

to adjudicate, & he gave the decision to the Osborne. The following week a trial was again given at Rangiora, and the judging was done by the farmers present, & they gave the decision in favour of the McCormick, by about 150 votes.

This machine has held its popularity until the present day. But it was a very cumbersome thing to what they are at the present time.

When once assured that it was a decided benefit to the farming community. There was a very considerable number of machines of other makes. There was the Hornsby, Buckeye, Brantford, Deering, Massey, Mercer & several others. The Brantford was later affiliated with the Massey, & later there was a combination of this firm with the Harris & the name continues to the present time as the Massey Harris. The most popular kinds at the present time are the McCormick, and the Massey Harris. As far as the "woods" was concerned it changed its pattern, to the single apron & the crop harvested had not to be elevated so nearly so high as the original one. In fact the other machines, are on a very much simpler plane, and also much lighter in draught. One characteristic of the woods was, that the quicker the horses travelled, the further the machine pitched off the sheep & generally it tumbled on its head.

With the McCormick, the table attached to hold the corn being bound, held the sheaf until the next one was tied, which pushed the previous one off. The Buckeye was the first machine to have a carrier attached so as to hold the sheaves

(three or four), & then trip & discharge. This simplified matters when it came to stooking, as there was not the moving about for every individual sheaf.

There were three McCormicks came to our district in 1848 & my father, a Mr J. Cunningham & Mr Henry Washburne, ^{were the purchasers.} As I said they were very cumbersome, and, the frame work was all of wood. But the wheels were all of cast iron, as well also as the frame of the binder portion, and the breakages were considerable. The string binder came in about 1881.

Pigs.

There was one outstanding day on the farm & that was the one, when the farmers had their pigs slaughtered for making them into Bacon. In those early times which were previous to such a thing as frozen meat. It was not possible to cure Bacon in the summer time. So that whether the farmer kept few or many, during the summer time they were not shut up or fattened off. But after the harvest was over, the pigs were turned out on to the stubble, or to the pea paddocks, & were soon fattened off. The killing season was between the months of April & August. Now a day the slaughtering goes on all the year round.