Aug. 8, 1950 W. C. RENNE 2,518,184

GUMMED TAPE APPLIER

Filed June 2, 1948 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

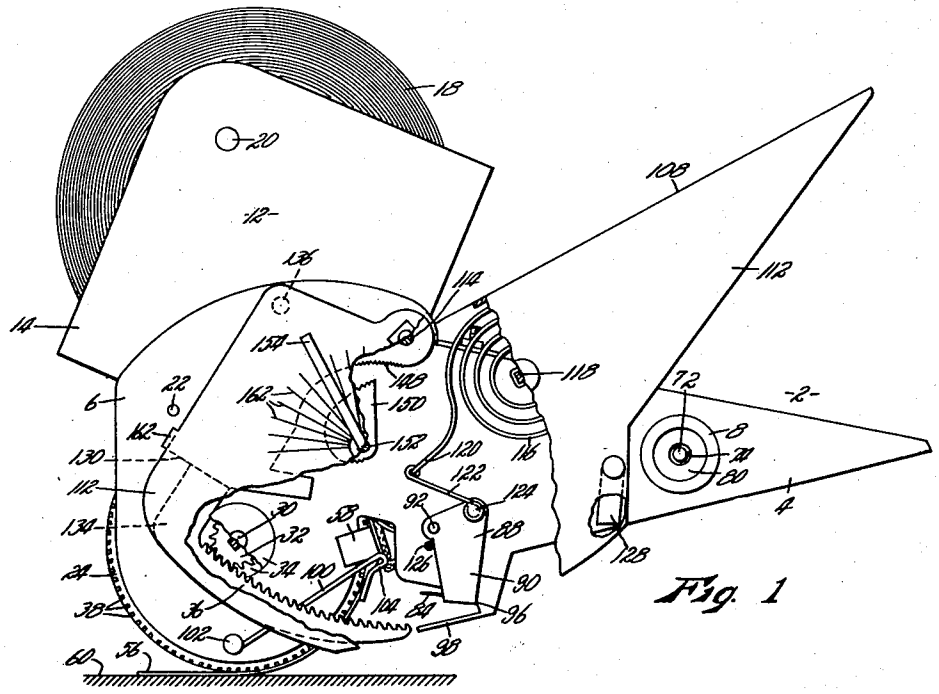


Fig. 1

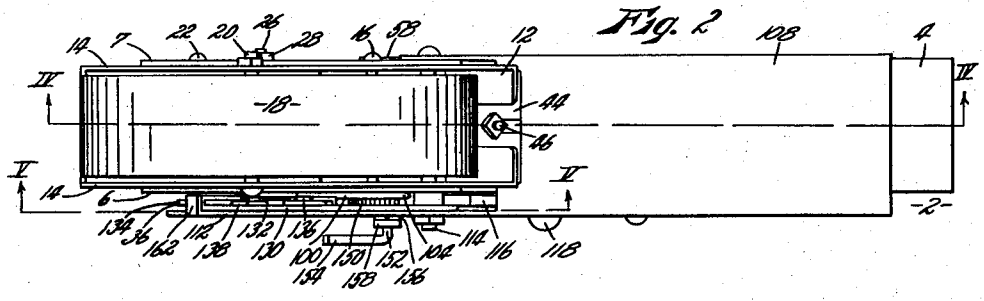


Fig. 2

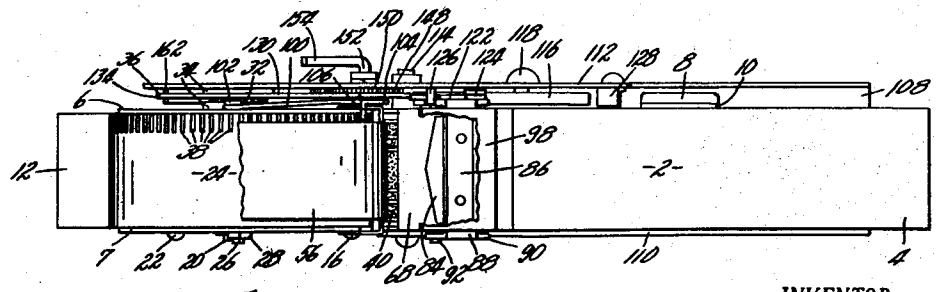


Fig. 3

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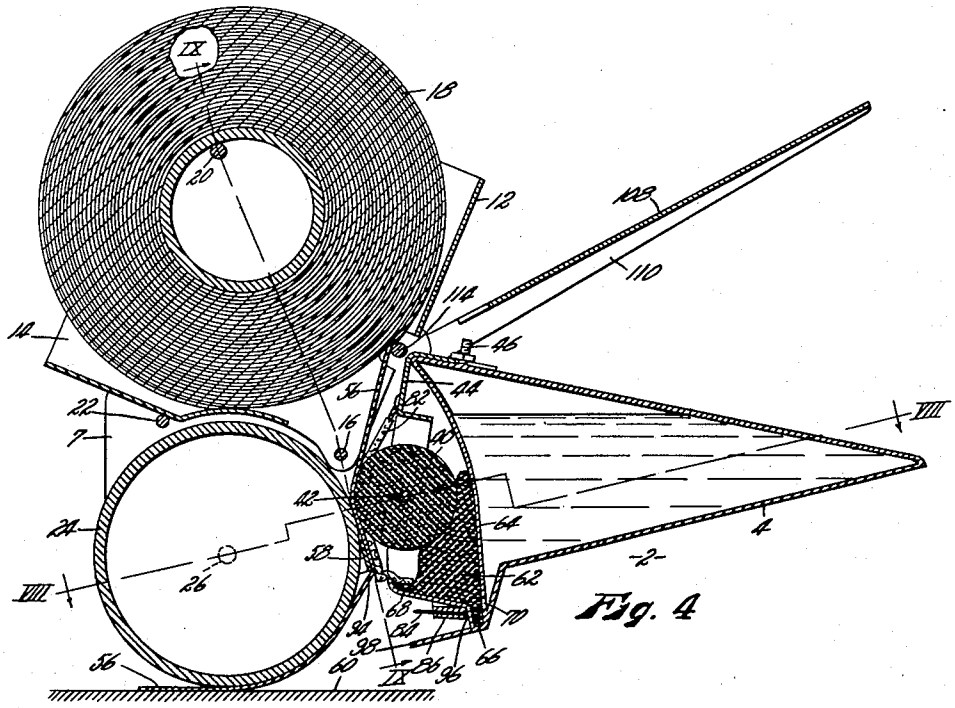


