractors with brackets made of chain and pipe that attach to the hand holds of the tractors' suitcase weights.

A rod somewhat smaller than the 3 in. dia. cardboard tube in the center of the roll of net wrap is fitted in the hole in the one end of the tank with a washer and wing nut. The net wrap simply slides over the rod, which holds it in place.

The carriers don't cost more than $5 to build and you can bale all day without running out of wrap. ***(Franklin Pacey, Pacey's Hay Baling Service, 1180 Meridian Road, Miltonvale, Kan. 67466; ph 913 427-2406)***

I like diesel engines because you can run them on off-road diesel fuel you have around the farm, which is considerably cheaper than commercial diesel fuel. I also like Honda automobiles for their reliability and dependability.

Since Honda doesn't offer a diesel engine, I decided to repower a Honda car with a diesel engine and get the best of both worlds.

I started with a 1984 Honda Accord equipped with 4-cyl. engine and 5-spd. transmission. I bought the car, which had about 85,000 miles on it, from a friend for $400. I also bought a 1985 Ford Escort equipped with 2,000 cc Mazda diesel from a junk yard for $500.

To install the engine, I had to cut the engine mount off the Escort engine and install it on the Honda. That's because the original engine mounted sideways with the transmission on the passenger's side, while the diesel mounted sideways with the transmission on the driver's side.

This meant I had to swap transaxles to get them to match up to the transmission. I cut the Mazda transaxle in two and welded the Honda transaxle to it to get the transmission hooked up right.

There was also considerable wiring to do since the Mazda engine is equipped with both a pre-glow and after-glow plug system.

The project took about six months in my spare time and produced a cheap-running, super-reliable automobile. ***(Kent Hoge, Box 790B, Rt. 3, Tazewell, Va. 24651; ph 540 472-2732)***

I have a comment on the piece, "Ostrich Industry Lays An Egg", in your last issue. Don't lay the blame for the market collapse on North American producers. Lay it on greedy importers instead.

During the heyday of the ostrich market when eggs were being sold for $1,000 or more, U.S. quarantine stations sprang up everywhere overnight. These stations were run by people who were importing hundreds of thousands of eggs and chicks into America from South Africa and elsewhere. The importers hurt everyone, including themselves, by trying to make a fortune in a hurry.

As for developing a market for the meat, there has been too much politics played by the other livestock industries for ostrich ever to take off.

Not only have importers hurt the ostrich, emu and rhea business, but the hedgehog, sugar glider, Boer goat and Dorper sheep industries as well.

Let's lay the blame where it really belongs - with greedy importers. ***(Anonymous, from Oklahoma City, Okla.)***

FARM SHOW readers might be interested in the latest developments with my aftermarket telescoping tractor mirrors with breakaway design (Vol. 20, No 5).

I won first place for them in the American Farm Bureau Federation's "Farmer Idea Exchange" in January. They were selected from 20 contestants in several categories (mine was safety) from all over the U.S. so I was quite honored.

Also, I'm planning to introduce a signal light kit for the mirrors by June. Wired into the tractor's existing harness, signals will mount on the outer ends of the mirrors and will connect up with telephone-type coil cord that allows turn signals to extend and retract along with the mirrors. I hope to bring the kit to market for around $60 per pair. An optional warning strobe light for the center of the mirror mounting bracket will soon also be available for around $60 to $70. ***(Steve Brownlee, Tractor Mirrors Inc., P.O. Box 223, Amboy, Ill. 61310; ph 800 697-2233 or 815 857-3405)***

We pulled this gag after a square dance at our farm last August and have had some pretty good chortles and guffaws over it ever since.

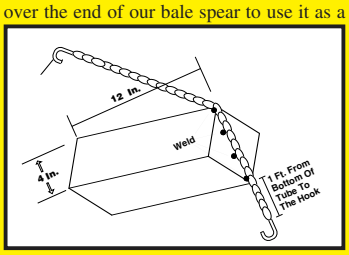
"Fertilizer Attachment For A Swather" is what we call our "invention." It's our Versa-

tile 400 self-propelled swather with a local auctioneer's "porta potty" rigged up to look like we pull it behind.

