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A. G. PETERSON

2,396,877

ATTACHMENT FOR STEEL TAPES

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Fig. 1.

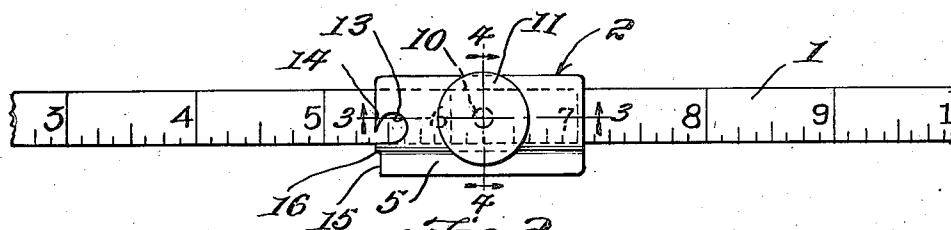


Fig. 2.

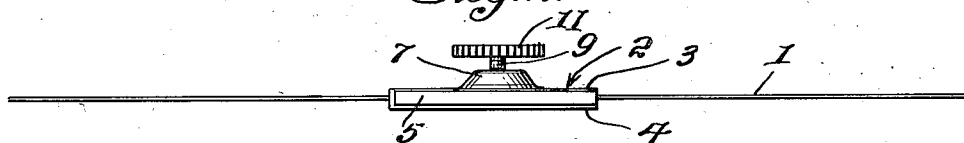


Fig. 3.

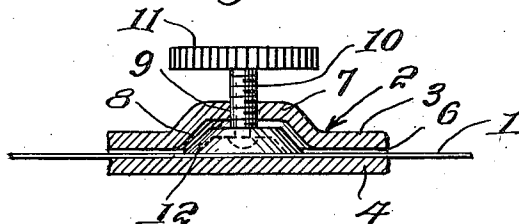
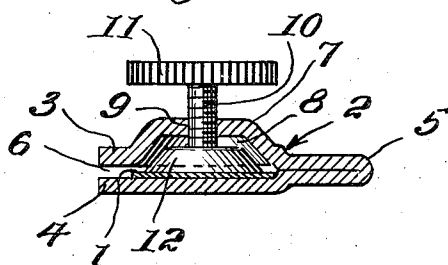


Fig. 4.



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ATTACHMENT FOR STEEL TAPES

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Application May 2, 1944, Serial No. 533,734

1 Claim. (Cl. 33—137)

This invention relates to an attachment for steel tapes and it is one object of the invention to provide a device which may be easily applied to a tape transversely thereof and shifted along the tape to adjusted positions and then firmly secured in a set position relative to an inch marking upon the tape.

Another object of the invention is to so form the attachment that one end is provided with a pointer adapting the device to be accurately set relative to a selected inch marking upon the tape.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character having a body formed of sheet metal which is bent to form upper and lower portions for disposal above and below a tape, the upper portion having an upstanding extension defining a pocket to receive a head or jaw which is swiveled to the inner end of a set screw passing through the extension. By this arrangement the jaw may be countersunk in the recess and the device allowed to be freely slid along the tape.

Another object of the invention is to so form the end of the body bearing the pointer that a pencil point may be engaged in a seat and the tape, with the attachment thereon, used as a compass for drawing large circles or arcuate lines.

Another object of the invention is to provide an attachment which is simple in construction, cheap to manufacture, and easy to apply and adjust upon a tape.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view showing the attachment applied to a tape.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the tape and the attachment.

Figure 3 is a sectional view upon an enlarged scale taken longitudinally through the attachment upon line 3—3 of Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view taken along line 4—4 of Figure 1.

The attachment constituting the subject matter of the invention has been shown applied to a tape 1 which may be formed of steel or other suitable material and may be of any desired length and width. Inch markings are provided upon the tape and also markings representing fractions of inches. The attachment is formed from a blank of stiff sheet metal and this blank is folded midway its width to form a body 2 having upper and lower portions or jaws 3 and 4. Portions of the jaws adjacent the fold are pressed into close contacting engagement with each other to form a lip 5 of double thickness, and between this lip and the opposite side edge of the body the jaws are spaced from each other to provide a channel 6 through which the tape passes when the device is applied to the tape.

Referring to Figures 3 and 4, it will be seen that

the jaws are in such spaced relation to each other that the body may be very easily slid along the tape and will not have binding engagement with the tape. The upper jaw 3 has its intermediate portion pressed upwardly to form an upstanding dome-shaped extension 7 defining an internal recess 8 and at the center of this extension is formed a threaded opening 9 to receive a set screw 10. This set screw has a knurled turning knob 11 at its upper end and to its lower or inner end is swiveled a head or pad 12 of frusto-conical formation. The tape is disposed between the lower jaw and the head 12 when the device is applied to the tape and by turning the screw in a tightening direction the tape will be firmly gripped and the device held in a set position thereof.

In order that the device may be accurately set with respect to inch markings of the tape and circles or arcuate lines drawn, one end of the body is formed with an opening 13 defining a pointer 14 and the adjacent end of the lip is shortened to form a recess 15 having a shoulder 16 at one end. By so forming the end of the body the device may be slid along the tape until the pointer 14 is in registry with a selected inch mark or fraction thereof and when the set screw is tightened the attachment will be firmly held in place. The recess 15 is of a depth approximately one-half the thickness of a pencil point and by placing the pencil point in the recess and holding the tape by one end as a pivot and then swinging the tape about the pivot, a circle or arcuate line may be drawn. When using the tape for measuring distances the attachment may be applied and secured with the pointer at the measured distance along the tape and when making notes of measurements no mistakes will be made as the pointer will indicate the measurement.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

An attachment for tape lines having markings thereon comprising a body formed from a blank of stiff sheet metal bent midway its width to provide upper and lower jaws, portions of the jaws along the fold being in face to face engagement with each other to form a lip of double thickness, the upper jaw having a portion projecting upwardly to define an internal recess, a set screw threaded through an opening at the center of the upwardly projecting portion, a frusto-conical head swiveled to the inner end of said set screw one end of the upper jaw being formed with an opening defining a pointer adapted to co-act with the markings on said tape lines and the end of the body adjacent said pointer being stepped to form a shoulder spaced from said end of said body for positioning a pencil point in alignment with said pointer.

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