Fig. 4

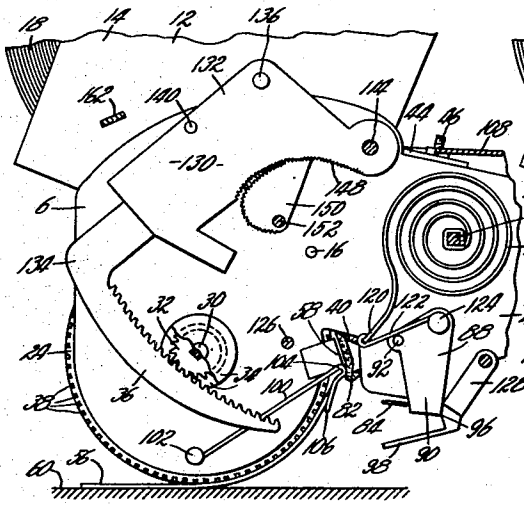


Fig. 5

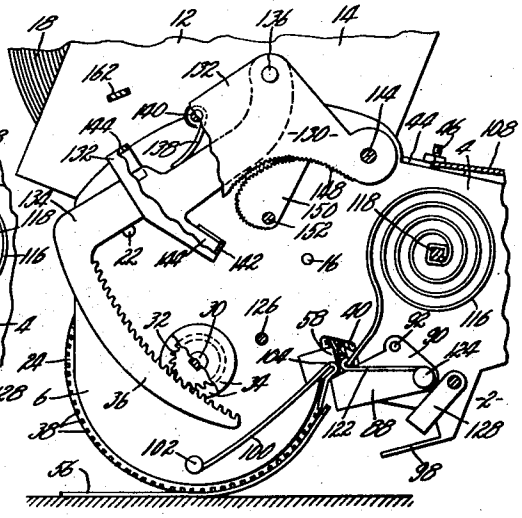


Fig. 6

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GUMMED TAPE APPLIER

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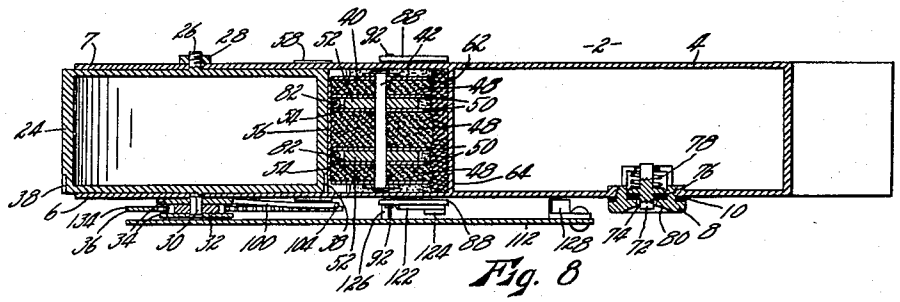


