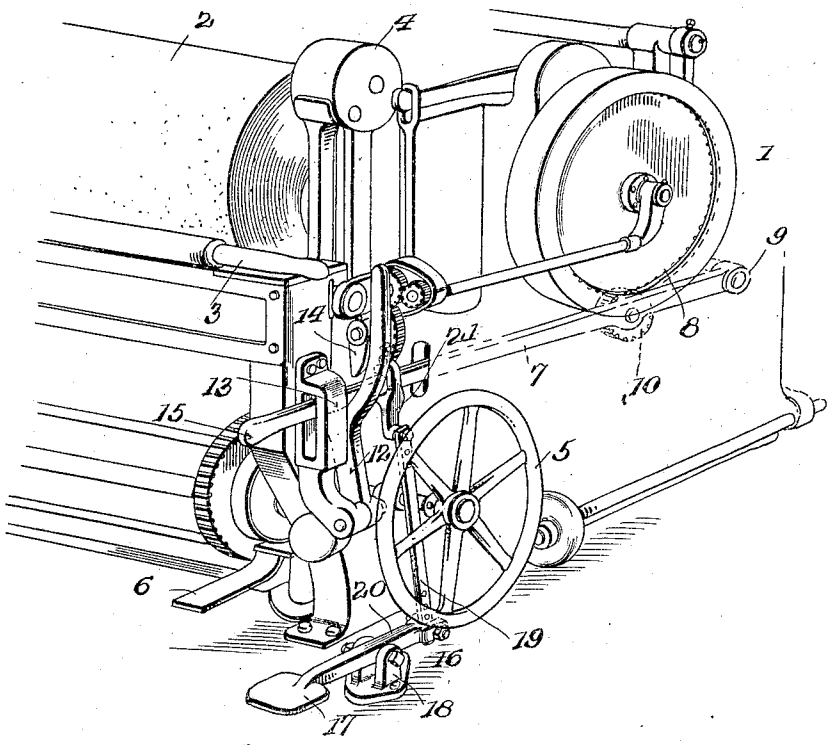
A. ST. ONGE.

STARTING DEVICE FOR LAPPING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 16, 1920.

1,362,446. **Patented Dec. 14, 1920.**

Fig. 1.



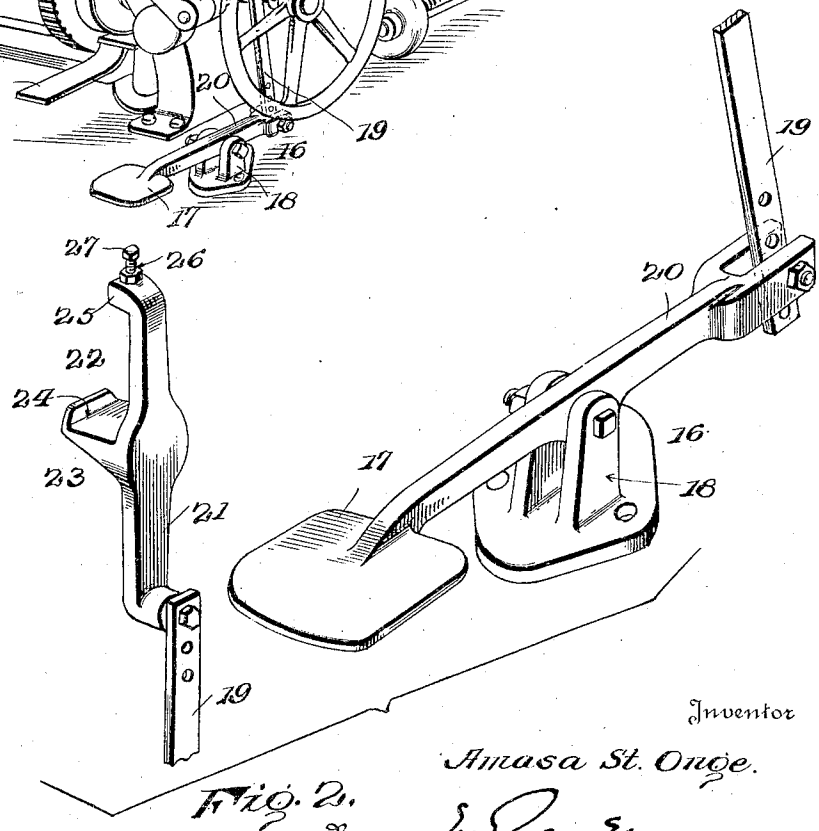


Fig. 2.

