

## IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

### EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

#### RACKING SHORT SAWLOGS FOR TRUCK LOADING

A simple, inexpensive method of stacking short logs or tie cuts on racks, and then loading them on trucks, is used in eastern Oklahoma. It contributes to economical harvesting of small sawlogs. The method appears suitable for any type of flat-bed truck and is used to collect farmer-cut sawlogs.

Equipment needed for the truck includes a power takeoff winch mounted behind the cab, a fixed roller on the rear end of the truck-bed, and a pipe roller (fig. 1).

Racks consisting of two well-braced stringers or skids (similar to pulpwood drays) are used to hold the logs loaded on them in the woods. Each end of a short piece of cable is attached to the front end of the stringers. In loading this cable is looped down under and up over the ends of the stringers so they ride on the cable while going over the rear roller. Otherwise the stringers catch under the roller.

At the loading point the winch cable is pulled out and hooked onto the cable on the rack. As the winch winds up the cable, the rack is lifted up over the rear end of the truck, and rolls forward on the fixed roller (fig. 2). When the point of balance is passed, the front end of the rack drops onto the pipe roller. The load is then drawn up tight against a stop (fig. 3).

To unload the logs, the winch is disengaged and the load loosened. Then the truck is backed up and stopped suddenly, and the momentum of the load carries it backward over the rollers and off the truck.

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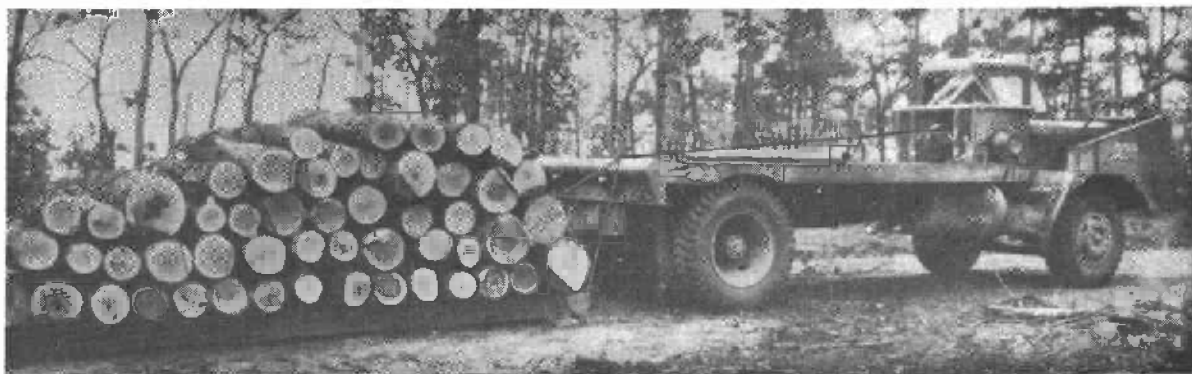


Figure 1.--Logs, rack, and truck in position for loading.



Figure 2.--Loaded rack being pulled onto truck.



Figure 3.--Rack loaded and ready for transport.