Fig. 8

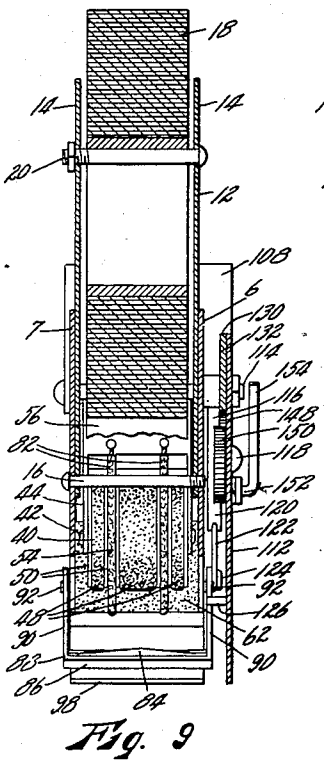


Fig. 9

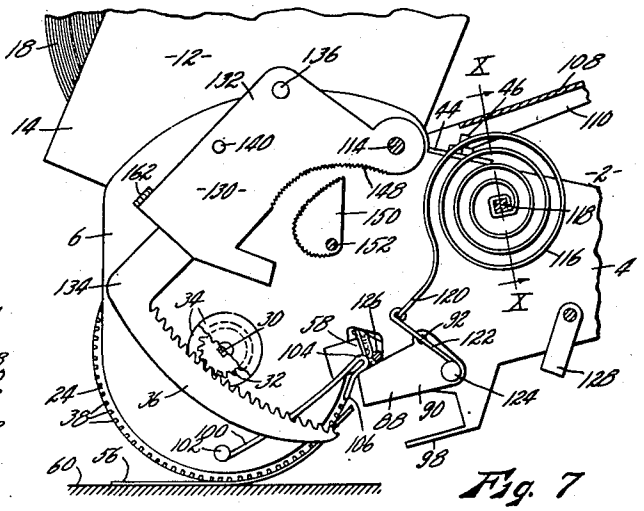


Fig. 7

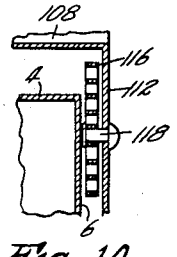


Fig. 10

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GUMMED TAPE APPLIER

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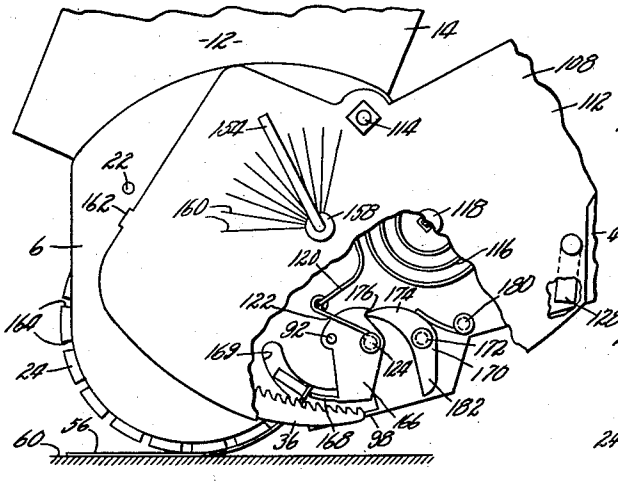


Fig. 11

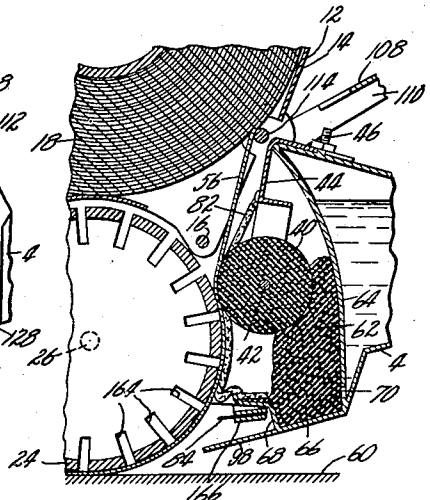


Fig. 13

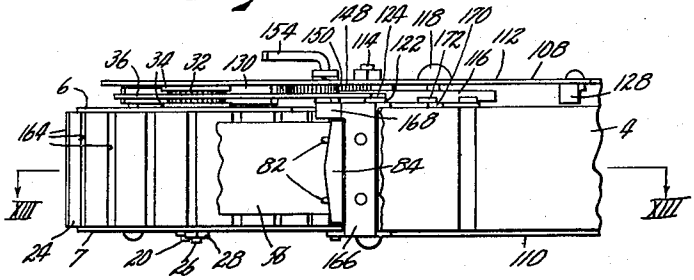


Fig. 12

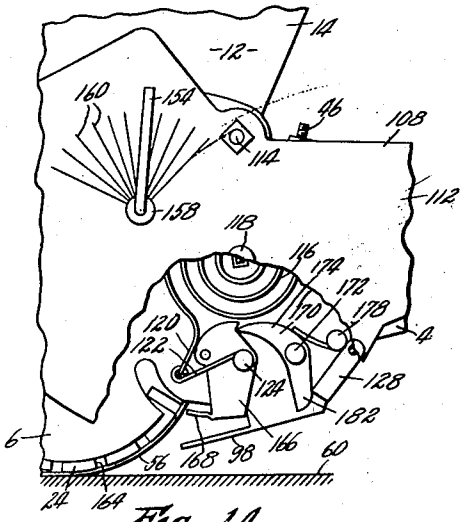


Fig. 14

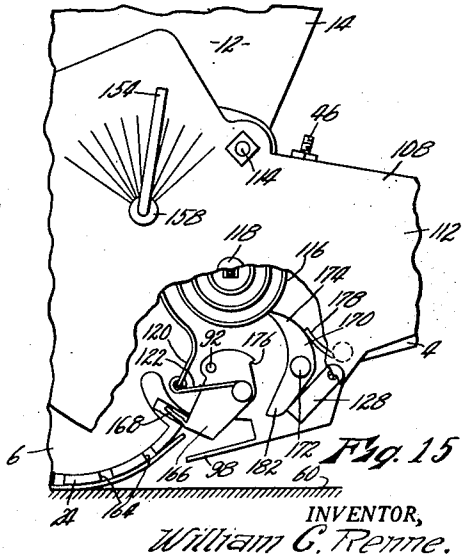


Fig. 15

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,518,184

GUMMED TAPE APPLIER

William C. Renne, Kansas City, Mo.

Application June 2, 1948, Serial No. 30,635

11 Claims. (Cl. 216—29)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a gummed tape applier, and has particular reference to improvements in the applier covered by my application for Letters Patent, Serial No. 784,343, filed November 6, 1947.

The principal object of the present invention is the provision of a simplified hand operable gummed tape applier whereby tape carried on a roll within said applier is drawn from said roll to any desired length, moistened, and cut off.

