

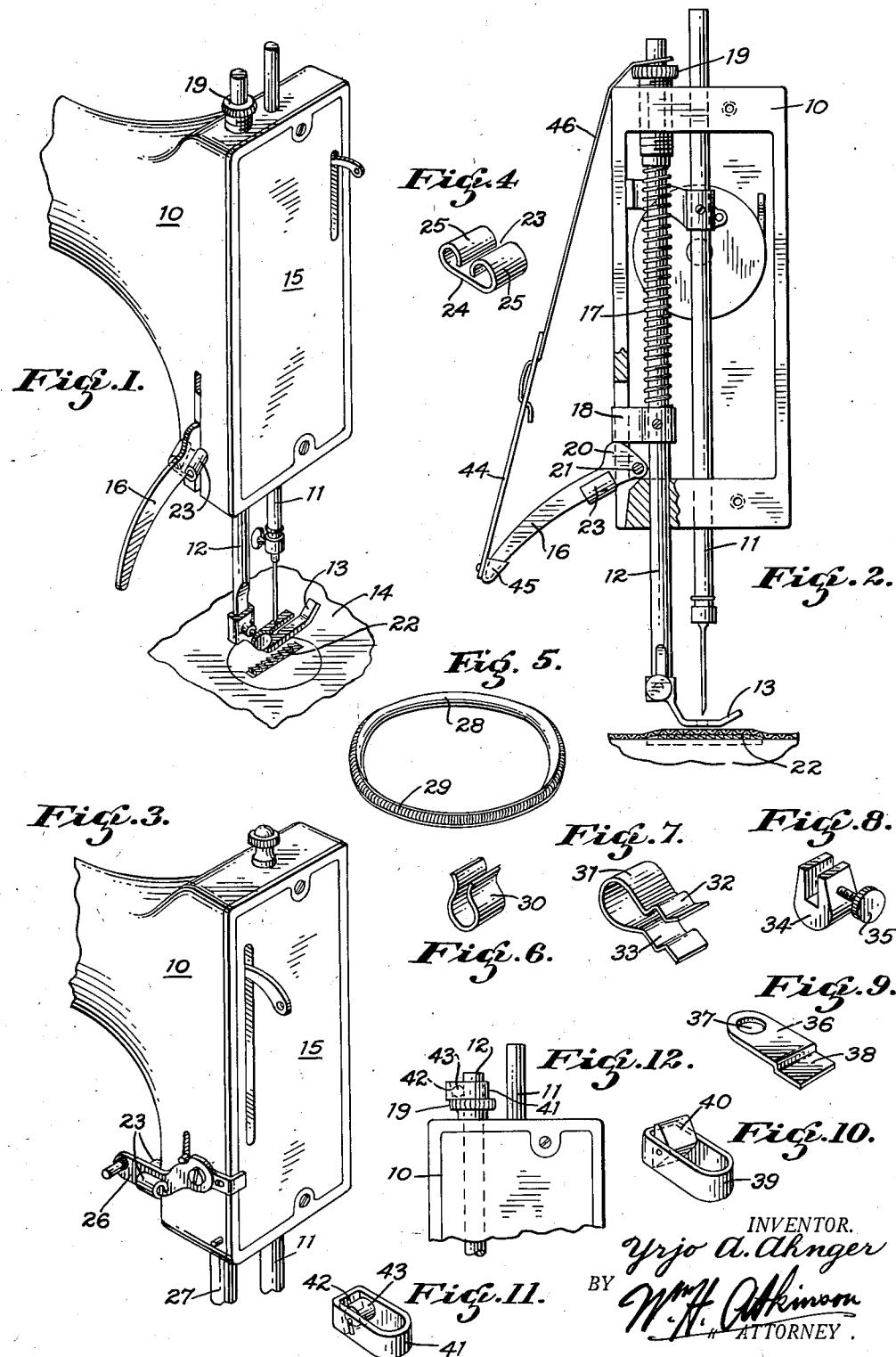
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SEWING MACHINE ATTACHMENT

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SEWING MACHINE ATTACHMENT

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The present invention relates generally to a darning and mending attachment for sewing machines and more particularly to a detachable device which can be used to render the straight line work feeding means of a standard sewing machine inoperative in a simple and convenient manner and without necessitating any change in the mechanical construction thereof.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a simple and effective means for rendering the standard work feeding mechanism of a sewing machine inoperative and thereby permit stitching in a reverse and irregular direction upon a straight line sewing machine without disconnecting the normally operating feed mechanism of the machine.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple and effective stop for the presser foot controlling lever of a sewing machine which will retain said lever in a predetermined elevated position when applied thereto.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple and effective means which may be applied to the presser foot supporting bar and retain said bar in a predetermined elevated position independently of the elevating lever associated therewith.

