Nov. 17, 1936. R. T. WATSON 2,061,218

CONVERTIBLE POST HOLE DIGGER

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Fig. 1.

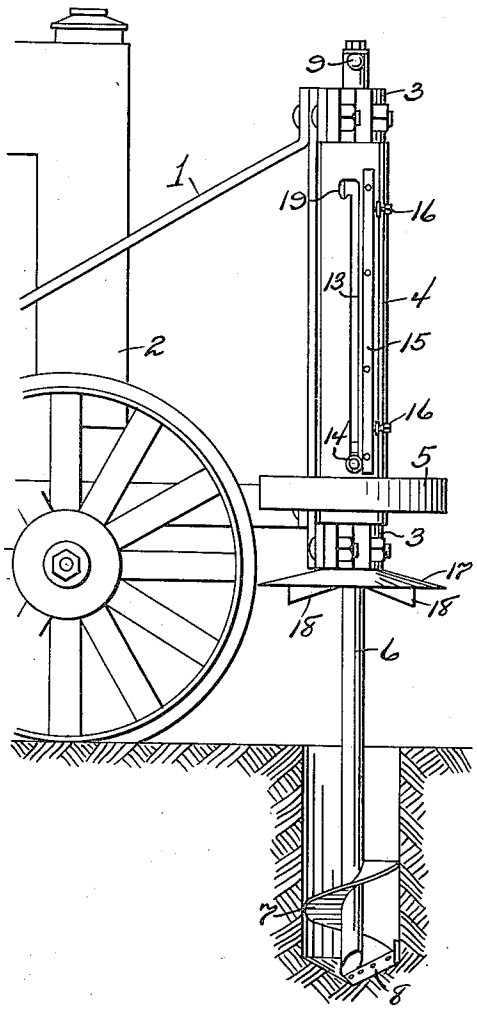
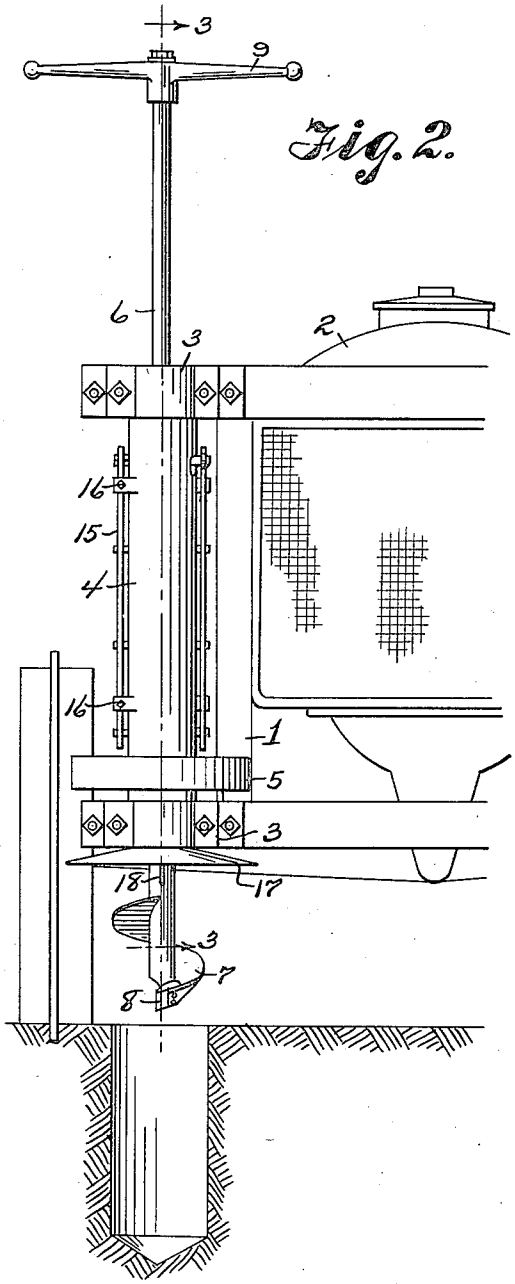


