

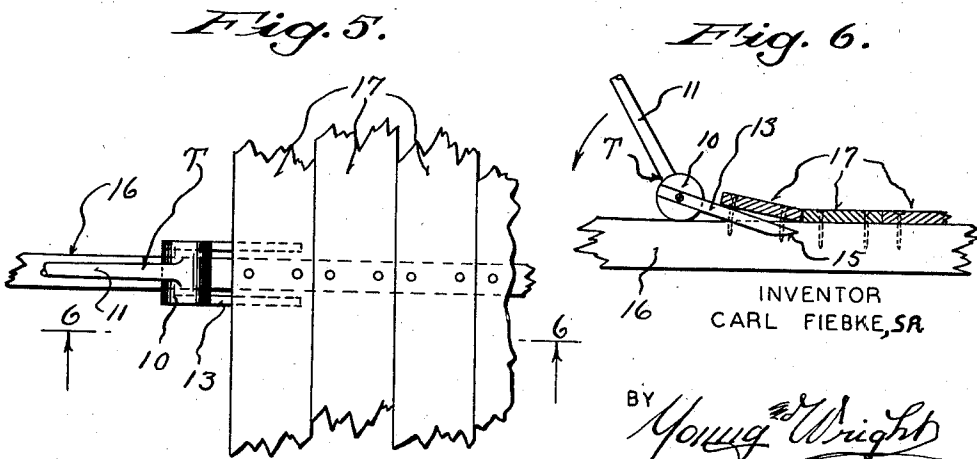
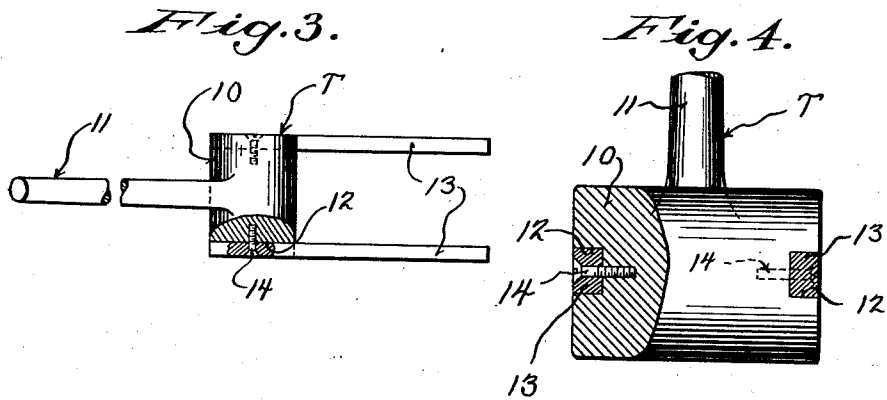
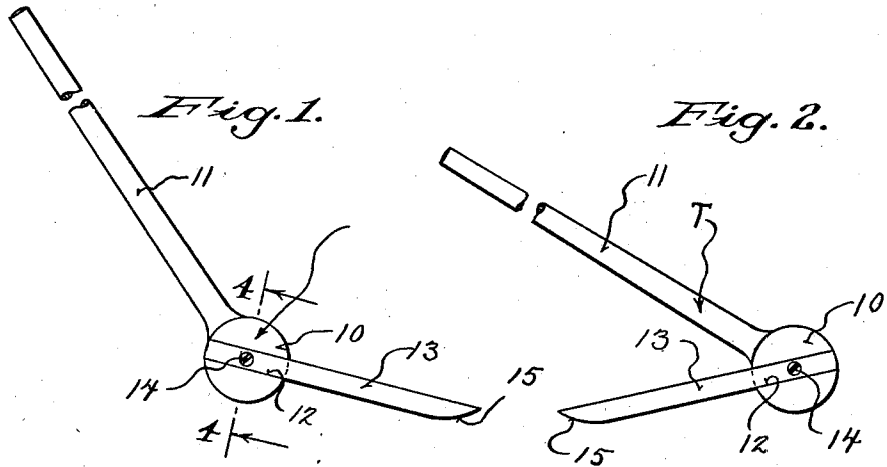
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WRECKING TOOL

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WRECKING TOOL

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1 Claim. (Cl. 254—120)

This invention appertains to tools and more particularly to a novel wrecking tool for facilitating the removal of floor boards, roof boards, siding, and the like, from buildings being torn down.

