Nov. 1, 1927. 1,647,540

C. M. RASMUSSEN

TRACTOR TRACK SIDE PLATE

Filed Jan. 31, 1924

FIG. 1

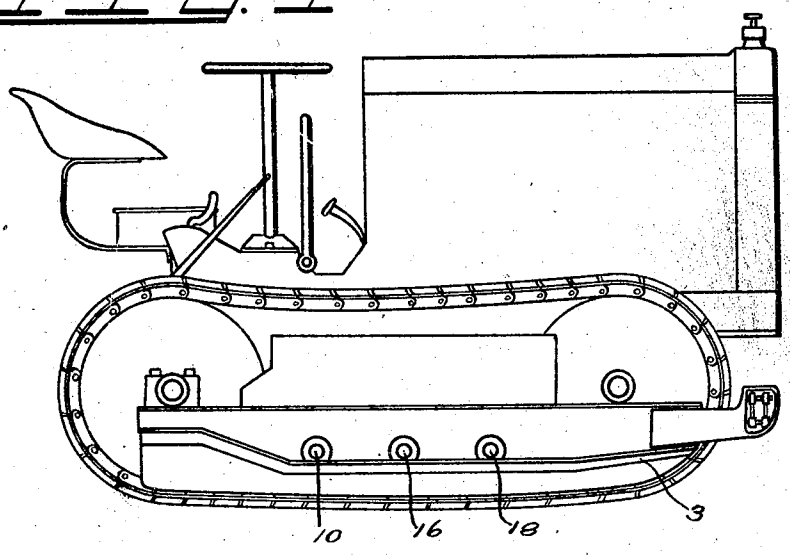


FIG. 2

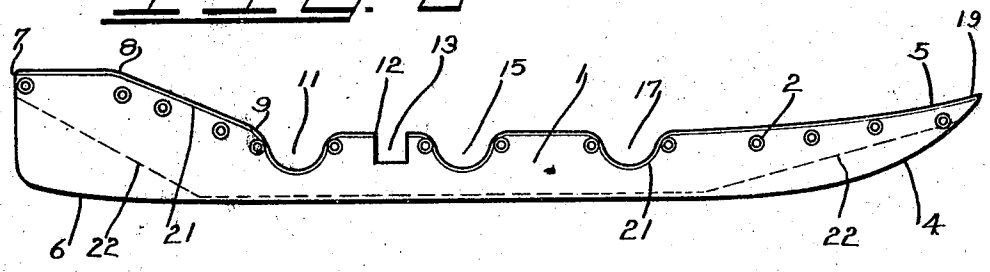
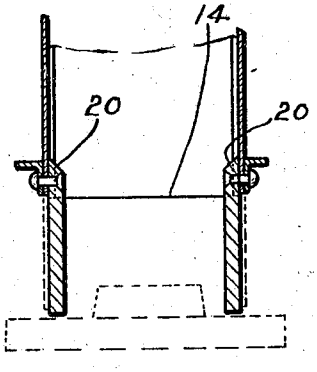


FIG. 3



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TRACTOR-TRACK SIDE PLATE.

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The invention is in the replacing of the lower portion of the side plates of tractors with heavier plates having beveled upper edges and their lower edges extended downward a short distance at the central portion and a greater distance at the two ends. The thickening of the plates presents a much broader surface at the lower edge for the track to wear against so that the wear will be practically eliminated. This also prevents the plate being bent sideways. The extending of the lower edge downward prevents the track from jumping off of the sprockets, and also prevents the breaking of the flanges on the rear wheels. This feature also closes up the space between the lower edge of the side plate and the upper side of the track so that it will prevent dirt and rocks from getting into the inside of the track between the side plates. And the beveling of the upper edges of the plates for the entire length prevents rocks, dirt and sand from settling on the upper edge of the plates and filling up the inside of the track. This also provides more clearance for screw heads at the shafts of the intermediate wheels and positively prevents rocks, dirt and sand from settling on the edge and cutting off the screw heads that hold the packing and washers of these wheels. When these screw heads are worn off or worked loose from rocks and grit they permit dirt to get into the lower track wheel and ruin the bearings.