Another object is the provision of a gummed tape applier of the class described wherein tape led from a roll carried by the applier passes between a pressure roller and a moistening roller urged resiliently against said pressure roller, of a hand operated lever by means of which said pressure roller may be rotated to draw a predetermined length of tape from said roll, and a pivotally mounted blade operable by said lever at the end of its stroke to cut off said tape.

A further object is the provision, in a gummed tape applier of the class described above, of means operable by the hand lever whereby a variable length of tape may be drawn from the tape roll for each complete stroke of the lever.

A still further object is the provision, in a gummed tape applier of the class described, of a hand operating lever whereby tape is drawn from a roll and a blade whereby said tape is cut off at any desired length, said hand lever being returnable to its neutral position and said blade being driven on both its cutting and return strokes, by means of a single resilient member.

Another object is the provision of a gummed tape applier wherein tape is drawn from a roll between a pressure roller or drum and a moistening roller, manual means for rotating said drum to draw any desired length of tape from the roll, a blade operable to cut off said tape at the desired length, and means operable to lock said drum against rotation at the instant the tape is cut, thereby preventing fouling of the tape end with said blade.

Other objects are simplicity and economy of construction, ease and efficiency of operation, adaptability to be used in any position, the provision of novel means for insuring free flow of the moistening fluid, and the provision of novel means to prevent sticking of the moistened tape end in the applier.

With these objects in view, as well as other objects which will appear in the course of the specification, reference will be had to the drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a gummed tape applier embodying the present invention, partially broken away and shown in operative relationship to a surface to which tape is being applied.

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Fig. 2 is a plan view of the applier.

Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view of the applier, with parts broken away.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken on line IV—IV of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary section taken on line V—V of Fig. 2, showing the parts in the position assumed just before the blade is moved forwardly to cut off the tape.

Fig. 6 is a view of the parts shown in Fig. 5, just after the blade has moved forwardly in its cutting stroke.

Fig. 7 is a view of the parts shown in Fig. 5, during the return stroke of the operating handle and just before the cutting blade is returned to its neutral position.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view taken on line VIII—VIII of Fig. 4.

Fig. 9 is a sectional view taken on line IX—IX of Fig. 4, with the tape broken away.

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary section taken on line X—X of Fig. 7.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary side elevation, with parts broken away, of a modified form of the gummed tape applier.

Fig. 12 is an inverted plan view of the parts shown in Fig. 11, with parts broken away.

Fig. 13 is a fragmentary section taken on line XIII—XIII of Fig. 12.

Fig. 14 is a fragmentary view of the parts shown in Fig. 11, just before the blade trigger releases the blade.

Fig. 15 is a view of the parts shown in Fig. 14, just after the blade has been released to cut the tape.

Like reference numerals apply to similar parts throughout the several views, and the numeral 2 applies to a body member comprising a flat, hollow, substantially triangular tank portion 4 adapted to serve as a reservoir for water, the parallel side walls 6 and 7 thereof extending forwardly therefrom in spaced apart relation. Tank 4 is provided with a filling plug 8 having a sealing washer 10. A tape roller holder 12 comprising a sheet of metal bent to present parallel side walls 14 is mounted between the forwardly extended portions of body member walls 6 and 7 by means of a bolt 16 extending therebetween. Holder 12 extends above side walls 6 and 7, and is adapted to carry a roll 18 of gummed tape mounted rotatably on a bolt 20 extending between side walls 14. Said bolt is removable whereby said roll of

tape may conveniently be replaced. Holder 12 is further supported in position by means of a bolt 22 extending between body member side walls 6 and 7 adjacent the forward edges thereof.

A pressure drum or roller 24 is carried for rotation between side walls 6 and 7, said drum being provided at one end with a stub axle 26 extending rotatably through side wall 7 and secured by a nut 28, as shown in Fig. 8, and is provided at its opposite end with a stub axle 30 extending rotatably through side wall 6 and having its outwardly extending portion squared for rigidly mounting a toothed ratchet wheel 32. Said ratchet wheel is positioned between a pair of washers 34 of longer diameter than the ratchet in order to retain the driving rack 36 in engagement with the ratchet, as hereinafter described. Drum 24 extends beneath the lower edges of side walls 6 and 7 and is somewhat wider than the tape which the applier is adapted to dispense, and is provided along one of its peripheral edges with a series of finely spaced grooves or notches 38 disposed about the circumference thereof.

A moistening roller 40 is carried rotatably on a shaft 42 parallel to the axis of drum 24, shaft 42 being carried in a spring bracket 44 secured at its upper end to the upper surface of tank 4 by means of bolt stud 46, as best shown in Fig. 4. Said bracket is adapted to urge roller 40 resiliently against drum 24. As best shown in Figs. 8 and 9, roller 40 comprises a series of cylinders 48 of sponge rubber or other suitable material carried on shaft 42 and each supported by washers 50 disposed at each end thereof. Said sponge rubber cylinders and their supporting washers are spaced apart by spacer washers 52 carried on shaft 42. Spacer washers 52 are of smaller diameter than washers 50, and thereby provide peripheral grooves 54 in the moistening roller.

As best shown in Fig. 4, the end portion 56 of the tape from roll 18 is passed downwardly between drum 24 and moistening roller 40, thence over a guide bar 58 extending rigidly between side walls 6 and 7 and spaced outwardly from the surface of drum 24, and thence around the lower portion of said drum, by means of which the tape may be pressed manually against any surface 60 to which it is desired to apply the tape. The gummed side of the tape is disposed against roller 40 and is moistened thereby. It will be noted that side walls 14 of tape holder 12 extend downwardly to a point just above the line of contact between drum 24 and roller 40, thereby providing lateral support for the tape.