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STARTING DEVICE FOR LAPPING-MACHINES.

1,362,446. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 14, 1920.

Application filed January 16, 1920. Serial No. 351,929.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMASA ST. ONGE, of Union, in the county of Union and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Starting Devices for Lapping-Machines; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

In lapping machines which receive scutched cotton from batting machines and compact it into a lap or fleece upon a roller, it is customary to employ a handle to bring the operating gears into mesh to resume the lapping process after it is interrupted to remove a previously formed lap. This step of actuating the handle is usually the sixth in order, being preceded by the acts of releasing the friction devices, raising the logger heads out of contact with the lap, removing the lap pin, removing the lap, and replacing the pin.

My invention provides a foot actuated device to bring the operating gears into mesh, which in addition to providing increased leverage and facilitating the action both in power and time, also permits of this step being the fourth in order as the operator has his hands free to remove the pin, remove the lap and again put the pin in place for the succeeding operation before the cotton feed is ready to receive the pin.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of portion of a lapping machine equipped with my improved device, showing conventionally the connection between the starting device and the gears. Fig. 2 shows the device detached.

The lapping machine is indicated generally at 1. 2 indicates a lap and 3 a lap pin. 4 is one of the logger heads raised and lowered by wheel 5 as well known in the art. A treadle 6 also is indicated. This controls the friction devices acting upon the lap. All of these parts may be constructed and operated in any preferred manner as they constitute no part of my invention.

I provide a starting attachment which may be applied to the standard types of lapping machines now in use. As shown in Fig. 1 these machines are provided with arms 7 adapted to be raised to bring the operating gears 8 into mesh. Such an arm is fulcrumed at 9 and forms the bearing for pinion 10 to mesh with the gear. A weighted trip lever 12 has a shoulder 13 to engage the arm and hold it elevated. A pawl 14 rotates with the machine and when a predetermined quantity of cotton has been rolled this pawl pushes lever 12 out of engagement with arm 7 and the arm falls by gravity. The arm 7 terminates in a handle 15 adapted to be lifted by the attendant.

My attachment is indicated at 16. It comprises a treadle lever 17 fulcrumed on a bracket 18 secured to the floor. A link 19 is fulcrumed at one end to the short arm 20 of lever 17 and at its other end to an arm 21 formed with a bracket 22 adapted to receive the gear actuating arm 7 of the machine. The bracket is shown formed by two flanges, the lower one 23 having an upturned lip 24 at its inner edge and the upper flange 25 having a binding bolt 26 extending through it to insure positive engagement with the arm 7. A locking nut 27 is shown tapped on the bolt. The link is formed with a plurality of holes to allow of adjustment.

To those familiar with the operation of these machines the advantages of my device will be apparent. After the attendant has pressed the treadle 6 to release the friction devices and has turned wheel 5 to elevate the logger heads 4 and removed the pin 3 he may actuate the starting device by depressing lever 17 as he removes the lap and replaces the pin, because his hands are free for these steps and he is saved the time and effort required for manual operation.

I claim as my invention:

As an article of manufacture, a starting device for lapping machines comprising a bracket adapted to be secured to a floor, a foot lever fulcrumed on said bracket, an arm to engage the gear actuating element of the machine, said arm having a pair of flanges constituting a bracket, the lower of said flanges having an upturned lip at its inner edge and the upper flange having a binding bolt extending therethrough and a lock nut on said bolt, and a link fulcrumed to said arm and to said foot lever.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification.

A. ST. ONGE.