Sept. 9, 1947. H. E. PRINCE 2,427,067

BRANDING TOOL

Filed March 10, 1944

Fig. 1

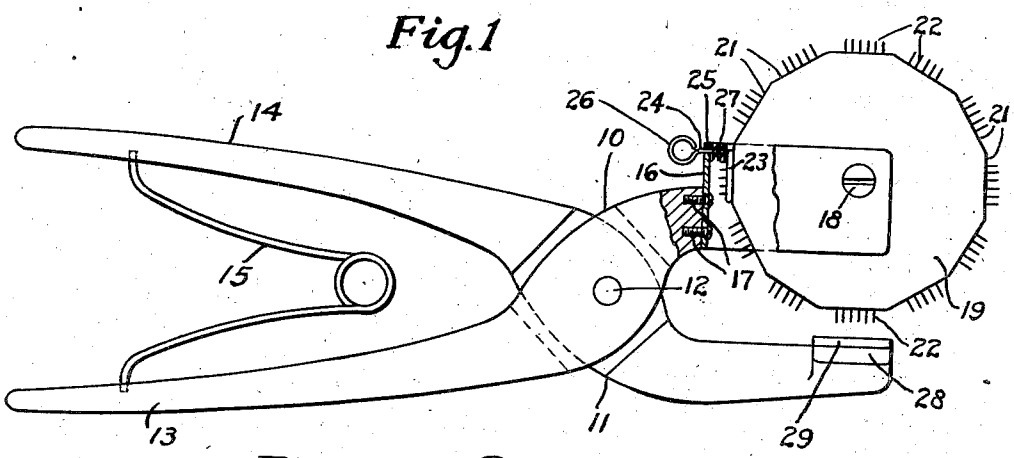


Fig. 2

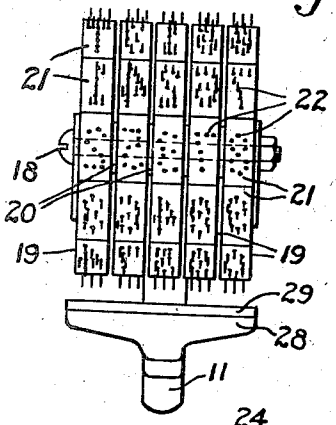


Fig. 3

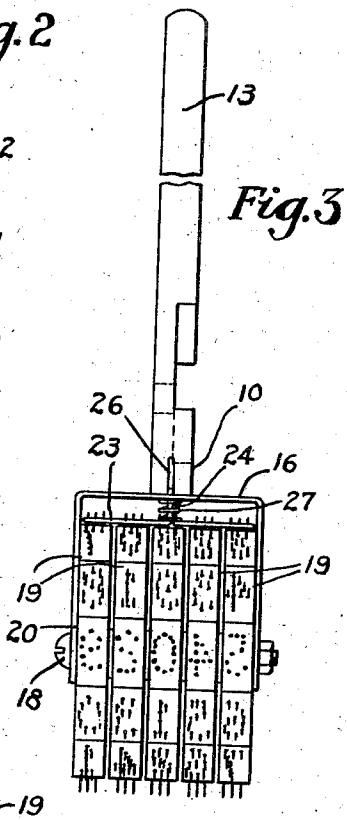


Fig. 4

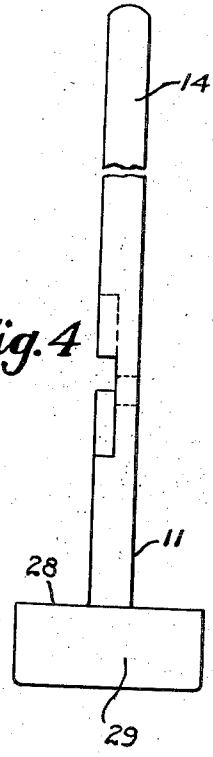


Fig. 5

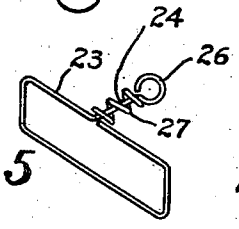
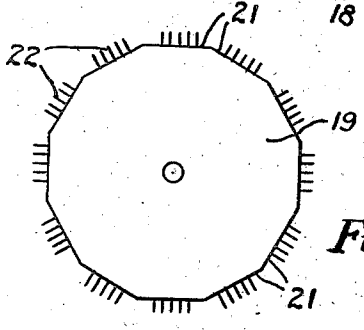


Fig. 6



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BRANDING TOOL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 101—20)

1

It is customary for the raisers of rabbits and other animals and poultry to apply a tattoo mark to the ears of the animals and wings of the poultry to indicate registration numbers, ownership and the like by means of numbers or letters or a combination of the two.

This is accomplished by puncturing the ears or wings of the animal or fowl by means of a tool having numbers or letters or both, outlined by a series of pointed needles, a branding oil or ink being applied after the needles are withdrawn, penetrating the openings in the skin and leaving a permanent, visible tattoo mark upon the ear or wing.

The present invention has for its object the provision of a branding tool of this general character which is so constructed that any desired combination of numbers and/or letters may be readily set up in the device for branding an animal or fowl.

Another object is the provision of a tool of this type capable of producing a great variety of combinations of numbers and/or letters without removing or replacing any part in the device.

