March 14, 1950 A. J. CROOKSTON 2,500,629

SHINGLING AND ROCK LATHING TOOL

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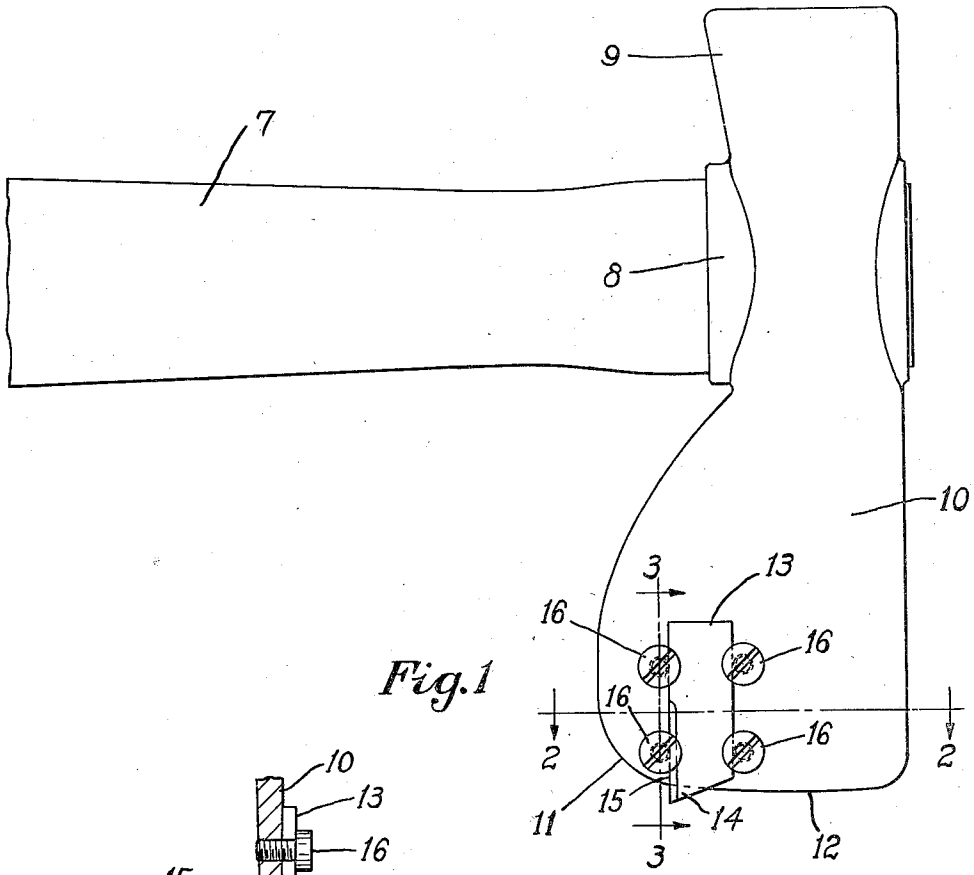


Fig. 1

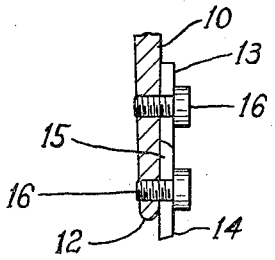


Fig. 3

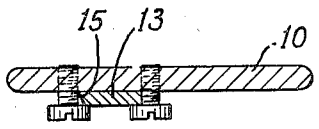


Fig. 2

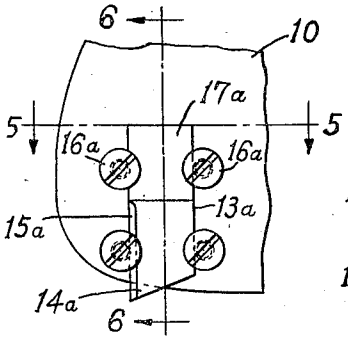


Fig. 4

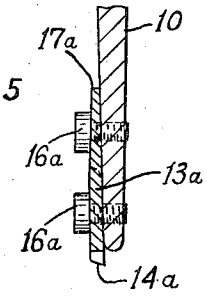


Fig. 6

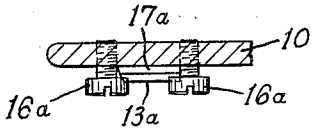


Fig. 5

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SHINGLING AND ROCK LATHING TOOL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 145—3)

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The invention relates generally to hatchets and more particularly to a lather's hatchet used for cutting rock lath, roofing material, and the like.

Conventional hatchets used by lathers have a steel head with a hammer portion on one side and a cutting blade on the other side, and in cutting rock lath and various kinds of wall board, the cutting edge becomes dull rapidly and requires frequent sharpening. Moreover, in cutting rock lath and the like, only the rear corner of the blade is used and the remainder of the cutting edge is ordinarily superfluous.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a novel and improved hatchet adapted for cutting rock lath and the like.

A more specific object is to provide a lather's hatchet having a replaceable cutting blade mounted on the blade of the hatchet.

Another object is to provide a novel lather's hatchet having a cutting blade adjustably mounted on the blade of the hatchet.

A further object is to provide a lather's hatchet having a blade with a pointed cutting edge adjustably mounted on the cutting blade of the hatchet in such position as to take the place of the usual corner of the cutting blade.

A still further object is to provide a simple and inexpensive replaceable cutting blade for a lather's hatchet, which blade is easily mounted on or detached from said hatchet, and which is easily adjusted to cutting position.

