

upon three small wheels is attached to the knife-bar, and sweeps to collect and deliver the clover are attached to the centre-mounting on this platform and driven by means of a chain direct from the main axle of the mower. A seat is fitted to one side, giving a view of both the horses and the mower, and by means of a special folding-device the sweeps are raised to clear both the mower-wheel and the driver as they pass. The platform is fitted with a box covered with perforated zinc to catch the threshed seed which invariably falls on the journey from the knife to the windrow, and it is contended that the expenses of harvesting are often collected in this box. A wire connects the trip to a pedal on the footboard, thus enabling the operator to trip the machine when required and so sweep the cut clover into rows behind the mower.

The photograph was taken when the machine had just finished its fourth season, having cut a total of 250 acres. The marks of hard wear are apparent in many places, while the toothless condition of some of the sweeps bears testimony of work under many adverse conditions.

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THE KING AND AGRICULTURE.

DURING the recent visit of the King and Queen to Rome they visited the International Institute of Agriculture. In replying to an address of welcome by the President of the Institute, the following interesting remarks were made by His Majesty:—

“The agricultural industry is of vital and universal importance, for it provides not only the actual necessities of life, but a firm foundation of social and political stability, while ensuring to a thrifty and industrious population a life under the healthiest of natural conditions. Hence the welfare and prosperity of the agricultural community is a matter of deep concern to the Government and people of every country. I take a personal and active interest in the fortunes and misfortunes of the industry not only in my own country and in the British dominions, but throughout the world. I am fully aware that, in addition to the uncertainties at all times inherent in agriculture, the industry to-day has to combat special difficulties owing to the severe fall in prices resulting from the Great War upheaval. My sympathy goes out to my fellow-agriculturists in their trials and anxieties; but I do not despair, believing that their traditional patience, courage, and enterprise will again carry them triumphantly through this present crisis. After the ravages of war the way to peace and prosperity is uphill and devious, and perhaps the best and most direct path is to be found along the lines of international co-operation, so admirably followed during the past eighteen years by the International Institute of Agriculture. One of the main functions of the Institute is to supply farmers in all countries with the latest information, practical as well as that based upon scientific research. Year by year the necessity for such an organization is more generally recognized throughout the British Empire, and the adoption by the Governments and the agriculturists of these up-to-date methods augurs well for the industry's future. Doubtless the same spirit is manifesting itself in this beautiful land of Italy as elsewhere. In these and other directions the achievements of the International Institute of Agriculture must always be of special value, and the Queen and I are happy to have the opportunity of inspecting its work. I shall always watch with interest the progress of the Institute, confident that, favoured by the generous support which it has invariably received from His Majesty the King of Italy, and with the hearty co-operation of the adhering States, it will continue to render great services to the most essential and ancient of all industries.”