

J. W. POINDEXTER.
WIRE STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1912.

1,056,120.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

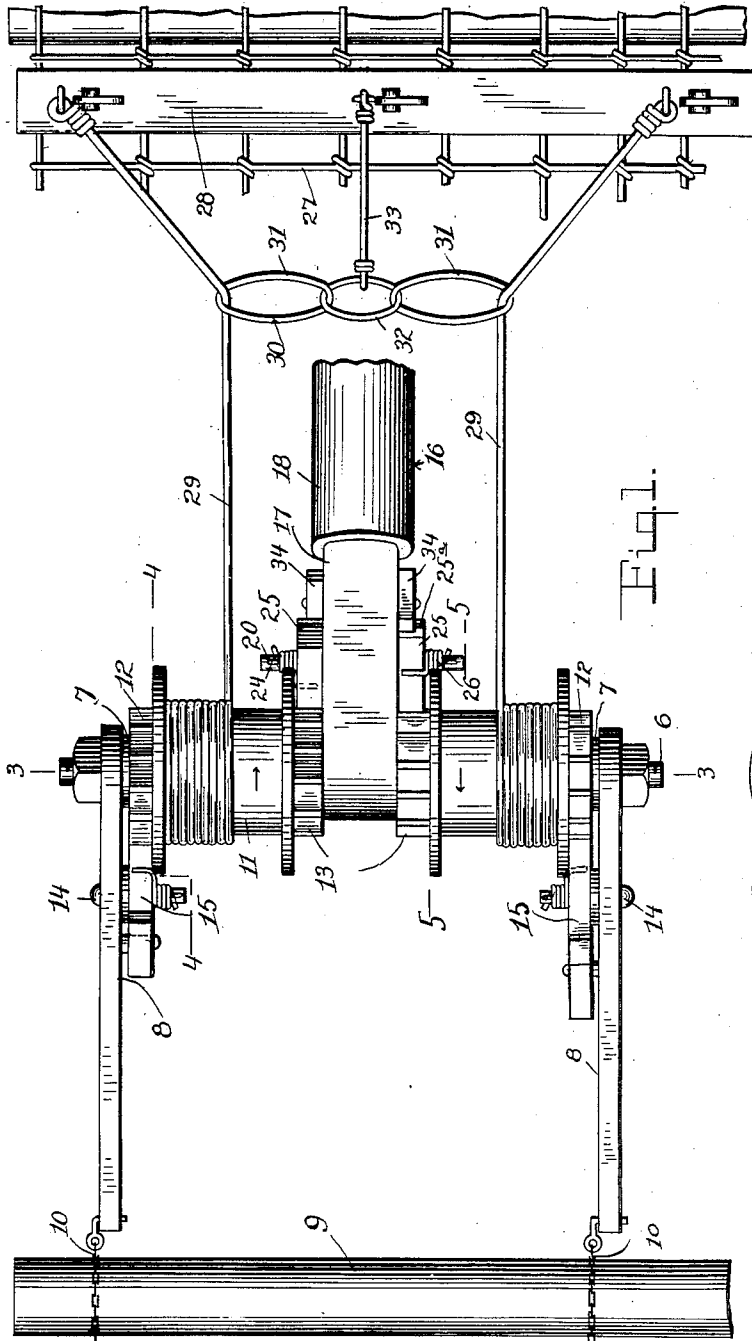


Fig. 1.

