

## IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

### EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

#### COMBINED BUNCHING AND SKIDDING



A unique system has been developed in the Lake States whereby logs are bunched and skidded in one operation with a tractor and arch. The only extra equipment required is an attachment on the choker and in some cases a special hook on the towing cable.

Two different attachments have been observed. Simplest of these and perhaps the original is an iron ring through which the towing cable is passed as it is pulled out. The last ring is attached to what the inventor calls a "fish hook" (fig. 1). As the cable is reeled in the rings slide along the cable until they are caught by the hook and pulled to the arch. Although some wear results, the necessary rings and hooks are easily replaced because they can be fabricated in any local blacksmith shop.

Another attachment is heavier, but eliminates cable wear by use of a roller. One feature of this patented device is that it can be clamped over the cable after the latter is pulled out (fig. 2). It closes like a "cold shut" chain repair link. In operation the towing cable is hooked to the choked log farthest out. With the other chokers attached at various points along the cable, it will lie in an irregular or zig-zag line (as illustrated). As the cable is reeled in it straightens out and acts as a high lead pulling logs in from the sides. Each attachment then slides along the cable until it is caught by the hook and pulled to the arch. Bunching is completed and the load ready to go to the landing without further work.

The system presents many possibilities for high lead yarding on western relogging areas. The patented roller attachment was exhibited October 1947 at the Lake States Logging Congress.

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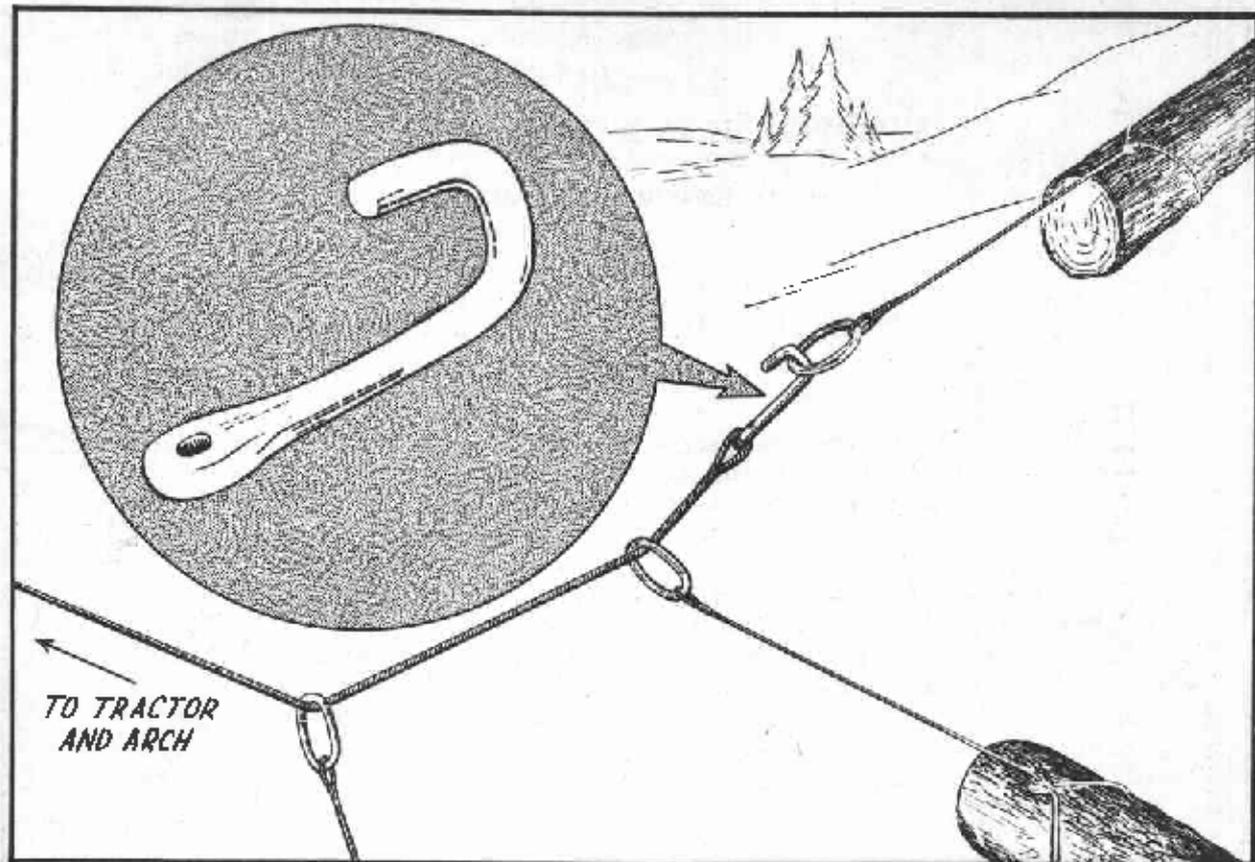