One object of the invention is to provide guide plates for tractor tracks which will prevent the track working off of the sprockets.

Another object of the invention is to provide guide plates for tractors which are considerably thicker than the standard plates so that their lower edges will withstand the wear of the track more efficiently, but will not bend, and will not permit rocks or dirt to work inside of the track.

This invention is particularly related to Model W or tank type tractors which are manufactured by the Cleveland Tractor Company of Cleveland, Ohio, but it is understood it may be used on similar tractors of different makes.

With these ends in view the invention embodies a plate of such a design that it may readily be riveted or bolted to the lower portion of the side plates of a tractor to replace the lower or working edge of the side plate. Its working or lower edge is somewhat lower than the edge of the side plates and its forward end extends downward to hold the track until it is on the sprockets. Its lower rear corner also extends downward so that its lower and rear edges form an angle which is substantially at right angle.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be seen from the following description taken in connection with the drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side view of a tractor showing the position of the plate.

Figure 2 is a detail of the plate.

Figure 3 is a cross section through the lower side of the track showing the relative position between the track and plate.

In the drawings I have shown my device as it would be constructed wherein numeral 1 indicates a steel plate that may be provided with holes 2 which are arranged to correspond with rivet holes in the lower flange of an angle 3 on a tractor frame. The forward end of the plate is curved slightly upward as shown at the points 4 and 5 and the curvature of the edge at the point 4 is such that when the plate is in place this edge will follow the upper side of the tractor track with a slight clearance. The lower edge of the rear is provided with a slight curvature as shown at points 6 and the rear end of the plate extends upward in a vertical plane. The upper edge of the plate extends forward from the point 7 to the point 8, then downward to a point 9 at which point it runs into the side of a semi-circular opening which is made so that it will clear a shaft 10 of one of the intermediate sprockets or wheels for holding the track downward. From the opposite side of this semi-circular opening the edge extends forward to a point 12, at which point a rectangular shaped opening 13 is formed to clear the strut which I have indicated by the numeral 14 that holds the two side plates together. From the opposite side of this opening the edge extends to another semi-circular opening 15 which clears a shaft 16 similar to the shaft 10. On the opposite side of this opening the edge extends to another semi-circular opening 17 which is formed to clear a shaft 18 which is also similar to the shaft 10. The edge then extends forward and slightly upward to a point 19 at the forward end. The upper edge of the plate is beveled along its entire length as shown at the points 20 in Figure 3

and also by the line 21 in Figure 2. The outer ends of the holes 2 are also beveled as shown.

The construction will be readily understood from the foregoing description. To use the device it may be installed by removing the portion of the side plates between the lower edge of the angles 3 and the bottom, then removing the rivets in the downwardly extending leg of the angle 3 and riveting or bolting the plates 1 on the inside of the former side plate as shown in Figure 3. It will be seen by comparing the lower edge of the plate 1 with the lower edge of the former tractor plate as indicated by the dotted line 22 in Figure 2 that the edge of the plate 1 will have less clearance between it and the upper side of the track and the ends which extend further will assist in holding the track adjacent the sprockets, and prevent rocks or dirt working into the side of the track.

Having thus fully described the invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A plate for tractors which is provided with counter-sunk holes that correspond with the rivet holes in the lower portion of the tractor plate, and other openings which permit the upper edge of the plate to clear the shafts of the intermediate rollers and struts; said plate being several times thicker than the standard plate, having its lower edge extending downward slightly more than the standard plate along its central portion and considerably more than the standard plate adjacent its ends; and said plate being adaptable to replace the lower portion of the standard plate.

2. In a detachable plate for tractors or the like, a substantially thick plate having counter-sunk holes corresponding with the rivet holes in the lower portion of the tractor track frame, and other openings to permit the upper edge of the plate to clear the struts and shafts of the intermediate rollers; said plate having its upper edge beveled and being adaptable to replace the lower portion of the tractor track frame side plates.

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