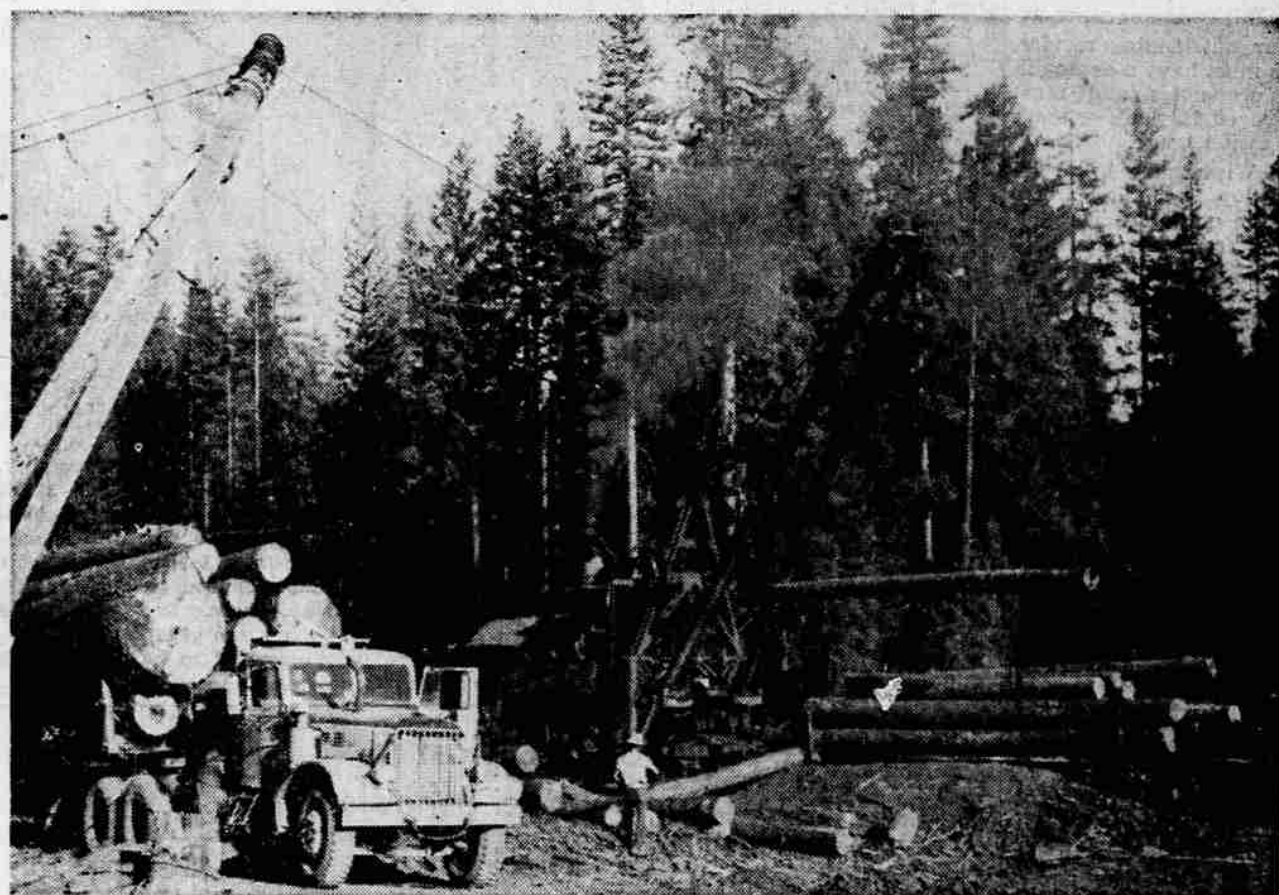


Lumber Jills



The logging and lumber industry, mainstay of the economy of Jackson county and Oregon, is no longer just a man's world. Women are to be found working with their husbands and employers in many phases of the exciting operation which converts the growing tree into a piece of finished lumber. Driving one of the big logging trucks is usually a man's work, but attractive Mrs. Alford Cooper of Shady Cove has been wheeling one of the mechanical monsters over the county roads for more than six years. Here Mrs. Cooper, known to her friends as Mickey, checks in with Joe Madden, Medford, log scaler at Elk Lumber company. Mrs. Cooper, who works with her husband, even throws and fastens the heavy chains which hold the logs on the truck, and has averaged three loads a day all this season. Like every good log truck driver, Mrs. Cooper says she gets out and inspects the load about three miles from the landing, and then again after reaching the main highway. In spite of the fact that the Coopers get up about 2:30 a.m. in the summer months in order to take advantage of the daylight hours, and that sometimes they are not home again before 7 or 8 p.m., Mrs. Cooper does all her own housework.



This pretty young mother, Mrs. William Shadwick of Shady Cove was a "cat skinner" in her husband's logging operation for several years before baby Jeff was born. In addition to operating the logging tractor, Mrs. Shadwick worked at other logging jobs and Mr. Shadwick proudly says "she can set choker or do anything." Little Jeff, 10 months old, has bright blue eyes and pink cheeks.



Many in the lumber industry in the Rogue valley maintain that "we couldn't get along without Mrs. Simpson." Martha Simpson is the wife of Lewis L. Simpson, executive secretary of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association, and the association, plus Mrs. Simpson, operates a 24-hour radio service for the 35 companies. The member firms and their employees can order needed machinery parts, gasoline, mobilize fire fighters, summon an ambulance or relay personal emergency messages in time of family tragedy through their mobile units and the Simpsons. During office hours the radio facility is operated from the association office; the rest of each day at the Simpsons' home, 801 King street, where Mrs. Simpson is pictured with the main set and microphone. This station is linked with about 100 mobile units, making it the largest single industrial band base in the United States. It was the first such cooperative industrial radio system in the country, has been widely publicized and served as the pattern for others in the nation.



Mrs. Leo Hoag of Trail says she is the "general flunky" for the logging business which she and her husband have operated as partners since 1950. Mr. Hoag manages the woods operation, and his wife Lee does the bookkeeping, running of parts and supplies, secures permits to move the "cats" and then flags while they are being moved and runs countless errands every day. She averages about 100 miles a day in the car, and keeps in touch with her husband by mobile radio. She is secretary-manager of the Oregon Log and Lumber Truckers' league.

Mrs. Lucille Lowman is said to be the only woman wholesale lumber buyer in southern Oregon. Mrs. Lowman and her husband, J. A. Lowman, have an office in their home, 1033 Ingrid street. She operates as a commission buyer, her husband as a salaried representative. Mrs. Lowman buys for wholesale firms in Texas and several mid-western states. She has been "in lumber" for about 12 years, starting out first as an invoice clerk for a local firm and then later going into the commission buying with an office in the Medford hotel. Mrs. Lowman says she deals mostly in fir, since she is more knowledgeable in that field.

