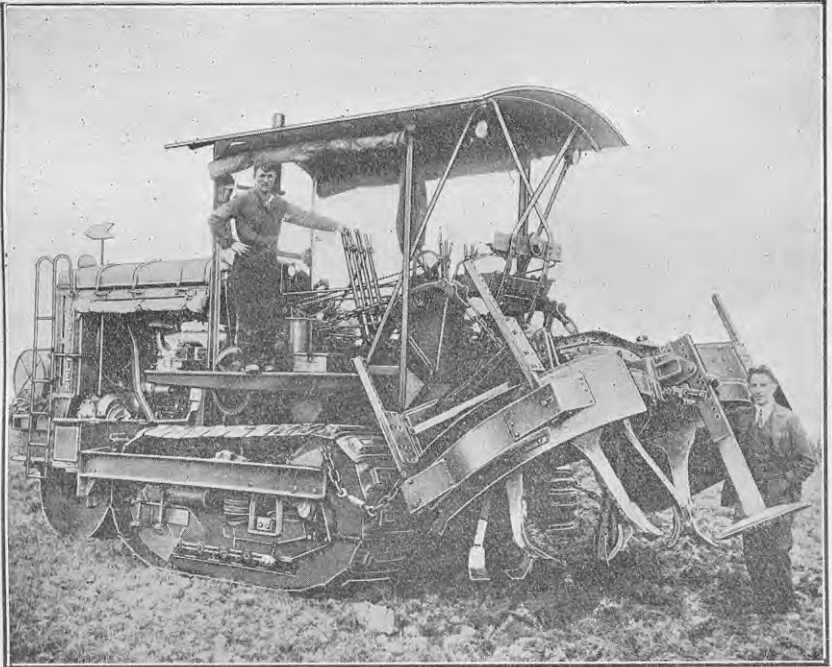


the cultivation being done, and consequently less and less time elapsed between the cultivation and the sowing of the crop. An extreme case, and one where the dissatisfaction is the worst, is where the land was tilled out of lea in late September with the object of sowing swedes in November. The consequences of such an effort on the subsequent crop are obvious.

It will be assumed rightly from the foregoing that a doubt exists in South Canterbury to-day as to the usefulness of the gyrotiller. Really there is no doubt at all about the efficiency of the implement: used properly, the machine does effective work.



THE GYROTILLER.

As has been the case with many innovations in agriculture of recent years, over-enthusiasm and lack of attention to the first principles of agriculture have been the cause of discrediting the gyrotiller in some parts. Had the owners of the machine given due regard to the object of the cultivation, the season of the year, the state of the field, and the desired crop, instead of creating the feeling that the machine overcame all difficulties, the position to-day would not have arisen. Briefly, eagerness not to miss work last season will be a great hindrance to getting work this year in the northern parts of South Canterbury.

In the Waimate district, where contracting commenced in April, farmers had the work carried out with the object of putting the ground into potatoes, and results have been excellent. There is, however, no reliable way in which comparison of results on gyrotilled and on ordinary