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I. D. LANDIS.
HOIST TRAVELER CENTERING DEVICE.
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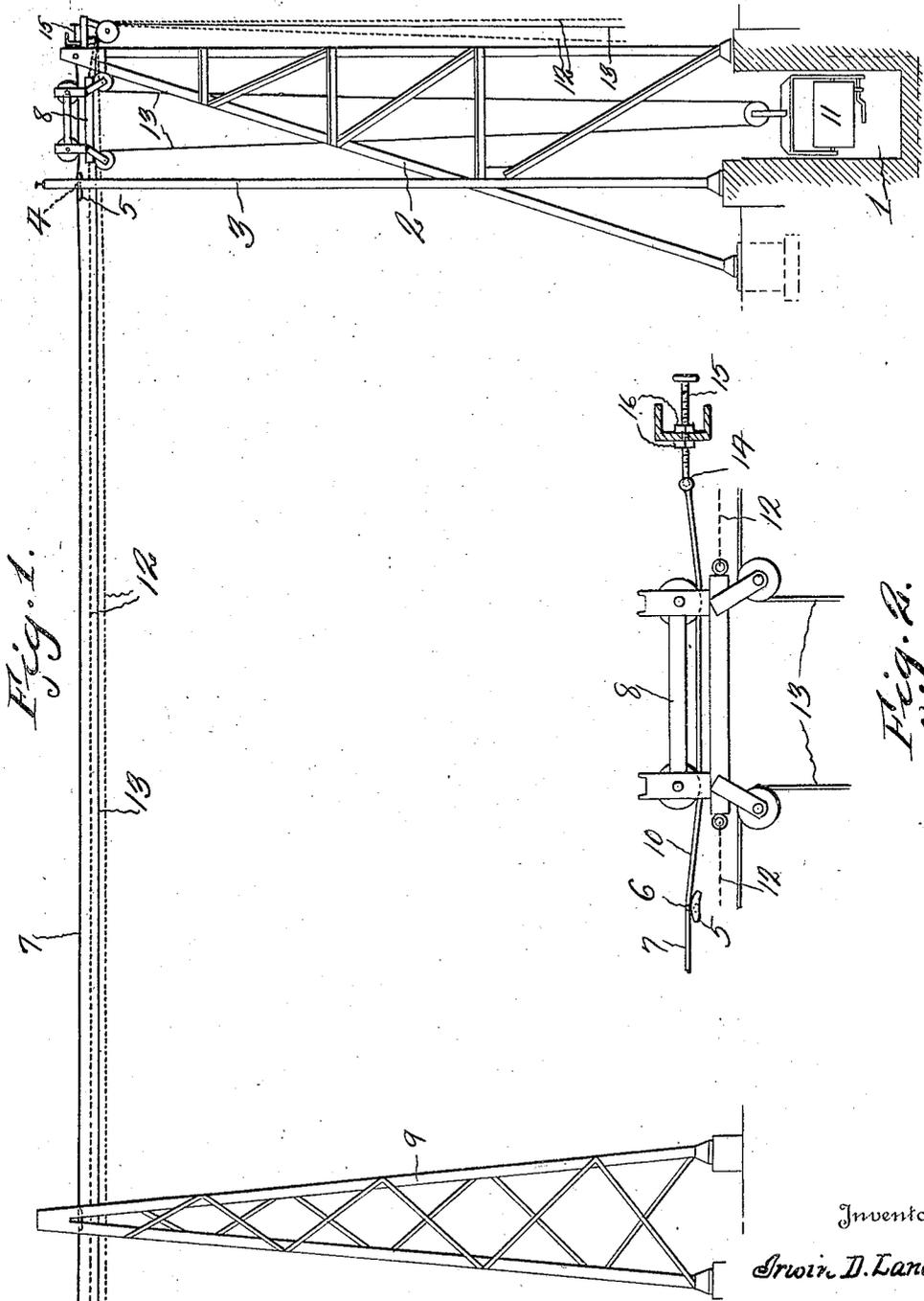


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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IRWIN D. LANDIS, OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO UNIVERSAL CONVEYOR CO., OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, A CORPORATION OF INDIANA.

