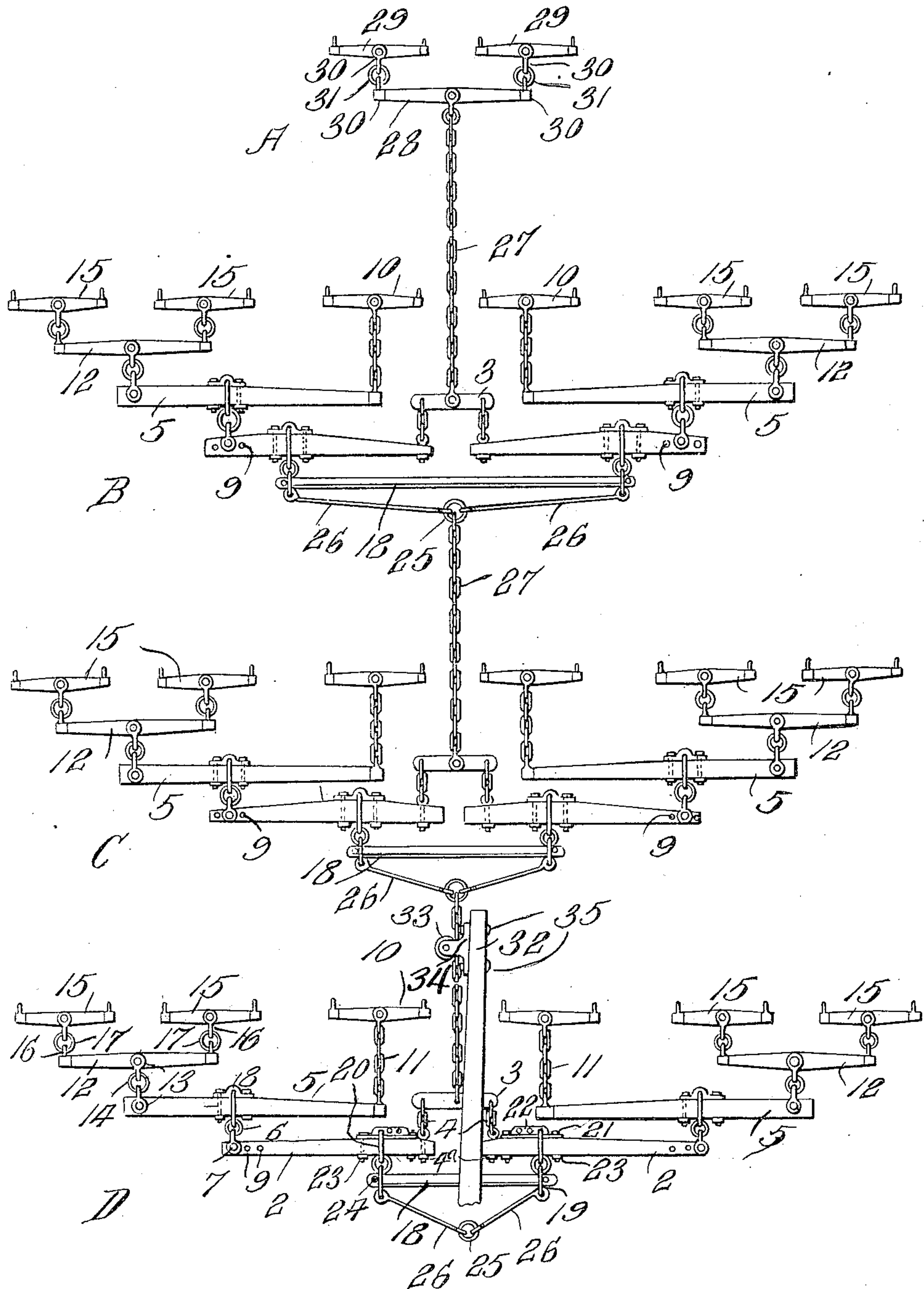


J. VAN MATRE.
DRAFT EQUALIZER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 4, 1908. RENEWED NOV. 9, 1909.

960,126.