Figure 1.--Choker rings and fish hook

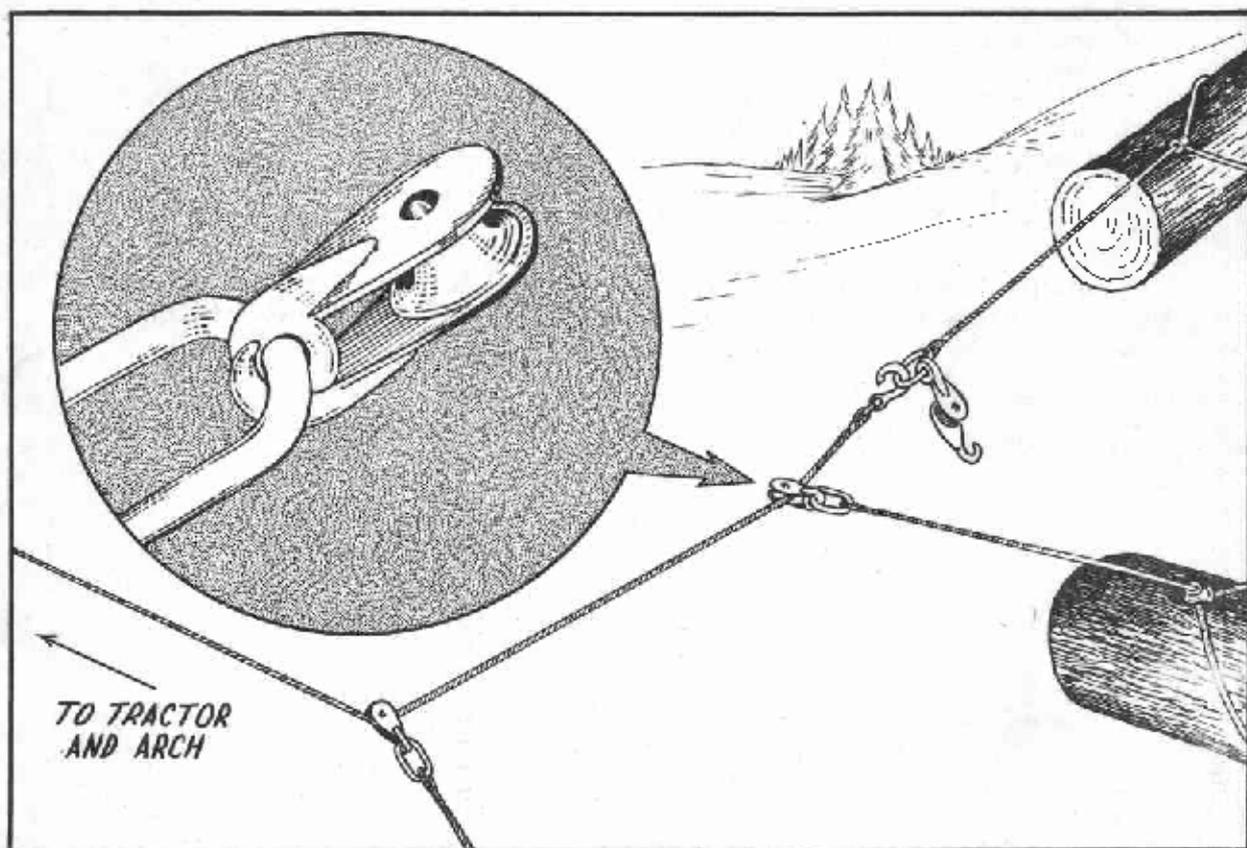


Figure 2.--Roller choker attachment