Oct. 9, 1962 C. E. BAGGOTT, SR 3,057,464

POCKET-SIZE CONTAINER FOR SMALL ARTICLES

Filed March 30, 1961

Fig. 1

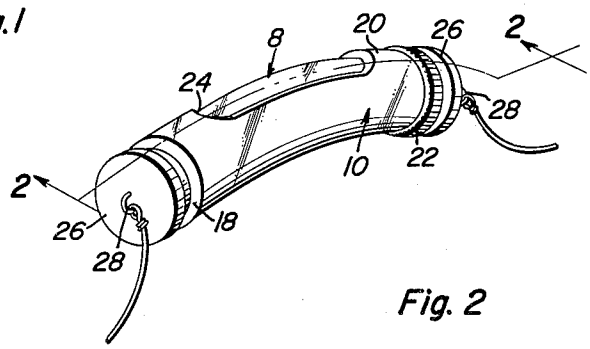


Fig. 2

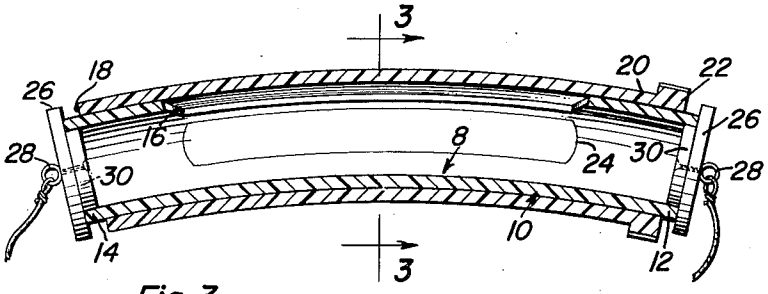


Fig. 3

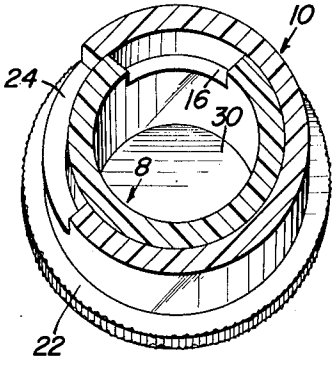


Fig. 4

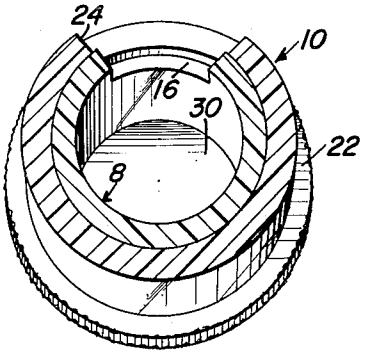
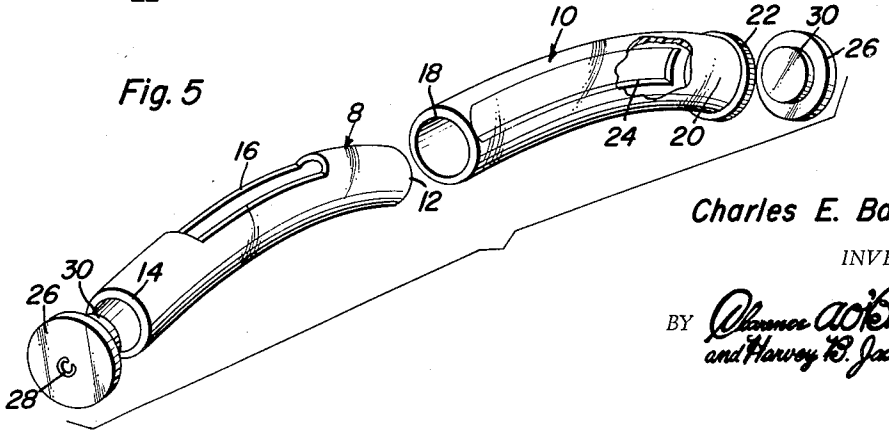


Fig. 5



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POCKET-SIZE CONTAINER FOR SMALL ARTICLES

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3 Claims. (Cl. 206—37)

This invention relates to an improved pocket-size container in which small articles may be temporarily stored and conveniently carried in a safe and practical manner, and has reference to a container which is especially, but not necessarily, adapted to accommodatingly carry fish hooks and lures.

An object of the invention is to provide a simple, practical and suitable article container which may be satisfactorily carried in a tackle box and which has attaching eyes at its ends making it practical to tie and link a plurality of the containers together in end-to-end relation with a string, thus making up a "chain" which can be strung over one's shoulder or caused to encircle his waist to function as a belt. Also, a plurality or group of the containers can be joined end-to-end by elastic bands and the then existing ring or chain can be worn around the user's hat band.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container made up of inner and outer telescopically connected relatively rotatable transparent plastic sleeves or tubes, said tubes being longitudinally bowed or curved so that entrance slots therein may be aligned and disaligned, the curvature of the tubes functioning to hold the slots open or closed as desired.

Briefly, the invention comprises an outer open ended tube having an entrance opening, an inner tube fitting telescopically into the outer tube and having end portions projecting through and beyond the corresponding end portions of the outer tube and closed, said inner tube also having an entrance opening, said inner tube constituting the container proper and the outer tube constituting a closure, said openings being normally disaligned and being capable of being aligned and registered to permit access to articles stored in the container.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a small article container constructed in accordance with the principles of the invention;

FIGURE 2 is a view on a slightly enlarged scale taken on the longitudinal line 2—2 of FIGURE 1, looking in the direction of the arrows;

FIGURE 3 is an exaggerated cross-section on the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2 wherein the slots are disaligned and the container is closed;

FIGURE 4 is a view like FIGURE 3 wherein the slots are aligned and the container is therefore open; and

FIGURE 5 is an exploded perspective view wherein the component parts are clearly shown.

