

The track driving sprocket wheel normally is arranged at the rear. Its teeth mesh with the endless track, moving the tractor over the track. There are the internal-teeth drive, which is in common use, and the external-teeth drive. Fig. 291 shows an internal-teeth drive.

The track idler serves to stretch the track and to guide it. The track runs over the idler which is mounted on springs, preventing the track from slipping off the driving sprocket wheel.

Fig. 292 shows the coil spring suspension of an idler. When running on uneven ground, the spring suspension of the running gear is actuated by the linkage, ensuring a constant pull of the track (Fig. 293).

Idle rollers and track-supporting rollers are used to guide the track and to prevent the sagging of the upper part of the track. Since they are exposed to high stresses, they are made of high-quality steel castings and their bearing bolts are hardened. Therefore, they should thoroughly be lubricated to reduce wear.

The idle rollers used on tractors have different sizes. Fig. 294 shows a running gear which is provided with large-diameter idle rollers. Their working surfaces are lined with rubber to ensure quiet running and improve their elasticity. Recently large-diameter idle rollers have been used especially in such

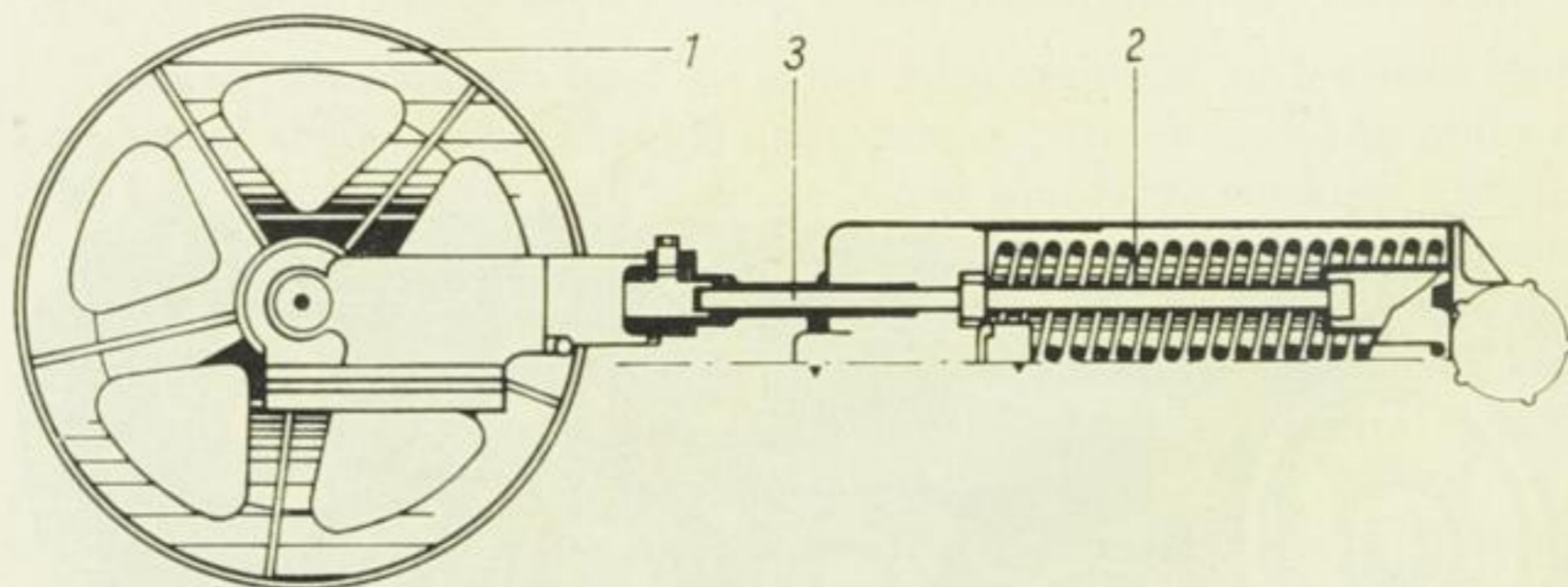


Fig. 292. Track-idler suspension by means of coil springs

1 Track idler    2 Coil spring    3 Linkage

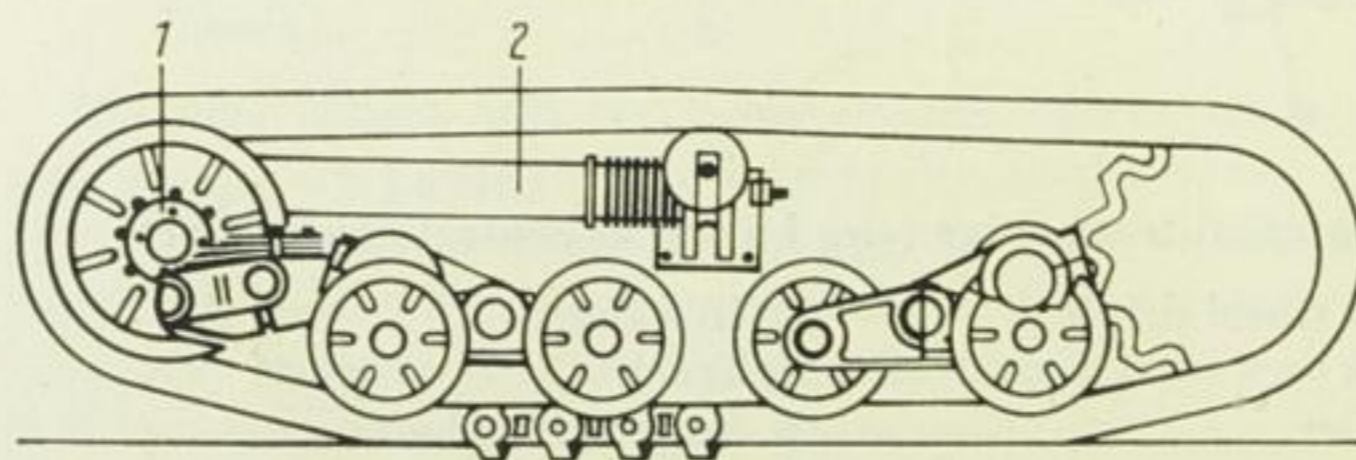


Fig. 293. Track idler suspension

1 Track idler  
2 Linkage with coil spring