

IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

END-LOADING SEMI-TRAILER



An effective end-loading semi-trailer has been noted in northeastern California. This unit was developed cooperatively by the Forest Service and a logging company to harvest scattered timber. Performance and test data have proven it is particularly well adapted for this purpose and suggests its possibilities elsewhere for picking up scattered logs or loads along roads.

The unit consists of a short wheel base truck and pole trailer with tandem wheels. Hollow tubular steel arches are built up over the bunks on the trailer and truck. An ordinary cable block is attached to the apex of the forward arch, and a snatch block is similarly attached to the rear arch. Installation of a power takeoff winch just behind the truck cab completes the assembly (fig. 1).

When the truck arrives at the loading point the cable is pulled out through both blocks and attached to a log. As the winch pulls the cable in, the front end of the log is raised up over the rear bunk (fig. 2). The cable is then released and slipped out of the rear snatch block. Again power is applied to the winch which draws the log forward over the front bunk (fig. 3).

In unloading the cable is run through both blocks and then forward to the front end of the log. When power is applied the log is skidded backward off the unit.

Further details can be obtained from the Regional Forester, Forest Service, 630 Sansome St., San Francisco 11, Calif., who provided the pictures shown.

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† Maintained at Madison, Wisconsin in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin

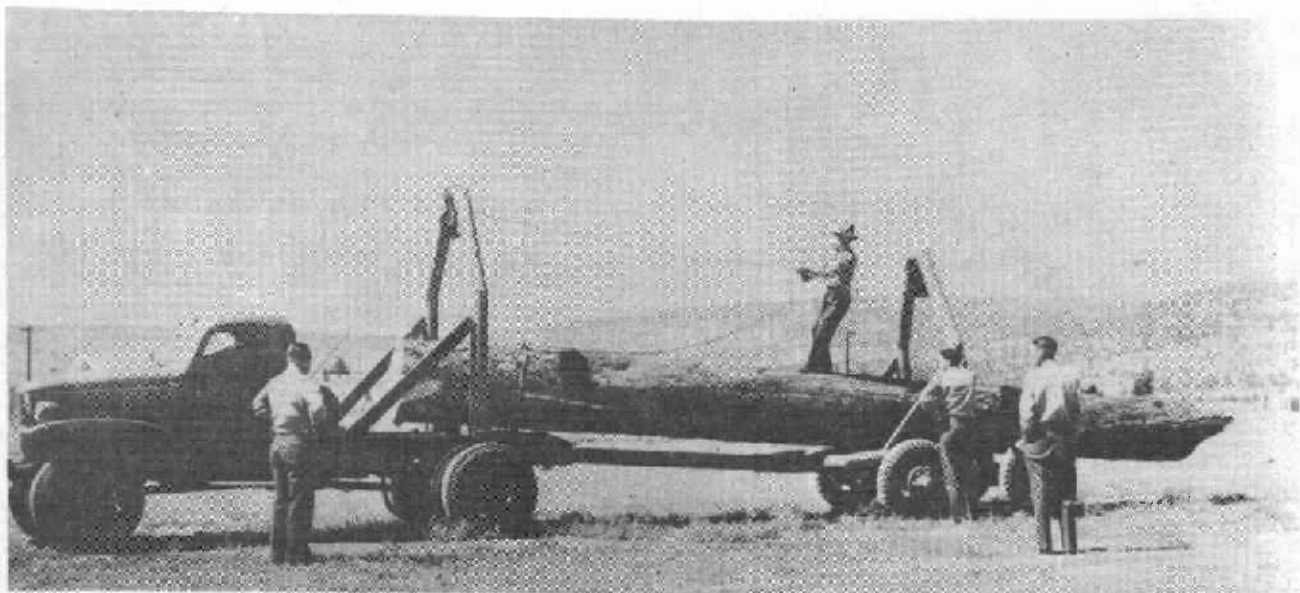


Figure 1.--Complete end-loading trailer unit.



Figure 2.--Loading log over rear bunk.

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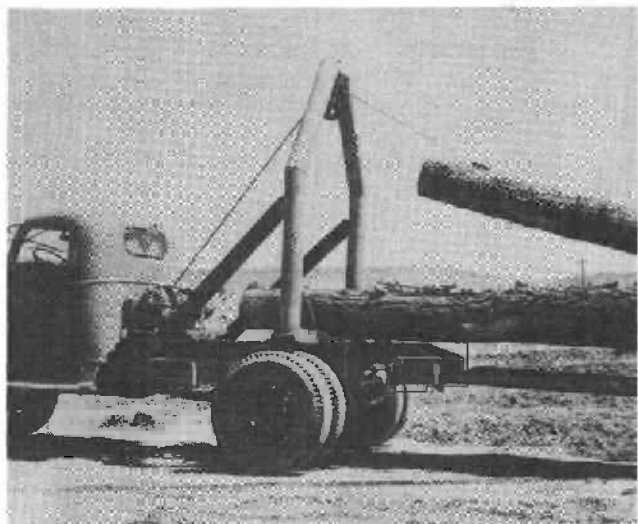


Figure 3.--Loading log over front bunk.