hand clamp-trucks from the temporary storage to the dumping table (2). At this point a worker selects a field crate of celery and lifts it to the dumping table with the open side of the crate facing away from him. He turns the crate end over end, spilling the celery in a pile on the table. The empty field crate is then placed on an overhead conveyor (3), or stacked on the floor. Another worker then feeds the celery in an even flow from the dumping table to the stripping conveyor (4). The celery is fed to the conveyor so that the stalks lie side by side with the butts of the stalks pointing toward the worker. The dumping table and stripping conveyor are each 48-inches wide so that the same operation may be performed on both sides of the chain.

After the celery is fed to the stripping chain, workers standing beside the chain inspect the stalks and select those in need of additional stripping. These stalks are then stripped and replaced on the chain. The strippings usually are dropped on a trash conveyor which runs either underneath or beside the chain. Some firms also have workers who trim the roots of selected stalks after they have been stripped. The root trimmers ordinarily sit beside the chain just before the washer unit (5).

After the celery is stripped and the roots trimmed, it passes under a pressure washer. Water is sprayed on the stalks as they move through the unit.

The celery then emerges from the washer on the sorting and packing chain (6), which also is 48-inches wide. A line of sorting and packing tables (7) is situated beside the sorting and packing chain. Two workers, a sorter and a packer, work at each table, facing toward the dumping table. An empty shipping crate is selected from an overhead crate chute (8) and placed on the end of the table about two feet from the side of the chain. The sorter at the first table from the washer selects the largest size celery to be packed. The next sorter selects the next largest size to be packed and so on. If there should be a high percentage of any one size, as many as two or three tables may be used to pack the same size. For example, the workers at table 1 may sort and pack sizes which total 2½ dozen to the crate, and the next table 3 dozen. Then two tables may be used to sort and pack the 4-dozen size, two tables 6-dozen size, and one table each for 8's, 10's, and XX's. Stalks which do not fit any of these classifications run over the end of the chain and fall on a trash conveyor (11). When prices for certain sizes do not justify pack-