



The Falling Crew No Longer Yells The Stirring Cry Of "TIMBER"

Not so many years ago ... in the day of the cross-cut saw and double-bitted ax ... the cry of "Timber" was frequently heard in the Big Woods. It served as a warning to all within hearing distance that a tree was being felled ... and to get out of the way and to watch for falling limbs and snags. But then they were usually three-man crews.

The falling crews now are composed of one man, equipped with chain saw, ax, wedges and steel tape to measure his cut. It is highly doubtful whether the work is any easier but they cut a great deal more timber. As soon as the tree hits the ground it is butted, if necessary, to remove splinters or cracks or doughy wood ... the steel tape is hooked to the bottom of the log and the process of bucking is begun. Naturally, limbs must be removed and as soon as the tape tells him he has the desired length he simply saws through the log and repeats the operation up the tree trunk until he runs out of tree. It is man-killing, but in a good stand of timber a faller may make as much as \$1,600 a month.

Since the man works alone and no one else is in danger of his falling a tree on him he has given up the practice of warning others with age-old cry of "Tim-ber-rrr."

Straight Down, Straight Up Or End-wise A Chain Saw Takes The Biggest Ones!

In the good old days of the cross-cut saw you had to have a saw about three feet longer than the largest cut to be made. The chain saw is, however, a great deal different. About the largest blade seen in the woods now is a 42" job, which does the work very well. If the first cut through doesn't reach the other side he simply reverses his stand and completes the cut across. Or if he chooses, he can start the cut from the bottom and perhaps avoid using a wedge to keep the saw from pinching when the weight of the tree begins to bear down on the cut.

It is an academic fact that mechanization has increased each man's production; it is equally true that there must be men, a good man, to operate the machine regardless of its nature.



The "Cat" and A-Frame Has Replaced The Horse and High Wheels In Skidding

In this picture, Gene Johnson is shown skidding in several good logs on The Edison Ice Cave timber sale being cut by Lelco.

Just as soon as the tree is felled, bucked and scaled and the number of feet recorded and credited to the particular faller, the skidder comes thundering through the woods to pick up the logs to get them to a centrally located place to be loaded on the trucks.

Gene and the other skidders have their own built-in road building equipment in the dozer blade in front of the cat.

With his blade the skinner can push down a log ... go over or around the obstacles then the next course of action is to get the cat as close as possible and carry the choker out to the log where it is hooked on and the log pulled up to the cat. As soon as a load is picked up they are headed for the landing.