Two attachments on oil-field tractors, a winch and a detachable loading boom, appear to be useful for some logging operations. They have been used to skid pipe and handle heavy oil-field equipment in practically the same way that logs are handled.

Winches are of standard commercial design rather than specially designed towing winches. Mounting brackets raise the winch sufficiently to exert considerable lifting force on the load being skidded (fig. 1). Behind the winch a steel frame is built with vertical rollers to protect the cable on side pulls (A, fig. 1). The cable can be run over a top roller (B, fig. 1) to get greater lifting force as needed.

The detachable loading boom is connected to the winch frame when needed (fig. 2). In this case, the loading cable passes over the top frame roller. The height and angle of the boom, while suitable for some logging conditions, would probably require modification for many logging jobs.

This attachment has an advantage over the somewhat similar device described in Rept. No. R1637-1 in that it has the removable loading boom.

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Figure 1.—High winch mounting on skidding tractor.

Figure 2.—Boom attached to tractor winch bracket.