June 4, 1929. E. A. PORTER 1,715,567

SNELL HOOK AND FLY CASE

Filed Jan. 22, 1927

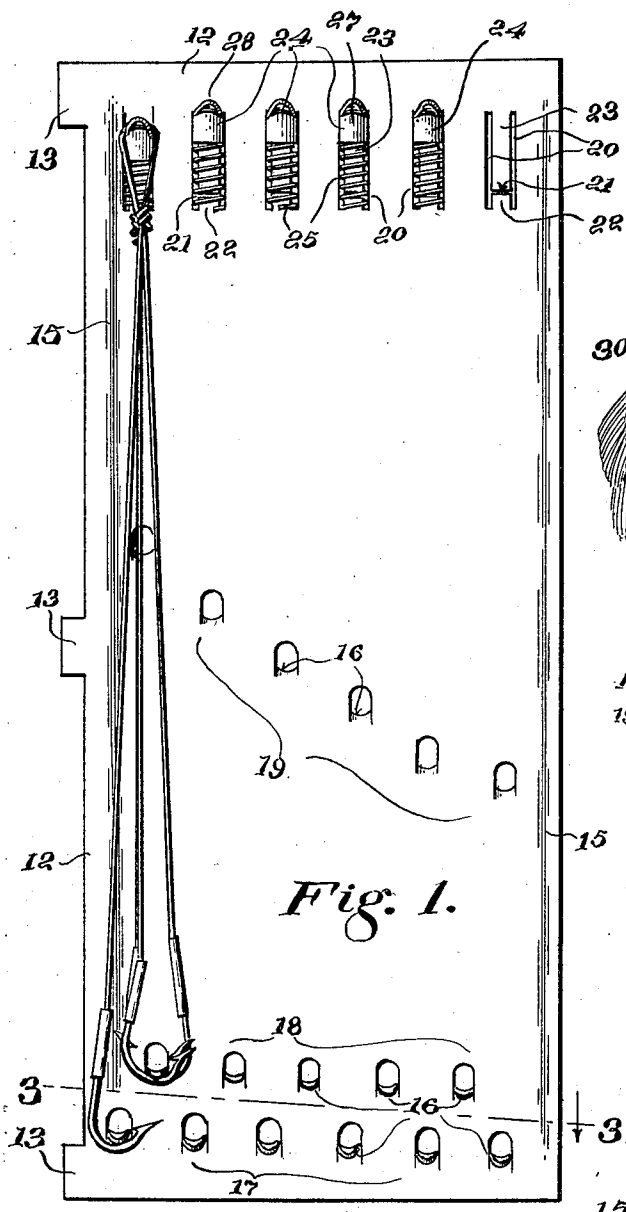


Fig. 1.

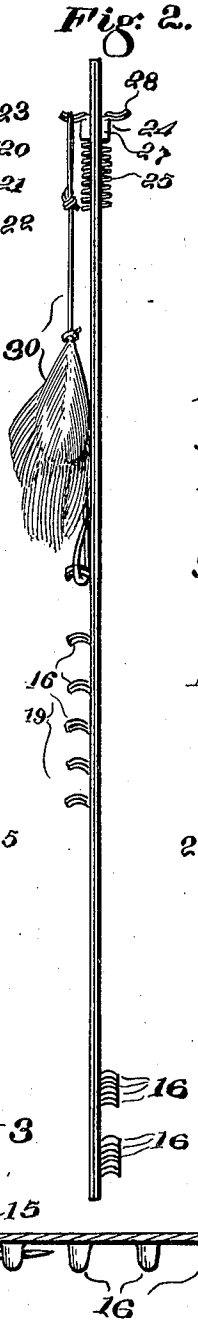


Fig. 2.

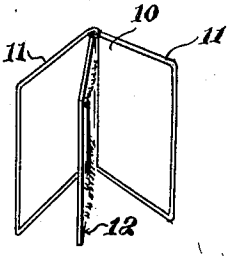


Fig. 4.

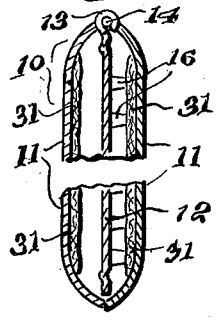


Fig. 5.

