United States Patent

[11] 3,602,457

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[54] **CROCHET THREAD HOLDER**
4 Claims, 4 Drawing Figs.

[52] U.S. Cl. 242/134
[51] Int. Cl. B65h 49/18
[50] Field of Search 242/129.5, 129.8, 134, 141, 146

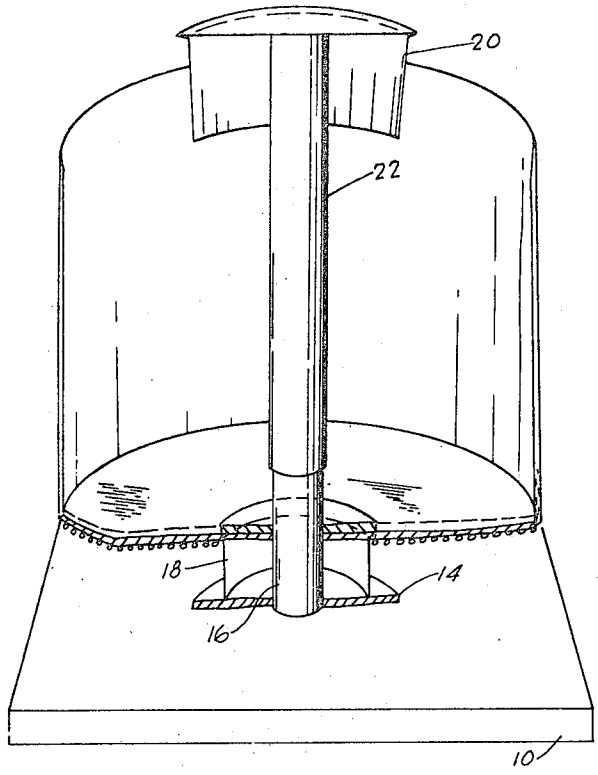
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Primary Examiner—Leonard D. Christian

ABSTRACT: Apparatus for vertically supporting a spool or cylinder wound with thread such as used for crochet work in such manner that the thread can be unwound smoothly and continuously without tangling or snarling or tugging of any kind.



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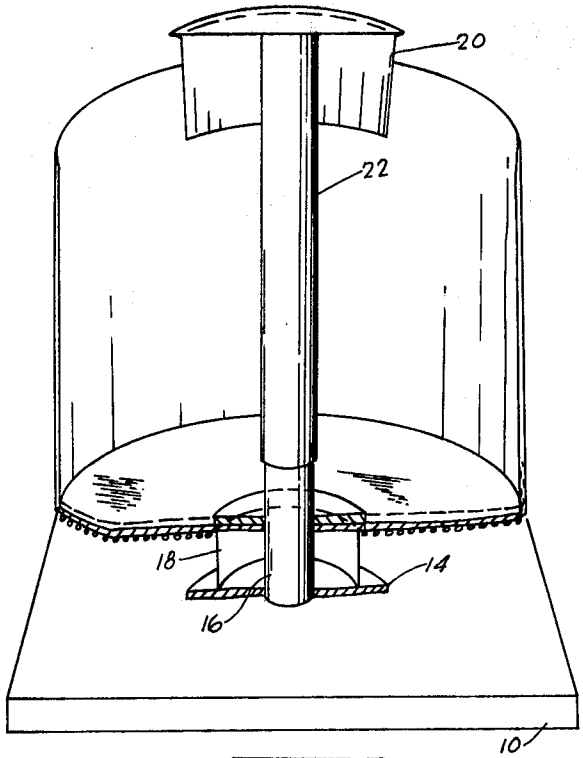


FIG. 1.

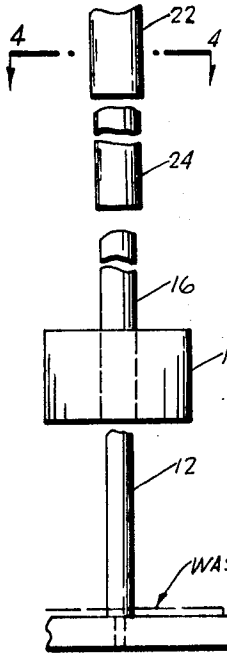


FIG. 2.

