Mobile and portable pulpwood loading conveyors are used extensively in the Northeast, but are rare or unknown in other parts of the country. These machines are very efficient and warrant consideration in other areas.

There are many different designs, but most of them use a conveyor chain in a trough to convey wood endwise (fig. 1). Some conveyors are mounted on skids along with a small motor, and others are mounted on trucks and tractors. An efficient tractor-mounted model is shown in figure 2.

A single two-section conveyor chain in the center of the V-trough is coupled to the power-take-off spindle on the tractor. One section of the chain is used for the front or stationary section, and the other, for the movable section of the conveyor. The two sections are coupled by sprockets and chain.

The movable section of the conveyor is held in position by a hydraulic cylinder obtained from a dump truck, and it is operated by pressure from the pump on the tractor. By depressing one or the other of the two levers on the top end of the conveyor, the top loader can be regulated so as to raise or lower the rear section. Thus, manpower lowers wood onto and off the conveyor, and machine power raises it. Three men generally load 12 cords per hour, or 4 cords per man-hour.

This type of conveyor can be built as a removable tractor attachment that will permit use of the tractor for other purposes.

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Figure 1.--Loading pulpwood with mobile pulpwood conveyor.

Figure 2.--Mobile pulpwood conveyor mounted on wheel tractor.