

# IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

## EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

### PLANK ROADS

Temporary plank roads have been used in the South for many years to log swamps and overflow lands along the rivers. Many of these are abandoned after the logging is completed, and very little lumber is salvaged (fig. 1). In recent years a few companies have built tracks in sections to permit their removal and reuse elsewhere.

A new type of reusable plank track developed in England has been found very practical for similar conditions. The track sections are made of short plank bound together by steel strapping (fig. 2).<sup>1</sup> Loops in the steel strap at the ends of the track sections are left so pipe can be inserted to join them. After the pipe connector is inserted, iron rods are driven into the ground through holes in the ends of the pipe. This prevents side slippage of the pipe and the tracks.

Steel strapping has also been used in the Northeast to bind round poles together (fig. 3). These corduroy mats are used across mudholes, wet-weather springs, and seeps on spur roads.

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Figure 1. --Temporary plank road used in southern swamps.

<sup>1</sup>Reference: Wood, issue of Sept. 1952, page 368.

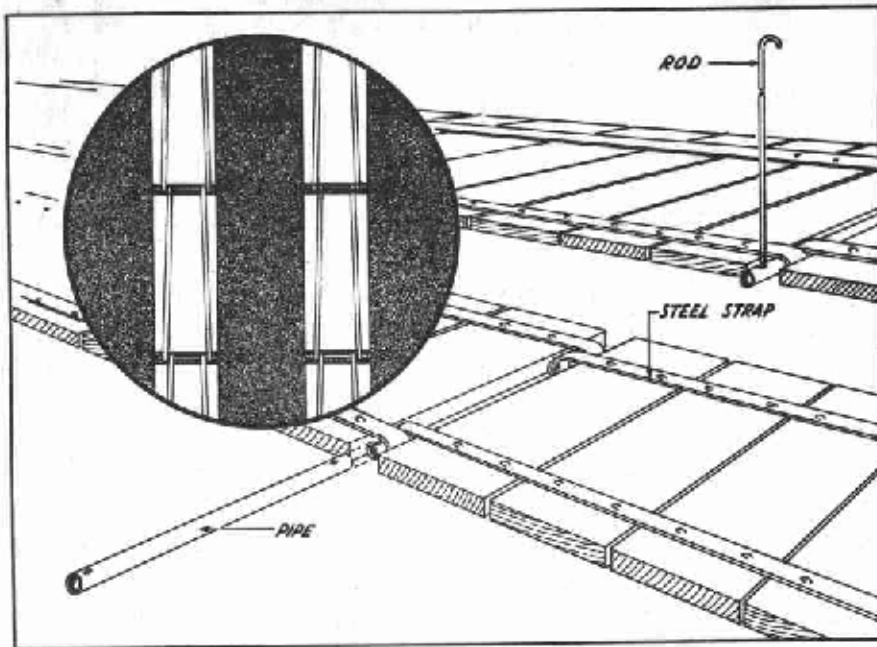


Figure 2. --"Flexboard" road used by the Army in England.

**TRUCK MATS**  
FOR EMERGENCY USE ON SOFT GROUND

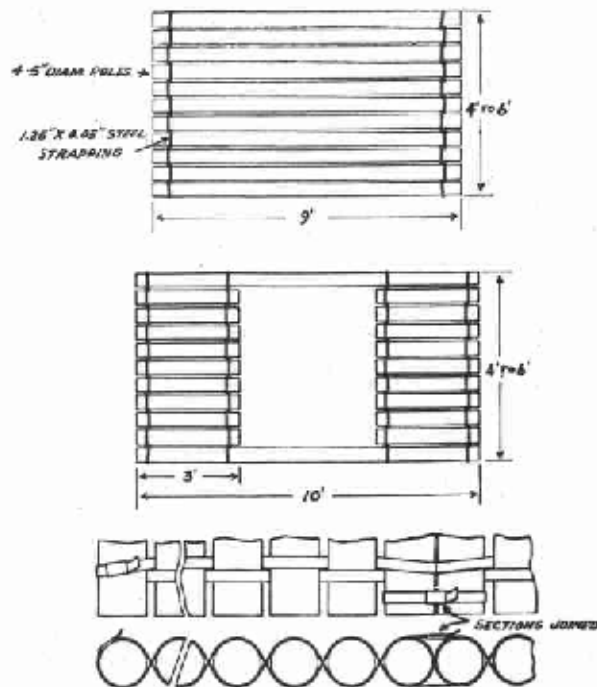


Figure 3. --Corduroy mat for emergency use.