At its rearward side, roller 40 passes in wiping contact with a pad 62 of sponge rubber or other suitable material adjacent the upper end thereof, said pad being supported against the forward end wall 64 of tank 4. Said pad fits snugly at its lower end into a well 66 formed by the forward and upward extension 68 of the tank bottom. A hole 70 is formed in forward tank wall 64 adjacent the bottom of well 66, through which water may flow from the tank into pad 62. Normally the agitation caused by average handling is sufficient to prevent a vacuum from forming in the tank as water flows therefrom, which vacuum would prevent the flow of water to pad 62. However, should a vacuum form, it may be relieved by means of a relief valve carried in tank filling plug 8, as shown in Fig. 8. Said valve includes a stem 72 extending through a hole 74 formed centrally in filling plug 8 and carrying a disc 76 adapted to be urged against the inner surface of plug 8 by means of a compression

spring 78. Thus when a vacuum is formed, the applier is turned so that filling plug 8 is on the upper side and stem 72 is depressed momentarily to allow air to enter the tank. The outer surface of plug 8 is recessed at 80 and the outer end of stem 72 is disposed within said recess, thereby preventing accidental opening of the valve.

As best shown in Figs. 4, 8 and 9, a pair of elongated moistening members 82 are each soldered at their upper ends to moistening roller bracket 44 above moistening roller 40, extend downwardly through peripheral grooves 54 of said roller adjacent tape 56, and are bent at their lower ends to project into well 66 and to contact pad 62 therein. Each of said moistening members comprises a pair of wires twisted together with cotton or similar material disposed therebetween, in the manner of an ordinary tobacco pipe cleaner. Each moistening member receives moisture from pad 62 and draws said moisture therealong by capillary action, thereby remaining moist throughout its length at all times. Since the gummed side of the tape touches only these moistening members after leaving the moistening roller, the moistened end of the tape which remains in the applicator after each use can not stick. If this tape end were free to stick to any part, the tape would be jammed and fouled when the applicator was next used.

A transversely extending horizontal cutting blade 84 is carried just below well 66 and extends substantially between side walls 6 and 7, being rigidly mounted on the horizontal connecting portion 86 of a U-shaped bracket 88, said bracket having upwardly extending side members 90 disposed adjacent the outer surfaces of side walls 6 and 7 and pivotally secured thereto to 92. When bracket 88 is pivoted forwardly, blade 84 enters the space between guide bar 58 and drum 24, cutting off the tape substantially at point 94 indicated in Fig. 4. When bracket 88 is pivoted rearwardly the rearward edge thereof rests solidly against forward extension 68 of the tank bottom at 96. A forwardly extending guard plate 98 is carried by body member 2 just below blade 84 to protect said blade against accidental damage.

It is obvious that if drum 24 were allowed to rotate to draw more tape from roll 18 after blade 84 was pivoted forwardly to its cutting position, said tape would become fouled with the blade, and for this reason means are provided for locking the drum against rotation substantially at the instant the tape is cut off. This means includes a length of spring wire 100 secured rigidly at one end to the outer surface of side wall 6 by screw 102 and extending rearwardly and upwardly to a point adjacent and below the end of guide bar 58. Said wire is rebent adjacent its free end at 104 and has its end portion turned inwardly to form a detent 106, as shown in Fig. 3. Said detent is normally disposed in spaced relation from the notched edge of drum 24, but when blade bracket 88 is pivoted forwardly, it strikes the rebent portion 104 of wire 100, forcing detent 106 toward drum 24 and into one of the notches 38 of said drum, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, thus locking the drum against rotation.

The drum rotating and locking means, and blade 84, are driven by the following mechanism. A sheet metal handle member 108 is disposed above tank portion 4 of body member 2, having a depending side wall 110 disposed adjacent side wall 7 of the body member, and depending side wall 112 disposed in parallel spaced apart rela-

tion to side wall 6 of body member 2, said side walls being pivotally mounted on a bolt 114 extending through side walls 6 and 7 adjacent the upper forward corner of tank portion 4. Said handle member, in conjunction with tank 4, forms a manually operable scissors-type hand grip. Side wall 112 of the handle member 108 is extended forwardly. A spiral spring 116 is disposed between walls 6 and 112 rearwardly from pivot 114, said spring being rigidly secured at its center to a squared pin 118 fixed in wall 112, and is formed at its outer end to present a substantially radially extending arm 120. A link 122 is pivotally secured at one end to the end of arm 120, and at its opposite end is secured pivotally to a stud 124 fixed to side member 90 of blade bracket 88.