A further object is the provision of a branding tool having a plurality of independently rotatable type wheels or drums each of which has a plurality of numbers or letters around its periphery.

A still further object is the provision of such a tool provided with stop means for simultaneously engaging all of the type wheels or drums so as to hold them in any desired adjusted position.

Still another object of the invention is the provision of a tool of this character which is constructed in the form of a pair of pliers and provided with opposed jaws, one jaw carrying a plurality of rotatable type wheels or drums each having a plurality of numbers and letters around its periphery outlined by pointed needles, the other jaw having a comparatively soft cushion against which the ear or wing is placed.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a branding tool of this character in which the stop means for holding the type wheels in adjusted position is in the form of a spring loaded, hollow rectangular frame adapted to engage over the outlined numbers or letters of the several type wheels to hold them against rotatable movement.

The above objects together with others which will be apparent from the drawings and following description, or which may be later referred to, may be attained by constructing the improved

2

branding tool in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a branding tool embodying the invention, parts being broken away for the purpose of illustration;

Fig. 2 a front end elevation of the tool;

Fig. 3 a top plan view of the upper jaw member of the tool;

Fig. 4 a similar view of the lower jaw member;

Fig. 5 a detached perspective view of the spring loaded stop member for holding the type wheels in adjusted position, and

Fig. 6 an elevation of one of the type wheels;

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, in which similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the improved branding tool to which the invention pertains is made in the form of a pair of pliers comprising the jaw members 10 and 11, pivotally connected together as at 12 and provided with the handle portions 13 and 14 respectively which may be normally held in the position shown in Figure 1 as by the spring 15.

A channel shape bearing bracket 16 may be fixed upon the jaw member 10 as by the screws 17 and carries a shaft or axle in the form of a bolt 18 upon which is mounted a plurality of wheels or drums 19 which may be slightly spaced apart as by the spacing washers 20.

Each type wheel or drum has a plurality of flat surfaces 21 around its periphery, upon each of which is provided a number or letter outlined by pointed needles as shown at 22. For the purpose of holding all of the type wheels in any desired adjusted position, a stop member is provided in the form of an elongated, rectangular wire frame 23 of suitable size and shape to hold one row of numbers or letters entirely across the plurality of type wheels, the needle points of the several numbers or letters being received within the frame, the width of which is just slightly greater than the height of the numbers or letters whereby relative movement of the several type wheels will be prevented.

This stop member is mounted upon the channel bearing bracket 16 by means of the rearwardly extending pin 24, slidably mounted through an aperture 25 in the bearing bracket and provided at its free end with an eye or knob 26 by means of which it may be manually operated. A coil spring 27 is provided for normally urging the stop member into operative position against the type wheels.

The jaw member 11 terminates in a transversely extending, elongated frame support 28 upon which may be mounted a cushion member 29 of

comparatively soft material such as rubber, leather, wood or the like.

When the branding tool is to be used the stop member **23** is withdrawn out of engagement with the needles upon the type wheels permitting the wheel to be independently rotated to set up the desired combination of numbers and/or letters upon the lower sides of the type wheels, opposite to the cushion **29**, the stop member **23** being then released so that it engages the needles of the row of numbers or letters across the rear side of the type wheels, holding the wheels in adjusted position.

The ear or wing of the animal to be branded is then inserted between the cushion **29** and the type wheels, and the handles **13** and **14** are pressed together, the pointed needles at the lower side of the type wheel puncturing the flesh. After the needles are withdrawn and the tool removed, a branding oil or ink is applied to the portion of the skin which has been punctured and penetrates the openings in the same leaving a permanent, visible tattoo mark thereon.

I claim:

1. A branding tool of the tattoo type comprising two pivotally connected members corresponding ends of which form jaws and handles, a plurality of concentric polygonal number wheels independently rotatably mounted upon one jaw, characters outlined by pointed needles upon each flat face of each wheel, and an elongated, flat surface on the other jaw cooperating with the adjacent series of characters on the number wheels and an elongated wire frame adjustably mounted upon the first mentioned jaw for simultaneously engaging one series of characters on adjacent flat faces of the number wheels for holding the number wheels in adjusted position.

2. A branding tool of the tattoo type comprising two pivotally connected members corresponding ends of which form jaws and handles, a plurality of concentric polygonal number wheels independently rotatably mounted upon one jaw, characters outlined by pointed needles upon each flat face of each wheel, and an elongated, flat surface on the other jaw cooperating with the adjacent series of characters on the number wheels and an elongated spring loaded wire frame adjustably mounted upon the first mentioned jaw for simultaneously engaging one series of characters on adjacent flat faces of the number wheels for holding the number wheels in adjusted position.

3. A branding tool of the tattoo type comprising two pivotally connected members corresponding ends of which form jaws and handles, a plurality of concentric polygonal number wheels independently rotatably mounted upon one jaw, characters outlined by pointed needles upon each flat face of each wheel, an elongated, flat surface on the other jaw cooperating with the series of characters on the adjacent flat faces of the number wheels and an elongated rectangular wire frame adjustably mounted upon the first mentioned jaw, said wire frame being of a size and shape to enclose one complete series of characters upon adjacent flat faces of all of the number wheels, and means for enclosing said wire frame over one series of said characters to hold the number wheels in adjusted position.

HARRY E. PRINCE.

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