June 29, 1965 C. F. TOFTE, JR 3,191,827

STRINGER HOLDER

Filed Oct. 31, 1963

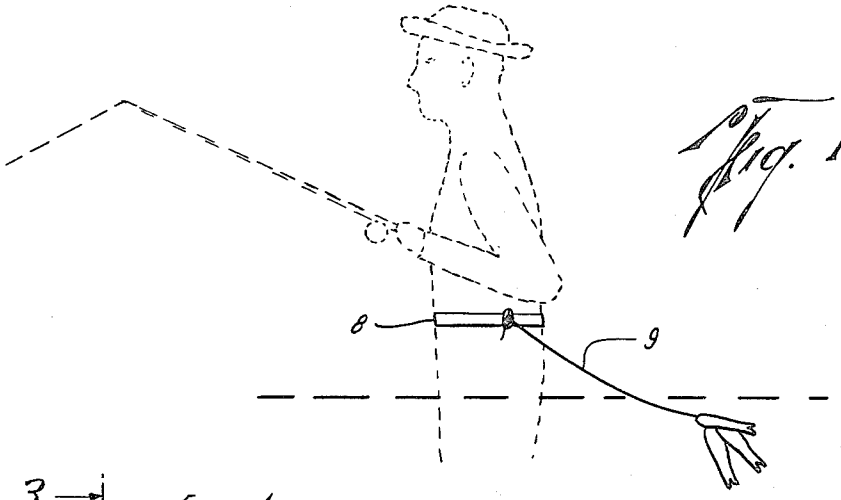



Fig. 1

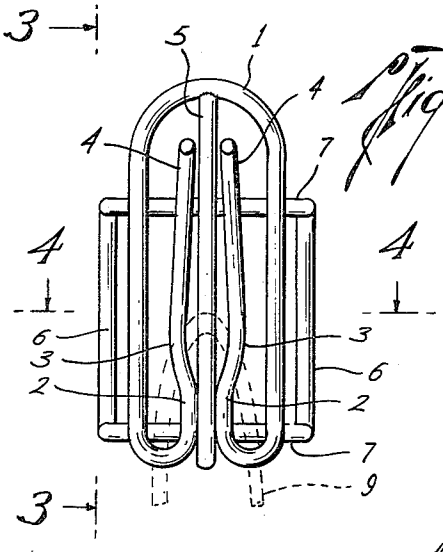



Fig. 2

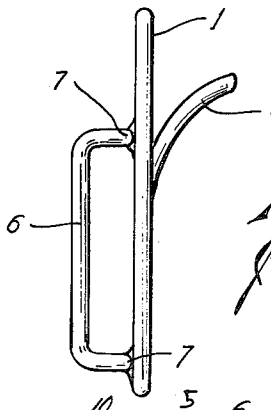



Fig. 3

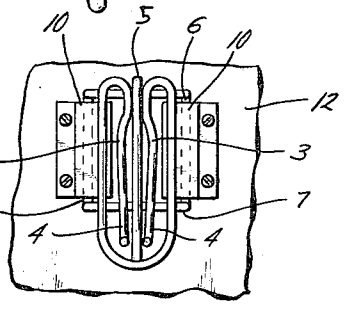



Fig. 5

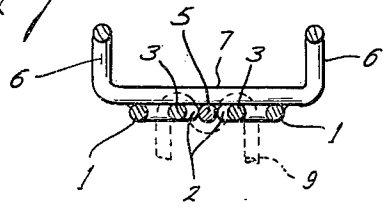



Fig. 4

Charles F. Tofte, Jr.
INVENTOR.

BY Ranald O. Wyatt

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 3,191,827 Patented June 29, 1965



3,191,827

# STRINGER HOLDER

Charles F. Tofte, Jr., 6203 Abington Way, Houston, Tex.

Filed Oct. 31, 1963, Ser. No. 320,496
8 Claims. (Cl. 224—7)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a stringer holder.

It is an object of this invention to provide a holder for stringers on which fish are retained by a fisherman, such as wade fishermen.

It is another object of the invention to provide a stringer holder mountable on the belt of a user which will receive and tightly hold a stringer from which a stringer may be quickly and easily removed without having to manually manipulate any mechanically movable part or untie cumbersome knots.

In wade fishing, both hands of the fisherman are employed in handling the rod and reel and the fish, when caught. The stringing of the fish is a difficult task and many strings of fish are lost by hasty and imperfect securing of the stringer to the belt of the user. It is an object of this invention to provide a stringer having no manually operable mechanism and onto which a stringer may be quickly and easily secured, safe from loss and convenient to the hands of the fisherman.

It is another object of the invention to provide a stringer holder as above described having means for mounting same on the side of a boat.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention has relation to certain novel features of construction and operation more particularly defined in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view of the device, in use, mounted on a fisherman's belt.

