

July 23, 1929.

J. E. PHELPS

1,721,788

TOOL

Filed July 14, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

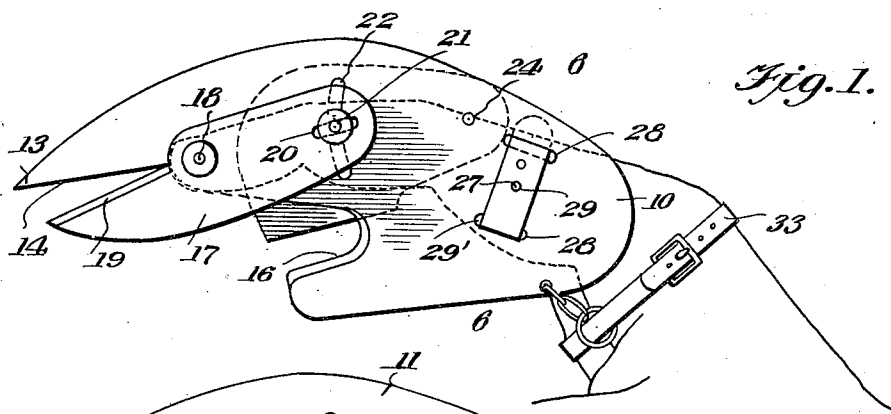
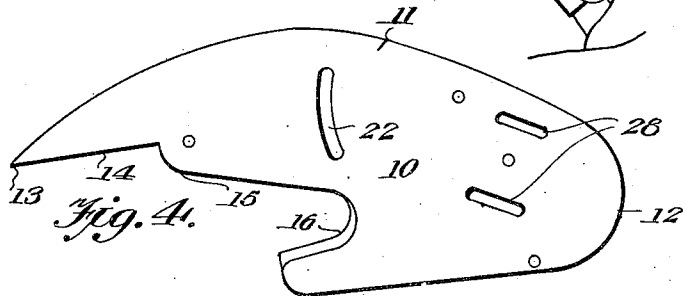


Fig. 6.

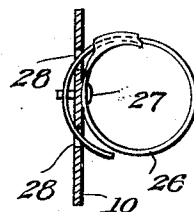
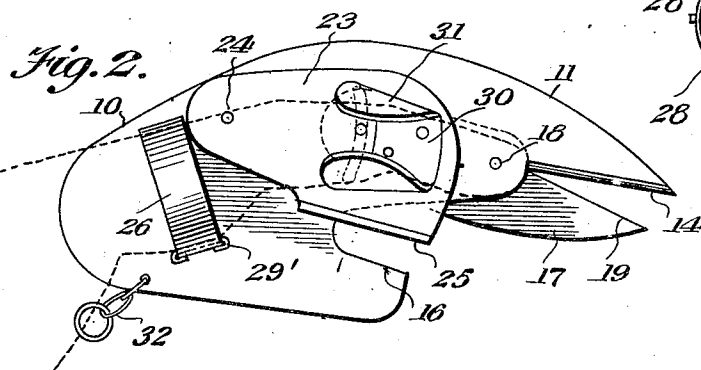
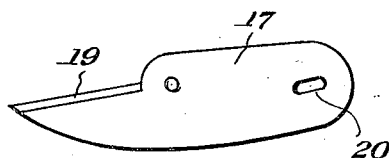
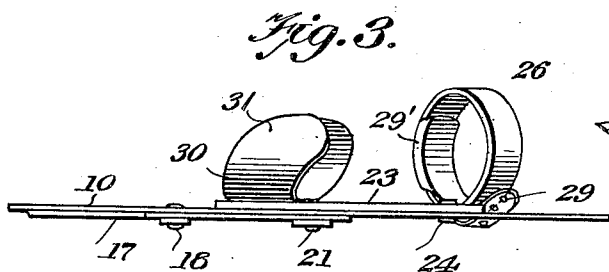


Fig. 5.



