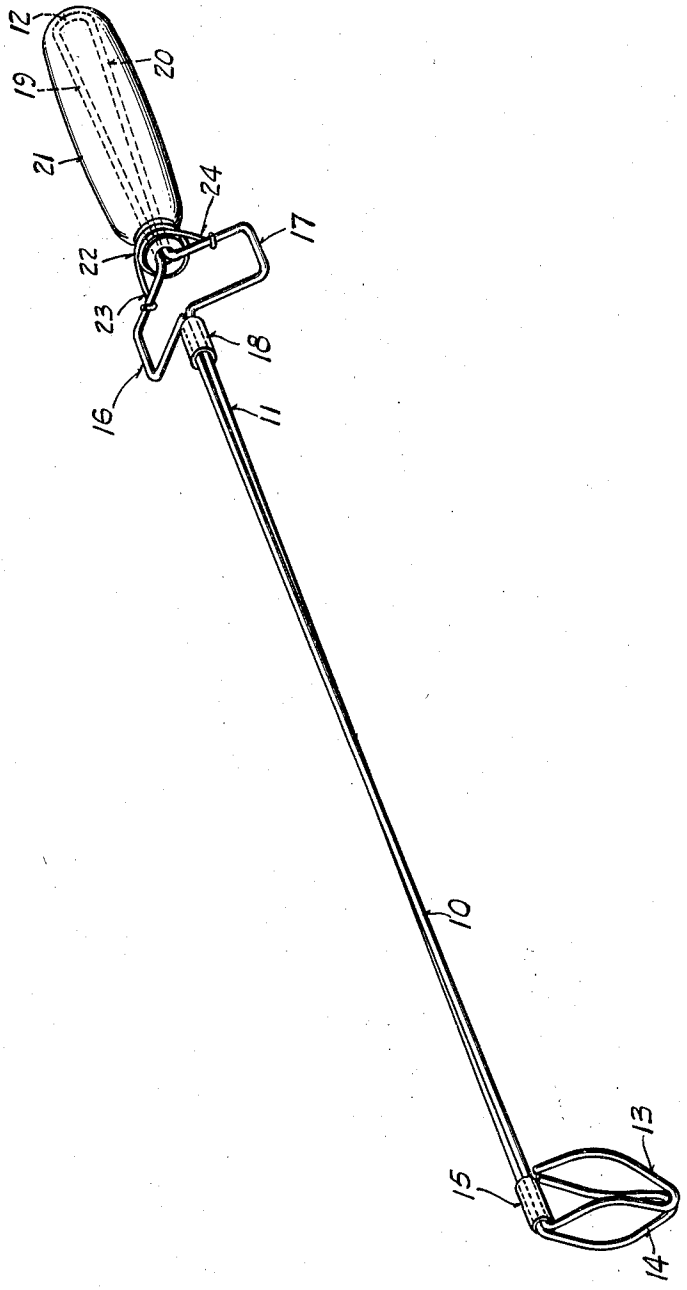
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TONGS

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TONGS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 53—5)

This invention relates to tongs for use primarily in roasting wieners, marshmallows or the the like over an open fire, although also capable of advantageous use for various purposes in the kitchen.

An object of the present invention is to provide improved tongs of simple light-weight construction which may be produced at very low cost.

Other more specific objects and advantages will appear, expressed or implied, from the following description of an illustrative embodiment of the present invention.

The single figure of the drawing is a perspective view of tongs constructed in accordance with the present invention.

The tongs selected for illustration are formed from a single piece of wire bent to form a pair of extended substantially parallel strands 10 and 11 joined at their rear ends by an integral connecting portion 12. The forward ends of the strands are bent to form a pair of coacting gripping jaws 13 and 14 of suitable form pivotally connected by appropriate means, such as a metallic clip 15 which embraces adjacent end portions of the strands.

At points in advance of but adjacent the rear ends of the strands they are further bent to provide laterally projecting actuators 16 and 17 of suitable form pivotally connected by a second clip 18 which also embraces adjacent strand portions in a similar manner. Although those portions 19 and 20 of the wire strands behind the actuators 16 and 17 may alone constitute a supporting handle for the device, they are preferably covered by a hand grip member 21 of wood or other appropriate material to protect the hand against the wire which may become uncomfortably hot while in use.

The strand portions 19 and 20 are anchored at their rear ends by the connector 12, but are otherwise free to rotate in the member 21 under the action of the actuators 16 and 17.

In this instance those portions of the strands 10 and 11 between the jaws and actuators are crossed, so that the strand 10 connects the actuator 16 on one side of the device with the jaw 13 on the other side, and the strand 11 connects the actuator 17 with the other jaw 14, and so that when the actuators are depressed the jaws 13 and 14 are separated to receive or release an object between them.

The jaws 13 and 14 normally assume the closed position shown. With the handle member 21 in one hand the actuators 16 and 17 may be depressed conveniently by pressure of the thumb and fore finger thereon, thereby causing the jaws to open, and when this pressure is released the jaws are urged toward closed position by the torsional resilience in the strand portions 19 and 20.

In this instance the portions 19 and 20 are assisted in the jaw closing action by a coil spring 22 mounted on the forward end of the member 21 with its ends 23 and 24 engaged with the actuators, as indicated.

Various changes may be made in the embodiment of the invention hereinabove specifically described without departing from or sacrificing the advantages of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. In a device of the character described the combination of a pair of wire strands, a supporting handle at the rear ends thereof, a pair of strand actuators adjacent the forward end of said handle each formed on one of said strands, and a pair of pivoted jaws formed at the forward ends of said strands, the portions of said strands between said jaws and said actuators being crossed for the purpose described.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of a pair of wire strands, means anchoring the rear ends of said strands to resist rotation thereof, a pair of jaws each formed on the forward end of one of said strands and moveable in response to rotation thereof, and actuators formed on each of said strands adjacent to said anchoring means for rotating said strands in conjunction or separately.

3. A device of the character described, comprising a pair of wire strands, a pair of jaws each formed on one end of each of said strands and movable in response to rotation thereof, means anchoring the opposite ends of said strands to resist rotation thereof and thereby retain said jaws in closed position, and actuators upon each of said strands between said jaws and said anchoring means for twisting said strands adjacent said anchoring means to thereby separate said jaws.

4. A device of the character described comprising a pair of wire strands, a pair of jaws each formed on one end of each of said strands and movable in response to rotation thereof, means anchoring the opposite ends of said strands to resist rotation thereof, and actuators upon each of said strands between said jaws and

said anchoring means, said actuators being depressible to separate said jaws, the portion of said strands between said anchor means and said actuators being twistable upon depression of said actuators and being torsionally resilient to urge said jaws toward closed position upon release of said actuators.

5. A device of the character described, comprising a single piece of wire bent to form two adjacent strands, a pair of jaws each formed on the end of one of said strands and movable in response to rotation thereof, and actuators upon each of said strands for operating said jaws.

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