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

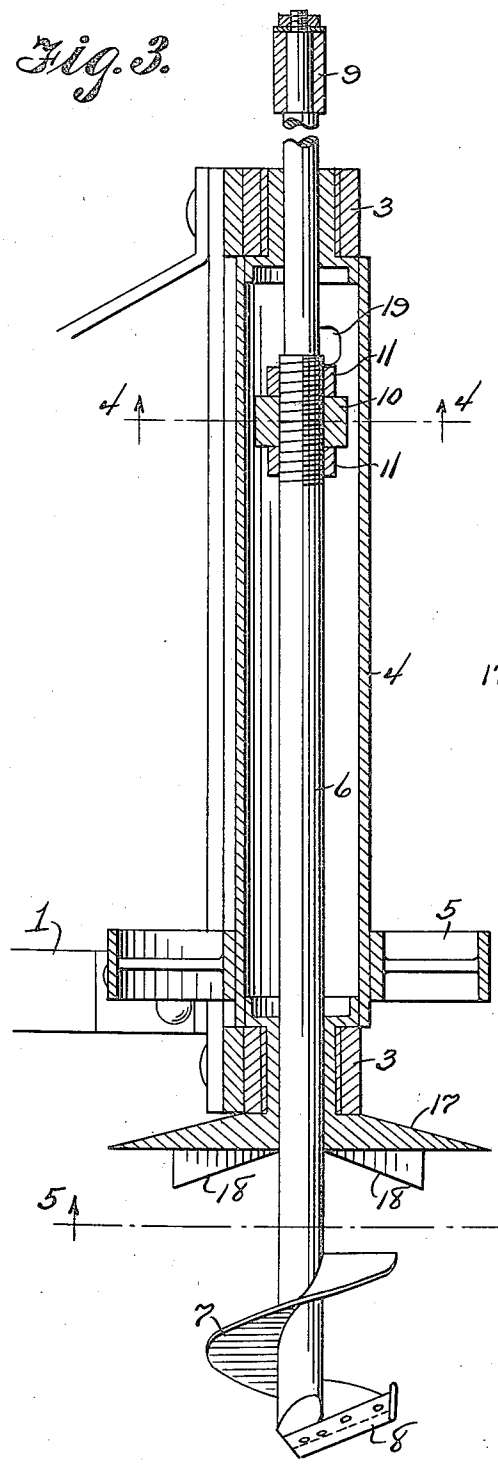


Fig. 4.

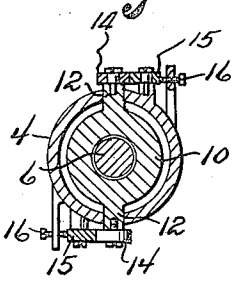


Fig. 5.

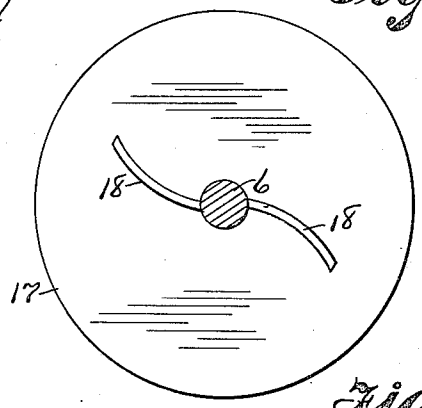


Fig. 6.

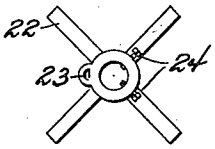
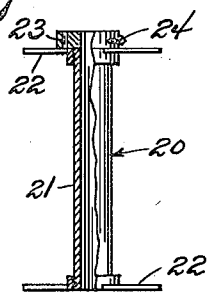


Fig. 7.



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2,061,218

CONVERTIBLE POST HOLE DIGGER

R. T. Watson, Burkett, Tex.

Application March 2, 1936, Serial No. 66,735

2 Claims. (Cl. 255—19)

This invention relates to post hole diggers, and has for the primary object the provision of a power driven device which may be conveniently mounted to a tractor or similar device to receive power therefrom and to be easily moved from one place to another as the holes are made and also are to be employed for reeling fence wire.

