Growing Trees in Color, Logging with Helicopters Foreseen in New Film

What kind of progress will the lumber industry make by 1975? Will new equipment and new techniques come along which will revolutionize logging—as did the donkey engine, the bulldozer-equipped crawler tractor and the logging truck in their day?

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has attempted to look forward 20 years and answer these questions in a new color motion picture titled "People, Products and Progress: 1975." Advice on the lumber industry sequence was furnished by the National Lumber Manufacturers Assn.

The film shows foresters of the future injecting live, growing trees with hormones, radioactive materials and other stimulating substances to pre-season the wood and create fire-resistant qualities. Other chemicals were injected to stain the wood in desired colors while the tree is still growing.

Logger-type helicopters in the picture swoop down to lift trees from deep canyons and steep mountain sides—areas where timber is now inaccessible.

In tomorrow's sawmill, as portrayed by the film, the sawyer will have a mammoth TV screen showing him the log as it arrives in the outside cutting room—and an X-ray picture of the grain of the log will guide him as he positions it for the best separation. Logs are shown being sliced by an invisible cutting ray—leaving the boards smooth, edged, planed—and produced without sawdust.

The 28-minute picture may be rented ($15 for seven days) from the Chamber's Washington office at 1615 H. St. N. W., Washington 6, D.C.