In the standard forms of straight line sewing machines there is provided on the bed of the machine a series of reciprocating tooth carrying members which function to advance the work beneath the needle. This feeding mechanism operates in conjunction with a presser foot that serves to hold the work in cooperating relation upon the reciprocating teeth of the work advancing mechanism and thus causes the work to advance beneath the needle. Because of the straight line movement of the work advancing mechanism, it is difficult to vary the line of stitching from a straight line and therefore it is practically impossible to stitch in an irregular direction and/or back and forth in a continuous manner, as is required in darning and mending, without rendering the aforesaid work feed mechanism inoperative. The disconnection of the work advancing mechanism from the machine and/or a covering thereof so as to render it inoperative has been suggested for the purpose of permitting a stitching such as is customary in darning and mending. However, the rendering of the work feeding mechanism inoperative in this manner is inconvenient and requires the services of a skilled operator. Therefore it is a further object of the present invention to provide a simple

expedient for rendering a standard straight line sewing machine adaptable to mending.

In accordance with the present invention the above is accomplished by means which can be easily and readily applied to the presser foot controlling mechanism of the sewing machine to retain the presser foot out of cooperating relation with the work feeding mechanism and at the same time permit a successful operation of the sewing machine.

For a better understanding of the invention reference should be had to the accompanying drawing wherein there is shown, by way of illustration and not of limitation, preferred embodiments thereof.

In the drawing, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views;

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a device constructed in accordance with this invention applied to the presser foot elevating lever of a "Singer" sewing machine.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the machine illustrated in Figure 1, partially in section, and with the front cover removed,

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 1, showing an embodiment of the present invention applied to the presser foot controlling lever of a "White" sewing machine,

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention,

Figure 5 is a perspective view of an accessory which, for convenience, may be used in conjunction with the present invention,

Figures 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are perspective views showing modified forms of the present invention, and

Figure 12 is a fragmentary view showing the device illustrated in Figure 11 as applied to the presser foot supporting bar of a machine of the type illustrated in Figure 1.

For the purpose of illustrating an application of a preferred embodiment of the present invention to standard sewing machines there is illustrated, in Figure 1 of the drawing, the operating head of a "Singer" sewing machine and in Figure 3, the operating head of a "White" sewing machine.

In connection with machines of the above types, there is at the present time provided a mending attachment which can be secured by a screw to the needle bar. This attachment is expensive and it requires the complete removal of the presser foot and is for this latter reason highly objectionable in the hands of the ordinary housewife.

It is well known that a sewing machine may be

rendered capable of darning and mending by relieving the spring upon the presser foot bar as by unscrewing the nut which regulates the tension of the spring. With this adjustment darning and mending can be done upon a machine, but when it is desired to readjust the machine for regular sewing, it is difficult to reset the spring at the proper point of adjustment for normal sewing.

5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 150 155 160 165 170 175 180 185 190 195 200 205 210 215 220 225 230 235 240 245 250 255 260 265 270 275 280 285 290 295 300 305 310 315 320 325 330 335 340 345 350 355 360 365 370 375 380 385 390 395 400 405 410 415 420 425 430 435 440 445 450 455 460 465 470 475 480 485 490 495 500 505 510 515 520 525 530 535 540 545 550 555 560 565 570 575 580 585 590 595 600 605 610 615 620 625 630 635 640 645 650 655 660 665 670 675 680 685 690 695 700 705 710 715 720 725 730 735 740 745 750 755 760 765 770 775 780 785 790 795 800 805 810 815 820 825 830 835 840 845 850 855 860 865 870 875 880 885 890 895 900 905 910 915 920 925 930 935 940 945 950 955 960 965 970 975 980 985 990 995 1000 1005 1010 1015 1020 1025 1030 1035 1040 1045 1050 1055 1060 1065 1070 1075 1080 1085 1090 1095 1100 1105 1110 1115 1120 1125 1130 1135 1140 1145 1150 1155 1160 1165 1170 1175 1180 1185 1190 1195 1200 1205 1210 1215 1220 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ing bar 12 cannot be used with this machine without removing the cover plate 15.

When the means provided in accordance with this invention are used upon a sewing machine the operator will have two hands free to manipulate the work beneath the needle, and therefore ordinary mending may be carried out without other expedients. However, if particularly fine darning or mending is required, an operator may 5 use a conventional embroidery hoop, one type of which is illustrated in Figure 5 of the drawing. The hoop here illustrated comprises a metallic ring 28 of suitable diameter and having a semi-circular cross section about which a metallic 10 spring 29 or rubber band may be disposed. With such an accessory it will be possible to flatten out the area to be mended and produce a uniform and neat appearing mend.