These and other objects are accomplished by the parts, constructions and combinations which comprise the present invention, the nature of which is set forth in the following general statement, and a preferred embodiment of which is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and which is particularly and distinctly pointed out and set forth in the appended claims forming part hereof.

In general terms, the novel hatchet comprising the present invention may be stated as including a head having a blade portion with a replaceable blade adapted to abut one side thereof at a position adjacent to its rear edge, the replaceable blade having a pointed rear cutting edge, and there being clamping screws and the like for adjustably holding the replaceable blade in cutting position.

Referring to the drawing forming part hereof, in which a preferred embodiment of the invention is shown by way of example;

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevation of a lather's hatchet with the novel replaceable blade mounted thereon;

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Fig. 2 is a sectional view as on line 2—2, Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view as on line 3—3, Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 1 showing a modified form of the replaceable blade;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view as on line 5—5, Fig. 4; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary sectional view as on line 6—6, Fig. 4.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views of the drawing.

The lather's hatchet shown in Fig. 1 includes a wooden handle 7 on which a metal head 8 is fitted in usual fashion, the head 8 including a hammer portion 9 and a blade portion 10. The blade portion 10 of the hatchet preferably has its rear corner rounded as indicated at 11, and the bottom edge 12 of the blade (which is normally its cutting edge) may be transversely rounded as best shown in Fig. 3, or may be the dull edge of an old hatchet, because in the present hatchet no cutting is intended to be done by this bottom edge.

The cutting edge of the present hatchet is provided by a replaceable blade 13 which is substantially rectangular in shape except for its bottom rear corner portion which is slightly pointed as indicated at 14. The blade 13 is preferably flat and adapted to lie flatwise against or abut the side surface of the blade portion 10 of the hatchet. The rear edge portion of the replaceable blade 13 is beveled to provide a cutting edge 15, and the cutting edge 15 extends from the corner 14 upwardly a substantial distance as shown.

The means for removably and adjustably holding the replaceable blade 13 in cutting position alongside the blade portion 10 of the hatchet preferably includes a plurality of set screws or clamping screws indicated at 16. The screws have their shanks threaded into the blade portion 10 of the hatchet and their heads overlapping and clamping the side edges of the replaceable blade 13. Preferably, there are two screws 16 provided for clamping each of the front and rear edges of the blade, and the screws may be slotted head screws as shown or hex head or socket head screws, as desired.

In using the novel replaceable blade, it is quickly mounted in a cutting position as shown in Fig. 1 with the pointed cutting corner 14 depending slightly below the bottom edge 12 of the hatchet blade 10, and at a position adjacent the rear edge of the hatchet blade. The blade 13 is easily adjusted up or down for making shallower or deeper cuts, and when the blade is dulled, a sharp

blade is quickly substituted for the dull one. The dull blades 13 are quickly and easily sharpened, and because of their low cost, a large number of the blades can be sharpened and kept on hand for quick replacement during the lath cutting operation.

The modified blade indicated at 13*a* in Figs. 4, 5 and 6 is substantially the same as the blade 13 and has the pointed cutting corner 14*a* and rear cutting edge 15*a*, the only substantial difference being that the upper portion 17*a* of the replaceable blade is slightly beveled flatwise so as to become somewhat wedge-shaped as indicated in the drawings. The result is that the two upper clamping screws 16*a* have a wedge fit with the upper portion 17*a* of the blade, so as to prevent any upward slipping of the blade 13*a* with respect to the hatchet blade 10 during the cutting operation.

The novel and improved hatchet construction is simple and inexpensive, easily mounted, adjusted and replaced. The novel hatchet is handy to use in cutting lath and provides for quickly replacing a dull cutting edge with a sharp one so as to avoid loss of time.

In the foregoing description, certain terms have been used for brevity, clearness and understanding, but no unnecessary limitations are to be implied therefrom beyond the requirements of the prior art, because such words are used for descriptive purposes herein and are intended to be broadly construed.

Having now described the invention, the construction, the operation and use of a preferred embodiment thereof, the advantageous new and useful results obtained thereby; the new and useful constructions and reasonable mechanical equivalents thereof obvious to those skilled in the art, are set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A shingling and rock lathing tool including a handle and a head on the outer end thereof, said head having a blade portion extending angularly from the handle and having a blunt outer edge, a flat replaceable blade in flatwise abutment with one side of said blade portion at the inner side edge thereof, said replaceable blade having a depending corner extending outwardly beyond said blunt outer edge and having a cutting edge, and means clamping said replaceable blade to said blade portion.

2. A shingling and rock lathing tool including a handle and a head on the outer end thereof, said head having a blade portion extending angularly from the handle, a flat replaceable blade in flatwise abutment with one side of said blade portion at the inner side edge thereof, said replaceable blade having a depending corner extending outwardly beyond said blunt outer edge and having a cutting edge, and means adjustably and removably clamping said replaceable blade to said blade portion.

3. A shingling and rock lathing tool including a handle and a head on the outer end thereof, said head having a blade portion extending angularly from the handle, a flat replaceable blade in flatwise abutment with one side of said blade portion at the inner side edge thereof, said replaceable blade having a depending corner extending outwardly beyond said blunt outer edge and having a cutting edge, and clamping screws threaded into said blade portion and wedgeably clamping said replaceable blade to said blade portion for adjustably holding said blade.

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