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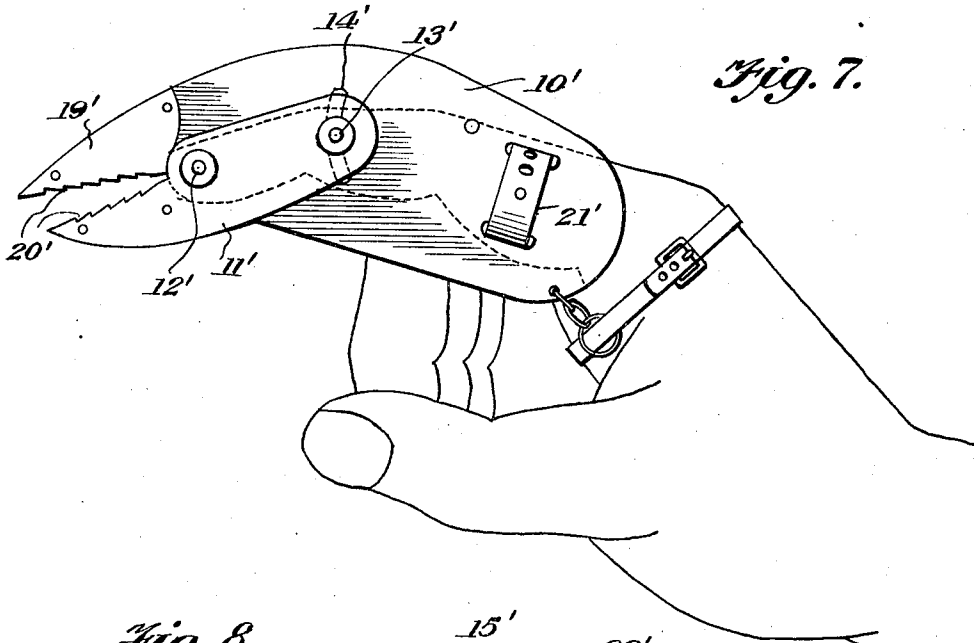
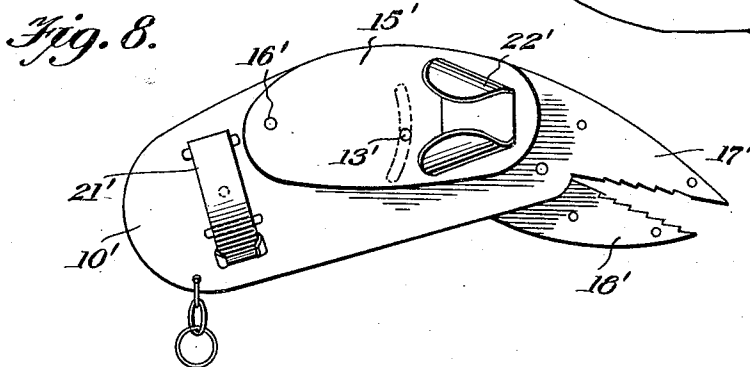
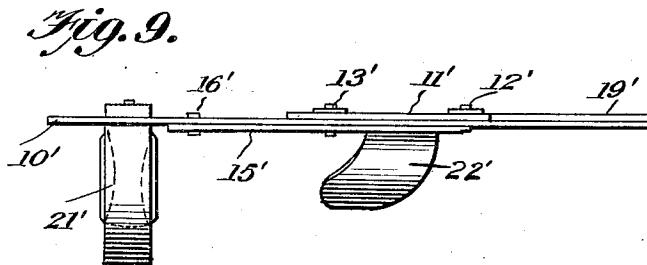
J. E. PHELPS

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES E. PHELPS, OF LISBON, IOWA.

TOOL.

Application filed July 14, 1928. Serial No. 292,616.

The invention has particular relation to tools adapted to be worn upon the hands or a finger.

An object of the invention comprehends cutting elements operable by the fingers.

Another object of the invention comprehends attaching means adapted to secure the article upon the hand and fingers of the operator.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further consists of the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the invention as applied and in use.

Figure 2 is a similar view taken from the opposite side of the article of cutlery.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the invention.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of a cutter member.

Figure 5 is a similar view of a companion cutter member.

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on line 6—6 of Figure 1.

Figure 7 is an elevation of a modified form of the invention as applied and in use.

Figure 8 is a similar view of the modification taken from an opposite side.

Figure 9 is a top plan view of the modification.

Referring to the drawings in detail, wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the reference character 10 indicates a plate member curved, as indicated at 11, upon the uppermost side edge thereof and which terminates in rounded and pointed ends 12 and 13 respectively.

