

### **Thrashing. (grains)**

Read about the North Canal Farming Company. (Farmer's cooperatively owned the thrasher) under Oskar Business.

**Bob Olson**, son of Alex Olson shares with Barb Koski April 2008:

There was a thrasher that farmers in area had ownership of. It was kept in a red barn at pie of Houghton Canal and "Red Barn" road. Each spring farmers would decide what men would take the thrasher to local farms for Barley, Wheat, and Oats. He recalls **John Koski** was often one driver. **Arnold Lantto** another. Straw came out one end and a shoot would take the grain to a wagon. Straw was used for animal bedding.

**Ted Ruohonen** also thrashed at age about 14. (1942).

**Oats** 1944 Agriculture Agent report: The UP Experiment Station in Chatham gave Iowa 444 and Vicland Oats in 2-bushel lots to 6 cooperators for trial in Houghton County. **Alex Olson/Oskar** was one grower. The idea was to try growing in various soil types for best yield. All cooperators got satisfactory yields. But Bond Cross was rated the best.

All seed oats produced by the cooperators were purchased by neighbors.

Researched by Barb Koski, retired Extension Home Economist.