This invention relates to spreaders for slitted planks or the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a spreader which may be readily placed in operative position, and which is simple in construction, and which efficiently carries out its objective, and which, when not desired to be used, may be readily transposed to inoperative position below the table top to enable the cutter to be used for other purposes than slitting.

In the slitting of wooden planks by a circular saw, the slitted portion has a tendency to bite the saw and the friction causes the slitted end to jump up often injuring the attendant. However, the improved spreader avoids this action of the board or plank, and by exerting a spreading action in the cut slit at the same time facilitates the sawing action.

The invention comprises a member secured to the frame of the machine having a slotted portion, a crescent shaped spreader adapted to have its rear part engage said slot when in operative position, and having its front part adapted to engage the slit in the board or plank formed by the saw at a position adjacent the saw, a pivoting means for the spreader to enable the spreader to be swung from said operative position to its inoperative position out of the path of the board or plank, and a spring for exerting a holding pressure on the spreader when in said slot. More particularly, in the embodiment shown, the spreader is made with a sleeve surrounding a bolt secured to the frame of the machine, with said spring acting upon the sleeve, and with means for adjusting the spring, the bolt acting as a pivot for the movement of the spreader from its inoperative position to and vice versa.

The invention will be more fully described hereinafter, embodiments thereof shown in the drawings, and the invention will be finally pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a known circular saw wood cutting machine, with the improvement embodied therein;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the improvement showing the spreader in operative position;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the improvement showing the spreader in inoperative position;

Fig. 4 is a horizontal section taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 5 is a horizontal section taken on line 5-5 of Fig. 2.
active position, as shown in Fig. 3. The spreader or slitter proper is then entirely concealed below the table top and is out of the way of the operator. In Fig. 1 is shown a part of the table top separated from the main portion of the table top, which part is capable of being moved away from the main portion, all as well known. This enables the spreader or slitter to be turned down into operative position. In Fig. 1, the bolt 24 is below the table top all the time being visible in Fig. 1, as also the member 11, because of the absence of the top, and due to the perspective drawing.

I wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. In a circular saw wood cutting machine, the combination of a member having a slot secured to the frame of the machine, a crescent shaped spreader having its back portion engaging said slot, and a spring for pressing said spreader into said slot.

2. In a circular saw wood cutting machine, the combination of a member having a slot secured to the frame of the machine, a crescent shaped spreader having its back portion engaging said slot, a spring for pressing said spreader into said slot, a pivot bolt for one end of said spreader and for supporting said spring secured to the frame of the machine, said spring permitting the spreader to be disengaged from the slot and swung into inoperative position around said bolt.

3. In a circular saw wood cutting machine, the combination of a member having a slot secured to the frame of the machine, a crescent shaped spreader having its back portion engaging said slot, a spring for pressing said spreader into said slot, a pivot bolt for one end of said spreader and for supporting said spring secured to the frame of the machine, said spring permitting the spreader to be disengaged from the slot and swung into inoperative position around said bolt.

4. In a circular saw wood cutting machine, the combination of a member having a slot secured to the frame of the machine, a crescent shaped spreader having its back portion engaging said slot, and a spring for pressing said spreader into said slot, said spreader having a part at right angles to the plane of the spreader, said part being bent to a sleeve shape, and a bolt spaced from the slot the length of said part.

5. In a circular saw wood cutting machine, the combination of a member having a slot secured to the frame of the machine, a crescent shaped spreader having its back portion engaging said slot, a spring for pressing said spreader into said slot, said spreader having a part at right angles to the plane of the spreader, said part being bent to a sleeve shape, and a bolt spaced from the slot the length of said part, said spring acting on said sleeve and means on the bolt for adjusting the spring.

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No references cited.