With these and other objects in view, this invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

For a complete understanding of my invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevation illustrating a tractor equipped with a post hole digger constructed in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary front elevation illustrating the same.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is an end view illustrating a reel.

Figure 7 is a plan view, partly in section, illustrating the reel.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates a suitable supporting frame mounted in any convenient manner to a tractor 2. The supporting frame 1 includes upper and lower journals 3 which rotatably support a vertically arranged tubular casing 4. The casing has secured thereto a pulley belt 5 for the purpose of receiving an endless belt driven by the tractor. The ends of the casing form journals for a shaft 6 which extends above and below the casing and has secured to its lower portion an auger 7 in the form of a spiral strip to which is removably secured a cutter 8. The upper end of the shaft has removably secured thereto a handle 9. The auger and its cutter 8 may be raised and lowered with respect to the ground by endwise sliding movement of the shaft through the employment of the handle 9.

A drive is provided between the casing and the shaft and consists of a plate 10 threaded to the shaft and engaged by lock nuts 11 also threaded to the shaft. Extensions 12 are formed on the plate and project through slots 13 formed in the casing. Journaled to the extensions 12 are rollers 14 which ride upon tracks 15 adjustably secured to the casing 4. The tracks 15 may be adjusted towards and from the rollers 14 by set bolts 16. The drive means between the shaft and the casing will permit said shaft to slide freely in an endwise direction but which will cause rotation of the shaft by the rotation of the casing.

A guard 17 is secured to the lower end of the casing with the shaft 6 extending therethrough. The guard 17 includes fins 18 acting to distribute the dirt elevated by the auger 7. The guard rotates with the casing when the latter is driven by power obtained by the tractor. The shaft 6 rotates with the casing when the latter is driven by power obtained from the tractor. The shaft 6 rotates with the casing and by moving the shaft downwardly the auger 7 and its cutter 8 will readily drill or bore a hole in the ground. After the drilling of the hole to a desired depth the auger and its cutter may be raised out of the hole through an upward endwise movement of the shaft and the tractor moved to another selected place for drilling another hole.

The upper ends of the slots 13 have notches 19 in communication therewith in which the extensions 12 of the plate 10 may move when it is desired to hold the shaft against a downward movement. The securing of the shaft by the notches is desirable when employing a reel 20 on the upper portion of the shaft. The reel is in the form of a tubular sleeve 21 having detachably secured thereto radially extending arms 22. The arms form part of the sleeve or collar threaded to the sleeve 21. An anchoring eye 23 is provided on one of the collars to which one end of a fence wire may be secured when it is desired to wind the wire onto the sleeve 21. The sleeve is secured to the shaft by a set bolt 24 whereby the reel is caused to rotate the shaft 6. After winding of the wire onto the reel the latter may be removed from the shaft and also the reel arms may be detached from the sleeve 21, allowing the latter to remain in the wound wire. A number of sleeves 21 may be provided and the reel arms 22 readily adapted thereto.

Having described the invention, I claim:

1. A portable post hole digger comprising a supporting structure mounted to a tractor, a casing journaled to said supporting structure, means for rotating said casing by power received from the tractor, a shaft journaled in said casing, boring means secured to said shaft, a handle secured to said shaft for moving the latter endwise, a plate secured to the shaft, said casing having slots, extensions formed on the plate and extending through the slots, adjustable tracks mounted on said casing adjacent the slots, roll-

ers journaled to said extensions and engaging the tracks for establishing a drive between the shaft and the casing and capable of permitting endwise movement of the shaft with respect to said casing.

2. A portable post hole digger comprising a supporting structure mounted to a tractor, a casing journaled to said supporting structure, means for rotating said casing by power received from the tractor, a shaft journaled in said casing, boring means secured to said shaft, a handle secured to said shaft for moving the latter endwise, a plate secured to the shaft, said casing having slots provided with lateral branches, extensions formed on the plate and extending through the slots, adjustable tracks mounted on said casing adjacent the slots, and rollers journaled to said extensions and engaging the tracks for establishing a drive between the shaft and the casing and capable of permitting endwise movement of the shaft with respect to said casing, said extension movable into the branches of the slots to prevent endwise movement of the shaft.

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