

Technical Session III
PACKING ADVANCES AND COSTS
C. E. Cooper - Pennsylvania

The most notable advance in packing in Pennsylvania has been the addition of new bundle tying machines. These machines are "Saxmayer, Model SRIA," manufactured by the National Bundle Tyer Company, Blissfield, Mich. They cost us \$1,013 each, delivered. This machine was designed for typing newspapers and printed matter. We had a trial of a similar machine, the "Saxmayer SRN," last spring. This machine was designed as a tree and shrub bundler. On the basis of this trial, I feel certain that the machine will more than meet our present needs.

The two machines are practically identical except for the distance from needle to table (20 inches in the SRIA and 10 inches in the SRN). The distance from tying point to the back of the frame also varies (17 inches in SRIA and 32 inches in SRN). We chose the SRIA because the 10-inch capacity of the SRN was not large enough to handle some of our larger stock.

At present we are still rolling our bundles in the wooden racks which most of you saw at Mont Alto. The bundle is compressed by the packer as it is rolled. The paper is overlapped enough to hold until it is tied. Then the bundle is slid out of the rack onto the tyer table, tied twice, and it's ready to go. The machine-tied bundles are tighter, more uniform than the hand-tied bundles, and of course less time is required. Even with the soft jute rope, the hand-tied bundles were not as tight (especially toward the end of the day when the men began to tire).

Our material costs will be reduced while paper costs remain the same, 7 to 9 per bundle for the Fibreen 890, 18-inch and 24-inch paper. Rope costs should be reduced. The jute tube rope cost us about 3 per bundle. The single ply sisal used in the trial on the machine cost us a little over a half cent per bundle. We plan to use a new plastic twine next spring which should cost about one-third of a cent per bundle. One disadvantage to the plastic is that it is slightly brittle and might shear off if kinked tightly in the knot. It should work quite well on this machine since the knot has a long bow and the twine is not kinked. The plastic was purchased for 60 per pound under the following specifications:

"Polypropylene Tying Twine (P.P.X.) consisting of a single ply having 20 strands. Minimum tensile strength 120 pounds and knot break of 66 pounds. 960 feet per pound. Packaged in bales of 2 10-lb. balls wrapped in waterproof plastic. Or equal to be P.P.X. 960 as distributed by Merit Cordage Co., Inc., 315-17 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania."