

AN IMPROVED VANDERWILT ROCK SAW

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In the October, 1936, issue of the Journal the writer described a simple and inexpensive rock saw. Its construction followed in the main the design of Vanderwilt which was described earlier in this Journal.¹ The writer's design shows some modifications which have resulted in an increased rate of cutting. After his article was written but before it was published, Vanderwilt suggested an additional improvement which resulted in the removal of a difficulty which at times interfered with the successful operation of the saw, i.e., "flopping" of the saw blade. This improvement consists of a wooden bar about 6 feet long attached to a pivot on a cross piece between the right hand legs of the table. Two wires carrying at their lower ends small link chains extend from each end of the saw blade to the wooden bar. By varying the length of the chains the saw blade is kept horizontal. This improvement was described in a footnote on page 674 of the writer's article, but was not shown in the photograph of the apparatus (Fig. 1, p. 670).

Since the article was submitted for publication this improvement has been installed on the Vanderwilt saw at the University of Arizona and has given great satisfaction. The accompanying detail drawings (Figs. 1 and 2) show this improvement and supply all the information necessary for the construction of the rock saw.

¹ Vanderwilt, John W., A rock saw: *Am. Mineral.*, vol. 19, pp. 224-229, 1934.

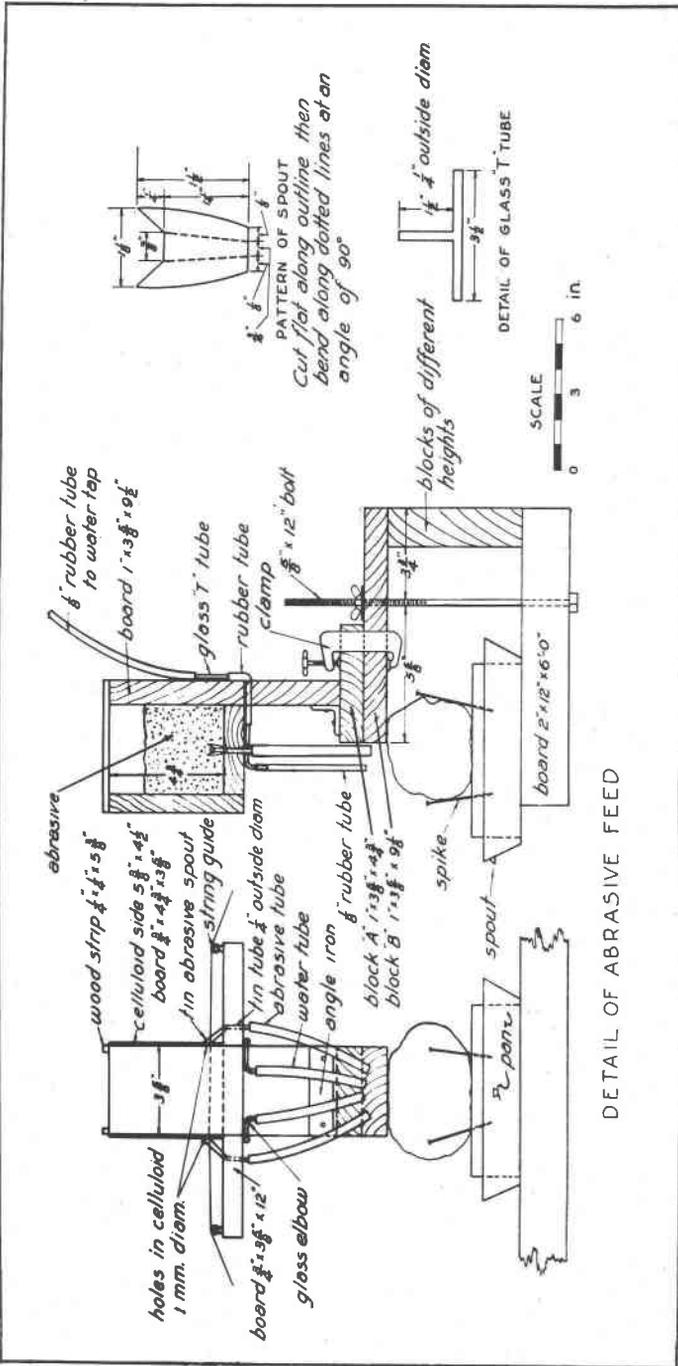


FIG. 2