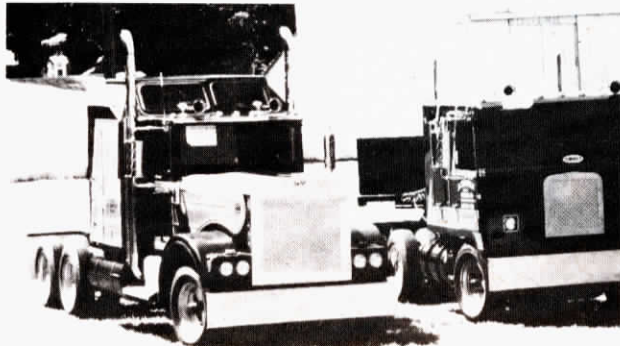


## Utility Ladder For Around The Farm

"You can use it for whatever you like — that's what we do," says Michael Tellers about the utility farm ladder he bought for around-the-farm use.

The wooden ladder once used to fight fires, is mounted on a flatbed trailer parked in the Teller's hay shed. It cranks out easily to its 35-ft. length with the help of cable strung through a series of pulleys. It swivels 360° and can be stopped in one place to be raised or lowered.

"It's great for trimming trees, painting barns, working on buildings, and a host of other chores," says Michael. He says he bought the wooden ladder cheap from a local fire department.



Half-Size "Tombilt" Semi-Trucks

You've heard of a Peterbilt truck, but have you ever heard of a Tombilt?

Probably not, because there are only two of them in existence. Tombilt is the brand name that Tom Dell has given to two half-scale model trucks he built for his 7-year-old son, Aaron Thomas, and his 9-year-old daughter, Stephanie.

The vehicles are true trucks in every way except for their size. The Tombilt cabover backs up and goes forward, and attains a top speed of 10 mph. The Tombilt standard "mini-truck" truck can travel 60 m.p.h.

Dell built the trucks as a sideline to his business of putting up steel farm buildings and storage bins. He figures he has about 3,500 man-hours and \$60,000 invested in the two models.

"They are within 1% of being exact 1/2 scale models," says Dell. "We fabricated the bodies and all parts except rear ends, front axle, gauges, and accessories. The bodies are made of 14-gauge sheet steel and the frames are 1 1/4-in. by 2-in. rectangular tubing.

Both units are fully carpeted and equipped with AM-FM stereo 8-track radio and CB radio. The standard model even has a built-in sleeper. Both have



polished stainless steel bumpers and grills.

The cabover model, which is driven by Dell's daughter, is powered by a 16 h.p. one-cylinder, air cooled gasoline engine. It has hydrostatic transmission, disc brakes, and a belt-driven tag axle. It pulls a 24-ft. flatbed trailer, and the complete unit has a gross weight of 2,960 lbs.

The standard Tombilt has a 6-cylinder gas engine, automatic transmission, hydraulic and air brakes. When pulling the 24-ft. van trailer, the total unit weighs 4,870 lbs.

"We've shown the vehicles at truck shows and driven them in parades," says Dell, "and they always draw huge crowds."

He notes that both units are available to lease for parades, conventions, shows and other events.

For more information, contact FARM SHOW Followup: O.B. Dell & Son, P.O. Box 51, Pittsfield, Ill. 62363 (ph 217 285-5555).

# FARM SHOW

## "Made it Myself"

Some of the best new products we hear about are "made it myself" innovations born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new invention or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors?

Harold M. Johnson, Editor

## Corn Planter Loading Auger

George Wiemers, Greenview, Ill., fills his IHC Cyclo planter hopper with this permanently mounted, hydraulically driven 4-in. auger.

The auger fits into an incision made in the hopper. It rests on, and is held in place at the upper end with, a length of 2-in. channel iron which is bolted to the side of the hopper.

The hopper end of the 12-ft. auger is bolted to a couple of hangers welded onto the planter frame. These small hangers in no way alter the planter so there is no problem at trade-in time.

Since Cyclo planters operate under air pressure, Wiemers notes that there is a loss of about one ounce of pressure, but this can be compensated for by opening a small door in back to admit more air. He plants at 7 ounces of pressure.

Air loss is kept to one ounce by careful cutting of the incision into the Cyclo box, and also by careful shaping of a seal in the feed end of the auger. To retain



air pressure, an elongated crescent-shaped length of auger housing is fitted into the auger mouth and is held there by springs.

Wiemers says the only further modification he is planning for the auger is to install a set of control valves just off the planter tongue so they can be easily reached from the ground.