April 15, 1958 L. W. PRINCE 2,830,478

INTEGRAL HANDLE SUPPORTING SNAP HOOK

Filed Aug. 29, 1956

Fig. 1

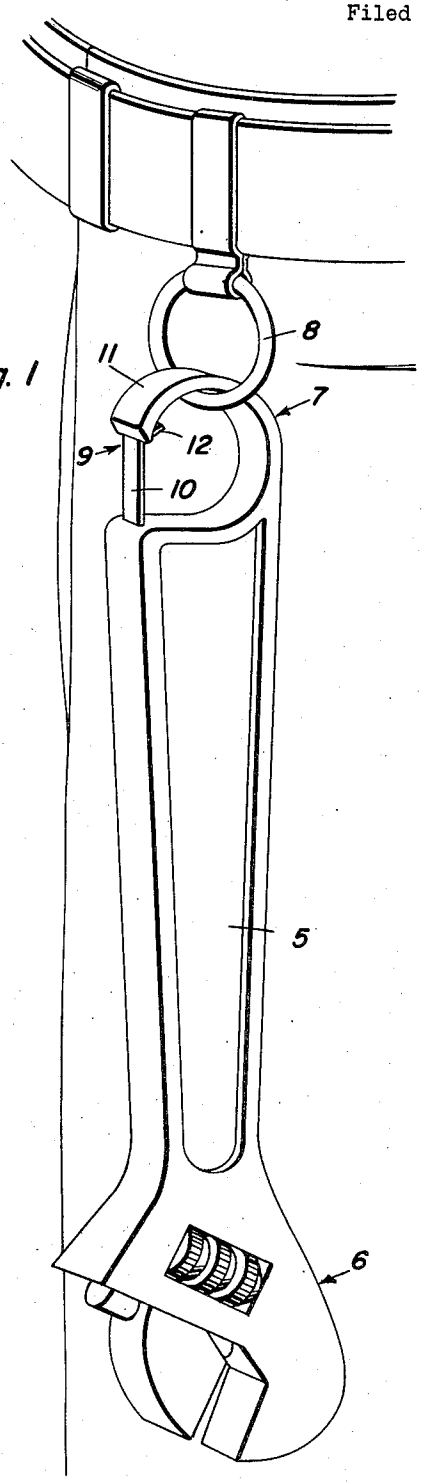


Fig. 4

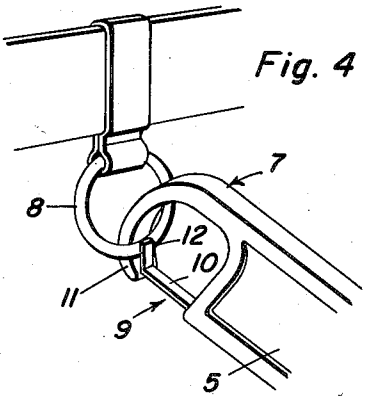
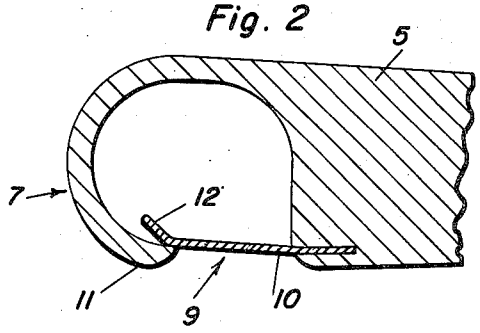


Fig. 2



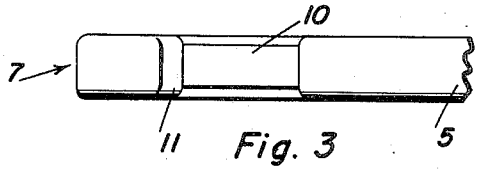


Fig. 3

Lawrence W. Prince
INVENTOR.

BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson
Attorneys

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INTEGRAL HANDLE SUPPORTING SNAP HOOK

Lawrence W. Prince, San Bernardino, Calif.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 81—53)

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in adjustable open end wrenches of various sizes for use particularly by linemen and others working aloft and has for its primary object to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a tool of this character which may be expeditiously and securely attached to and detached from a belt ring, loop or the like with one hand, leaving the other hand free to be used for other purposes.

Other objects of the invention are to provide an improved adjustable open end wrench of the aforementioned character which will be comparatively simple in construction, strong, durable and which may be manufactured at low cost.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing an improved wrench embodying the present invention suspended from a belt ring;

Figure 2 is a view in longitudinal section through one end portion of the tool;

Figure 3 is a view in front elevation of the end portion of the tool shown in Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a perspective view, showing the method of detaching the wrench from the ring.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, it will be seen that the embodiment of the invention which has been illustrated comprises an elongated handle 5 of suitable metal. On one end, the handle 5 is provided with a conventional adjustable head 6.

On its other end, the handle 5 is provided with a snap hook 7 for suspending the tool from a belt ring 8, for example.

The entrance or mouth 9 of the snap hook 7 is closed by a resilient tongue 10 of suitable metal having one end portion anchored in the respective end of the handle 5. The free end portion of the resilient tongue 10 is engaged under tension with the inner side of the free end portion of the bill 11 of the hook 7. Further, the tongue 10 terminates at its free end in an inwardly angularly

bent lip or the like 12 the purpose of which will be presently set forth.

It is thought that the use of the wrench will be readily apparent from a consideration of the foregoing. Briefly, the resilient tongue 10 normally closes the entrance or mouth 9 of the hook 7. To snap the hook 7 on the ring 8, the free end portion of the bill 11 of said hook is introduced into the ring with the tongue 10 bearing on said ring. Pressure is then applied for causing the ring 8 to flex the tongue 10 inwardly to open position, the tool being manipulated to cause said ring to pass between the free end portion of said tongue and the bill 11 into the hook 7, as seen in Figure 1 of the drawing. The construction and arrangement, it will be noted, is such that the wrench is positively connected to the ring 8 in a manner to prevent accidental detachment. To remove the wrench, the ring 8 is engaged under the lip 12 and wedged between said lip and the free end portion of the bill 11 of the hook. The tool is then manipulated in a manner to force the ring 8 outwardly from between the end portions of the elements 10 and 11 thus freeing the wrench in an obvious manner.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

An elongated handle having side edges and a snap hook on one end of the handle for suspending the handle on a support, said snap hook comprising a hook integral with said end of the handle and extending outwardly thereof from one side edge to the other side edge of the handle and terminating in a bill at said other side edge, and a resilient tongue at said other side edge for closing and opening the hook and having one end anchored in said end of the handle and its other end engaging behind said bill to close said hook and inturned into said hook behind said bill for flexing of said tongue rearwardly away from said bill by a support interposed between said bill and the inturned end of the tongue, whereby to facilitate opening the hook.

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