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(54) Wire straightening apparatus

(57) A rotary member (12) for apparatus for straightening elongate material such as wire has an elongate housing (34; 234) and a plurality of deflection members (37-39, 112, 114; 237, 238, 312, 314) for engaging wire being fed through the housing. This engagement displaces the wire radially with respect to the housing axis so that the feeding of the wire through the housing while the latter is rotating helps to straighten the wire. The member is characterised in that the housing is hollow and contains the deflection members, and in that the member includes retaining means (160, 162; 360, 362) for retaining the deflection members in the housing. The advantage of such a rotary member is that deflection

members can be removed simply by removing the retaining means, ie without dismantling the housing. Preferably, the rotary members directly engage the housing so that the housing can angularly and axially locate the members therein. This is particularly advantageous since it facilitates the provision of means of providing radial adjustment of the radial members. Wire straightening apparatus comprising a pair of such rotary members and drive means for counter-rotating the rotary members is also shown, as is a wire bending machine having the wire straightening apparatus and feed means for feeding the wire through the apparatus and to a bending head (1).

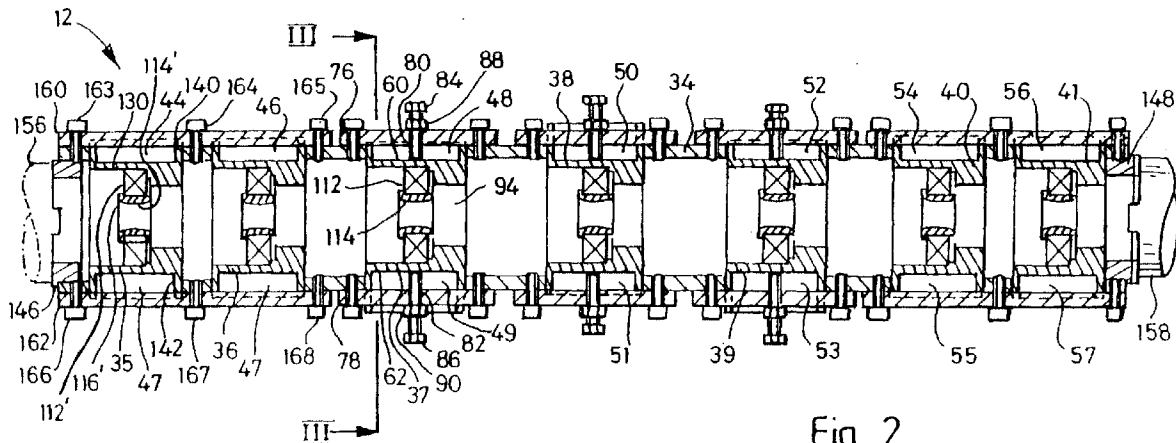


Fig. 2



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 6961

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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Y	---	10-13, 16	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B21F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		13 March 1998	Gerard, O
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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