Patented May 31, 1910.



Inventor

Jennings VanMatre,

Witnesses

Frank Lough
John F. Byrne

By Victor J. Evans
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JENNINGS VAN MATRE, OF PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA.

DRAFT-EQUALIZER.

960,126.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 31, 1910.

Application filed April 4, 1908, Serial No. 425,223. Renewed November 9, 1909. Serial No. 527,072.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JENNINGS VAN MATRE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Paso Robles, in the county of San Luis Obispo and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Draft-Equalizers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in draft equalizers, and it consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein—the figure is a plan view of a draft-equalizer constructed in accordance with my invention.

Referring to the drawing by reference characters, A designates the outermost, B and C the intermediate, and D the innermost set of draft devices of my improved equalizer. Each of the sets of draft devices B, C and D comprises a pair of levers 2 which are connected together by means of an evener 3. Chains 4 are connected at their ends to the ends of the eveners 3 and to eye bolts 4^a carried by the levers 2. A tree 5 is secured to the outer end of each lever 2 by means of a ring 6 and clevises 7 and 8. The levers 2 are provided with a plurality of longitudinally extending perforations 9 which permit the clevises 7 to be adjusted at different points in the length thereof. A swingletree 10 is secured to the inner end of the tree 5 by means of a chain 11 or other flexible member. A doubletree 12 is secured to the outer end of the tree 5 by means of clevises 13 and a ring 14. Swingletrees 15 are secured to the ends of the doubletree 12 by means of clevises 16 and rings 17. The levers 2 are secured in relatively spaced relation by means of a bar 18. The ends of the bar 18 are reduced for entry through rings 19 carried by clevises 20. The clevises 20 of the innermost set of draft devices D are secured to the levers 2 for adjustment to different points in their lengths through the medium of plates 21, the plates being provided with perforated flanges 22 for this purpose, and are secured to the levers through the medium of screws 23. The re-

duced ends of the bar 18 are retained within the rings 19 by means of pins 24 which are let through the ends of the bars, as fully disclosed in the drawing.

As the levers 2 are connected together by means of the evener 3, the draft is distributed equally to the animals connected to each lever, and as the clevises 20 may be adjusted to different points in the length of the levers 2, the levers may be relatively adjusted to permit the reduction of the number of animals attached to each lever.

Each set of draft devices is provided with a ring 25 which is secured to the rings 19 by means of links 26. The draft-equalizer is adapted to be secured in applied position through the medium of the ring 25 in the set of draft devices D. The sets of draft devices are adapted to be secured together through the medium of chains 27 which are connected to the rings 25 and to the eveners 3. As one set of the draft devices is connected to the evener of the next adjacent set, it should be apparent that the draft is equally distributed. The outermost set of draft devices consists of a doubletree 28 and swingletrees 29, the swingletrees being connected to the ends of the doubletree by means of clevises 30 and rings 31. The draft bar 32 of the vehicle to which the draft equalizer is secured is provided with a grooved roller 33 over which the draft chain 27, which connects the innermost and the next adjacent draft sets, passes. The roller is carried by a bracket 34 which is secured to the draft bar by means of bolts 35.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the construction and mode of operation of the invention should be understood without a further extended description. Changes in the form, proportions and minor details of construction may be made within the scope of the claim without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having fully described and illustrated my invention, what I claim is:

A draft equalizer comprising a pair of levers, an evener, eye bolts secured to the

inner ends of the levers, chains connected to the eye bolts and to the ends of the evener, plates secured to the levers, clevises adjust-
ably secured to the plates to permit the
5 levers to be relatively adjusted, rings carried
by the clevises, a lever spacing bar having
its ends removably disposed in the rings,
links connected to the rings, a ring carried

by the links, and swingletrees connected to the outer ends of the levers.

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

JENNINGS VAN MATRE.

Witnesses:

HENRY VAN MATRE,

ED LEISY.