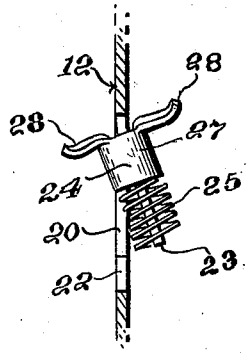


Fig. 6.

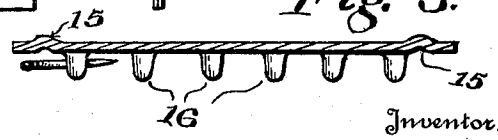


Fig. 3.

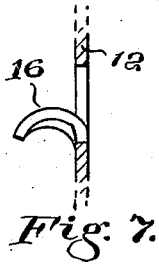


Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

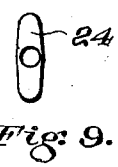


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD A. PORTER, OF BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT.

SNELL HOOK AND FLY CASE.

Application filed January 22, 1927. Serial No. 162,766.

The invention relates to appliances for containing and ordering anglers' hook and artificial bait devices, particularly snells and flies. While I am aware of resilient extensible means for stretching snells in a case, it is a purpose of my invention to present a substantial appliance of this order adapted to serve its uses without material deterioration and which is practical enough to permit economical manufacture and sale within a price to meet popular demand.

It is a purposes to present such a case which will embody means to accommodate with proper support snells of all the varying graduations of length found in the commercial products yet obviating the use of an excessive number of supports while affording accommodations for a very large number of the articles to be carried.

It is a special purpose to present an extensible support of novel function especially contributing to enabling the mounting of a larger number of snells or flies. In addition improvements in manufacturing details of the structure are embodied contributing to lowering of cost for labor and material.

Additional objects, advantages and features of invention reside in the construction, arrangement and combination of parts involved in the embodiment of the invention as will be understood from the following description and accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is an elevation of the central metal leaf plate of the case.

Figure 2 is an edge view of the said leaf plate,

Figure 3 is a cross section of the leaf plate on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the complete case, open.

Figure 5 is a cross section of the case, closed.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary vertical section of the slide mounting.

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary section of one of the stationary mounting hooks.

Figure 8 is a plan of the blank for one of the slides.

Figure 9 is a top view of one of the slides formed.

There is illustrated a complete metal case 10, consisting of dished sheet metal covers 11 of similar form, and an intervening oblong rectangular leaf or mounting plate 12, the three having hinge ears 13 at suitable intervals to aline and receive a common pintle 14. The end and outer longitudinal edges of the covers meet outwardly of the plate 12 to form a complete and snug closure in accordance with any approved practice.

The plate 12 is provided with stiffening ribs 15 as required and its edges may be plain in order to minimize thickness and weight of the article. Adjacent the bottom edge two series of stationary tongues or lugs 16 are formed on the plate in the form of tongues punched from the body of the plate except at their bases and turned out from the plate to form suitable supports for engaging hooks as will be described. The lugs are inclined upwardly at their bases and recurved downwardly at their extremities. Each lug is of a length sufficient to accommodate a number of hooks, say six or more if need be—such hooks having their bights pressed against the lower side of the lug. The lug is also transversely curved so as to present a rounded face downwardly. In the lower series 17 of lugs there are in the present instance six lugs, while in the upper series 18 there are five, in staggered relation to those in the lower series. Both series are inclined, so that from right to left each successive lug in a series is located higher on the plate 12. At a much higher location on the plate there is formed a third series 19 of such lugs identically formed, but projected on the opposite side of the plate, and the series arranged at a greater inclination, so that the successive variations in positions of the lugs longitudinally of the plate are much greater.

