FARM EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE REPAIRED NOW

By

D. S. Weaver, Agricultural Engineer.

Now, and not just before using, is the time to check over the various pieces of farm machinery that will be needed during the approaching crop year. Waiting until the last minute is apt to prove costly as your implement dealer, try as hard as he will, cannot forsee just what repairs will be ordered by the dealers in his territory and may be out of the very repair part that you need. Having to wait for him to order the part, while your work is being held up is usually costly and sometimes disastercus.

This year when purchases of a new farm equipment will undoubtedly be limited, it is doubly important that repairs be ordered well in advance of the need of the piece of equipment in the field. A systematic check-up of every implement should be made at once and a list of repairs compiled, so that they can be ordered on the next trip to town.

In checking over the tools, it is not only good practice to list the pieces actually broken or missing but also those pieces that are bent or twisted and those that give indications that they will not last through another season of hard usage.

A great deal of time, trouble and worry can be saved, if the implement is put in the best possible condition now, while plenty of time to do the job right is available, there than the unfavorable conditions of a field repair, while the work is being held up.

There is far less tendency to do a slip-shod repair if plenty of time can be put on the job, rather tha hastily repairing it in order to proceed with the work.

Plow points should be replaced or resharpened, plow handles repaired and all braces tightened. The parts at the end of the beam should fit properly and the whole plow put in good shape. Disk harrow disks should be sharpened and worn brushings replaced. The frame should be tightened and the grease cups filled, mowing machine parts, such as the knife sections, guards, ledger plates, wearing plates and knife clips should be examined for excessive wear and breaks. Wear at the level gears should be taken up by the adjustment provided and the whole cutting blade should be re-aligned. A thorough cleaning and greasing is necessary and often reveals needed replacements.

Corn and cotton planters should be checked over and cleaned and oiled so as to be ready for the planting season. Now plates are often needed and occasionally a gear tooth is broken or a chain link missing.

We are approaching the busy season for the implement dealers, give him a chance to serve you most efficiently and save yourself a lot of trouble, trips to twon and express on parts by ordering your parts at once.