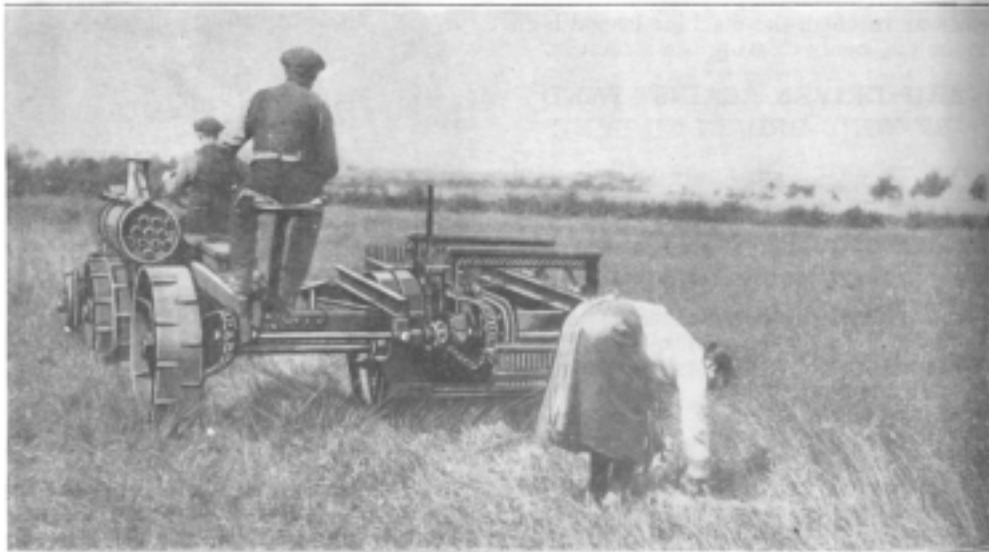


### MACHINES FOR FLAX-PULLING TO SUPERSEDE HAND LABOR

One of the most costly and tedious of the processes in connection with the manufacture of linen is the pulling of the flax, which hitherto has had to be done by hand. New attempts are now being made in Europe to do this mechanically, and several tests have recently been made of different flax-pulling machines. The most successful seems to be one that is now running in Ireland. This machine, like others tried in England, France, Russia, and Canada, fundamentally consists of a comblike arrangement that grasps the flax stems, and by the resistance of the seed capsules of the fiber plucks them from the ground. All weeds growing among the flax slide through the puller and are not plucked. After being pulled, the flax is thrown onto a binding arrangement similar to that used in grain harvesters. It is then bound and shocked, also like sheaves of grain. The flax puller is hauled by horse or tractor, and only a driver and an operator on the puller are needed to operate the machine, which will harvest about 10 acres a day.



Flax-Pulling Machine That Harvests Flax Much in the Same Manner as a Binder Harvests Grain, Excepting That It Pulls the Flax Stems Out by the Roots Instead of Cutting Them: This is Done by the Comblike Device Driven by the Endless Chain