It will be noted that when the parts are in neutral position as shown in Fig. 1, stud 124 is disposed upwardly and rearwardly from pivot 92 and link 122 is disposed upwardly from pivot 92. Hence the tension imparted to link 122 by spring 116 tends to pivot blade bracket 88 rearwardly. Furthermore, the reactive force of spring 116 urges handle 108 pivotally upwardly about bolt 114. The upward movement of handle 108 is limited by a stop pin 126 secured to wall 112 and extending inwardly therefrom, said pin being adapted to abut against the forward edge of blade bracket 88 as shown in Fig. 1. As handle 108 is manually depressed in the operation of the applier and approaches the bottom of its stroke, the parts assume the position shown in Fig. 5, link 122 being lowered almost to blade bracket pivot 92. At this time an operating finger 128 rigidly secured to the inner surface of wall 112 contacts the rearward edge of blade bracket 88, and further movement of the handle pivots said bracket forwardly to lower stud 124 sufficiently to cause link 122 to pass over pivot 92. The tension of spring 116 then pivots the blade bracket forwardly with a snap action to the position shown in Fig. 6 to cut off the tape and lock drum 24 against rotation as previously described. As handle 108 is released and is pivoted upwardly by spring 116, blade bracket 88 remains in its forward position until the handle approaches its upper limit, as shown in Fig. 7. At this time stop pin 126 contacts the forward edge of blade bracket 88, pivoting said bracket rearwardly sufficiently to cause link 122 to pass over pivot 92, whereupon the tension exerted on said link by spring 116 causes the blade bracket to be pivoted rearwardly to its neutral position. The upward movement of the handle continues until stop pin 126 again contacts bracket 88. It is quite possible to proportion the parts so that the blade bracket may be moved through its cutting and return strokes without the use of finger 128 and pin 126, but it has been found that these elements are useful in providing a positive action at substantially the same instant in each cycle of operation.

Drum 24 is driven by a compound arm designated generally by the numeral 130 and comprising a carrier plate 132 pivotally mounted at one end on bolt 114 and disposed adjacent the inner surface of wall 112, and an arm 134 pivotally secured to plate 132 at 136 and having its outer end portion curved to present an arcuate toothed rack 36 concentric with pivot bolt 114 and adapted to mesh with the teeth of ratchet wheel 32, as shown in Figs. 1, 5, 6, and 7. It will be noted that the general direction of arm 134 is disposed angularly to a line connecting pivots 114 and 136, forming substantially an elbow joint, and that hence rack 36 may be moved radially outwardly out of engagement with ratchet wheel 32 during the return stroke of the rack as hereinafter described. Referring to Fig. 6 it will be seen that a spring 138 rigidly secured at one end to the inner surface of plate 132 at 140 and bearing at its opposite end against the upper edge of arm 134 urges the elbow joint formed by plate 132 and arm 134 toward a closed position, thereby retaining rack 36 in engagement with ratchet wheel 32. The downward pivoting of arm 134 relative to carrier plate 132 is limited by an inwardly rebent portion 142 of said plate which encloses a downwardly extending finger 144 formed on said arm. The upward pivoting of arm 134 relative to carrier plate 132 is limited by an inwardly rebent portion 146 of said plate, which passes over the upper edge portion of said arm as best shown in Fig. 6.

The lower edge surface of carrier plate 132 is formed to present a curved, transversely serrated segment 148 adapted to be contacted by a transversely serrated cam plate 150 eccentrically and rigidly mounted on a shaft 152 carried for rotation in wall 112, said cam plate being disposed adjacent the inner surface of wall 112 and just beneath serrated segment 148 of plate 132. The outwardly extending end of shaft 152 is bent to form an adjusting handle 154 by means of which cam plate being disposed adjacent the inner surface of wall 12 and just beneath serrated segment 148 of plate 132. The outwardly extending end of shaft 152 is bent to form an adjusting handle 154 by means of which cam plate 150 may be adjustably turned. Said cam plate is frictionally retained in any adjusted position by means of a friction washer 156 carried on shaft 152 between wall 112 and a shoulder 158 formed on said shaft.

As handle 108 is depressed manually, cam plate 150 is moved upwardly to contact segment 148, slippage between the cam and said segment being prevented by meshing of the serrations thereof. Said cam then pivots compound arm 130 about pivot 114, driving rack 36 to turn ratchet wheel 32 and drum 24, thus drawing tape from roll 18. Since the length of tape ejected for a single stroke of handle 108 depends on the length of the stroke of rack 36, and since the stroke of the rack depends on the point during the stroke of handle 108 at which cam 150 contacts segment 148, it is apparent that the length of tape ejected by each stroke of the handle may be varied by turning cam 150 so that it contacts segment 148 sooner or later during the stroke of the handle. Suitable graduations 160 may be marked on the outer surface of wall 112 adjacent cam operating lever 154, each graduation corresponding to a given length of tape to be ejected for each stroke of handle 108.

After handle 108 has been depressed to the bottom of its stroke to operate blade bracket 88 as previously described, and compound lever 130 has been pivoted to its upper limit, handle 100 is released and is moved upwardly by spring 116. Lever 130 is not pivoted downwardly until an inwardly extending finger 162 fixed to the upper edge of wall 112 contacts the upper edge of carrier plate 132, as shown in Fig. 7, said finger then pivots plate 132 downwardly around bolt 114. During this return stroke, the teeth of rack 36 pass freely over the teeth of ratchet wheel 32, the rearward faces of the rack and ratchet teeth being inclined for this purpose. Rack 36 is moved radially outwardly from pivot bolt 114 to

clear the ratchet teeth by the pivoting of arm 134 relative to carrier plate 132 as previously described.

