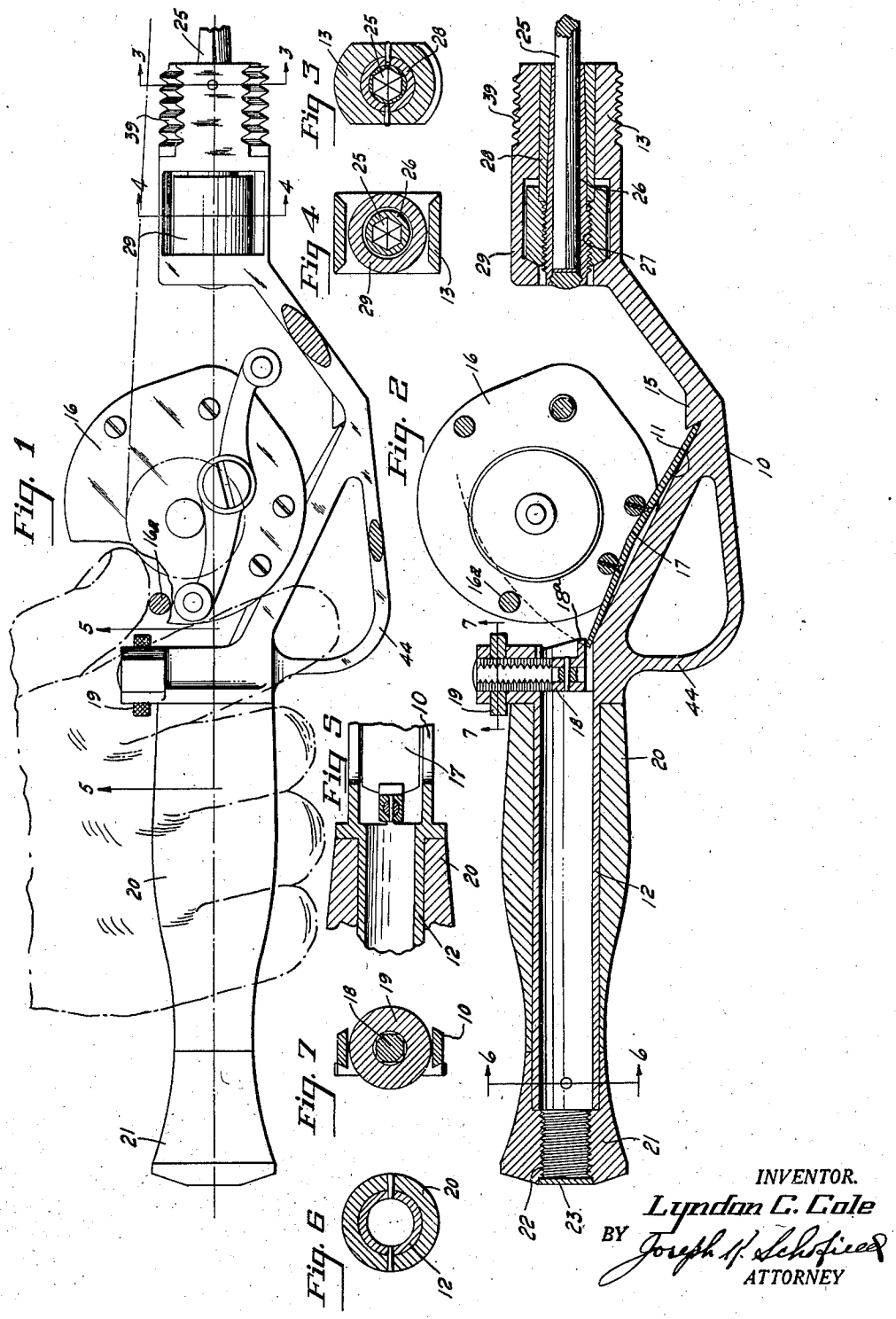
March 26, 1940. L. C. COLE 2,194,639

CASTING ROD

Filed Oct. 9, 1937 3 Sheets-Sheet 1




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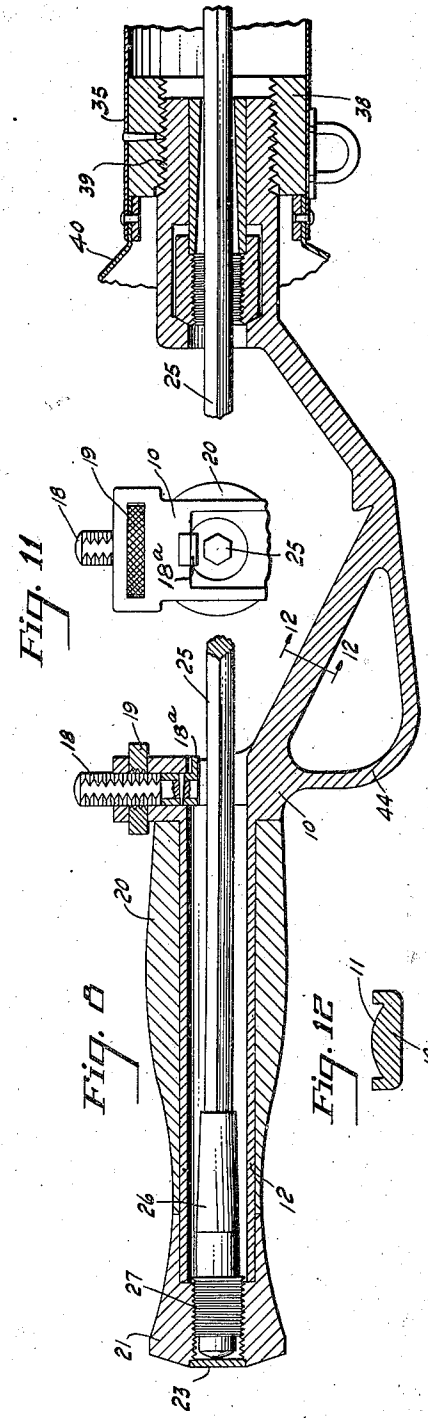