Adjacent the top end of the plate there are six pairs of longitudinal parallel slots 20, the material between each pair being cut or sheared at 21 a short distance from its lower end, so as to form a lower spring retaining nib 22, and a guide arm 23 for a slide 24 reciprocable thereon the slide being yieldingly supported at the upper limit of its movement by a helical spring 25 seated at the lower ends of the slots 20. Each slide is formed from an oblong blank of sheet metal (see Fig. 8) having a slight medial enlargement centrally apertured. The central part is drawn by a punch and die into a short cylinder or barrel 27 while the end portions of the blank are shaped into tongues 28 extending from opposite sides

of the cylinder at its upper end. The tongues are inclined downwardly a short distance and then recurved upwardly, and are transversely curved downwardly toward their lateral edges. They are of a substantial width in relation to the loops of the leads of snells so as to form the latter when engaged on the tongues to facilitate their attachment to lines when put into use.

In practice the slots 20 are made about one inch in length, and the springs are customarily and preferably of brass or other non-corrosive metal capable of an expansive pressure of a few ounces. The slots 20 are of a width to freely accommodate the springs and the barrels of the slides, and the guide arms 23 are of a width to engage loosely in the barrels, so that the latter may be tilted slightly. The slides are put in place as indicated in Figure 6, by bending the arm 23 out from the plate 12 and presenting the slide on the lower end of the arm followed by the spring, which is then compressed so as to clear the nib 22 while the arm is bent back into place, after which the spring is released. One tongue 28 projects at each side of the plate 12, and by the loose mounting of the barrel on the arm 23, the tongues of each slide may be rocked slightly so that one may be depressed without material lowering of the other, especially at the outer ends.

In use, to place a lot of snells on the device the lower end of the case while open is set with one end on the knee or other support with the face of the plate 12 directly toward the user as nearly as may be, the upper end of the case being steadied by the left hand. With the right hand a snell is picked up and the loop engaged over any one of the tongues of the slides presented toward the user, and the hook thereon swung close to the lug 16 directly therebelow. The bight of the hook should strike the extremity of the lug 16. If the lead is too long the loop is adjusted on a slide further to the right; if too short, toward the left; until a good approximation is secured, when by a slight pull on the hook the slide is depressed sufficiently to admit the bight of the hook over the end of the lug. The hooks may be swung to right or left from the lug most nearly therebelow and engaged with the next or further ones, but with practice it will not be found necessary to swing it further than the next one to right or left, which limitation is preferable to most convenient use of the invention. Removal of the snells is the reverse of the mounting thereof except that accommodation for length does not have to be considered or provided for.

Flies 30 may be mounted at the opposite side of the plate 12 from the snells after the manner of mounting the snells, or lugs 16 may be differently arranged at this side of the device to accommodate additional snells in accordance with the preceding disclosure, or otherwise. The case may be provided with pads or fabric 31 to be moistened to maintain the leads in good condition for manipulation in accordance with approved practice.

It is an advantage of my construction that when it is desired to remove a device from one side of the plate 12 which is engaged with a slide which also has engaged therewith devices mounted on the other side of the plate, such removal may be accomplished without disturbing the latter devices engaged with the opposite side of the slide. When a lead is pulled down on one side of a slide having leads engaged also with the opposite side, the slide will rock on its mounting slightly, permitting depression of the tongue 28 engaged by the pulled lead sufficiently to allow clearance of the hook of such lead from its lug 16. The slide thus performs a double function in relation to the engaged snells or flies, a moderate independence of use being involved in the tongues 28.

I claim:

1. An adjustable mounting for a snell or the like comprising a base plate having parallel slots, the material between the slots comprising a guide and being severed to receive a slide and spring, a slide on the guide and a spring surrounding the guide and supporting the slide, said slide having projections to receive snell parts or the like, and fixed snell supports on the plate spaced to receive one end of a snell, when the other is engaged with said slide.

2. An improved resilient support comprising a base plate having parallel slots, the material between the slots comprising a guide and being severed to form a tongue-like portion, a support member slidable on said guide, and a helical spring encircling the guide confined between the slidable support member and opposite ends of the slots.

3. The structure of claim 1 in which said material between the slots is severed intermediately of its length to form a spring retaining nib at the lower part.

4. The structure of claim 1 in which the slide comprises a barrel loosely slidable and slightly rockable on the guide, having projections at opposite sides and adapted to be held yieldingly against snell devices or the like engaged with opposite sides thereof, whereby one side or the other may be depressed.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EDWARD A. PORTER.