FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY + LEFOREST SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

POWERED TRAILER FOR WHEELED TRACTOR



Application of power to the wheels of a trailer has increased the efficiency of a wheeled tractor in western Kentucky. Power is applied to the trailer wheels by the tractor motor through a conventional power take-off. Power is thus distributed to more wheels, and slippage on soft ground is reduced.

This log-hauling trailer is coupled to the tractor in a few minutes as easily as any other powered farm machinery. Loads averaging 500 feet of logs are hauled over ground and roads where it is impossible to operate a truck. When out of gear, the trailer serves as a conventional unit operating at higher speeds or with heavier loads on good roads.

Most of the parts were obtained from old trucks. Referring to figure 1 the parts are as follows:

- 1. General implement corn-picker power take-off shaft.
- 2. Universal joints from old trucks.
- 3. Bearings.
- 4. Gear box to reverse direction of rotation of shaft (this was specially made for this trailer).
- 5. Transmission from the same 1934 truck from which the chassis was taken. Mounted in reverse position directly to the end of the original drive shaft.
- 6. Hand brake (handle broken off in picture) working the original truck brakes.
- 7. Trailer hitch.
- 8. Front end of trailer frame made from an old truck frame.

Since no alterations of the tractor are necessary, there is no interference with its use for other farm work or for powering the small sawmill used by this operator.

E. W. Fobes
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(Information furnished by Ralph A. Nelson, Farm Forester, Princeton, Kentucky)

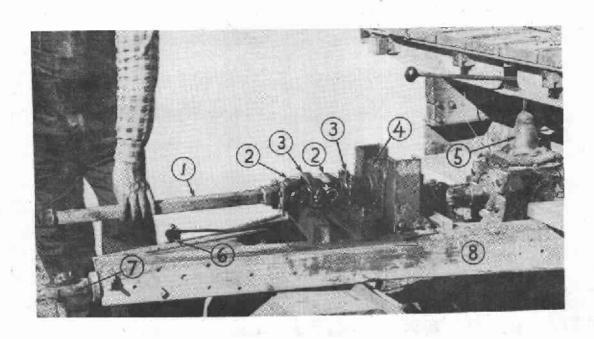


Figure 1 .-- Details of operating parts of powered trailer.

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