

G. GERRITZ.
LAWN MOWER.
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1,048,404.

Patented Dec. 24, 1912.

Fig. 1.

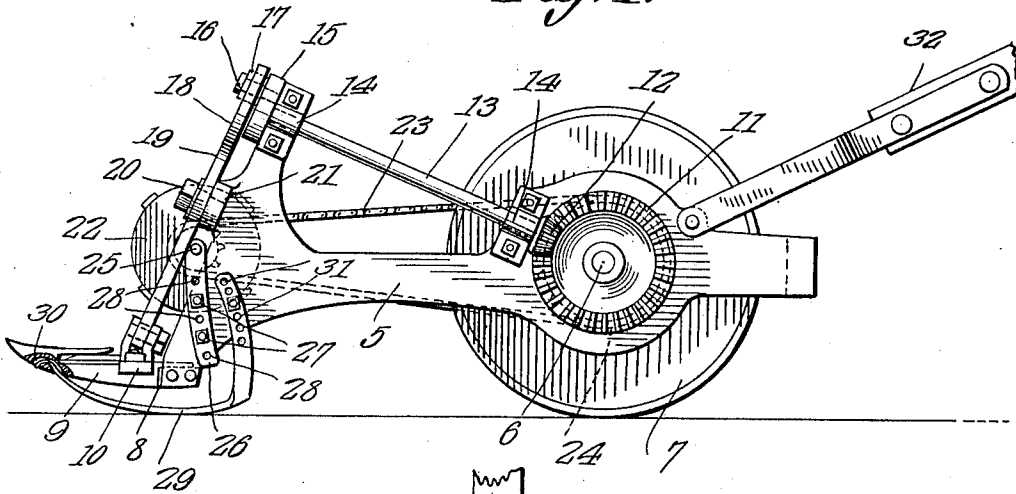
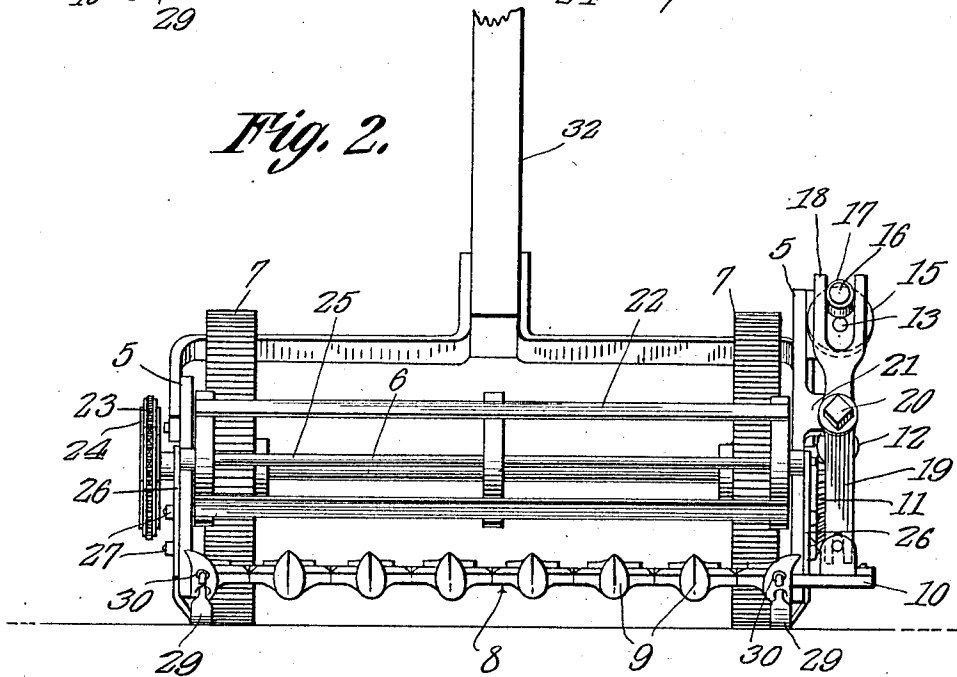


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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GEORGE GERRITZ, OF LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA.

LAWN-MOWER.

1,048,404.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE GERRITZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Little Falls, in the county of Morrison and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lawn-Mowers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to lawn mowers of that class having a reciprocating cutter bar operated in conjunction with guard fingers, and its object is to provide in a machine of this kind improved means for driving the cutter bar, and also to provide improved means for adjusting the height of the cutting end of the machine.

The invention also has for its object to provide a vertically adjustable reel.

With these objects in view, the invention consists in a novel combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

In order that the invention may be better understood, reference is had to the accompanying drawing, in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly broken away, and Fig. 2 a front elevation of the machine.

Referring specifically to the drawing, the frame of the machine comprises side plates 5 connected at the rear, and supporting the axle 6 of the drive wheels 7. A pawl-and-ratchet connection is provided between the axle 6 and the drive wheels, so that the machine may be run backward without actuating the cutting mechanism. This connection is common in lawn mowers, and as nothing is claimed with respect thereto, it has not been illustrated. The front end of the frame supports a finger bar 8 carrying guard fingers 9 arranged in the ordinary manner. A reciprocating cutter bar 10 operates in conjunction with the guard fingers.

The following means are provided for driving the cutter bar 10: On one end of the axle 6 is fastened a bevel gear 11 which is in mesh with a bevel pinion 12 fast on a shaft 13 supported in bearings 14 mounted on the adjacent side plate 5. On the shaft 13 is fast a wrist wheel 15, the wrist 16 of

which latter carries a roller 17 which works in a fork 18 at one end of a lever 19 fulcrumed intermediate its ends, at 20, on a bracket 21 carried by the side plate. The other end of the lever is connected to one end of the cutter bar 10.

It will be seen from the foregoing that when the machine is in motion the shaft 13 is rotated, which motion is communicated to the cutter bar through the wrist wheel 15 and the lever 19. The front end of the machine also carries a reel 22 which is driven by a chain 23 from a sprocket wheel 24 on the axle 6. The shaft 25 of the reel is supported in bearing brackets 26 mounted on the side plates 5. The brackets are secured by bolts 27, a number of bolt holes 28 being provided so that the brackets may be raised or lowered to effect a corresponding adjustment of the reel.

The following means are provided for raising or lowering the front end of the machine: To each side plate 5 is fastened a shoe 29 which extends forward beneath the guard fingers at the ends of the finger bar, and has its forward end shaped to seat in a recess 30 in said guard finger. The rear end of the shoe has an upward extension which is bolted to the side plate, a number of bolt holes 31 being provided so that the shoe may be raised or lowered. Upon lowering the shoes the front end of the machine is raised for a high cut. If it is desired to cut low, the shoes are placed higher up, whereby the front end of the machine is lowered. To the rear end of the frame of the machine is connected an operating handle 32.

By the structure herein described an easy running machine is had, and also one which can be easily operated, and readily adjusted to cut high or low.

I claim:

In a lawn mower, a wheeled frame, a cutter bar, a finger bar, guard fingers carried by the finger bar, and shoes extending beneath the guard fingers at the ends of the finger bar, said guard fingers having recesses at their forward ends, and the corresponding ends of the shoes seating in said

recesses, the rear ends of the shoes having upward extensions which are fastened to the wheeled frame, said upward extensions having a plurality of bolt holes to provide an
5 adjustable connection between the same and the wheeled frame to raise and lower the finger bar.

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

GEORGE GERRITZ.

Witnesses:

JOHN WITZEL,
JULIUS W. BERG.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."