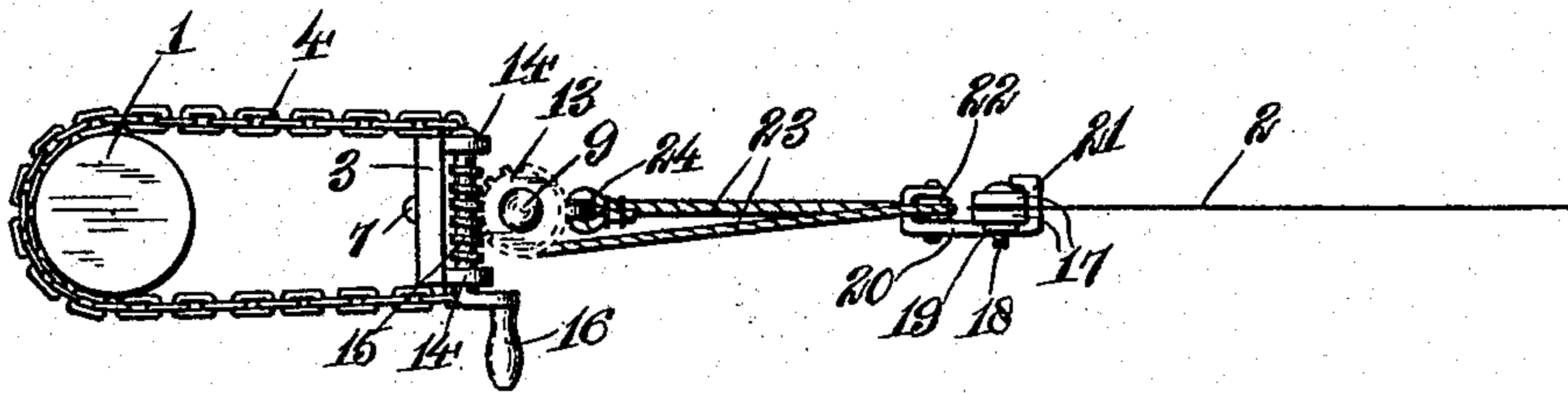


**930,541.**

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUSSELL O. FRAZEE, OF GILMAN, ILLINOIS.

## WIRE-FENCE-STRETCHING MACHINE.

No. 930,541.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 10, 1909.

Application filed February 8, 1909. Serial No. 476,671.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RUSSELL O. FRAZEE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gilman, county of Iroquois, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Fence-Stretching Machines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to fence wire stretching machines, and the object thereof is to provide a machine of the character stated, the employment of which will greatly facilitate the stretching of fence wires during the process of building of a wire fence, it being my object to accomplish such stretching with a minimum expenditure of power.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of the character mentioned which will be of the highest possible efficiency, the same being strong and durable, simple of construction, hence of low cost of manufacture.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

With these objects in view my invention consists in a stretching machine characterized as above mentioned and in certain details of construction and arrangement of parts all as will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

My invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the preferred form of my device, illustrating the manner of employment thereof, and Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof.

Referring now to the drawings, 1 indicates a fence post or other vertically disposed rigid support, positioned in alinement with the fence wire 2. 3 indicates an elongate preferably rectangular metal plate connected with said post 1 by means, preferably, of detachable chains 4, it being understood however that any other suitable means, such as wire rope, cable or the like, might be used if desired instead of said chains without departing from the spirit of my invention. Arranged upon one of the surfaces of said plate 3, at the upper and lower end portions thereof, are substantially similar forked bracket members 5 and 6 respectively, the same being secured thereto preferably by means of rivets or bolts 7. Rotatably mounted in said brackets, but fixed against

longitudinal movement therein by means of collars 8 removably secured thereto, is a longitudinally extending shaft 9, the lower end portion of which is rotatably mounted in a bearing provided in a cup 10 formed in the lower fork arm 11 of the member 6. The latter provision however is not essential, and may or may not be employed as desired. Fixed to said shaft, the same being positioned between the arms of the brackets 5 and 6 are similar helically grooved spools 12. Fixed to the upper extremity of said shaft 9 is a gear wheel 13. In mesh with said gear, the same being mounted in bearings provided in ears 14 formed integrally with and projecting from the member 3 is a transversely disposed worm 15. A crank handle 16 in operative connection with said worm, facilitates the manual rotation thereof and hence of the shaft 9.

In order to facilitate the rigid and secure gripping of the fence wire 2, to be stretched, I provide a pair of correspondingly slotted or perforated elongate metal plates 17. By the provision of bolts 18 adapted to extend through the alining slots provided in said plates, and nuts 19 adapted to be threaded upon said bolts, the secure clamping of the fence wire at any desired place may obviously be effected. 20 indicates hook members, the end portions 21 thereof being adapted to engage said plates 17, when the latter are in clamping position. Rotatably mounted in opposite end portions of said hook members 20 are pulleys 22.

Operatively connecting the spools 12 mounted upon the shaft 9, and said hook members 20, the same passing over the pulleys 22 of the latter are flexible ropes or cables 23, one of the extremities of either being secured in any suitable manner to said spools. The opposite extremities thereof being suitably secured to eyes 24 preferably formed integrally with the lower arms of the bracket members 5 and 6 respectively.

By the provision of an apparatus of a construction as described and the arrangement thereof as described, upon rotating the crank handle 16, in the proper direction, the ropes 23 will be wound upon the spools 12, thereby obviously causing the drawing of the plates 17, and hence the fence wire 2 toward the latter, with the result of the accomplishment of the before stated purpose of the device.

While I have shown what I deem to be



the preferable form of my device, I do not wish to be limited thereto, as there might be many changes made in the details of construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of my invention. And although I have designed my device with special reference to wire fence stretching, I may use the same in any other connection to which it is applicable.

10 Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the class described, the combination, of a base member, a longitudinally extending shaft rotatably mounted in bearings provided thereon, wire gripping means, helically grooved spools fixed to and spaced apart upon said shaft, flexible members, the extremities thereof being fixed to the circumference of said spools and to said base member, the bights thereof being in slidable connection with said fence wire gripping means, a gear wheel fixed to said shaft, a worm in mesh with said gear, and a crank handle fixed to said worm, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination, of an elongate base member, a longitudinally extending shaft rotatably mounted in bearings provided thereon, a pair of elongate plates adapted to grip a fence wire, spools fixed to and spaced apart upon

said shaft, flexible members, the respective extremities thereof being fixed to said spools and to said base member, the bights thereof being in slidable connection with said fence wire gripping means, a gear wheel fixed to the upper extremity of said shaft, a worm in mesh with said gear, and means for rotating said worm, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a device of the class described, the combination, of an elongate metal base member, a vertically disposed shaft rotatably mounted in bearings provided thereon, a clamp adapted to grip a fence wire, spools fixed to said shaft, flexible members, the respective extremities thereof being fixed to the circumference of said spools and to said base member, hooks provided with pulleys engaging the bights of said ropes, said hooks being adapted to engage said clamp, a gear wheel fixed to said shaft, a worm in mesh with said gear, and a crank handle for rotating said worm, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RUSSELL O. FRAZEE.

Witnesses:

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W. H. EGLEY.