An edge 14 inwardly directed from the end 13 toward the body of the plate member 10 is sharpened to provide one side of a cutting element. The plate member is furthermore cut away, as indicated at 15, and curved inwardly toward the plate member and beyond the edge 14. The cut-away portion is adapted for communication at the innermost portion thereof with a reversely curved cutting edge 16, the purpose of which will be presently apparent. For purposes of illustration, the plate member 10 may be termed a stationary cutter member.

A movable cutter member 17, pivotally

mounted, as indicated at 18, upon the stationary cutter, is provided with a cutting surface 19 adjacent one end and an elongated horizontally disposed slot 20 within its opposite end. Said slot is adapted to accommodate a bolt member 21 slidably mounted within an arcuate shaped vertically disposed slot 22 in the stationary cutter member.

An operating plate 23, pivotally mounted, as indicated at 24, upon the stationary cutter member 10, is also adapted to receive the pivot pin 21. The underface of the operating plate 23 is provided with a cutting edge 25 adapted for cooperation with the cutting surface 16 upon the stationary cutting member 10.

A band 26, carried by a pin member 27 upon the plate member 10, is adapted to extend the free end thereof through spaced slots 28 upon the opposite sides of the pin 27. Said free end of the band 26 is provided with a multiplicity of openings 29 within which the outermost end of the pin 27 may be selectively received to adjust the band to accommodate fingers of different sizes. Ears 29', inwardly projected from the side edges of the band 26, are adapted to accommodate the free end of the band.

A finger engaging plate 30, carried upon the outer side of the operating plate 23, terminates to provide inwardly curved side portions 31 adapted to prevent displacement of the end of the finger in the manner as best illustrated in the dotted line position in Figure 2 of the drawings.

Movement of the operating plate 23 upon the stationary cutter member 10 will cause the lowermost edge 25 thereof to be brought into engagement with the cutting surface 16. The same movement will impart rocking movement to the movable cutter member 17 in order that the cutting surface 19 thereof will be shifted to occupy a position adjacent the cutting surface 14 of the stationary cutter member 10.

Chain links 32, having connection with the stationary plate member 10, are adapted to accommodate a strap member 33 passed around and about and fastened to the palm of the operator's hand, as illustrated in Figure 1 of the drawings.

The invention furthermore leaves one hand free to hold the vine or shrub while the cutting is done by the article of cutlery car-

ried upon the other hand or the vine or shrub may be grasped by other fingers upon the hand carrying the cutter.

In Figures 7 to 9 inclusive of the drawings, I have illustrated a modification of the invention which embodies a stationary plate member 10' shaped, upon the uppermost edge thereof, to resemble the particular shape of the plate member 10. A movable jaw 11', pivotally mounted, as indicated at 12', upon the stationary plate member 10', is also provided with a pin member 13' adjacent the innermost end thereof, the latter being adapted for sliding movement within an arcuate shaped slot 14' within the plate member 10. An operating plate 15', carried upon the inner side and mounted for pivotal movement, as indicated at 16' upon the plate member 10', is adapted to receive the adjacent end of the pin 13' to actuate the jaw 11' toward the jaw member 17' upon the end of the plate member 10'. Jaw faces 18' and 19' respectively, carried by the movable jaw member 11' and stationary jaw member 17', are provided with toothed surfaces 20' between which articles may be firmly gripped and held.

The band 21' and the finger engaging portion 22', carried by the plate member 10' and the plate member 15', are identical in construction to those bands and finger engaging portions, as indicated at 26 and 31 respectively in the preferred form of the invention.

As manifest from the disclosure of the modification in Figure 8 of the drawings, the

plate member 15' is provided with a sharpened edge to provide the companion portion of a cutter member in conjunction with a second sharpened edge or stationary blade upon the plate member with relation to the plate member 10 in the preferred form of the invention.

The modification may be effectively employed for use in conjunction with the preferred form of the invention while the same is being worn upon the other and whereby work of different kinds may be grip-
pingly engaged and held while the preferred form of the invention does the cutting.

The invention is susceptible of various changes in its form, proportions and minor details of construction, and the right is herein reserved to make such changes as properly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

A tool comprising a stationary jaw having a slot, a movable jaw pivotally connected therewith, the stationary jaw having a cut-
away portion in communication with a reversely curved cutting edge, an operating plate pivotally mounted at one end upon the stationary jaw, and a pin carried upon the opposite end of the operating plate project-
ing through the slot for pivotal connection with the adjacent end of the movable jaw.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES E. PHELPS.