AUTOMATIC TRIP STAKES

Log-truck stakes that are automatically tripped to dump the load without the driver having to leave the truck cab have been developed by a Lake States logger. He has fitted a standard 6 by 6 truck with a steel side-dumping bed with 8-foot bunks made of 8-inch I-beams. A 2-inch by 2-foot hydraulic piston run by the truck's power take-off raises one side of the bed 2 feet (fig. 1). This is sufficient to trip the stakes and roll the load off the truck. Figure 2 illustrates how the stake-tripping device works.

"A" is a stationary bunk, and "B" is the moving bunk. As the far side of bunk "B" is raised by the piston, the near end moves downward. The lug "C" engages the bottom of the stake and raises it, causing the retaining lug "D" to be disengaged from its stocket "E".

This truck is being used around the mill yard exclusively, but there is no technical reason why it could not be used for hauling. It is also mechanically possible to adapt this same principle to a truck with a logging trailer by using two hydraulic cylinders instead of one.

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Figure 1.--General view of logging truck and body raised.

Figure 2.--Details of trip stake.