In the modified form of the applier, as shown in Figs. 11 to 15, drum 24 is provided with a plurality of circumferentially spaced grooves 164 extending longitudinally across the peripheral surface thereof. Bracket 166, carrying blade 84, is substantially similar to blade bracket 88 of the preferred form except that pivot 92 of said bracket is so positioned that when the bracket pivots forwardly, blade 84 enters one of grooves 164 in substantially radial relation to drum 24, cutting off the tape 58 which extends across said groove. Thus, the spacer bar 58 for holding the tape away from the drum surface is eliminated, and the blade itself serves to lock the drum against further rotation. Blade bracket 166 is formed to present a finder finger 168 lying substantially in the same plane with and adjacent one end of blade 84. Said finder projects outwardly beyond the forward end of blade 84, and is adapted to contact drum 24 in spaced relation from the edge of tape 56, as shown in Fig. 12. Thus blade bracket 166 can not pivot forwardly until one of grooves 164 of drum 24 is positioned to receive the finder and blade 84. Side wall 6 is notched at 169 to receive finder 168.

Blade bracket 166 is normally retained in its retracted position by a planar trigger 170 pivotally secured to side wall 6 at 172 and having a pawl arm 174 adapted to engage a notch 176 formed in blade bracket 166 for preventing forward pivotal movement of said bracket. Said trigger is urged into engagement with notch 176 by a spring wire 178 rigidly secured at one end to side wall 6 at 180 and bearing at its opposite end against pawl arm 174. Trigger 170 is provided with an arm 182 extending oppositely to pawl arm 174.

It will be noted that spring 116 is so disposed that link 122 passes over pivot 92 relatively early in the operating stroke of handle 108, but blade bracket 166 is at the same time held in its retracted position by trigger 170. Handle 108 is lowered manually until the parts have the relative positions shown in Fig. 14, operating finger contacting arm 182 of trigger 170. At this point link 122 has passed over pivot 92 a considerable distance, thus supplying a greater initial rotational movement on bracket 166 than is obtainable in the preferred form, and thereby imparting a more positive action to said bracket when it is released. Further movement of handle 108 causes finger 128 to pivot trigger 170 in a clockwise direction as viewed in Fig. 15, thereby moving pawl arm 174 out of engagement with notch 176 and permitting blade bracket 166 to be pivoted forwardly. However, said bracket moves only until finger 168 thereof contacts the surface of drum 24, and can not move forwardly to cut the tape until the rotation of said drum brings a groove 164 into position to receive the finder as previously described. When handle 108 is released and is moved upwardly by spring 116, link 122 passes upwardly across pivot 92, whereby the tension of spring 116 pivots blade bracket 166 rearwardly until it is again engaged by trigger 170. The operation is otherwise similar to that of the preferred form. Grooves 168 may be spaced more or less closely than shown, depending on the accuracy desired in cutting the tape at given lengths.

Thus it is apparent that a gummed tape applier having many advantages has been produced. Closely regulated and widely varied lengths of tape may be ejected by each stroke of the operating handle. The drum is locked as the tape is cut off to prevent feeding of the tape against the blade, and is not released till the operating handle has returned substantially to its rest position. The moistened tape end which remains in the device after each use can not stick and thus cause jamming. The operating handle is returned to rest position and the cutting blade powered on both its cutting and return strokes by a single spring 116. By rolling drum 24 over a surface to which tape is being applied, any length of tape may be applied independently of the tape measuring mechanism, and cut off when ever desired. Due to the water holding capacity of pad 62, the applier may be used for extended periods of time even in an inverted position.

Although a specific embodiment of my invention has been shown, it is apparent that many minor variations of construction and operation could be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a ratchet wheel carried rigidly on the axle of said drum, a roller carried for rotation by said body member and urged resiliently against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said roller and said drum, a radially extendable arm carried pivotally for oscillatory movement by said body member and formed to present an arcuate rack concentric with said pivot and adapted to mesh with said ratchet wheel, resilient means adapted to retract said arm to urge said rack into engagement with said ratchet wheel, and a member carried movably by said body member and adapted to engage and oscillate said arm in one direction to rotate said drum, thereby drawing tape from said roll, the rearward faces of the teeth of said rack and ratchet wheel being inclined whereby said rack is radially displaced to pass freely over said ratchet wheel during the return stroke of said arm.

2. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a ratchet wheel carried rigidly on the axle of said drum, a roller carried for rotation by said body member and urged resiliently against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said roller and said drum, an arm carried pivotally by said body member and formed to present an arcuate rack concentric with the pivot point of said arm and adapted to mesh with said ratchet wheel, a manually operable handle member carried pivotally by said body member for oscillatory movement, and a cam carried by said handle member, said cam being positioned to contact and pivot said arm as said handle is manipulated, thereby rotating said drum to draw tape from said roll, and said cam being adjustable to contact said arm at any desired point in the stroke of said handle, thereby regulating the length of tape drawn from the roll by each stroke of said handle.

3. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member containing a water reservoir, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a moistening roller of spongy porous material carried rotatably by said body member in contact with

said drum, said moistening roller having peripheral grooves formed in the surface thereof, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller with the gummed side toward said roller, elongated moistening members passing through the peripheral grooves of said roller adjacent said tape and extending below said roller to guide said tape, said tape contacting only said moistening members after it leaves said roller, absorbent, porous members for conducting water from said reservoir to said moistening roller and to the end portions of said elongated moistening members, said members being adapted to be maintained moist throughout their lengths by water drawn therethrough by capillary action, and manually operable means for rotating said drum to draw tape from said roll.

4. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member containing a water reservoir, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a moistening roller of spongy porous material carried rotatably by said body member in contact with said drum, said moistening roller having peripheral grooves formed in the surface thereof, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller with the gummed side toward said roller, a spongy, porous pad carried by said body member in wiping contact with said moistening roller, elongated moistening members adapted to draw water therethrough by capillary action disposed in the peripheral grooves of said roller adjacent said tape and extending below said roller to guide said tape, said tape contacting only said moistening members after it leaves said roller, and said moistening members having end portions disposed in intimate contact with said spongy pad, means for supplying water to said pad from said reservoir, and manually operable means for rotating said drum to draw tape from said roll.

5. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a roller carried for rotation by said body member, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried pivotally by said body member and adapted to be pivoted to and from a tape cutting position, a manually operable handle carried for oscillation by said body member, means operable by said handle to rotate said drum to draw tape from said roll, a link pivotally attached at one end to said blade member at a point spaced apart from the pivotal axis of said blade member, and a resilient member carried by said handle and pivotally engaging the opposite end of said link, said link normally intersecting a line connecting the pivotal axes of said handle and said blade whereby said handle and blade are urged to their rest positions and whereby as said handle is oscillated said link will be moved across the pivotal axis of said blade, and said blade will be thereby urged to its cutting position.

6. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a roller carried for rotation by said body member, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried rigidly by a bracket carried by said body member for pivotal movement to and from a tape cutting position, a manually operable handle carried for oscillatory movement by said body member, a leaf spring fixed at one end to said handle, and a link pivotally connected at one end to the free end of said spring and pivotally connected at its opposite end to said blade bracket at a point spaced apart from the pivot point of said bracket, said link being disposed at one side of said pivot when said handle is in its rest position, whereby said spring is caused to urge said blade bracket to its retracted position and to urge said handle toward its rest position, said link being movable by the power stroke of said handle to move across said bracket pivot, whereby said bracket is pivoted to its cutting position by the tension of said spring, and said link being movable by the return stroke of said handle to recross said blade bracket pivot, whereby said blade bracket is urged toward its retracted position by said spring.

7. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member and having a plurality of circumferentially spaced notches formed in the surface thereof, a resiliently mounted detent carried by said body member in normally spaced apart relation to said drum, a roller carried for rotation by said body member and urged resiliently against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried rigidly in a bracket carried by said body member for pivotal movement to and from a tape cutting position adjacent said drum, means for rotating said drum to draw tape from said roll, and manually operable means for pivoting said blade bracket through its tape cutting stroke, said bracket being adapted during its cutting stroke to contact and move said resiliently mounted detent into one of the notches in said drum, thereby locking said drum against rotation until the blade bracket is retracted.

8. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member, a roller carried for rotation by said body member, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried pivotally by said body member and adapted to be pivoted to and from a tape cutting position, a manually operable handle carried for oscillation by said body member, means operable by said handle to rotate said drum to draw tape from said roll, a resilient member carried by said handle and operable thereby to urge said blade toward its cutting position, a trigger carried by said body member and adapted to retain said blade in its retracted position during a major portion of the operating stroke of said handle, said handle being adapted at the latter portion of its stroke to trip said trigger to release said blade.

9. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member and having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, substantially radially disposed grooves formed therein, a roller carried for rotation by said body member, means resiliently urg-

ing said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried by a bracket carried by said body member for pivotal movement to and from a tape cutting position within one of said grooves, a manually operable handle carried for oscillation by said body member and operable to rotate said drum, a single resilient member carried by said handle and operable thereby to urge said blade bracket toward its cutting position, and a member fixed relative to said blade and projecting ahead of the cutting edge of the blade to enter one of the grooves in said drum, whereby pivotal movement of said blade bracket to its cutting position is prevented except when one of said grooves is positioned to receive said blade.

10. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said body member and having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, substantially radially disposed grooves formed therein, a roller carried for rotation by said body member, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried by a bracket carried by said body member for pivotal movement to and from a tape cutting position within one of said grooves, a manually operable handle carried for oscillation by said body member and operable to rotate said drum, a single resilient member carried by said handle and operable thereby to move said blade bracket to its cutting position, a member fixed relative to said blade and adapted to enter one of the grooves in said drum ahead of the blade, whereby pivotal movement of said blade bracket to its cutting position is prevented except when one of said grooves is positioned to receive said blade, a trigger carried by said body member and adapted to retain said blade bracket in its retracted position during a major portion of the operating stroke of said handle, and means operable by said handle at the latter portion of its operating stroke to trip said trigger to release said blade bracket.

11. A gummed tape applier comprising a body member, a drum carried for rotation by said

body member and having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, substantially radially disposed grooves formed therein, a roller carried for rotation by said body member, means resiliently urging said roller against said drum, said body member being adapted to carry a roll of gummed tape having its end portion passing between said drum and said roller, a cutting blade carried by a bracket carried by said body member for pivotal movement to and from a tape cutting position within one of said grooves, a manually operable handle carried for oscillation by said body member and operable to rotate said drum, a leaf spring fixed at one end to said handle, a link pivotally connected at one end to the free end of said spring and pivotally connected at its opposite end to said blade bracket at a point spaced apart from the pivot point of said bracket, said link being disposed at one side of said pivot when said handle is in its rest position, whereby said spring urges said blade bracket toward its retracted position and urges said handle toward its rest position, said link being movable by the operating stroke of said handle to move across said pivot, whereby said blade bracket is urged toward its cutting position by said spring, a trigger carried by said body member and adapted to retain said blade bracket in its retracted position during a major portion of the operating stroke of said handle, and a member carried by said handle and operable at the latter portion of the operating stroke thereof to trip said trigger to release said blade bracket.

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