Dec. 10, 1940. G. A. BURGIN 2,224,471

FISHING TACKLE

Filed Oct. 24, 1939

Fig. 1.

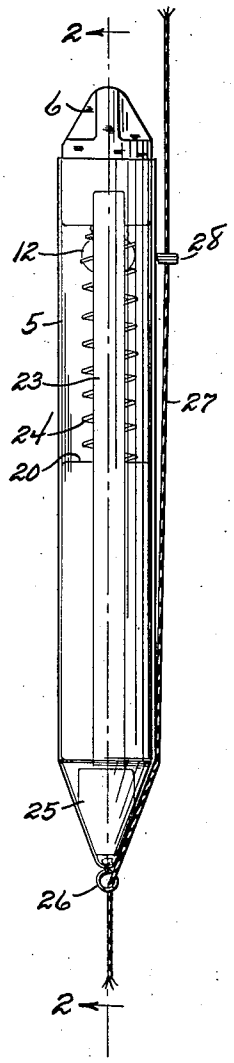


Fig. 2.

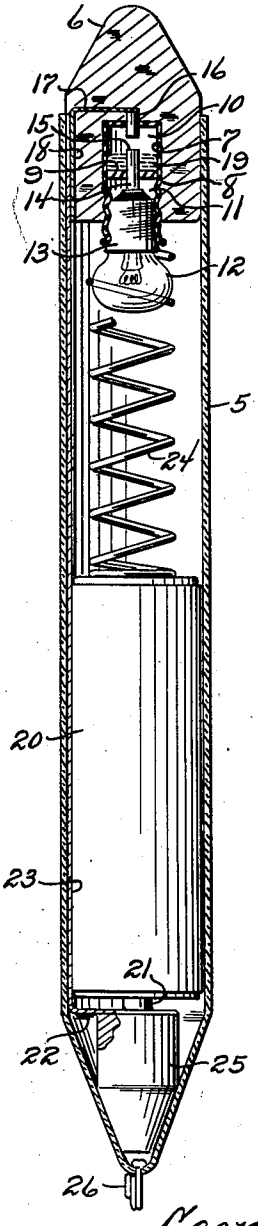


Fig. 3.

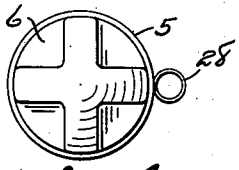
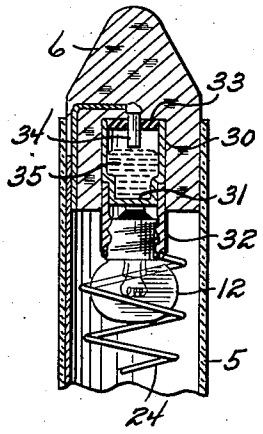


Fig. 4.



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FISHING TACKLE

George A. Burgin, Mount Vernon, Ill.

Application October 24, 1939, Serial No. 301,029

2 Claims. (Cl. 43—17)

My invention relates to fishing tackle and has as one of the principal objects thereof the provision of a device equipped with means for effecting a visual signal upon a fish contacting the line to which the device is attached.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the above described character which is simple in construction, durable in use, efficient in operation and economical in manufacture.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, appended claims and annexed drawing.

Referring to the drawing wherein like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention.

Figure 2 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan view thereof.

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view of the upper portion of a modified form of my invention.

In practicing my invention, as illustrated in Figures 1 to 3 of the drawing, I provide a transparent tube 5, the lower end of which is closed and of an inverted conical configuration. The upper end of the tube is open and is normally closed by a stopper 6, the latter being preferably constructed of cork or the like. The inner end of the cork 6 is formed with a recess 7 in which is arranged a cylindrical shell 8 of insulating material and fashioned between its ends with a partition 9 defining upper and lower chambers 10 and 11. The lower end of the shell 8 is interiorly threaded and receives therein the contact end of an electric light bulb 12, the latter being provided with an outer contact shell 13 and a centrally disposed contact 14. Said lamp is of an ordinary construction and per se forms no part of the present invention.

