

# Ford Tractor Drawbars 101

## And Info on Receiver Hitches and Trailer Movers

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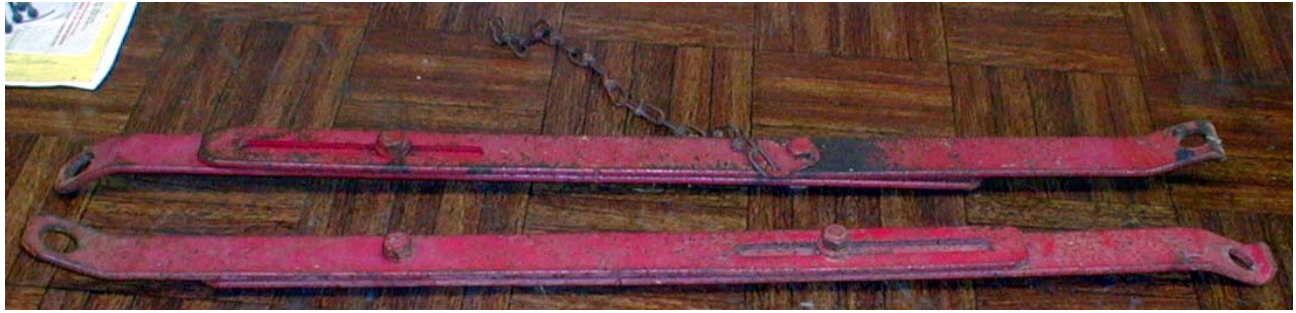
By: Ed Gooding (VA)

This tutorial is intended to show Ford tractor owners the various drawbar implements, receiver hitches and trailer movers that are available for Ford tractors. It will describe some of them, show photos and drawings and offer information on how to safely attach and use them.

All Ford tractors with a 3-point lift can use the 11-hole cross drawbar that probably came with the tractor. It is attached to the two lift links. The 11 holes in the cross drawbar are used for a variety of attaching components like hitch balls, a clevis or two or a similar attaching component.

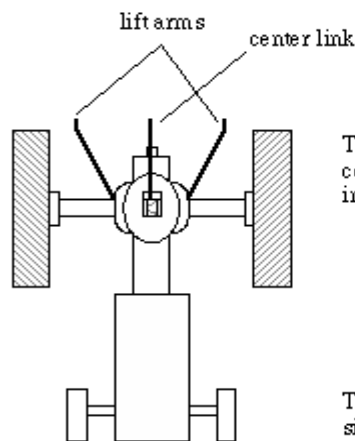


Since Ford tractors of the 1930's through the 70's did not have down pressure on their hydraulic lift system, there is risk of a towed implement pushing the lift links up in certain situations. To prevent this, you would install stay bars, aka stabilizer links that look like this:

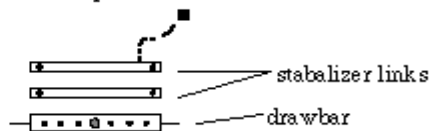


Here are instructions on attaching:

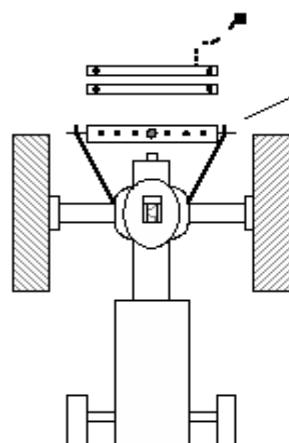
### Ford 9N, 2N, 8N Draw Bar Hitch



The Ford N standard hitch includes 2 lift arms and a center link that are used to connect to the 3-point implement hitch pins

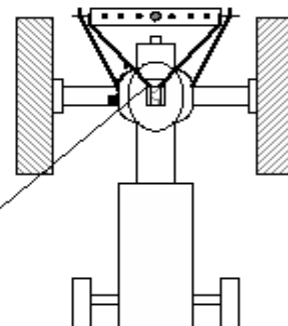


The draw bar attachment includes the draw bar, a left side stabilizer link, and a right side stabilizer link with a chain attached to it.



When using the draw bar, the center link is not used. The draw bar is first connected to the lift arms.

The right and left stabilizer links are connected from the center hitch pin on the tractor to the draw bar pins. The hitch should be in the down position and the right side stabilizer chain should be connected to the quadrant lever to lock it in the down position.