HOIST-TRAVELER-CENTERING DEVICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IRWIN D. LANDIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Bend, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hoist-Traveler-Centering Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to centering devices for travelers movable on a track cable and has for its object to provide in connection with a track cable, a section of track cable disposed above a pit or the like, and provided with slack, which slack allows the traveler to properly center itself and the bucket carried thereby over the pit in such a position that when the bucket is lowered by its hoisting cable, it will enter the pit. Heretofore the proper centering of the bucket so that it will enter the pit has been a matter of guess work and consequently a great deal of time is lost when the bucket does not properly register with the pit when it is lowered, and requires the stationing of a workman adjacent the pit to guide the bucket into the pit as it is lowered. Therefore one of the objects of the invention is to eliminate this extra workman and to provide means whereby the traveler and bucket will be quickly and properly centered in relation to the pit by the weight of the traveler and bucket by a slack section of cable disposed above the pit.

A further object is to provide adjusting means whereby the slack in the cable section disposed above the pit may be varied.

With the above and other objects in view the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts as hereinafter set forth, shown in the drawings, described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the supporting means for a track cable, and the slack track cable section at one end thereof, showing the traveler and the bucket carried thereby, said bucket being shown in a pit.

Figure 2 is an enlarged side elevation of the traveler, showing the same centered on the section of slack track cable.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1

designates a pit. Above said pit is a tower 2, the upper end of which is disposed to the outside of the pit 1. Rising upwardly from adjacent the inner side of the pit 1 is a post 3, to the upper end of which is secured as at 4 in any suitable manner, a saddle 5, to which saddle is secured at 6 the track cable 7, on which track cable, a conventional form of traveler 8 is adapted to move. The track cable 7 is secured and supported in any suitable manner to a tower 9 and may lead to any suitable source, for instance adjacent a coal pile. Track cable 7 has its portion 10 beyond the securing point 6 disposed over the pit 1 and is provided with slack, whereby when the traveler 8 passes over the saddle 5 and onto said slack portion 10 of the cable, the weight of the traveler and its bucket 11 will cause the traveler and bucket when the traction cable 12 is slacked to immediately assume a position in vertical alignment with the pit 1, thereby so positioning the bucket 11 that when the hoisting cable 13 is slack, said bucket will enter the mouth of the pit 1 without engaging its sides. The present practice is to station a workman adjacent the pit to guide the bucket during its downward movement, and as the proper centering of the bucket is at present a matter of guess work, considerable time is lost for the reason that it is necessary for the workman adjacent the pit to signal the operator of the hoisting and traction cables relative to the manipulation of the same. However by providing the slack section 10 disposed over the pit 1, this loss of time and extra labor is obviated. The end of the slack section 10 of the cable 7 is swivelly connected at 14 to an adjusting screw 15, by means of which screw the amount of slack in the slack section 10 may be varied, there being nuts 16 for preventing rotation of the screw 15 after it has been properly adjusted.

From the above it will be seen that a traveler and bucket centering device is provided which is simple in construction and one wherein the operation is positive and the bucket may be easily and quickly centered by the operator from a distance, thereby obviating loss of time and extra labor.

The invention having been set forth what is claimed as new and useful is:—

1. The combination with a track cable having a traveler carried bucket thereon, a pit adjacent and below the end of the track

- 2
- 5 cable, of means for centering said traveler and bucket adjacent the end of the track cable and in vertical alignment with the pit, said means comprising a section of slack cable onto which the traveler passes after leaving the track cable, said slack cable being disposed above the pit and having its center above the center of the pit, and means for varying the slack in the slack cable.
- 10 2. The combination with a track cable having a traveler carried bucket thereon and a pit disposed below the track cable adjacent one end thereof, of means for centering said traveler and bucket above said pit and in vertical alignment therewith, said means comprising a section of slack cable onto which the traveler passes from the track cable, said section of slack cable being disposed above the pit and having its ends
- anchored at opposite sides of the pit and equidistant in relation to the opposite sides thereof.
3. The combination with a track cable having a bucket thereon and a pit disposed beneath the track cable at one end thereof, of means for centering said traveler and bucket above said pit and in vertical alignment therewith, said means comprising a section of track cable having its ends anchored and onto which the traveler passes from the track cable, said section of slack cable being disposed above the pit and having its center of slack in vertical alignment with the center of the pit, and adjusting screw means for varying the amount of slack in the slack cable.
- 15 20 25 30 35
- In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
IRWIN D. LANDIS.