Fig. 11




Fig. 8




Fig. 12

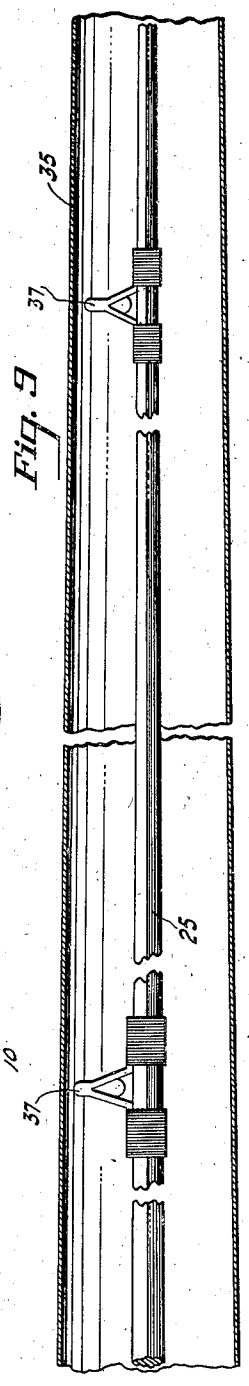



Fig. 9

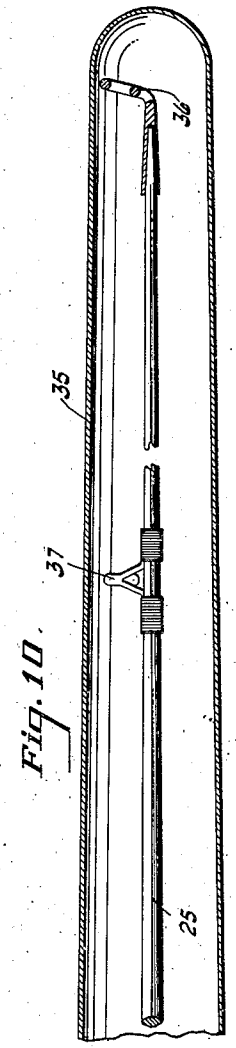



Fig. 10

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Fig. 15

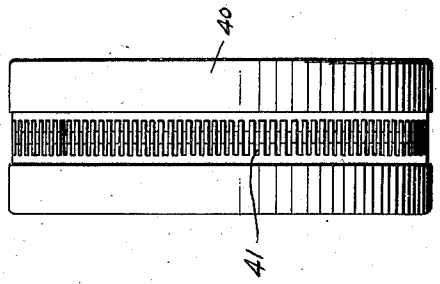



Fig. 13

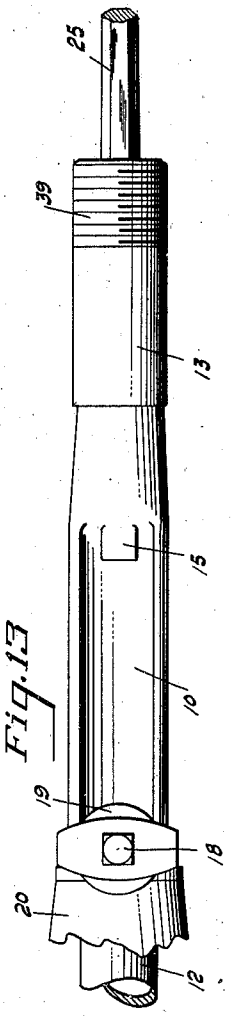
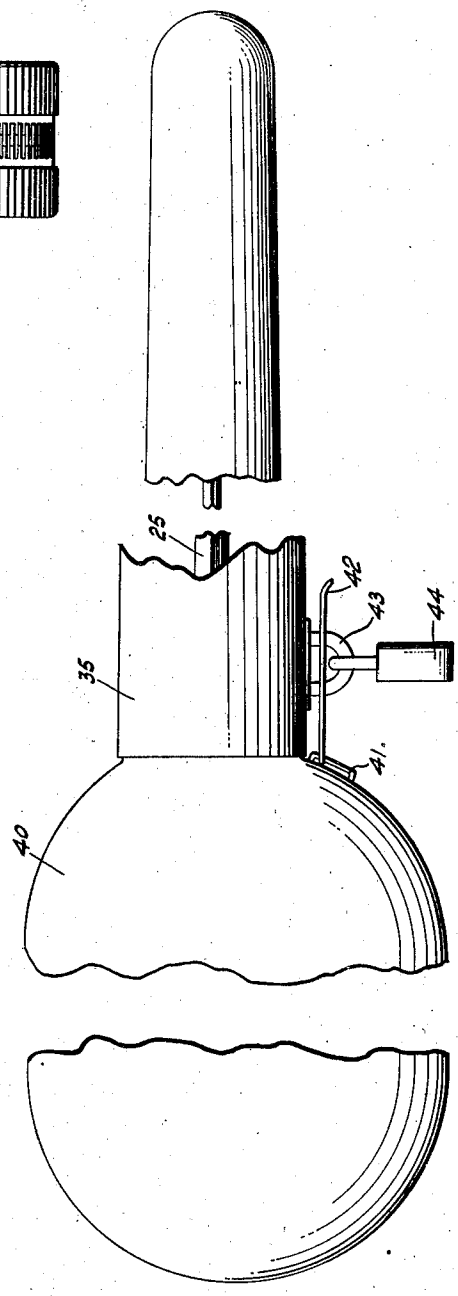



Fig. 14




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Patented Mar. 26, 1940 2,194,639

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,194,639

## CASTING ROD

Lyndon C. Cole, Hamilton, Ohio

Application October 9, 1937, Serial No. 168,165

7 Claims. (Cl. 43—18)

This invention relates to fishing rods and particularly to a casting rod having improved reel mounting means and means to house the rod for storage or shipment.

A primary object of the invention is to provide a casting rod the butt or handle portion of which is hollow and into which the stick portion may be retracted from its operative or casting position.

Another object of the invention is to provide a butt portion having an internally threaded portion at its forward end fitting an externally threaded portion on the rear end of the stick portion, there being also an internally threaded portion in the rear end of the butt into which the stick may be screwed during transportation of the complete casting rod.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved reel clamping device and support on the butt, the reel being supported in oblique angular position so that the axis of rotation of the winding crank of the reel will be lowered to an extent to bring it substantially into intersecting relation to the axis of the stick. The center of gravity of the reel by this angular position will be materially lowered.

And finally it is an object to provide a metal tubular casing for the rod threaded to the butt and having a flexible bag portion thereon within which the butt portion may be enclosed.

With the above and other objects in view the invention includes the features of construction and operation set forth in the following specification and illustrated in the following drawings.

In the accompanying drawings annexed hereto and forming a part of this specification, I have shown the invention in a preferred form of light casting rod but it will be understood that the invention can be otherwise embodied and that the drawings are not to be construed as defining or limiting the scope of the invention, the claims appended to this specification being relied upon for that purpose.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the handle and reel supporting portion of the rod.

Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the parts shown in Fig. 1.

Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 respectively are sections taken upon the planes of lines 3—3, 4—4, 5—5, 6—6 and 7—7 in Figs. 1 and 2.

Fig. 8 is a longitudinal central sectional view of the handle and reel supporting portions with the stick retracted and secured in position for carrying and shipping.

Figs. 9 and 10 are intermediate and tip end portions respectively of the stick shown within the carrier for the complete rod.

Fig. 11 is a fragmentary transverse view of the handle portion and reel clamp.

Fig. 12 is a sectional view taken upon the plane of line 12—12 in Fig. 8.

Fig. 13 is a plan view of the reel clamping portion of the handle.

Fig. 14 is an outside view of the case within which the entire rod may be housed, and

Fig. 15 is a detail view of the closing means for the case.

In the above mentioned drawings there has been shown but one embodiment of the invention which is now deemed preferable, but it is to be understood that changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Briefly, and in its preferred aspect, the invention may include the following principal parts: first, a butt portion having a handle portion at its rear end, a reel clamp intermediate its length and rod securing portion and means to mount a case or housing to enclose the rod at its forward end; second, a rod or stick adapted to be threaded into the forward end of the butt when in operative position and in the rearward end of the butt when the rod is being carried; third, a case comprising a metal tube enclosing the stick closed at its outer end and secured detachably to the butt, there being a flexible bag attached to this tube for enclosing the handle; fourth, a reel mounting for the butt supporting the reel in an oblique angular position so that the reel crossbar on which the user's thumb rests to control the casting of the line may assume a natural position while grasping the handle of the butt.

Referring more in detail to the figures of the drawings I show the improved handle or butt portion of the casting rod most clearly in Figs. 1 and 2. The body portion 10 of this butt is in the form of a cast or otherwise formed member of metal such as aluminum or one of its alloys for minimum weight and suitable strength. The central portion of this member 10 forms the reel rest the clamping surface 11 of which is disposed at a pronounced oblique angle to the axis of the handle portion 12 and the stick securing end 13. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the surface 11 at one end has a lug 15 to retain the reel 16 by engagement with one end of its plate 17. The opposite end of the reel plate 17 engages under a clamping screw 18 mounted within the hand-

end of the butt. To clamp or unclamp the reel 16 by the screw 18 it is only necessary to rotate the nut 19 which engages screw 18 within a portion of the butt 10.

At the lower end of screw 18 is a laterally extending foot piece 18a. In the reel clamping position of the screw the laterally extended portion of foot piece 18a engages over one end of the reel plate 17 and holds the reel 16 firmly in position. In the upper position of the screw 18 the foot piece 18a prevents the screw 18 from being completely withdrawn from the butt 10. Preferably and as shown in the figures the foot piece 18a may be secured to the screw 18 by means of a small transversely extending taper pin.

In operative position the reel 16 has its central axis lowered materially so that the hand of the user assumes a comfortable position in which the thumb may rest as shown on the crossbar 16a of the reel.

The handle portion 12 of the butt is hollow as shown and has mounted thereon a gripping sleeve 20 of rubber, cork or other desirable moulded or built up material. At the rear end of the handle is pinned a head portion 21 preferably of metal and having an internally threaded portion 22. The rear face of this handle end 20 may be closed by means of a small disc 23 set into the threaded opening through the head portion 21 and crimped in position.

At the forward end of the butt 10 is the stick attaching and retaining construction disposed within the substantially cylindrical portion 13. The rear end of the stick or rod proper 25 is provided with a metal sleeve 26 closely surrounding the sectional wooden stick 25. The outer surface of this sleeve is slightly tapered at its forward end and at its rear end is provided with screw threads 27. This metal may be built up upon the stick 25 or separately made and permanently secured to the stick at its rear end.

Housed securely within the end 13 of the butt 10 is a sleeve 28 having its inner surface tapered to fit the sleeve 26. Also housed within the end 13 is a nut 29 threaded to fit the threads 27 on the stick 25. The nut 29 is freely rotatable within a transverse slot formed in the end 13 so that by rotation of this nut the stick 25 is firmly engaged with the sleeve 26 in close contact with sleeve 28. In this position the stick 25 is in operative or casting position and is firmly retained in the butt 10.