Here's a photo of them installed, with arrows pointing them out, and information on the safety chain that is used with them to lock your lift lever in the down position. This prevents you from absent-mindedly raising the lift and bending the stay bars or worse, damaging your hydraulic system:

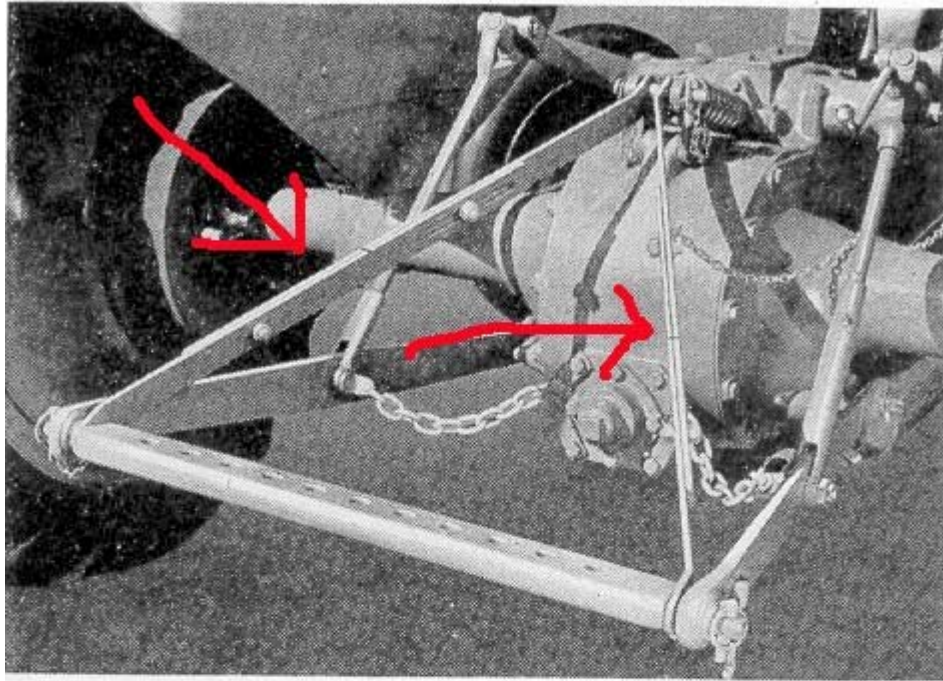


Fig. 156 — Adjustable Drawbar

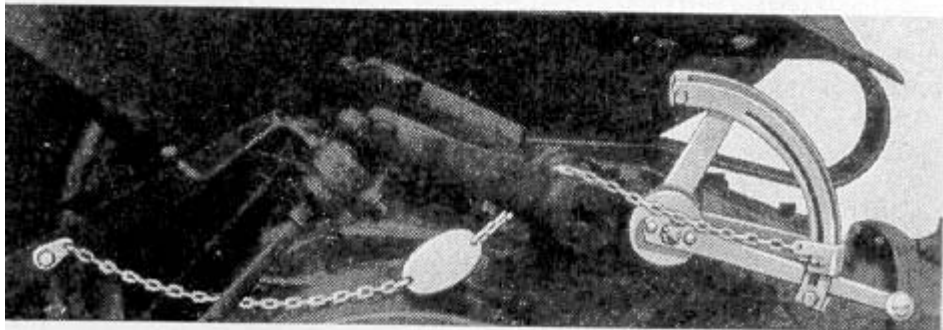


Fig. 157 — Safety Lock and Chain

This is the warning tag in the safety chain shown above:



Here's a photo of the entire chain, with attaching points and safety warning tag:



Ford introduced a V-bar that was intended to augment and stabilize towing and was used with the cross drawbar as show here:



It prevented the drawbar from rotating when trying to hook up and use, and provided some overall stability when towing.

Here are photos of the cross drawbar and V-bar attached to an 8N:



Ford subsequently introduced a swinging drawbar for the 8N model. This cannot be used on 9N's and 2N's because the under-axle bracket cannot be attached to those models. The under axle bracket looks like this:



The swinging drawbar is retained by a 1" diameter, steel pin that you push up and twist to engage a slot in the bracket hole.

This could be used to tow implements right behind the tractor, or offset to one side or the other. It was often used this way with certain harvesting implements. It used the cross drawbar for stabilization. You will note that this tractor also has the anti-sway bars installed that attach to the fender mounts under the axle and to the lift pins:



As you can see from the photo, the drawbar stays (stabilizer links) must also be used with this configuration to prevent accidentally raising the hydraulic lift when this is installed.



