Nov. 9, 1948. K. L. ORTON 2,453,381

FISH STRINGER RETAINER

Filed April 27, 1945

Fig. 1

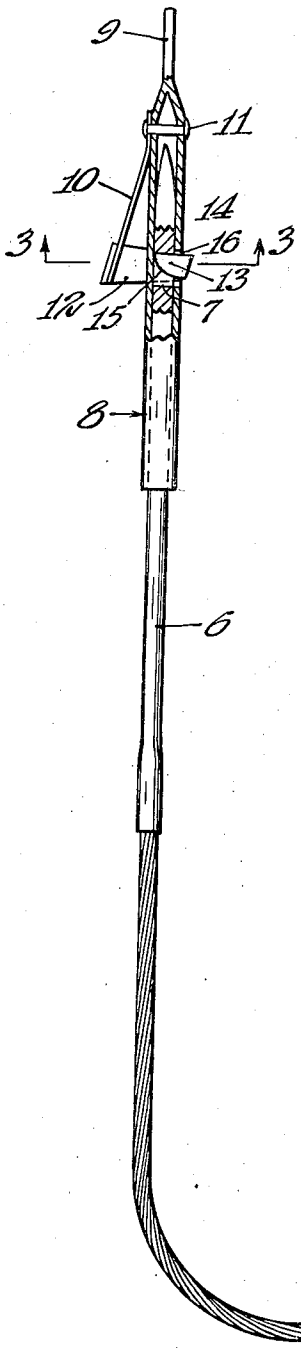


Fig. 3

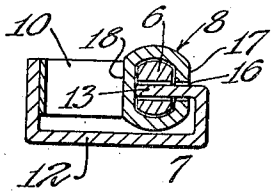
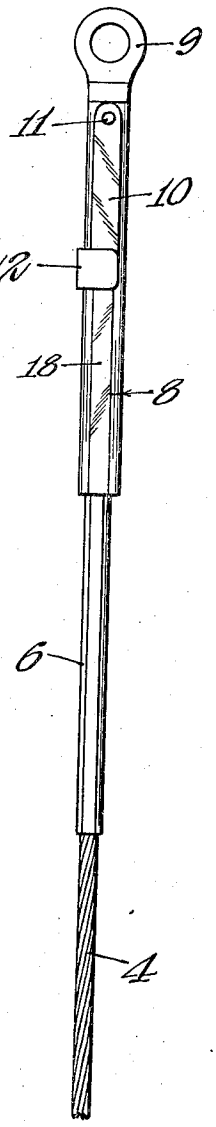
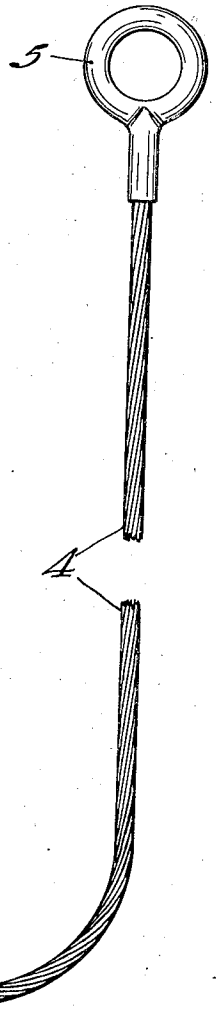


Fig. 2





Inventor
Kenneth L. Orton
By Williamson & Williamson
Attorneys

Patented Nov. 9, 1948

2,453,381

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,453,381

FISH STRINGER RETAINER

Kenneth L. Orton, St. Paul, Minn.

Application April 27, 1945, Serial No. 590,534

4 Claims. (Cl. 224—7)

1

This invention relates to fish stringers.

It is a general object of the invention to provide a fish stringer composed of a conventional elongated flexible rope or the like and means for removably retaining the same so that the stringer can be readily secured in and released from its receiver to facilitate the stringing and securing of fish on the stringer.

A more specific object of the invention is to provide a socketed receiver for the end of a flexible fish stringing element wherein the receiver is provided with a spring pressed catch adapted to engage the elongated stringer element, and wherein the catch can be readily released with the same hand which is also in position to grasp the end of the stringer element when it is thus released.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the views, and, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a stringer and catch equipped receiver therefor with portions of the receiver broken away and in section;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the socketed stringer receiver taken at right angles to the showing in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is an enlarged section taken approximately on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

In Figure 1 there is shown a stringer element 4 which is generally made of a relatively light strong piece of rope or heavy cord. On one end of the stringer rope is a loop 5 and on the other end is an elongated metal needle 6 having a slot 7 formed therethrough.

