Oct. 18, 1949. A. C. ESPENSHIP 2,485,144

FISHING ROD HANDLE

Filed Aug. 4, 1947

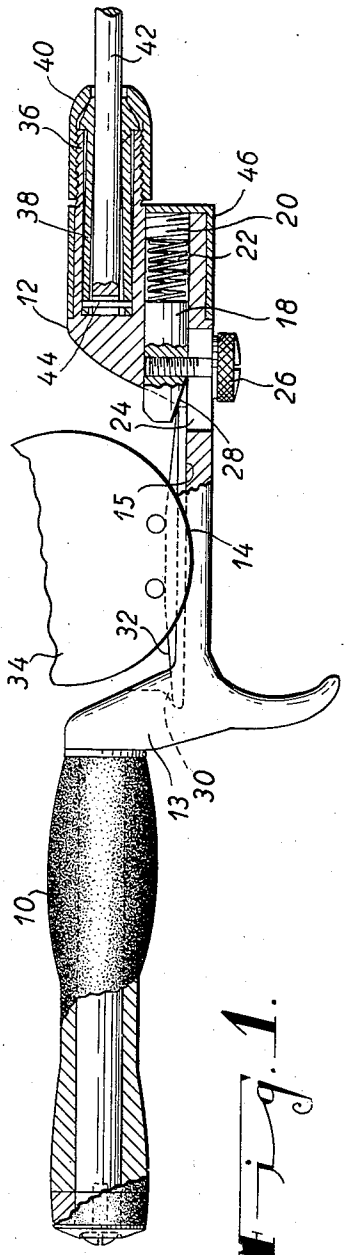


Fig. 1.

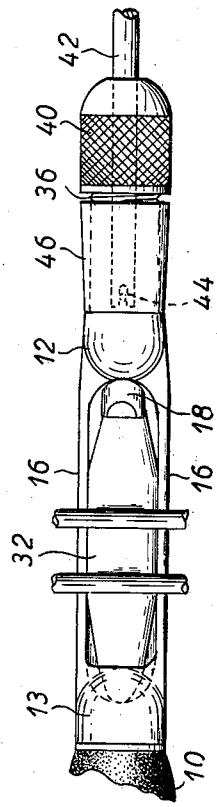


Fig. 2.

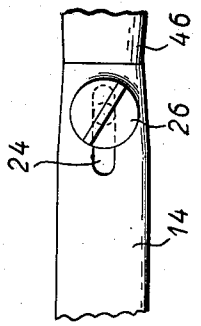


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR.

ABRAM C. ESPENSHIP

BY

Burgess & Harding

ATTORNEYS

Patented Oct. 18, 1949

2,485,144

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,485,144

FISHING ROD HANDLE

Abram C. Espenship, Collegeville, Pa., assignor to Harry L. Gabel and Abram C. Espenship, co-partners, trading as The Pen Rod Company, Gilbertsville, Pa.

Application August 4, 1947, Serial No. 766,071

1 Claim. (Cl. 43—22)

1

This invention relates to an improvement in fishing rod handles of the type having a hand grip at one end and a head for the reception of a rod at the other end which are connected to each other by a depressed bar forming a space between the hand grip and the head above the bar for the reception of a reel, the bar being provided with a seat for the base of a reel. In such handles either the connecting portion between the head and bar or between the hand grip and the bar is provided with an undercut recess for the insertion of one end of the base of the reel, and, extending from the other connecting portion extending from the bar is a spring pressed bolt having a cam face for clamping the other end of the reel base to the seat on the bar.

In all such structures known to me the spring pressed clamping bolt is provided with a head portion which cannot be withdrawn from the reel space between the connecting portions extending from the bar to the hand grip and the head.

One of the objects of my invention is the provision of a spring pressed bolt which can be withdrawn from the reel space to permit mounting a reel base of the length of the width of the reel space.

Another object of my invention is the provision of means whereby the bolt can readily be withdrawn from locking position and secured in such position while positioning the reel, and whereby the bolt, after it has been shifted to locking position, may be secured against movement.

Referring to the drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation partially in section of a handle constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view with a portion of the hand grip and reel omitted; and

Figure 3 is an inverted plan view of a portion of the handle showing the clamping screw.

The handle comprises a hand grip portion 10 at the rear end thereof and a rod receiving head 12 at the front end substantially in horizontal alignment with the hand grip connected to each other by a bar 14 below the hand grip and the rod receiving head forming a reel receiving space between the hand grip and the head 12.

The rod receiving head 12 extends upwardly from the bar 14 while the hand grip 10 is connected thereto by means of a member 13.

