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Olson

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[54] **BOARD-STRIPPING TOOLS**

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[51] **Int. Cl.** **B66f 3/00**

[58] **Field of Search** 254/17, 25, 27, 129, 254/130, 131, 132

[56] **References Cited**

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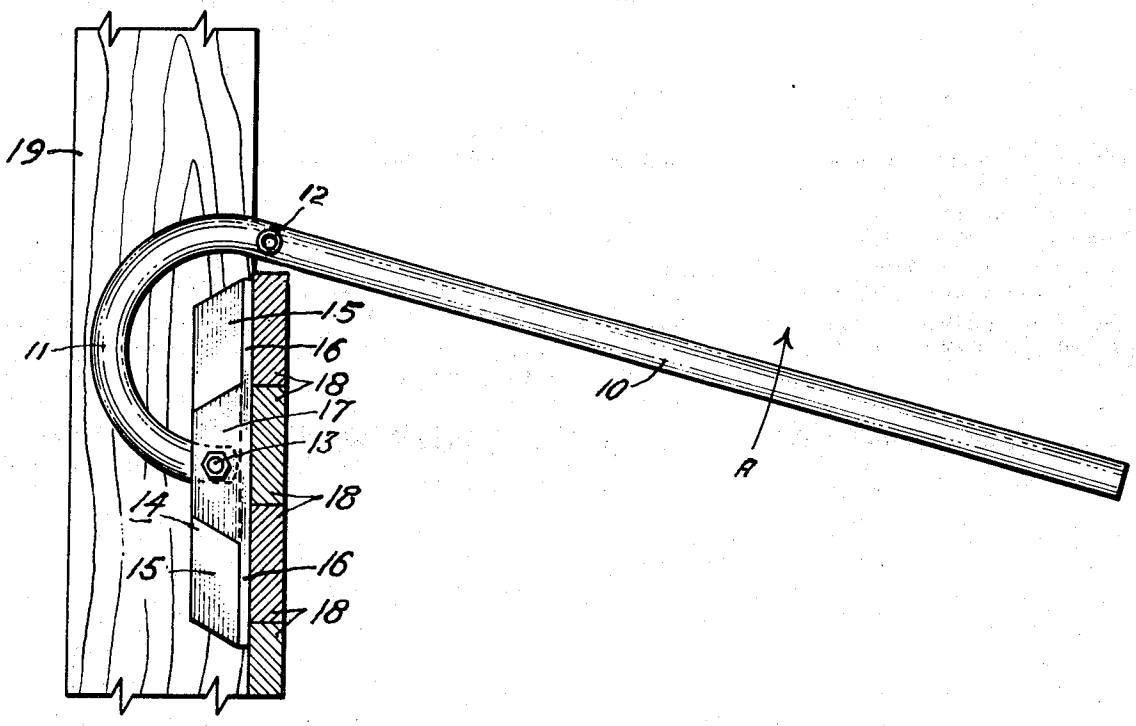
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A straight tubular handle one extremity of which is arcuately bent back to form a hook-shaped, semicircular, prying portion therebeing support-contacting fulcrum elements projecting oppositely outward from the handle adjacent the prying portion and an elongated, board-contacting foot member medially pivoted on the free extremity of the prying portion. The foot member being rotatable in the plane of the prying portion.

3 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures



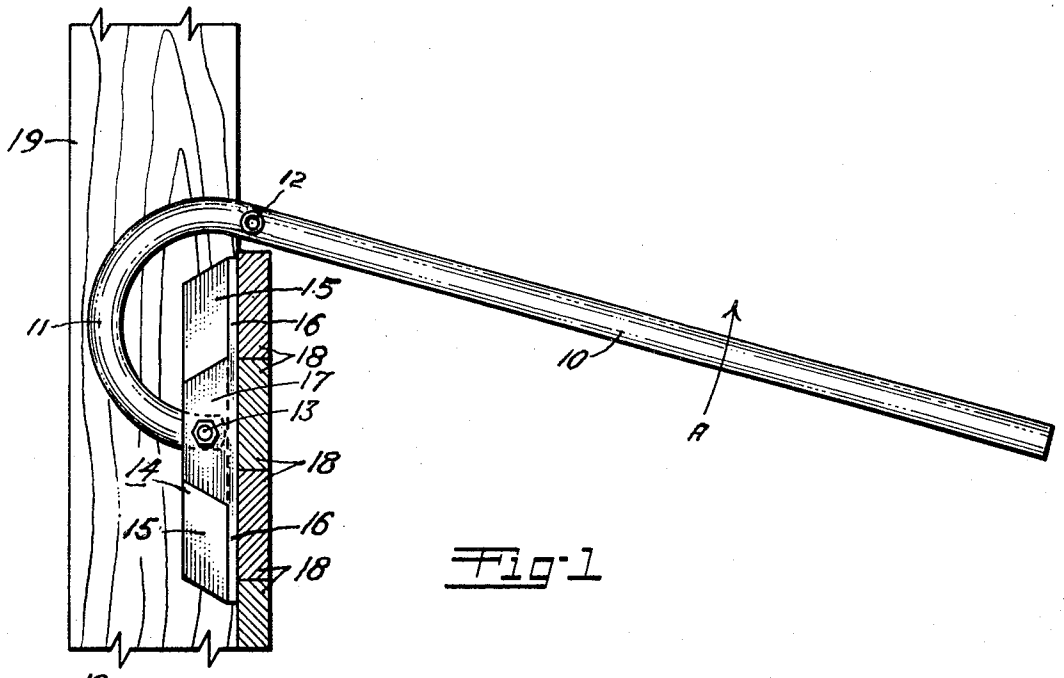


Fig. 1

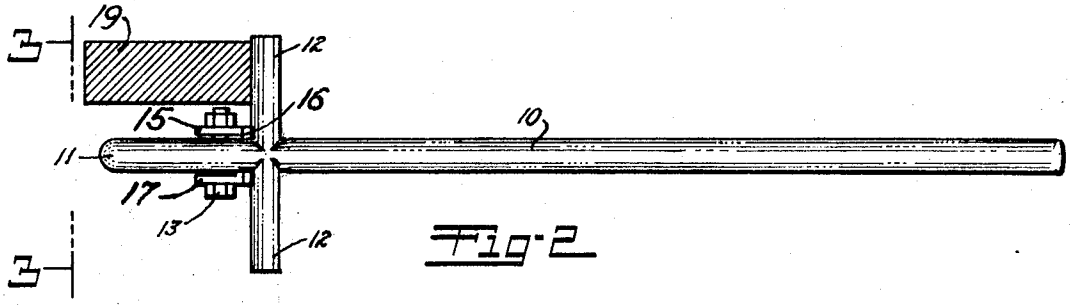


Fig. 2

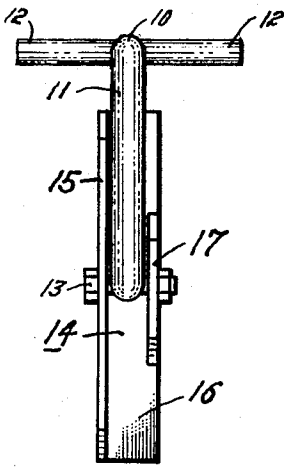


Fig. 3

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BOARD-STRIPPING TOOLS

This invention relates to a board-stripping tool for use in removing boards from various structures that are being dismantled. It is more particularly applicable for: removing siding boards from studs, for removing floor boards from joists, and for removing sheathing boards from the roof rafters and beams of buildings which are being demolished.

Tools for this purpose have been previously designed but have been usually too complicated, heavy and bundlesome for rapid practical use and often result in so damaging the removed boards that reuse of the boards is often impractical.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a simple, economical, light weight tool which can be quickly and easily placed in any desired position on the work and which will quickly and with little effort remove boards from a supporting structure with a minimum of damage to the boards and to the structure.

A further object is to provide a board-stripping tool which will comprise a single unitary assembly that can be readily lifted, positioned and actuated with a single hand so as to leave the other hand free for handling the boards.

A still further object is to provide a board-stripping tool which can without adjustment or change be selectively and instantly positioned for use upon either side of studs and joists and other building elements so as to quickly accommodate all work requirements and to so construct the tool that it will automatically laterally align with the transverse surfaces of the boards so as to uniformly exert lateral pressure across their widths to reduce the possibility of splitting, tearing or otherwise damaging the boards.

Other objects and advantages reside in the detail construction of the invention, which is designed for simplicity, economy and efficiency. These will become more apparent from the following description.

In the following detailed description of the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawing which forms a part hereof. Like numerals refer to like parts in all views of the drawing and throughout the description.

In the drawing:

FIG. **1** is a side elevational view of the board-stripping tool of this invention showing it in a position for use;

FIG. **2** is a top view of the tool illustrating it as it would appear looking downwardly on FIG. **1**; and

FIG. **3** is an end elevational view of the tool as it would appear looking to the right in FIG. **2**.

The board-stripping tool of this invention employes a straight tubular handle **10** the forward extremity of which is integrally and arcuately curved to approximately 180° to form a semi-circular prying portion **11**.

Two preferably tubular fulcrum elements **12** are welded or otherwise secured to and project oppositely outward from the handle **10** proximate the point where the handle tangentially joins the semi-circular prying portion **11**. The fulcrum elements **12** are similar and each is approximately 2'' in length and they are axially aligned with each other on a transverse axis positioned at a right angle to the plane of the semi-circular prying portion **11** as shown in FIG. **2**.

A pivot bolt **13** extends through and projects from opposite sides of the distant extremity of the prying portion **11** of the handle on an axis parallel to the axis of the fulcrum elements **12** to pivotally and medially receive an elongated foot **16** of a length to be freely rotatable about the pivot bolt **13** in the plane of the semi-circular prying portion **11**.

The foot **16** preferably includes: a straight length of conventional angle-iron **14**, which has a first side portion **15** positioned against the prying portion **11** of the handle **10** and which is pivotally mounted on the pivot bolt **13**; and a second side portion which extends longitudinally of, and at a right angle to, the first side portion **15** to form an elongated, straight, flat, board-contacting foot **16**.

A side bracket plate **17** is welded to, or otherwise formed on, the mid-portion of the outside edge of the board-contacting foot **16** and the extremity of the prying portion **11** is positioned between the first side portion **15** and the bracket plate **17** upon the pivot bolt **13**.

It is believed that many uses of this improved board-stripping tool will become apparent to one skilled in the art whenever it is desired to strip or remove boards which are nailed or otherwise attached to a supporting structure.

As an example of use, let us assume it is desired to remove nailed siding boards **18** from a supporting stud **19** of a wall as shown in FIG. **1**. The initial top siding boards **18** are first removed in any desired manner to expose the stud **19** and the prying portion **11** of the handle is inserted downwardly in the wall over the remaining boards **18** so that the foot **16** will depend inside the remaining top boards **18**. The handle **10** is moved sidewardly, if necessary, to position the tool close to either desired side of the adjacent stud **19** with one of its fulcrum elements **12** positioned opposite the front edge of the stud as shown in FIG. **2**.

The handle **10** is then simply pushed upwardly, as indicated by the arrow "A" in FIG. **1**, to cause the contacted fulcrum element **12** to push inwardly against the stud **19** so that the semi-circular prying portion **11** will react to pry the foot **16** outwardly against the back of the boards **18** to withdraw their respective nails from the stud **19**.

Of course, if it be desired to work upwardly on the structure wall, the lower boards may be initially removed and the prying portion **11** of the tool inserted upwardly in the wall so that downward movements of the handle will successively remove the boards **18** in upward sucession.

For removing floor and roofing boards, the same procedure is used with the prying portion **11** inserted behind the boards and with the selected fulcrum element **12** reacting against the joists or rafters.

While the various elements of the tool may be of any practical dimension, it has been found in actual practise that: if the handle **10** has a length of 26 inches and is formed from heavy wall steel tubing of 1 inch O.D.; if the fulcrum elements **12** are each approximately 2 inches long and are formed from similar tubing of ¾ inch O.D.; and if the prying portion **11** has an outside radius of 3½ inches, satisfactory working results can be obtained in the majority of cases.

The pivot bolt **13** can be replaced by a pivot pin or rivet, and the side bracket plate **17** may be continued for the full length of the foot **16** if desired.

It will be noted from FIG. **1** that should the wall being worked upon have lath, plaster or wall board on its inner face the siding boards **18** can, if desired, be re-

moved with this tool without disturbing the inner face of the wall.

While a selected form of the invention has been above described, it is understood that mechanical variations and detail substitutions can be made by one skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

1. A board-stripping tool for removing boards from a supporting element to which they are affixed comprising:

a. a relatively straight elongated hollow tubular handle portion;

b. a prying portion integral with the handle portion comprising a bent tube of semicircular shape meeting the end of the handle portion in tangential relationship and having its free end disposed 180° from and parallel to said handle portion;

c. a fulcrum element extending outwardly from each side of said handle at the point of tangential joinder with the prying portion and being perpendicular to the plane of the prying portion; and

d. an elongated foot member medially pivotally mounted on the free end of said prying portion so that it will be urged rearwardly against the back of said boards when either one of said fulcrum elements are forced forwardly against the front of said supporting element.

2. A board-stripping tool as described in claim **1** in which the foot comprises:

a. a straight length of angle iron positioned with one of its legs medially pivoted to said free end and with its other leg extending outwardly to flatly contact the back of a board to be stripped by said tool.

3. A board-stripping tool as described in claim **1** in which the board-contacting foot:

a. has a channel-shaped cross section with two upstanding side portions pivoted to and between which the free end of said semi-circular prying portion is pivoted and a straight, flat, elongated, board-contacting foot joining the two upstanding side portions and positioned to contact and strip a board under the prying bias of said prying portion.

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