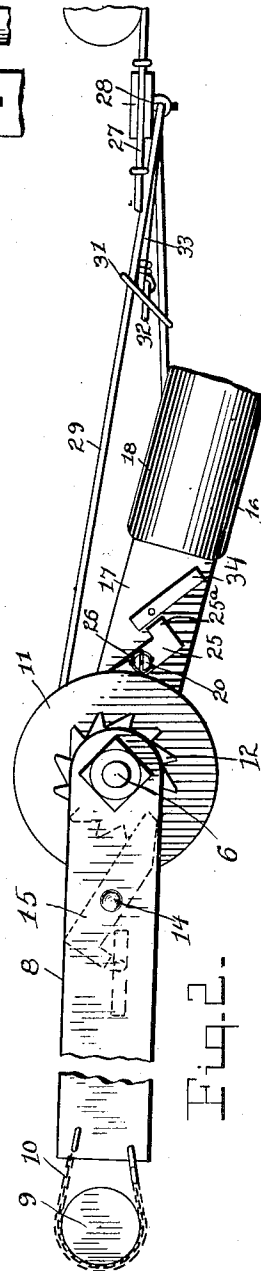


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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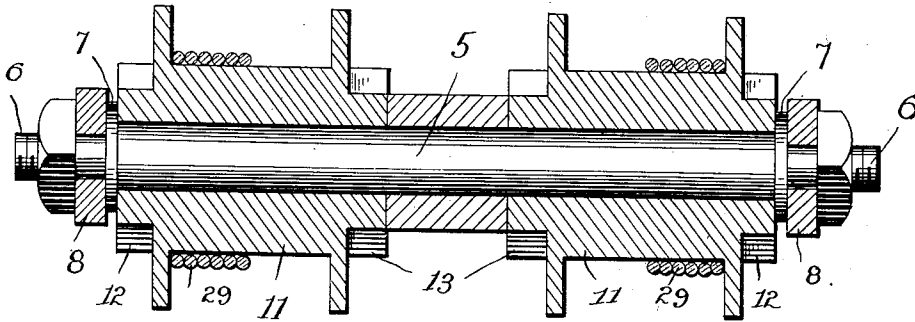


Fig. 3.

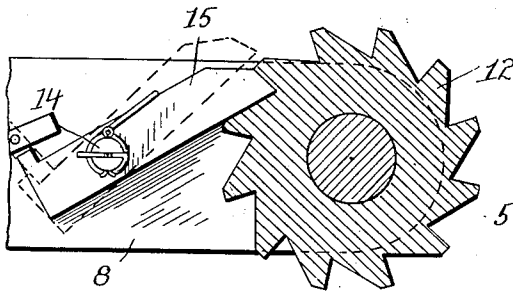


Fig. 4.

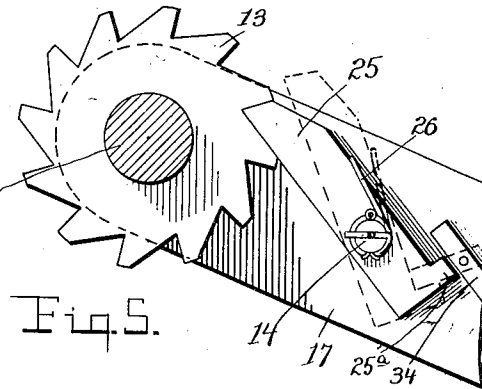


Fig. 5.

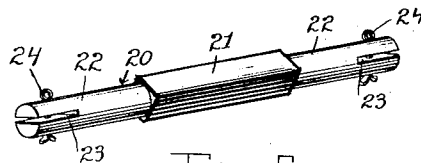


Fig. 6.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. POINDEXTER, OF SWITZER, KENTUCKY.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

1,056,120.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. POINDEXTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Switzer, in the county of Franklin, State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in wire stretchers.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a stretcher which is particularly adapted for use in stretching woven wire fences, and is of such construction as to stretch either the top or bottom so that the fence may be uniformly stretched over uneven ground.

Another object of the invention is to provide a stretcher of the character described which is extremely simple in construction, is easy of operation, and is cheap to manufacture.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction within the scope of the claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation showing the application of a stretcher constructed in accordance with my invention, Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof, Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1, Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the double pawl carrying pin.

Like reference numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, the invention comprises an axle 5 having reduced threaded ends 6—6 and shoulders 7—7 formed intermediate the axle and said reduced ends. The reduced end 6 is rotatably mounted in

the outer ends of upper and lower bars 8—8, the inner ends of said bars having detachable connection with a post 9 by means of chains 10—10.

Loosely mounted on the axle 5 is a pair of spaced drums 11—11, each drum carrying an outer ratchet 12 and an inner ratchet 13, the former constituting a locking ratchet and the latter an actuating ratchet. The ratchets 12 and 13 of one drum are oppositely disposed with respect to the ratchets of the other drum for a purpose hereinafter explained. A bolt 14 extends inwardly from each bar 8, and fulcrumed upon each bolt is a locking pawl 15, each pawl engaging with a respective ratchet 12.

An operating lever 16 is formed from an angular metallic bar 17 and a handle 18. The bar 17 is formed at its outer end with an opening for receiving the axle 5. Between the axle 5 and the handle, there is formed an angular opening, and mounted within this opening is a transverse pin 20. This pin is formed with an angular central portion 21 which corresponds to and closely fits within said angular opening so as to prevent rotation of said pin. The outer ends 22—22 of the pin, however, are rounded, and each end is formed with an inwardly extending longitudinal slot 23 across which extends a cotter pin 24 or other suitable locking element. Actuating pawls 25—25 are respectively fulcrumed upon the ends 22 of the pin for engagement with the respective actuating ratchets 13.