An elongated generally tubular stringer point receiver 8 is provided with an open lower end as viewed in the drawing, and its upper end may be closed and provided with an eye 9 by means of which the member 8 can be secuerd to a suitable support.

Secured to the upper end of the stringer point receiver 8 is a leaf spring 10 fastened to said receiver 8 by suitable means such as a rivet 11. It will be seen in Figure 1 that the spring 10 extends downwardly and outwardly relative to the stringer needle receiver 8. On the outer end of the leaf spring 10 is secured a catch 12 which, as viewed in Figure 1, extends to the right past the receiver 8, and said catch 12 is then bent upon itself to provide a catch tooth 13 having a straight edge 14 and a curved edge 15. The tooth 13, as

2

indicated in Figure 1, extends through an aperture 16 in the side wall of the socketed member 8.

Referring to Figure 3, it will be seen that the socketed member 8, while generally cylindrical, has opposite flattened wall portions 17 and 18, and that the metallic stringer needle 6 is shaped similarly so that when said stringer point is inserted in the receiver 8 the slot 7 in the stringer point 6 will register with the aperture 16 in said receiver when the needle 6 has been pushed into the receiver a proper distance.

In use the first fish mounted on the stringer cord 4 is slipped down to a point adjacent the eye 5 on one end of the stringer cord and the pointed end of the stringer is then run through the eye 5 and that end of the stringer carrying the eye 5 can then be trailed in the water so that the fish will be kept alive. When the fish has been attached to the stringer the needle 6 is then inserted in the socketed receiver 8 and when it contacts the catch tooth 13 the stringer needle will bear against the rounded edge 15 of the tooth 13 and force said tooth to the right against the action of the spring 10, permitting the end of the stringer needle to slide past the catch tooth 13. When the slot 7 in the stringer needle 6 registers with the aperture 16 in the receiver 8, the spring pressed catch tooth 13 will slip into the slot 7 in the stringer needle, and the straight edge 14 of the catch tooth 13 will retain the stringer point in the socketed receiver 8 against accidental displacement. Insertion of the stringer needle as described above is extremely simple as it can be pushed into the socket with one hand and the catch tooth 13 will automatically find its way into the slot in the stringer needle.

When it is desired to release the stringer needle from the receiver 8, it is necessary only to press on the end of the spring 10 or that portion of the catch 12 which is secured to the spring 10, and the catch tooth 13 will be moved from the slot 7 in the stringer needle whereupon said needle can be readily slipped from the receiver. The structure is simple yet highly effective and easy to manipulate, and it greatly facilitates the securing and releasing of the stringer when it is desired to add a newly caught fish to the stringer.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the various parts without departing from the scope of my invention.

What I claim is:

1. In a fish stringer, an elongated flexible stringer element having a needle on an end there-

of, a socketed member for removably receiving said needle on said stringer element, a catch mounted on said socketed member and movable into said socketed member transversely of the latter to engage said needle, and a spring device exerting a force outwardly from said socketed member and so connected to said catch device as to yieldably urge said catch device into said socketed member and into engagement with said needle to suspend and support said stringer element.

2. In a fish stringer, an elongated flexible stringer element having a needle on an end thereof, a socketed member for removably receiving said needle on said stringer element, a catch mounted on said socketed member and movable into said socketed member transversely of the latter to engage said stringer element, and a spring device on the opposite side of said socketed member from the point of interior of said catch device into said socketed member, said spring device being connected to said catch to yieldably urge said catch into said socketed member and into engagement with said needle to suspend and support said stringer element.

3. The structure in claim 2, and the connection between said spring device and said catch being substantially rigid.

4. In a fish stringer, an elongated flexible stringer element having a needle on an end thereof, a socketed member for removably receiving said needle on said stringer element and having an aperture in the side thereof, a catch having a portion entering said aperture in said socketed member and having another portion extending exteriorly of said socketed member and laterally therefrom at the opposite side of said socketed member from said aperture in said socketed member, and a spring device mounted on said socketed member at the opposite side thereof from said aperture, said spring device being connected to said second mentioned laterally extending portion of said catch and yieldably urging said laterally extending portion of the catch outwardly and at the same time yieldably urging said first mentioned portion of said catch into said socketed member and into engagement with said needle to suspend and support said stringer element through the aperture therein.

KENNETH L. ORTON.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,341,722	Putney	June 1, 1920