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged front elevational view of the device, showing a stringer mounted thereon in dotted lines.

FIGURE 3 is a side elevational view taken on the line 3—3 of FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 4 is a cross sectional end view taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 3, and

FIGURE 5 is a front elevational view of the device as attached to a boat.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the numeral **1** designates a spring wire member bent to form the outer framework of the device, and the outer clamp members **2, 2** which are inclined laterally as at **3, 3** and bent outwardly in an arc as at **4, 4**. An intermediate bar **5** is welded to the top of the frame **1** and extends between the outer clamp members **2, 2**, said members **2, 2** abutting the bar **5** beneath the bends **3, 3**. The belt mount consists of a continuous section of wire bent to form the parallel side members **7, 7** which are welded to the framework **1** and the extending end members **6, 6** form loops to receive the belt of the user.

In use, the device is mounted on the belt of the user, the belt being passed through the loops **6, 6** and positioned as desired on the belt **8**. A stringer, as **9**, is grasped by the user at a point near the free end, and formed into a loop which is passed over the projecting ends **4, 4** of the members **2, 2**, and drawn downwardly, clamping the



stringer in the area between the intermediate bar **5** and the members **2, 2** adjacent the joinder of the members **2, 2** with the intermediate bar **5**.

When it is desired to remove the stringer, the user pulls upwardly on one side of the projecting stringer and then on the other, readily releasing the stringer from the device. The spring wire employed in the construction of the device may be easily adjusted by manual pressure to tighten or loosen the degree of clamp on the stringer.

When it is desired to mount the device to the side of a boat, a pair of clamp members **10, 10** are anchored to the inside wall of one side of the boat, **12**, with the raised and extended ends **11, 11** of the clamp bars **10, 10**, extending over the bars **6, 6** and with the free end of the intermediate bar **5** pointing downwardly.

While the foregoing is considered a preferred form of the invention, it is by way of illustration only, the broad principle of the invention being defined by the appended claims.

What I claim is:

**1.** In a stringer holder, a continuous wire framework bent to form a substantially inverted U-shaped member and again bent to form outwardly inclined clamping members within the U-shaped portion, a rigid bar anchored longitudinally to the framework and extending between said clamping members to maintain a turn in a stringer engaged by said clamping members and means for retaining the framework on the belt of a user.

**2.** In a stringer holder, a continuous wire framework bent to form a substantially inverted U-shaped member and again bent inwardly and upwardly to form clamping members within the U-shaped portion, a rigid bar anchored to the framework and extending longitudinally between said clamping members to form a wedge anchorage for a stringer and means for retaining the framework on the belt of a user.

**3.** The structure defined in claim **2** wherein the means for retaining the framework on the belt consists of a continous wire retainer anchored to said framework on the opposite side from said clamping members, having parallel side members and outwardly extending end members.

**4.** In a fishing accessory, a continuous wire framework bent into an inverted U-shaped form with the terminal end portions within the U-shaped portion, the said ends of said framework forming yieldable clamp members, said clamp members being bent laterally forming a stringer receiving area and being outwardly arced at their free ends from one face of the framework, and an intermediate bar anchored at both ends to said framework and positioned between said clamping members to form a bight member over which a stringer may be tightly clamped.

**5.** The device defined in claim **4** having a rectangular belt receiving member anchored to said framework and having its longitudinal ends outwardly turned forming loops.

**6.** In an article of manufacture, a rigid spring wire bent to form an inverted U-shaped framework, and the end portions thereof being anchored and then being bent inwardly within said U-shaped portion and upwardly forming clamp members, said end portions of said clamp members being bent laterally above said anchor point forming a stringer receiving area on each side of said bar and being inclined outwardly from one face of the framework at their free ends.

7. In a stringer holder, a wire framework bent to form a substantially inverted U-shaped member and the end portions thereof being anchored and then again bent to form outwardly inclined clamping member within said U-shaped portion, a rigid bar anchored to the framework and extending between said end portions of said clamping members and means for clamping said framework to the side of a boat.

8. In a stringer holder, a continuous wire framework bent into a substantially inverted U-shape form, the end portions of the framework being anchored and the extended ends outwardly inclined and extending upwardly within the U-shaped portion, a rigid bight bar mounted on the framework and positioned between said extended



end portions and said end portions being bent to form a line receiving area adjacent said bight bar.


**References Cited by the Examiner**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 188,417 | 3/77 | Sanderson | 24—261 |
| 304,188 | 8/84 | Eastman | 54—64 |
| 731,327 | 6/03 | Simmons | 24—131 |
| 1,131,196 | 3/15 | Batchelder | 224—2 |
| 2,938,252 | 5/60 | Scheemaeker | 24—66 |
| 3,052,002 | 9/62 | Lesher | 24—3 |


HUGO O. SCHULZ, *Primary Examiner.*