This swinging drawbar version was subsequently replaced by a model that was more convenient to use and is seen on everything from 8N's to later Thousand Series tractors. It does not require the cross drawbar, the V-bar, nor the drawbar stays and safety chain. It can pretty much be left on the tractor at all times, since the swinging drawbar component often has multiple holes that allow it to be pushed to the front of the tractor and out of the way of other implements, but leaves it ready to use whenever and wherever needed. Like the Dearborn model, it has a bracket that attaches under the axle, but uses a different type of attaching pin that is retained by a lynch pin. You will need to remove the four existing bolts and replace them with ones that are slightly longer than the existing ones to account for the thickness of the bracket. You may need washers as spacers, as the bolt holes bottom out in the axle housing.



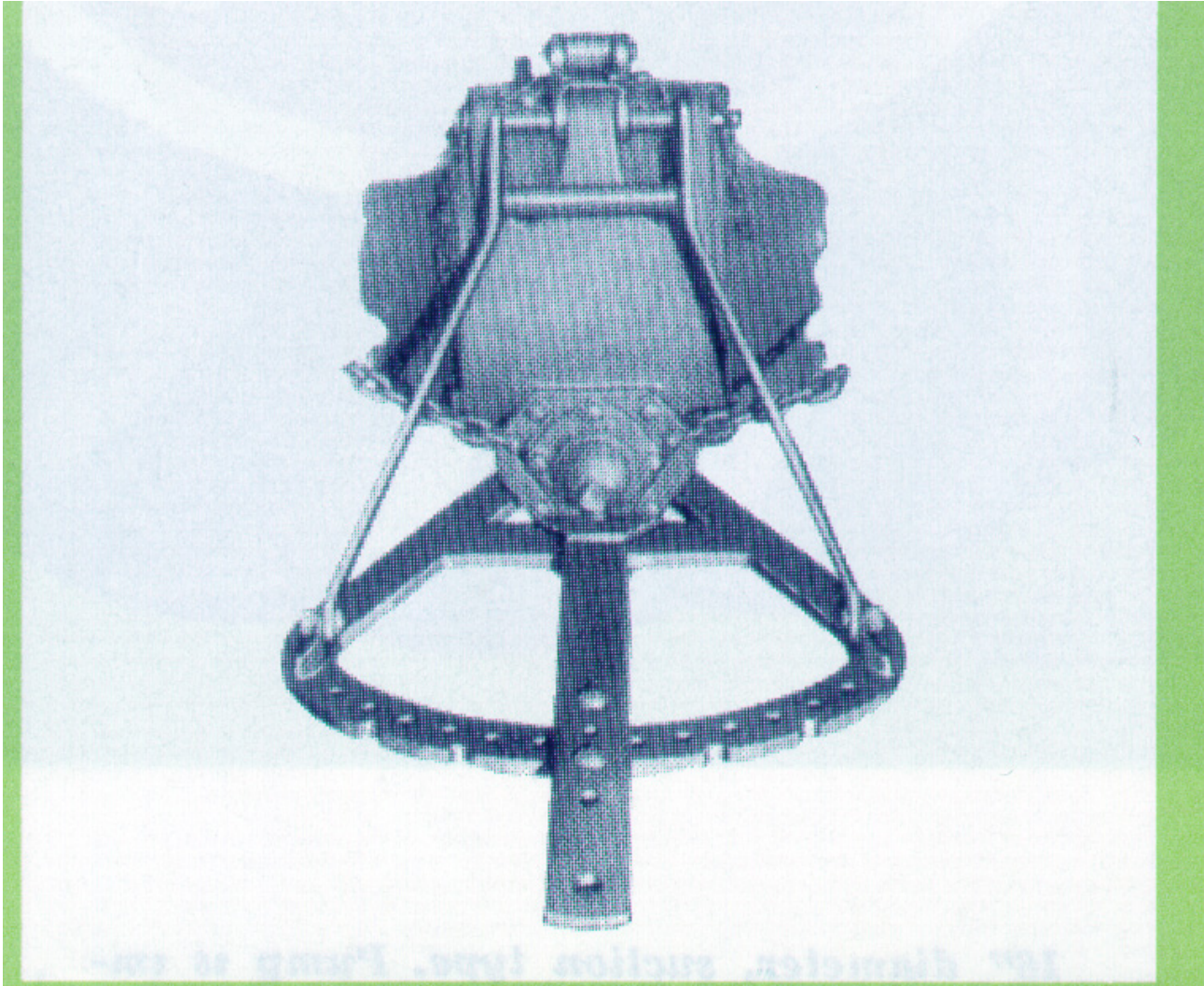
A second bracket is attached around the PTO housing after removing the anti-sway chain tabs, and the existing anti-sway chains are then attached to this bracket, as shown in the photo below:



As shown here, you use two bolts and nuts to lock the drawbar in the position you need to use it – either straight behind the tractor, or offset to one side or the other.

