Dec. 26, 1967 J. L. RICHARDSON 3,360,171

CHAIN BREAKER

Filed March 14, 1966

Fig.1

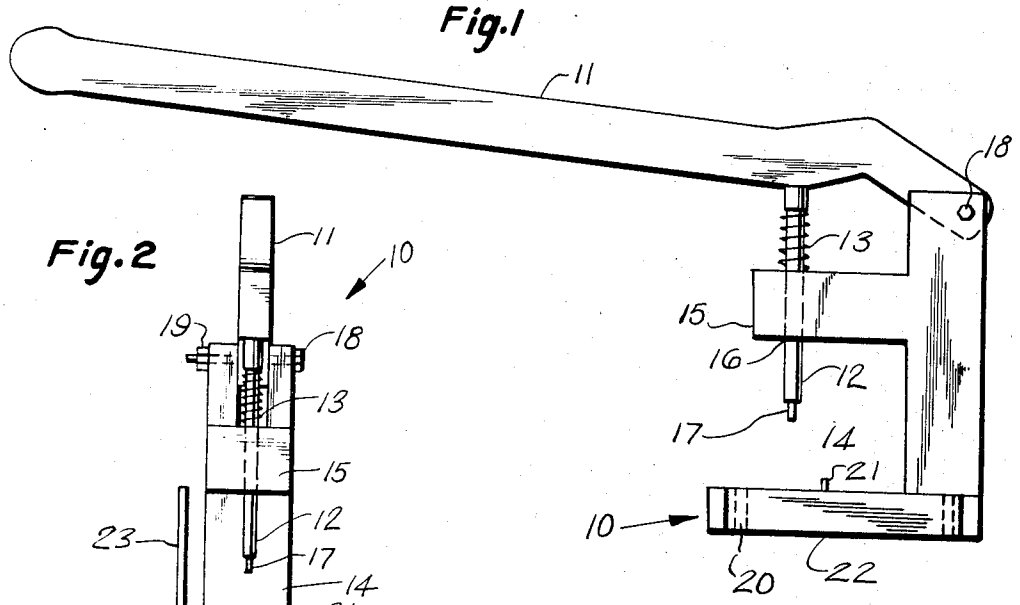


Fig.2

Fig.3

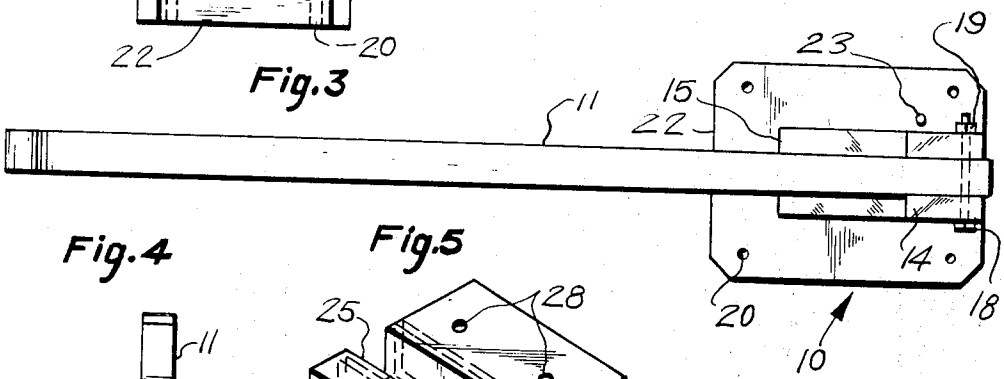


Fig.4

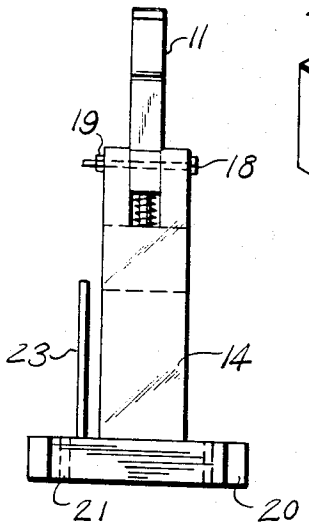
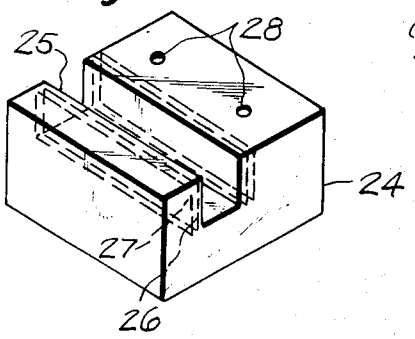


Fig.5



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CHAIN BREAKER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 225—103)

This invention relates to wrench-type devices, and more particularly a chain breaker.