With reference to FIGURE 5 the inner transparent plastic tube or sleeve is denoted by the numeral **8**. The companion and complemental outer transparent plastic tube or sleeve is denoted by the numeral **10**. It will be noted that both sleeves are longitudinally bowed (or arcuately curved), the tube **8** being of a length greater than the tube **10**. One end portion of the tube **8** is denoted by the numeral **12** and the other end portion by the numeral **14**. The median portion of this tube is provided with an elongated entrance slot **16**. The lefthand end of the larger outer sleeve or tube is denoted by the numeral **18**, the other or righthand end is designated at **20** and is provided with an encircling outstanding collar which is knurled at **22** and provides a suitable finger-grip.

The tube **8** is of shape-sustaining rigid plastic material. The tube **10** is mildly elastic and is therefore deformable in shape. It is deformed when a torsional twist is imparted thereto, that is when the two sleeves are telescopically assembled. The outer tube **10** is sleeved over the exterior of the inner tube **8** and when it is fully in position the end **12** of the tube **8** projects slightly beyond the end **20** of the tube **10**. By the same token the end portion **14** of the inner tube **8** projects slightly beyond the end **18** of the outer tube as is evident by examining FIGURES 1 and 2 in particular. Therefore, the outer tube or sleeve is described as slightly shorter than the inner one. The outer tube is also provided with an elongated entrance slot **24** and these slots may be aligned or disaligned by turning the tubes in relation to each other, that is by holding one tube with one hand and the other tube with the other hand. The end portions **12** and **14** of the tube **8** are closed by end closures in the manner shown. Since the tube **8** is circular in cross-section the end closure in each instance comprises a disk **26** the same being provided on the center of its outer side with an eye **28** and on the center of its inner side with a reduced plug **30**. The plug is plugged into the cooperating end and thus the ends **12** and **14** are satisfactorily closed. The diameter of the disk **26** in each instance is greater than the cross-section of the tube with the result that the marginal edges project beyond the peripheral surfaces and by reason of this construction the closures maintain two tubes in telescoping rotatably assembled relationship. The respective slots **16** and **24** are located on their respective tubes or sleeves so that they are sufficiently close together that a turn of approximately 90 degrees will serve to either open or close the slots and in this connection it will be noted that the slots are disaligned and closed in FIGURE 3 and are aligned and open in FIGURE 4. Therefore, in the latter situation the container space is accessible and lures, hooks and small miscellaneous articles may be deposited in the space. After the articles have been inserted the two tubes are individually grasped and turned to close the slots as shown in FIGURE 3. The closing disks **26** provide suitable finger-grips for the inner tube and the aforementioned collar **22** provides a suitable finger-grip for the outer tube **10**.

By positioning the slots in relation to each other and in relation to the curvatures of the respective tubes it will be seen that by using a rigid inner tube and a mildly resilient or elastic outer tube the deformable properties inherent in the outer tube serve to maintain it in either the open or closed position as desired by the user. In either position the outer tube stays put so that the user can conveniently load the container **8** or remove articles therefrom as desired.

It may be mentioned that when the outer tube is sleeved or slipped on the inner tube the slots do not match and therefore the container is closed. By having the outer tube sufficiently short it permits a 90 degree rotation of the slot of the outer tube directly over the slot in the inner tube. These units or tubes may be made in any size and when coupled together by elastic bands (not shown) they provide a chain, so to speak, that may be worn around one's hatband or if made into a chain sufficiently large, used as a waist encircling belt.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A pocket-size container for temporarily storing and

carrying small articles comprising: an inner tube open at its ends and provided between its ends with an entrance and exit slot for the small articles, closure members for the ends of said inner tubes having plug portions plugged telescopically into the ends and closing the same, said tube being elongated and circular in crosssection, said closures being discoidal and of a diameter greater than the cross-sectional diameter of said inner tube with the marginal edges thereof projecting beyond the outer peripheral surface portions of said inner tube, and a complemental outer tube also circular in cross-section sleeved over and rotatively encasing the inner tube and having an entrance and exit slot selectively registrable with said first-named slot, the unslotted portion of said outer tube providing a cover for the slot in the inner tube when in an intended normal slot covering position, said outer tube being of a length shorter than the inner tube, said inner tube being rigid and shape-sustaining and said outer tube mildly elastic and deformable in shape, both of said tubes being longitudinally curved, the curvatures being such that when the tubes have been manually rotated relative to each other in a manner to disalign the slots the torsional twist to which the outer tube is subjected first deforms the shape of said outer tube in a manner grippingly retained it in a slot-closing position on the inner tube and secondly allows the tubes to be individually caught hold of and rotated relative to each other whereby to bring the two slots into alignment with each other.

2. The structure defined in claim 1 and wherein said tubes are made of transparent plastic material, the outer tube having an outstanding knurled collar at one end inwardly of and adjacent to the cooperating closure member and of a diameter greater than the outer diameter of said closure member and providing a fingergrip, said closures providing selectively usable finger-grips for the inner tube.

3. The structure according to claim 2 and wherein each closure is provided centrally and exteriorly with an accessible eye, the eyes being adapted to accommodate flexible tying elements which when in use serve to permit several of the article carriers to be tied and thus linked together as a group.

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