***Also note that components of this model swinging drawbar are NOT compatible with the earlier Dearborn model and parts may NOT be interchanged.***

There were other drawbar versions and models introduced by Ford/Ferguson and other vendors. Here's an earlier model that is very rare and I've only seen one before:

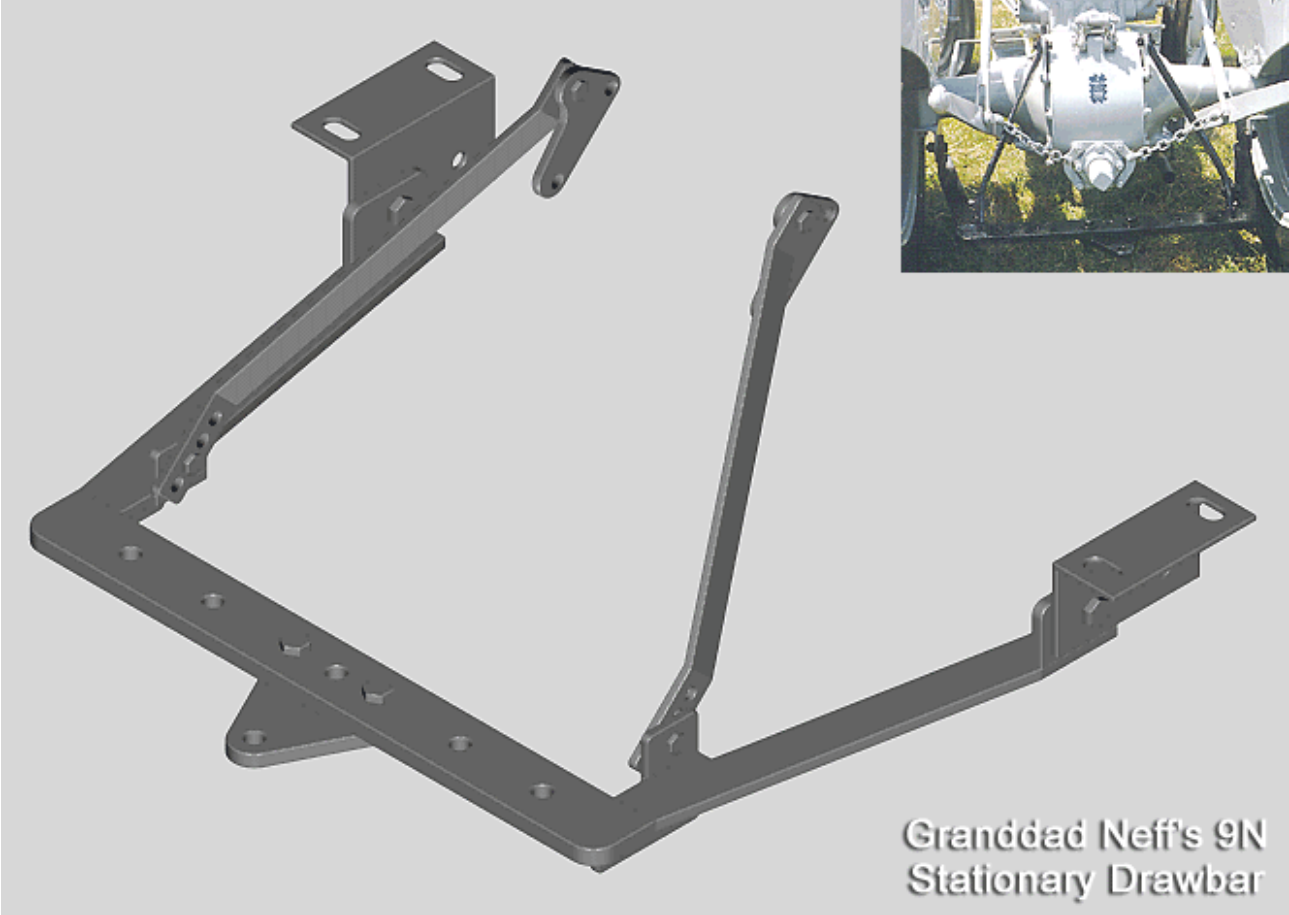


**SWINGING DRAWBAR**—Includes drawbar, guide and supporting struts. Swings 40 degrees either side of center. Automatically locks in one of the notches when backing load. Thirteen bolt holes in guide provided for fixed drawbar operation if desired.