It is therefore the main purpose of this invention to provide a chain breaker having adjustable anvil to hold a portion of a chain in place while work is being performed thereon.

Another object of this invention is to provide a chain breaker which is provided with a retractable lever handle for repetitious chain breaking operation.

Another of this invention is to provide a chain breaker operable with different anvil slots thereby being adapted to break chains of different sizes and shapes.

Another object of this invention is to provide a chain breaker having storage means for at least one anvil or guide block.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a chain breaker which is inexpensive to manufacture and provides maximum utility to its user.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein a satisfactory embodiment of the invention is shown. However, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the details disclosed but includes all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawing:

FIGURE 1 is a side elevational view of this invention.

FIGURE 2 is a front view of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 is a top plan view of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 4 is a rear view of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view of a guide block used in accordance with this invention.

According to this invention chain breaker **10** is provided with a substantially elongated lever **11**. Outwardly extending rod **12** is integrally secured near one end of lever **11** and is provided with a helical spring **13** adapted to enclose the upper portion of said rod **12**. Vertically extending block **14** is provided with a support arm **15** which is laterally positioned from the upper portion of block **14** and is provided with a hole **16** adapted slidingly to admit said rod **12**. Top portion of block **14** is provided with a bolt and nut arrangement **18, 19** for pivotally securing lever **11** thereto. The bottom end of rod **12** is provided with a hardened cutting tool **17** which is suitably secured to said rod **12**. Bottom portion of said block **14** is suitably secured to base **22** which is provided with a plurality of holes **20** for securing said base to a flat surface (not shown) at least a pair of aligning pins **21** are provided for positioning of substantially rectangular guide block or anvil **24**, which is adapted to admit and secure at least one chain link (not shown). An elongated slot **25** is provided within guide block **24** for actual positioning of said chain link or chain links. In addition, if it is desired provisions are made for guide blocks having slots

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26 or **27** which, if necessary, are adapted to admit chain links of greater width than the one depicted in slot **25**. This is to say that the present invention is adapted to make use of a plurality of guide blocks having slots of different thicknesses and depth for accommodating and securing therein a plurality of chain links having various sizes and shapes.

In operation, a guide block **24** is superimposed on aligning pins **21**, which removably secure said guide block to base **22**. One or more chain links may be inserted into slot **25**, or **26**, or **27**. As it was stated in the above passages, the thickness of each one of said slots is adapted to correspond with the thickness of different chain links. When lever **11** is pressed downwardly the cutting tool **17** of rod **12** is capable of breaking chain link positioned within slot **25**, or **26**, or **27**. As soon as lever **11** is released, spring **13** forces said lever to retract to its original position.

It will also be noted that base **22** is provided with a storage pin **23** adapted to store a plurality of guide blocks **24**. These guide blocks are removeably secured on storage pin **23** through their holes **28**.

What I now claim is:

1. A chain breaker comprising, a base, a block provided with a laterally extending arm, said block being secured to said base, and elongated lever pivotally connected to the top portion of said block, a rod secured to said lever and extending outwardly therefrom, resilient means for actuating said rod and said lever, said arm having a hole therein for admitting said rod, a cutting tool secured to the bottom end of said rod, a pair of alignment pins secured to the top portion of said block, a guide member having an elongated slot therein removeably secured on said block through said alignment pins, said elongated slot adapted to admit at least one chain link therein while said lever is in a depressed position thereby causing said cutting tool of said rod to break said chain link.

2. Chain breaker, according to claim **1**, wherein said base is provided with a plurality of holes for securing it to a flat surface.

3. Chain breaker, according to claim **1**, wherein said resilient means include a helical spring surrounding said rod, the top portion of said spring is adjacent to said lever and the bottom of said spring is resting on said arm thereby causing retraction of said lever and said rod when said lever is released from its depressed position.

4. Chain breaker, according to claim **1**, wherein said base is provided with an upwardly extending pin, which is adapted to removeably secure a plurality of said guide members thereon.

5. Chain breaker according to claim **1**, wherein said guide member includes a substantially rectangular metallic block having a slot therein, said block is also provided with at least a pair of holes adapted to secure said block on said alignment pins.

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JAMES M. MEISTER, *Primary Examiner.*