The devices illustrated in Figures 6, 7 and 8 of 20 the drawing are intended to be applied to the presser foot controlling lever and operate in substantially the same manner as does the device 23 previously described. The device of Figure 6, designated by the numeral 30, differs from the 25 device 23 in that the ends thereof are merely folded up so as to frictionally engage the sides of the presser foot controlling lever 16 or 26. The device of Figure 7 comprises a resilient 30 looped portion 31 having upper and lower lever engaging members 32 and 33 respectively. With this device the lower portion 33 will engage the side of the machine head 10 and thus form a stop which will hold the presser foot controlling lever in an elevated position. The device of 35 Figure 8 comprises a U-shaped clamp member 34 having a thumbscrew 35 in one side thereof, by means of which it may be secured in position upon a presser foot controlling lever to function as a stop in the manner above described, as will 40 be readily understood.

The devices illustrated in Figures 9, 10, 11 and 12, are particularly adapted to machines of the "Singer" type, wherein the presser foot supporting bar 12 extends upwardly through the top of 45 the machine head 10. When these devices are used in accordance with the invention, they will be placed over the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12, where they will operate as an adjustable stop to prevent downward 50 movement thereof.

The device of Figure 9 comprises a flat portion 36, having a hole 37 through which the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12 is adapted to pass and at one side of the hole 55 37 there is an offset foot portion 38 that will engage a surface upon the machine head and cant the flat portion 36 and cause it to grip the end of the presser foot bar 12 and prevent downward movement thereof. The device of Figure 60 10 has a yoke-like member 39, which is adapted to be passed over the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12, and at one side of the yoke 39 there is a pivoted and gravity actuated dog 40 that is adapted to rotate inwardly and grip the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12 and thus secure the yoke 50 39 thereupon as a stop which will prevent downward movement thereof. The device of Figure 11 comprises a yoke-like member 41 having an inclined or wedge-forming surface 42 at one side thereof and cooperating with the wedge surface 42, there is a movable roller element 43 which is adapted to grip the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12 and hold the yoke

member 41 as a stop thereupon. The device of this latter design is illustrated in Figure 12 as applied to the projecting end of the presser foot controlling bar 12, and with the yoke portion 41 engaging the spring tension adjusting nut 19. 5

When devices of the types illustrated in Figures 9 to 12 of the drawing, are used in accordance with this invention their application to the presser foot supporting bar is accomplished by raising the presser foot supporting bar 12 to the 10 desired elevation by means of the lever 16 and then placing one or the other of the devices over the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12.

As an additional means for accomplishing the 15 purpose of the present invention, there is shown in Figure 2 of the drawing, a second device which comprises a lever engaging member 44 having a socket 45 at its lower end for the reception of the end of the presser foot controlling lever 16 and at 20 its upper end it has a thong 46 that may be tied or otherwise looped around the projecting end of the presser foot supporting bar 12 or any other convenient projecting part upon the machine head. In this arrangement the thong 46 may 25 have a permanently formed loop at its upper end and at its lower end it may be laced through suitable holes in the member 44, so that an adjustment in its length may be made by merely 30 pulling the thong 46 therethrough.

While I have, for the sake of clearness and in order to disclose my invention so that the same can be readily understood, described and illustrated specific devices and arrangements, I desire to have it understood that this invention is not 35 limited to the specific means disclosed, but may be embodied in other ways that will suggest themselves to persons skilled in the art. It is believed that this invention is new and it is desired to claim it so that all such changes as come 40 within the scope of the appended claims are to be considered as part of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A stop for the presser foot control lever of 45 a sewing machine, comprising a member having a portion adapted to engage the head of a sewing machine, said member having two oppositely disposed rolled in ends which frictionally engage the sides of the presser foot control lever and 50 adjustably hold said portion upon said lever at any predetermined point.

2. An attachment for the presser foot control lever of a sewing machine, comprising a stop member having a portion adapted to engage the 55 head of the sewing machine where said lever projects therefrom and other portions frictionally engaging said lever and holding said first portion against displacement upon said lever.

3. An attachment for the presser foot control lever of a sewing machine, comprising a member having a stop forming portion adapted to engage the head of the sewing machine where said lever projects therefrom, and a pair of opposed resilient arms upon said member adapted to frictionally 60 engage said lever and hold said stop forming portion against displacement upon said lever.

4. A stop for the presser foot control lever of a sewing machine, comprising a member having a machine head engaging portion and two oppositely disposed rolled in ends which frictionally 65 engage the sides of said lever.