The upper face of the bar 14 is provided with a seat 15 for the base of a reel between side flanges 16, 16, the ends of which merge into connecting member 13 between the bar 14 and the hand grip

2

10 at one end and the rod receiving head 12 at the other end.

The rod receiving head 12 is bored from the end face thereof into the reel receiving space, the bottom of the bore being in the plane of the seat 15 for the reception of a cylindrical bolt 18 for locking one end of a reel base to the seat between the flanges 16, 16 as hereinafter described.

The outer end of the bore is threaded and seated therein is a blind screw 20, a coil spring 22 is seated between the screw 20 and the bolt 18 for urging the bolt 18 outwardly towards the reel space. The bar 14 is slotted as at 24 and threaded into the bolt 18 is a screw 26 which extends through the slot 24 whereby the bolt 18 may be secured in its adjusted position or may be drawn into the bore and secured therein.

The end of the bolt 18 is cut at an angle to the seat 15 for a reel as well as to center the bolt 18 to form a cam member 28.

The connecting member 13 is provided with an undercut recess 30 shown in dotted lines in Figure 1, the bottom thereof being flush with the seat 15 and extending into the recess is one end of the base 32 of a reel 34, the other end of the base being retained in position by the cam 28 on the bolt 18.

In mounting the reel on the seat 15, the bolt 18 is slid back against the action of spring 22 by using the screw 26 as a handle, the end of the base 32 of the reel is inserted into the recess 30, the base 32 is then positioned on the seat 15, the bolt 18 upon being released will be shot forward by the spring 22 and the base 32 will be pushed forward into the recess 30 by the movement of the bolt and the end of the base 32 will be clamped between its seat and the cam 28, or the bolt may be pulled by the screw 26 to jam the base between the cam 28 and the reel seat 15; the screw 26 is then tightened to fixedly secure the bolt.

This clamping of the reel base by the spring pressed cam 28 is sufficient to secure the reel to its seat, while the screw 26 will lock the bolt against movement if the bolt should be engaged to force it against the action of the spring which the fisherman might do inadvertently while fishing.

This screw 26 not only forms a safety lock for the bolt but also provides a ready means for sliding the bolt during the placing or removing of the reel.

The head 12 is provided with a cylindrical extension 36 which is threaded on the exterior and bored concentrically with the threaded portion for the reception of spring jaws 38, which, to-

gether with a cap 40 threaded on the extension 36, form a chuck for securing the end of a fishing rod 42 in the head 12.

The outer diameter of the inner end of the spring jaws is such, with the relation to the bore in which it is seated, as to form a tight fit therein and is seated therein so that a pin 44 extending through the walls thereof will be perpendicular to the axis of the reel 34, the end of the rod 42 is slotted so as to straddle the pin 44 when seated in the jaws to position the line guides on the rod in proper relation to the reel.

Seated on the end of the head is a cap 46 for closing the end of the bore for the bolt 18 which is provided with an opening for extension 36 and engages a shoulder on the head so that the outer faces of the cap 46 and head 12 are flush when the cap is positioned on the end of the head.

One of the advantages of my invention results from the provision of a spring pressed bolt having a cam face for clamping the end of a reel base to its seat and a locking screw for securing the bolt in position and which is also arranged for shifting the bolt endwise within the bore.

By the provision of a clamping bolt which can be withdrawn into the bore, the entire bolt can be withdrawn from the reel space so that the full length of the reel space is clear of obstructions when mounting a reel.

What I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

A fishing rod handle having a hand grip at one end, a rod supporting head at the other end, a depressed bar connected to the hand grip and the rod supporting head, there being a reel space formed between the hand grip and the rod supporting head above the bar, a seat on the upper face of the bar for the base of a reel, an upwardly extending connecting member between the bar and the hand grip having a recess for the reception of one end of a reel base, said rod supporting head having an opening therethrough, a spring pressed sliding bolt mounted in the opening and having a cam on its lower face for engaging the other end of the reel base for locking it to the support, the opening for the bolt extending inwardly from the reel space and being of an area to permit drawing the end of the bolt into the opening from the reel receiving space, the wall of the handle having a slot extending therethrough from the bolt opening, and a screw extending from the bolt through said slot for shifting the bolt and locking the bolt in any shifted position.

ABRAM C. ESPENSHIP.

REFERENCES CITED

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

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
2,102,237	Kinnear	Dec. 14, 1937
2,206,019	Benson	July 2, 1940
2,424,430	Beyer	July 22, 1947
2,431,972	Treadway et al.	Dec. 2, 1947