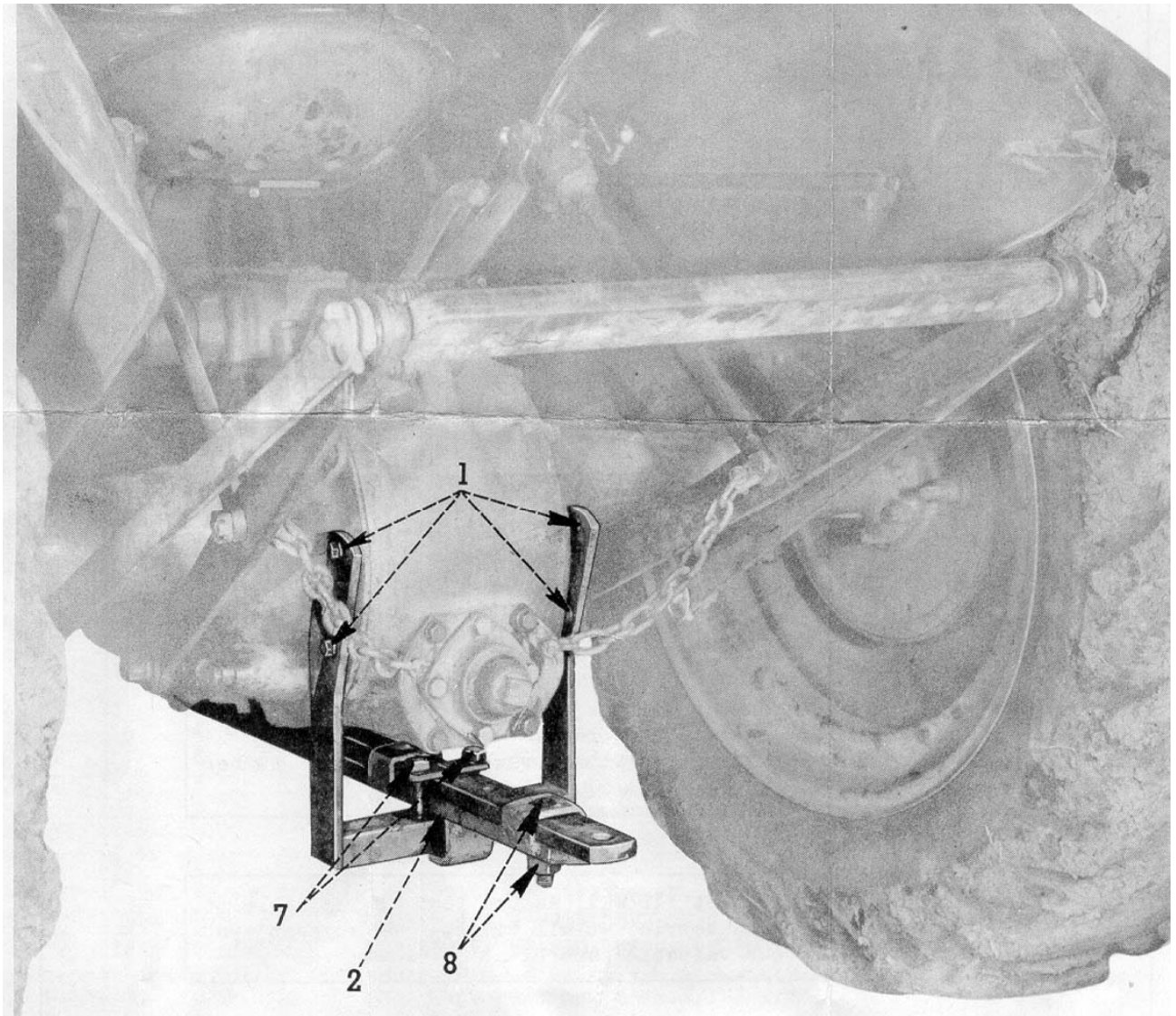
Here's a photo of one:



Here's a nice home-made drawbar that Tyler Neff's grandfather fabricated for their 9N that would attach to 9N's and 2N's:



Here's one offered by Sears Roebuck:



## SETTING-UP AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

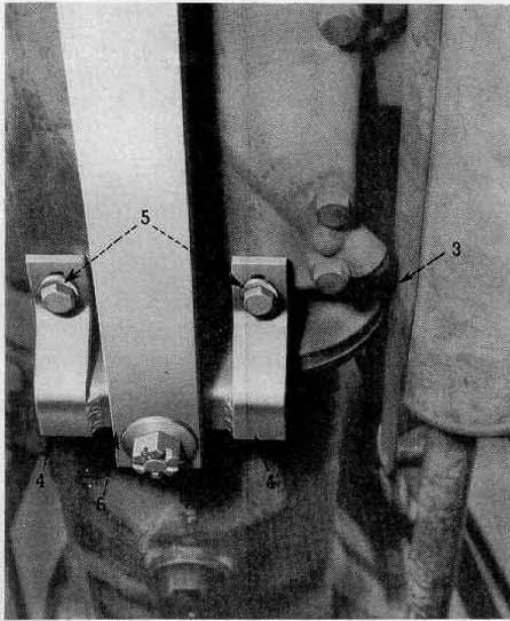


FIGURE B

Setting-Up and Operating Instructions should be studied very closely before beginning to assemble your drawbar. When R.H. (Right Hand) and L.H. (Left Hand) are used, it should be understood to mean from a position behind and facing the drawbar.

In the Setting-Up Instructions number appearing at the beginning of a paragraph refers to an arrow in the figure indicated.

(NOTE--

Figure B is a view looking upward from under the tractor.)

### SETTING-UP INSTRUCTIONS

1. To attach the drawbar to your tractor, take out four capscrews in the rear of the gear case as shown in Figure A. Place the drawbar channel and support bar in position on the gear case. Fasten securely with four capscrews found in bag of parts wired in bundle.
2. Rest the drawbar on the channel and support bar as shown in Figure A.
3. Before proceeding to assemble your drawbar, drain oil from transmission housing at drain plug (Figure B).
4. Remove two bottom bolts on the flange between the transmission housing and motor housing on underside of transmission as shown in Figure B.
5. Remove two front capscrews on the inspection plate. (Figure B).
6. Place drawbar bracket and brace assembly on flange between tractor transmission housing and motor housing. Secure with furnished bolts. (Figure B).
5. Bolt bracket and brace assembly to inspection plate with furnished 2" capscrews. (Figure B, Illustration 5). Tighten bolts and capscrews securely.

### OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

**CAUTION:** Keep all Bolts and capscrews securely tightened.

To adjust length of rear drawbar, loosen the two bolts thru the lock plate, (Figure A, Illustration 7). Remove the bolt, (Figure A, Illustration 8) thru the rear drawbar and guide. Slide the rear drawbar to position desired. Reinsert bolt and tighten. Then retighten the two bolts thru the lock plate. (The drawbar should be adjusted to length as radius of turning requires).

This drawbar attachment can be used in a swinging or stationary position as desired. For use as a swinging drawbar, remove the two bolts, (Figure A, Illustration 7), thru the lock plate.

When pulling a Manure Spreader use the drawbar in its shortest position.

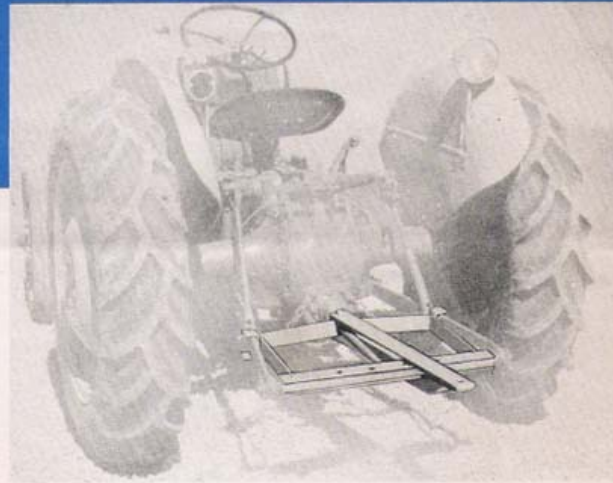
Here's a model offered by Farm & Tractor Equipment Specialties:

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BOX 156  
EAU CLAIRE, MICH.



Tractor implement dealers are now offering 3-point, 2" receiver type hitches to allow people to use towing implements from their automobiles on their tractors. They look similar to this one that I own:



Here's another variation on this implement:



And another:



And another:

