

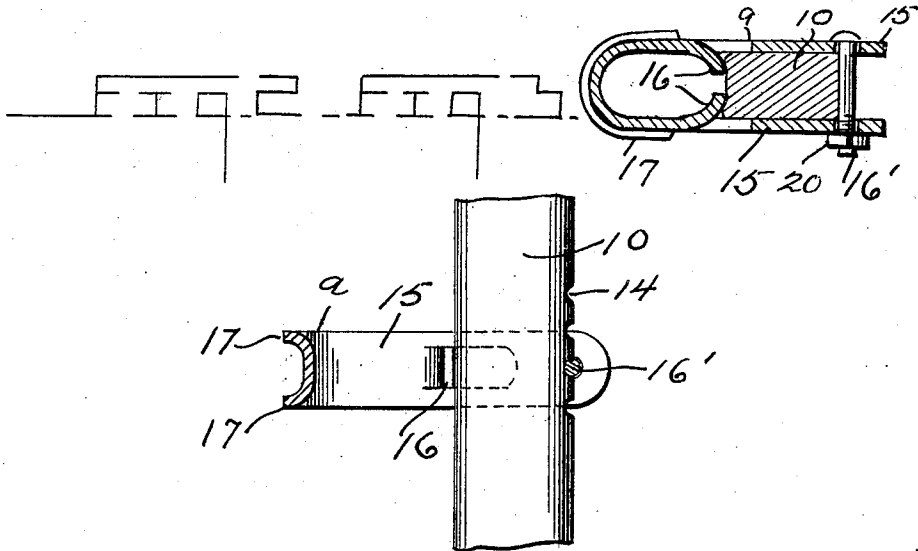
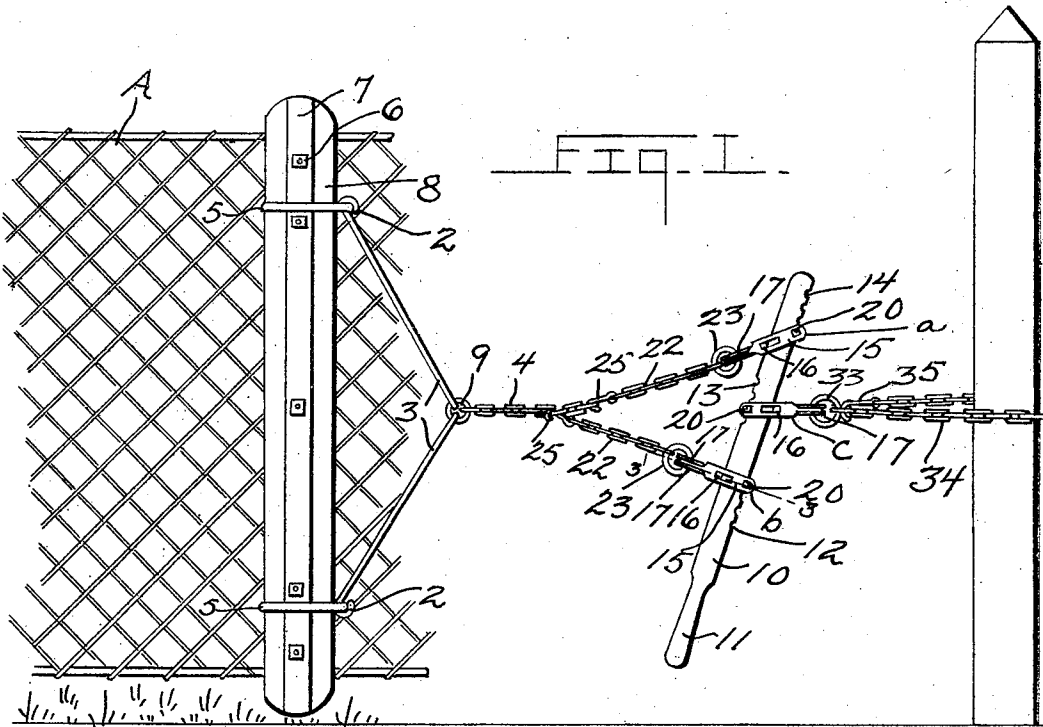
W. W. SNYDER.

WIRE STRETCHER.

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937,881.

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Witnesses

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WIRE-STRETCHER.

937,881.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. SNYDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Skylight, in the county of Oldham and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in wire stretchers.

The object of my invention is to provide a hand-operated tool especially designed to be used in stretching woven wire fence fabrics.

Another object is to provide a lever-operated stretching mechanism, constructed so that the travel or bite of the adjusting mechanism may be regulated.

With these and other objects in view, the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the specific structure shown and described may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 shows a side elevational view of a wire stretcher embodying my invention disclosing the same in an operative position. Fig. 2 shows a fragmentary portion of the lever disclosing a clevis in section. Fig. 3 is a view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 of the drawing.

In the stretching of woven wire fabrics, as these are of different widths and thicknesses, and, further, as men as well as boys are employed in stretching these fence fabrics, it is highly desirable that the wire-stretching mechanism should embody certain adjustable features, enabling the operator to set the stretcher so that a short powerful stroke may be imparted to the operating lever, or enabling the operator to adjust the tool so that a longer stroke may be taken, at the expenditure, however, of a greater force.

In the accompanying drawings, the numeral 10 designates the operating lever, which is preferably of wood and provided with a handle portion 11. Near one end the lever is provided with the semi-circular bolt seats 14, intermediately with the bolt seats

13, positioned within the opposite edge of the lever, and the bolt seats 12 positioned near the handle and of the lever and upon the same side containing the upper bolt seats 14, as clearly disclosed. In connection with this lever, I employ three similar shackles, in the form of clevises which are adjustably secured to the operating lever. These clevises are all of like construction. Each clevis is in the form of a sheet metal member, comprising the two similar side plates 15, held in parallel spaced relation, each plate near its end having an opening to receive the set bolt 16', secured by means of the nut 20. These clevises are approximately U-shaped and at their curved portions have the metal flanged outward as is shown at 17, while at a point between the curved ends 17, and the bolt seats, each side member 15, has an oblong ear portion 16, stamped inward, these resilient members or ears 16, being held proximal to one another, and each ear portion 16, is transversely curved, so that the rounded portions of these members 16, come in contact with the edge of the operating lever in the manner disclosed. The transversely positioned seats within the edge of the operating lever are arranged to removably receive the set bolts 16', each clevis being provided a sufficient movement, so that in the rocking operation of the lever, the clevises may freely respond to the change of movement as required in the operation of the lever. The clevis centrally secured to the operating lever, is marked *c*, and carries the ring 33, from which extends the tie or anchor chain 34, having the terminal hook 35, so that this chain may be secured to a suitable anchoring fence post, tree or the like, toward which the fence fabric is stretched. The clevis at the upper end of the lever is marked *a* while the clevis at the lower end of the lever is marked *b*. Each of these clevises carries a ring 23, from which extends an open-link chain 22, ending in the adjusting hook 25. The clevis secured to the handle end of the operating lever is marked *b*.

The fence fabric A, is secured between the two clamping members 8, braced by means of the usual ribs 7, and held to the fence fabric by means of the bolts 6. The clamping members are spanned by means of the collars 5, which are engaged by the hooks 2, forming the terminations of the members 3, by means of which the operating handle is

secured to the clamp. This member ends in the ring 9, from which is extended the chain 4.

The operation of the device is very simple.
 5 If a heavy, stiff fence fabric is to be stretched the upper and lower clevises *a* and *b* are carried toward the central clevis *c*. A short travel or movement will then be imparted to these clevises *a* and *b*: As the operating
 10 handle is rocked in one direction, it draws the fence fabric toward the wire tightener. After the operating lever has been carried in the proper direction its full stroke, the terminal hook 25 of the opposite clevis is
 15 engaged within the chain 4, whereupon the operating lever is rocked in an opposite direction. This movement will draw the last engaged hook forward while the other hook will be carried rearward in an inoperative
 20 condition. It will thus be seen that the first hook will be brought back along the chain for a new adjustment. From this movement the operating lever is continued until the full length of the anchor chain 4 has been
 25 taken up.

The operating lever 10 is secured to an anchor post or tree by means of the tie chain 34. The adjustments may all be made with ease and accuracy.

30 Where light fence fabrics are being stretched, the terminal clevises *a* and *b* may be carried toward the end of the operating lever and secured within the last seat. By this means a greater travel of the take-up
 35 chain 22 is secured.

The drag chain 4 is of any suitable length.

And having thus described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

40 1. The combination with a lever having a seat within one edge, of a clevis comprising two side plates held in parallel spaced rela-

tion each plate having a terminal opening, a bolt within said terminal opening and removable within said seat, said side plates 45 being connected by a curved flanged portion, each of said plates having an inwardly directed stop ear arranged to contact with said lever, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of an operating lever 50 having a plurality of seats at each end within the same edge, and a plurality of seats disposed intermediately thereof within the opposite edge; a clevis adjustably secured to said lever adjacent to said intermediate 55 seats, a bolt carried by said clevis and removable within one of said intermediate seats, said clevis having inwardly directed resilient stop ears contacting with the edge of said lever, at a point opposite said bolt, 60 a tie chain carried by said clevis, a second clevis upon said lever adjacent to one of said end seats, a bolt carried by said last-mentioned clevis in engagement with one of 65 said end seats, said clevis having inwardly directed resilient ears contacting with said lever at a point opposite said bolt, a chain having a hook carried by said second clevis, 70 a third clevis, a bolt carried by said third clevis seating within one of the seats of said remaining end seats, said third clevis also having resilient ears contacting with the edge of said lever at a point opposite its bolt, 75 a chain carried by said third clevis provided with a hook, all of said clevises being adjustably secured to said lever, and a drag chain arranged to be engaged by said hooks, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM W. SNYDER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM A. KROCKET,
 FRANK W. STROTHER.