In order to yieldingly hold the pawls 25 in engagement with the ratchets 13, there is provided for each pawl a spring 26, one end of each spring being disposed within the inner end of a respective slot 23 of the pin 22 and the free end thereof bearing upon the respective pawl.

The fence fabric is designated as a whole by the reference numeral 27, and this fabric is securely clamped by a clamp 28 of any suitable construction. A pair of pull wires 29—29 are each fixedly connected at one end to a respective drum 11 and at its other end to one end of the clamp 28. In order to hold the wire 29 in parallel relation so as to cause the same to properly wind upon the drums 11, there is provided a guide which is formed from a pair of elongated links 31—31 and an intermediate link 32, the wires extending through the outer links

31. A hold-back wire 33 is connected at one end to the link 32 and at its other end centrally of the clamp 28.

When it is desired to retain either of the 5 actuating pawls 25 out of engagement with its respective ratchet 13, a latch lever 34 is centrally fulcrumed upon the bar 17 of the lever 16 at a point intermediate the rear end of the pawl and the handle 18. By 10 swinging the latch 34 the rear end of the pawl 25 will be engaged and consequently depressed against the tension of its spring as is shown by dotted lines in Fig. 5 of the drawings. This movement of the latch 34 15 is limited by means of a stop 25^a which projects from the rear end of the pawl. When the pawl 25 is in its released position, the latch 34 will be disposed at right angles thereto and as a result, the latch will be 20 frictionally held by the pawl against relative movement.

In operation, when it is desired to stretch a fence, the operating lever 16 is reciprocated, the respective movements alternately 25 winding the pull wires 29 upon the respective drums 11. It will thus be observed that no time is lost in manipulating the lever. When it is desired to stretch the top or bottom of a fence, and thereby secure a 30 uniform tautness to the fabric due to uneven ground, either of the actuating pawls 25 may be held out of engagement with its respective ratchet 13 in a manner above noted.

What is claimed is:

35 1. In a wire stretcher, the combination with a pair of arms, of an axle having its ends journaled in said arms, a pair of spaced drums loosely mounted on the axle, a lever 40 loosely mounted on the axle intermediate the drums, means carried by the lever for alternately rotating said drums, and locking means respectively carried by the arms and engageable with the drums for alternately 45 locking said drums against reverse rotation.

2. In a wire stretcher, the combination 45 with a pair of arms, of an axle journaled in said arms, a pair of spaced drums loosely mounted on the axle, a locking ratchet projecting outwardly from each drum, spring 50 pressed pawls carried by the arms for re-

spective engagement with the locking ratchets, actuating ratchets projecting inwardly from the drums, a lever loosely mounted on the axle intermediate said actuating ratchets, and means carried by the lever for en- 55 gagement with the actuating ratchets to alternately rotate said drums.

3. In a wire stretcher, the combination with a pair of arms, of an axle journaled in said arms, a pair of spaced drums loosely 60 mounted on the axle, a locking ratchet projecting outwardly from each drum, spring pressed pawls carried by the arms for respective engagement with the locking ratchets, actuating ratchets projecting inwardly 65 from the drums, a lever loosely mounted on the axle intermediate said actuating ratchets, said lever being formed with a transverse angular opening, a pin having an angular central portion disposed within the 70 opening of the lever, the ends of the pin being rounded and projecting from opposite sides of the lever, pawls respectively mounted on the projecting ends of the pin for engagement with the actuating ratchets, and 75 springs each having one end fixedly connected to the pin and having their free ends bearing upon the pawls.

4. In a wire stretcher, the combination with a pair of oppositely rotatable drums, 80 of means for alternately rotating said drums, a fence clamp, and pull wires each connected at one end to one end of the clamp and the other end to a respective drum. 85

5. In a wire stretcher, the combination with a pair of oppositely rotatable drums, of means for alternately rotating said drums, a fence clamp, pull wires each connected at one end to one end of the clamp 90 and the other end to a respective drum, and a guide element for said pull wires connected to the clamp to hold the winding end of said wires in parallel relation.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses. 95

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Witnesses:

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