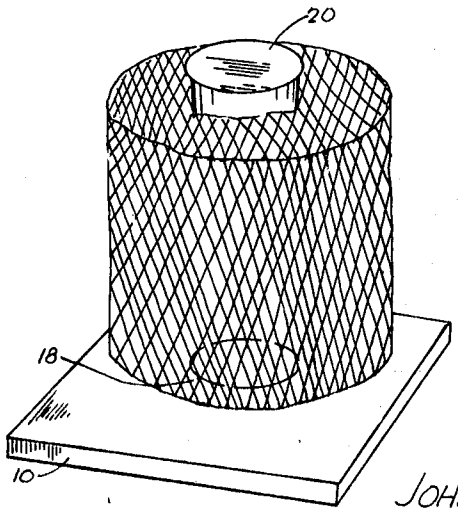


FIG. 3.

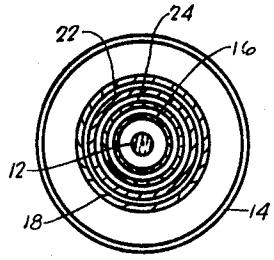


FIG. 4.

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CROCHET THREAD HOLDER

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

We employ a spool or cylinder wound with thread and having holes in opposite ends. A horizontal plate, adapted to rest upon a tabletop or the like, is provided with a vertical shaft secured thereto and extending upward therefrom. Means detachably secure said cylinder rotatably about the shaft with the cylinder oriented vertically and the cylinder axis aligned with the shaft whereby the cylinder can rotate freely and the thread can be unwound for use in crochet work and the like in such manner as to eliminate tangling, snarling, tugging and the like.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the drawings:

FIG. **1** is a cutaway side view of our invention;

FIG. **2** is an exploded view of certain parts thereof;

FIG. **3** is a perspective view of our invention; and

FIG. **4** is a cross section taken along line **4—4** in FIG. **2**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to FIGS. **1–4**, a horizontal plate **10** is provided with a vertical shaft **12** secured at its bottom end thereto and extending vertically upward therefrom. A flat horizontal washer **14** rests on the plate and has an opening through which the shaft extends.

A first hollow vertical tube **16** closed at its top end and open at its bottom end is fitted loosely over shaft **12** and is rotatable freely thereabout. A vertical sleeve **18** is concentrically disposed about and secured to the bottom end of tube **16**. A second vertical sleeve **20** is concentrically disposed about the top sealed end of a second hollow vertical tube **22** extending downward and open at its bottom end. Tube **22** can either be disposed directly on top of tube **16** or a third tube **24** can extend vertically within tube **22** and over tube **16**.

In either event, a vertical hollow cylinder **26** wound with suitable thread and having opposite ends with holes is so

disposed that tubes **22** and **16** or tubes **22**, **16** and **24** extend axially within and sleeves **20** and **18** engage the holes in the top and bottom cylinder ends. As a result, the thread can be unwound from the cylinder, which is freely rotatable about shaft **12**, in the manner indicated.

The two tubes **16** and **22**, if used without tube **24**, establish a fixed vertical distance between the sleeves. The use of tube **24** enables this distance or separation to be varied whereby different types of cylinders or spools are more easily accommodated.

While we have described our invention with particular reference to the drawings, such is not to be considered as limiting its actual scope.

Having thus described this invention, what is asserted as new is:

1. Apparatus for vertically supporting a vertical cylinder wound with thread and having holes in opposite ends in such manner that the cylinder can be freely rotated about its axis and the thread can be unwound smoothly without being snarled and the like, said apparatus comprising:

a horizontal plate;

a vertical shaft secured at its bottom end to said plate and extending vertically upward therefrom; and

means detachably securing said cylinder with its axis aligned with said shaft in such manner that said cylinder is rotatable freely about said shaft and the thread can be unwound as required wherein said means includes a first vertical hollow tube fitting loosely over said shaft and a first vertical sleeve disposed concentrically about said first tube and secured thereto, said first sleeve engaging the hole in the bottom end of said cylinder.

2. Apparatus as set forth in claim **1** wherein said means further includes a second vertical sleeve engaging the hole in the top end of the cylinder.

3. Apparatus as set forth in claim **1** wherein said means further includes a second vertical hollow tube extending axially downward from the second sleeve.

4. Apparatus as set forth in claim **1** wherein said means further includes an elongated member extending vertically between and interconnecting said sleeves.