Extending through the partition 9 is a contact pin 15, the lower end of which engages the central contact of the lamp 12. The upper end of the pin 15 is spaced subjacent the lower end of a contact pin 16 which extends through the upper end of the shell 7 and has its upper end connected to a laterally disposed section 17 of a vertically disposed contact strip 18 arranged on the periphery of the stopper 6. The chamber 10 is provided with mercury 19 which, when the tube is tilted approximately 30° or more from the vertical, effect electrical connection between the pins 15 and 16 for a purpose hereinafter more fully set forth.

The lower end section of the tube 5 has contained therein an electric battery 20. The lower end of the battery is provided with a centrally disposed contact 21 engaging the horizontally disposed portion 22 of a vertically disposed contact strip 23 extending upwardly within the tube and having an upper end engaging the strip 18. Interposed between the stopper 6 and the battery 20 is a coil spring 24, the lower end of which engages the other terminal of the battery 20 and the upper end the shell 13 of the bulb 12.

Arranged within the lower end of the transparent tube 5 is a spacer 25 connected to the section 22 of the strip 23 and engaging the lower portion of the lower end whereby to limit the downward movement of the battery 20 when under the tension of the spring 24.

The lower end of the casing is provided with an eye 26 through which is connected a fishing line 27, the upper section of which is trained through a similar eye 28 carried by the tube subjacent the stopper 6.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that when a fish nibbles at the bait on the lower end of the line 27, the tube will be tilted approximately 30° or more from the vertical and thus, through the medium of the mercury 19, completes the circuit through the battery 20 with the lamp 12 and effects a visual signal.

While my invention is particularly adaptable for night fishing to effect a visual signal, the same may also be used in the daytime. By a slight rotation of the stopper 6 with respect to the tube 5 the strip 18 may be disposed out of engagement with the upper end of the strip 23 thereby providing an open circuit between the battery and bulb 12 thus permitting the device to be operated in the daytime without operating the visual signal means.

In the modified form shown in Figure 4 of the drawing there is provided a metallic shell 30 having a closed lower end 31 extending within the shell of a lamp socket 32. The upper end of the shell 30 is closed by a plug 33 of insulating material and through which extends the lower end of a contact 34 normally spaced above the mercury 35 contained within the shell. The contact 34 is connected to the upper end of a lead extending to one terminal of the battery whereby upon tilting of the tube contact will be established between the lamp and the battery.

It is obvious that the invention is not confined to the herein described use therefor as it may be utilized for any purpose to which it is adaptable. It is therefore to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific construc-

tion as illustrated and described, as the same is only illustrative of the principles of operation, which are capable of extended application in advance forms, and that the invention comprehends all construction within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A device of the character described, comprising, a transparent tube having a closed bottom and an open top, a battery arranged in said tube adjacent said bottom, a stopper closing said top, a mercury switch arranged in said stopper and provided with separated contact elements adapted for connection with each other upon tilting of said tube, an electric lamp having one terminal connected to one of said contact elements, means connecting the other of said contact elements to one terminal of said battery, and means connecting the other terminal of said battery to the other terminal of said lamp whereby upon tilting of said tube said lamp is illuminated to effect a visual signal.

2. A device of the character described, comprising, a transparent tube having a closed bottom and an open top, a contact strip lengthwising said tube, a battery arranged in said tube superjacent said bottom and having one terminal connected to said strip, a stopper closing said top and rotatably adjustable with respect to the tube, a mercury switch arranged in said stopper and provided with separated contact elements adapted for connection with each other upon tilting of said tube, one of said contact elements having a section exposed on the periphery of said stopper for rotation with the latter into and out of contact with said strip, an electric lamp having one terminal connected to the other of said contact elements, and means connecting the other terminal of said battery to the other terminal of said lamp whereby upon tilting of said tube said lamp is illuminated to effect a visual signal when said section is disposed in contactual relationship with said strip.

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