To carry the assembled rod more conveniently provision is made for housing the end of the stick 25 within the handle 13. For this purpose the reel 16 is removed and the clamping screw 18 raised to provide a clear opening into the tubular handle portion 12. By rotating the nut 29 the stick 25 may be released and retracted so that its threaded rear end 27 may enter and engage the threads 22 within the handle end piece 21. In the retracted position of the stick the over-all length of the casting rod is materially reduced.

To protect the entire rod while it is being shipped or carried the stick 25 may be housed within a metal tube 35 shown sectionally in Figs. 8, 9 and 10. The outer end of this tube 35 is closed as shown in Fig. 10 and its diameter is such that the stick 25 with its tip 36 and eyelets 37 for the line may be enclosed, limited freedom of movement only being possible. The rear end of the tube 35 has a collar 38 fitted and retained therein, the inner surface of this collar being threaded as shown in Fig. 8. When in position over the stick 25 the collar 38 has its threads in engagement with threads 39 upon the end 13 of the butt 10.

Attached to the open end of the tube 35 is a flexible bag 40 of chamois fabric or other material, there being an opening extending a major portion of the length of the bag which may be closed by a slidable fastener 41. If desired a hasp 42 may be attached to the slidable fastener 41 engaging over a loop 43 secured to the tube 35. By means of this hasp and loop a lock 44 may be mounted as shown in Fig. 14 to prevent tampering with any part of the rod.

For convenience the butt 10 may have a finger loop 44 within which the forefinger may be placed while holding the rod for casting. The drawings show a stick of wood made up of a plurality of triangular sections. It will be understood, however, that a hollow steel or other form of stick may be substituted for the one shown.

In operation the rod during casting is grasped as indicated in Fig. 1. The fingers assume a natural position with the thumb resting on the cross bar 16a of the reel 16 and with the forefinger in the rear upper angular portion of the finger loop 44. The tip of the thumb rests on the spool of the reel over which the line is wound. By the angular disposition of the reel 16 the distance between the portion of the finger loop 44 engaged by the forefinger and the cross bar 16a engaged by the thumb is not increased but is such that the hand may assume an entirely natural grasping position during casting without requiring the thumb to be extended to a strained position. The axis of rotation of the crank handle, however, and the center of gravity of the reel are brought down nearer the center line of the entire handle and closer to the hand of the user.

I claim as my invention:

1. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member having a handle portion, a reel rest and stick attaching portion, said reel rest having its surface disposed at an oblique angle extending downward from said handle whereby a reel mounted thereon will have its central axis lowered to be substantially aligned with said handle portion.

2. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member having a handle portion, a reel rest and a stick attaching portion, said handle portion being hollow whereby said stick may be retracted and partially housed thereby, and means at the rear of said butt member to secure said stick in its partially housed position therein.

3. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member having a hollow handle portion, a reel rest and clamping member on said butt member, a stick detachably attached at one end of said butt member when in operative position, and means at the rear of said butt member to detachably attach said stick partially within said butt when in shipping position, whereby said stick extends through the entire length of said butt member.

4. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member having a hollow handle portion, a reel rest and clamping member on said butt member, a tapered portion adjacent the forward end of said butt member, a stick having a tapered portion fitting the tapered portion of said butt member and adapted to be partially housed within said butt member, means to detachably secure said stick in position in said butt member with said tapered portions in engagement one

with the other, and securing means at the rear of said butt member to retain said stick in its partially housed position.

5. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member, a stick slidably mounted within said member to advanced and retracted positions thereon, means at the forward end of said butt member to lock said stick in advanced position, said means including interengaging tapered portions on said butt member and stick, and means at the rear end of said butt member to secure said stick in its retracted position.

6. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member, threaded members provided at the forward and rear ends thereof, a hollow tapered portion at the forward end of said butt member, and a stick mounted on said butt member and slidable within said butt member to engage one of said threaded members and said tapered portion when in operative position and the other threaded member when in carrying position.

7. A fishing rod comprising in combination, a butt member, a stick slidable within said butt member, threaded members provided at the forward and rear ends of said member for mounting said stick respectively in operative and carrying positions, a tapered portion on said butt member engaged by a tapered portion on said stick when mounted in operative position, and a tube secured detachably to said butt member within which said stick may be enclosed.

LYNDON C. COLE.