One of the primary objects of my invention is to provide a strong and rugged wrecking tool which will effectively straddle joists, beams or studding, for effectively engaging under the boards, whereby the boards can be pried loose with a minimum amount of effort and with a minimum amount of damage to the boards, nails, etc.

Another salient object of my invention is the provision of a wrecking tool embodying a cylindrical fulcrum body having formed thereon an elongated operating lever with detachable prongs or lifting fingers for straddling the studding or beams for engaging the boards to be removed.

A further important object of my invention is to provide novel means for detachably associating the lifting fingers or prongs with the cylindrical fulcrum body, whereby the position of the fingers or prongs on the body can be reversed whereby the operating lever can be effectively actuated toward or away from the operator to remove boards according to the position of the operator relative to the boards and beams.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a wrecking tool of the above character, which will be durable and efficient in use, one that will be simple and easy to manufacture, and one which can be placed upon the market at a reasonable cost.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and formation of parts, as will be hereinafter more specifically described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which drawing:

Figure 1 is a side, elevational view of my improved wrecking tool showing one position of the lifting fingers or prongs in full lines.

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 but showing the fingers or prongs in their reversed position and the tool ready to be actuated.

Figure 3 is a top, plan view of the tool with parts thereof broken away and in section.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary, sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary, plan view showing the tool in use for removing floor boards.

Figure 6 is a detail, fragmentary, sectional view

showing the tool in side elevation and in operative position for removing floor boards.

Referring to the drawing in detail, wherein similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the letter T generally indicates my improved wrecking tool and the same includes a solid cylindrical body 10 which is adapted to be placed against a beam, joist, studding, or the like when the tool is in use. Formed on or secured to the body 10 is the centrally disposed radially extending operating handle or lever 11. This handle or lever is relatively long so as to facilitate the manipulation of the tool.

The opposite ends of the cylindrical body 10 have formed therein diametrically extending grooves 12 which form sockets for detachably receiving the inner ends of the lifting prongs or fingers 13. The fingers 13 are detachably held in their grooves or sockets in any preferred manner, such as by the use of screws 14, which extend through the fingers and into opposite ends of the body. As illustrated, the fingers or prongs also extend radially from the body, but at an angle to the handle. The forward ends of the fingers or prongs 13 can have their lower faces tapered, as at 15, for facilitating their engagement with the parts to be removed.

In Figures 5 and 6 I have shown one use of my wrecking tool and in these figures floor joists 16 support floor boards 17.

In operation of my tool, the body 10 is placed on the desired joist and the fingers 13 are shoved under the adjacent floor board 17. The handle 11 is now swung down toward the joist and the fingers will effectively lift up on the floor board and pry the board loose with a minimum amount of damage to the board, the joist and the nails. As clearly illustrated in these figures, the fingers or prongs will straddle the joist and effectively engage the board on each side of the joist.

One of the important features of my invention is the fact that the fingers or prongs 13 can be readily removed and the position thereof reversed so that the tool can be effectively operated in different positions.

As illustrated in Figure 2, the fingers 13 can be removed and repositioned in the grooves or sockets 12 so that instead of projecting forwardly from the tool, the same will project rearwardly from the tool. Hence, in Figure 1 the fingers are shown extending at an obtuse angle relative to the handle, while in Figure 2, the same are shown extending at an acute angle to the handle. In Figure 2 the lever is actuated by pulling action,

while in Figure 1 the lever is actuated by pushing action. This facilitates the use of the tool on the inside and outside of a building.

Obviously, more than one groove 12 can be provided on the opposite ends of the body 10 and where more than one groove is provided, the grooves will extend at an angle to one another so that the prongs can be positioned at various angles to the handle which will be most advantageous for use by the operator.

Changes in details may be made without departing from the spirit or the scope of my invention, but what I claim as new is:

A wrecking tool comprising a cylindrical ful-

crum body, a centrally disposed elongated operating handle connected with said body and projecting radially from the outer face thereof, the opposite ends of said body being provided with diametrically extending grooves opening out the opposite sides of the body forming sockets, and spaced prying fingers having their rear ends detachably fitted in said grooves whereby the fingers can be positioned in said grooves to project either forwardly or rearwardly of the body relative to the handle, and means detachably securing the fingers in the grooves.

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