As you can imagine, the rig is "environmentally friendly" and adapts to either liquid or solid "fertilizer", applies from either a single or double "chute", and takes only 4 to 5 seconds from cut to "drop". ***(Norm Flaten, Box 1076, Weyburn, Sask. Canada S4H 2L3; ph 306 842-5682)***

On page 25 of the 1998 edition of Best of FARM SHOW you show a "Grabatube" grease cartridge holder that stores grease cartridges. I don't think this is a good idea since it holds the cartridges laying flat which will result in an air space along one side all the way to the top, causing air lock. ***(Matthew Wozniak, P.O. Box 38, Eaglesham, Alberta T0R 1H0 Canada)***

My son made a handy chain lifter that fits over the end of our bale spear to use it as a



lift pole. It consists of a 12-in. long piece of 4 by 4-in. square tubing with a piece of 3/16-in. thick steel plate welded over one end. A 5 ft. length of chain welds to the closed end of the tube with 1 ft. of chain hanging off the end of the point. The long end of the chain runs back to the base of the spear where it hooks in place, holding the piece of pipe in place on the end of the spear. Works great for all kinds of lifting chores and is safe. ***(Ken Craven, Rt. 1, Box 43, Byars, Okla. 74831 ph 405 469-4326)***

I made my large lawn tractor a lot easier to use by replacing the turf tread tires on front of the tractor with straight tread tires. I raised the pressure in the tires by 3 psi. The tractor now steers 50 percent easier. ***(Willard Donahey, Utica, Ohio)***

In the 1920's and 1930's, small diameter farm water wells were drilled using 2 and 3-in. pipe as casing. In many of these wells, "Eureka" cylinders were installed using wood sucker rods which made for the least power required, especially when a lot of pumping was done by hand. In time, the water level in many of the wells dropped below the cylinders, making them obsolete. In later years, many farm owners wanted to install electric pumps in the wells but were at a loss because the Eureka cylinders were in the way, keeping the jet pumps from going deeper.

Being a well driller, I toyed with the idea of somehow splitting the brass shell Eureka cylinders, thereby loosening it and withdrawing it, providing for the installation of a jet pump at a lower level.

I designed a cutting tool and a set of telescoping jaws slim enough yet strong enough to do the job, even in a 2-in. dia. well pipe. It was a success and has put many wells back into production.

By word of mouth, farmers, plumbers and well drillers have come from many parts of the country to inquire and rent my tools to remove cylinders, putting wells back into service and saving the price of drilling a new well. ***(August Steinke, Rt 2, Millet, Alberta T0L 1Z0 Canada)***

My wife and I had an amazing experience recently after she fell and broke her hip. We got an up-close look at the kind of miracles being performed by modern medicine.

Not too many years ago people who broke a hip or leg bone would end up in a cast for months or, at worst, in a wheelchair for the rest of their lives. My wife was back on her feet the day after surgery. The attached photo from her X-ray shows how they did it.

She broke her him in June, 1997. The surgical steel insert shown was installed the same day and she up on a walker right after.

The break was right below the hip socket ball. The doctors first drilled up into the socket ball to anchor the head of the device. The lower part of the unit was anchored to the lower leg with four screws.

It was painful for a while but the doctors say a hip fixed this way is actually stronger than the original one. Few people ever actually get a look at how these "repairs" are done and I thought FARM SHOW readers might be interested. ***(C.F. Marley, P.O. Box 93, Nokomis, Ill. 62075)***

We'd had tremendous interest in our home-built bandsaw - made out of scrap parts for less than $100 - which has been featured in FARM SHOW several times over the years. So far we've sent packets of "do it yourself" information to more than 1,500 people. My greatest joy is being able to help people solve a problem at a price they can afford.

I wanted to let you know that a video company recently made a video of my bandsaw. It shows how to build the sawmill, what type of materials to look for, and how to customize the mill to your specific situation and needs. It will also show some other sawmills built based on my unit.

Continued on next page