Jan. 10, 1928.

1,655,962

V. D. LESPINASSE

CAPONIZING INSTRUMENT

Original Filed March 21, 1924

Fig. 5.

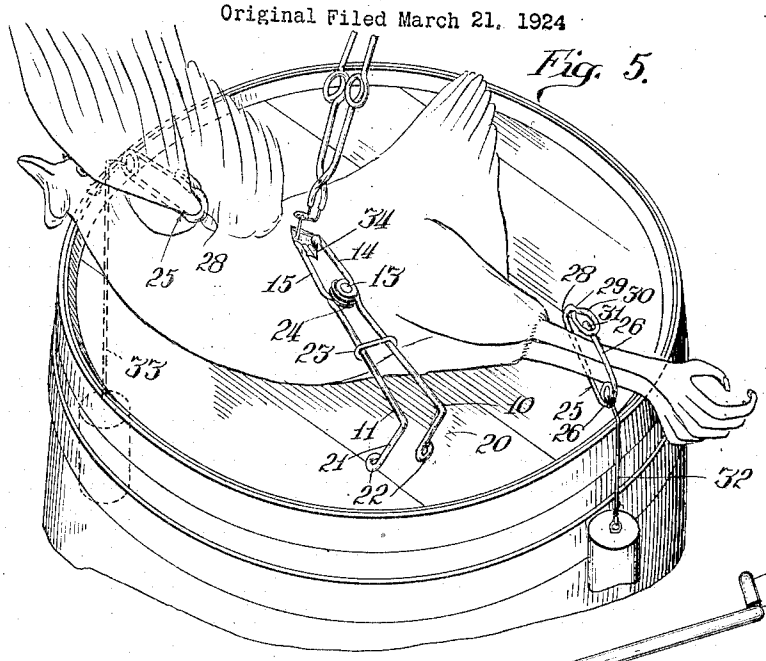


Fig. 1.

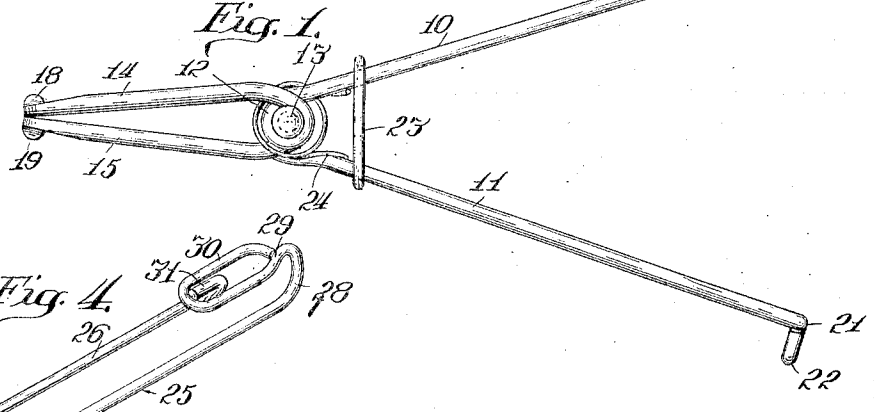


Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

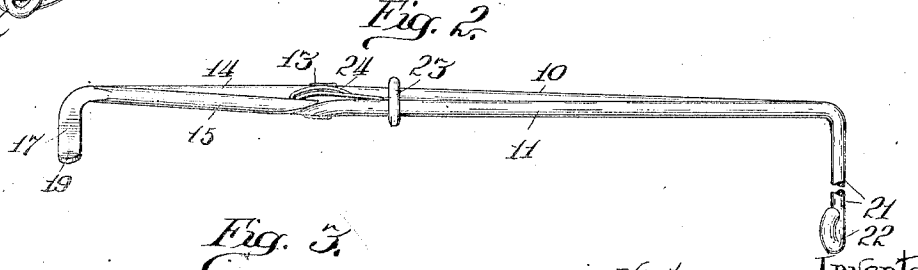
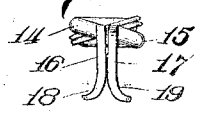


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR D. LESPINASSE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CAPONIZING INSTRUMENT.

Application filed March 21, 1924, Serial No. 700,781. Renewed June 11, 1927.

This invention relates to a spreading device such as is used in holding open the incision in a fowl while being caponized.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of a spreading device which will be so constructed that the strain of supporting the device will be removed as far as possible from the edges of the incision, yet a device which will tend to firmly remain in position.

Referring now to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of applicant's improved form of spreading device;

Figure 2 is a side view of the same;

Figure 3 is an end view showing the configuration of the members which engage the edges of the incision;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of applicant's improved holding device; and

Figure 5 is a schematic illustration indicating the manner of application of the spreader and also of the holding device.

In the drawings, in which like reference characters indicate like parts of the several views, 10 indicates one of the members forming the handle of applicant's spreader and 11 the other. The parts 10 and 11 may conveniently be formed of a steel rod or wire. Each of these parts is given a complete turn, as indicated at 12 in Figure 1, to provide the eyes through which the pivot pin or rivet 13 passes. The parts 12 of the members 10 and 11 are flattened and tapered each towards the other member, so that the parts may be secured closely together in pivotal relation by means of the pivot pin 13. Integral with the part 10 is the leg 14 and integral with the part 11 is the leg 15, which move from and toward each other as the parts 10 and 11 move toward and from each other. The parts 14 and 15 terminate at their free ends in the substantially parallel extending portions 16 and 17, respectively, the lower portions of which are curved away from each other to form the incision engaging portions 18 and 19. In devices of this general character heretofore employed, it has been customary to arrange the incision engaging members as substantially parallel arms having abruptly outwardly extending lugs at the free ends thereof, the lugs being arranged to prevent the spreader from withdrawing from the incision. In applicant's form of device, however, the parts 18 and 19 have their engaging surfaces gradually curving from each other so that the amount of surface of the spreader which engages the edges of the incision is greatly increased. It is found that by this arrangement the spreader is much more firmly held in the incision than is the case where the spreader members are provided adjacent to their ends with abrupt outwardly extending lugs. The members 10 and 11 of the spreader are provided adjacent to their free ends with the downwardly substantially parallelly extending props 20 and 21, the free ends of each of which may be re-turned upon itself, as indicated at 22. Extending about the members 10 and 11 is a loop 23 of such a size that when the parts 16 and 17 are in engagement the loop 23 loosely engages the parts 10 and 11 adjacent to the pivotal portions thereof. Coiled about the pivotal portions of the members 10 and 11 is a spring 24, one end of which engages the inner side of member 10 and the other end of which engages the inner side of the member 11, thus tending to force the members 10 and 11 from each other, and, consequently, the parts 16 and 17 toward each other. The loop 23 is adapted to be slid along the members 10 and 11 to retain them in their operated position towards each other.

Referring now to Figure 4, in which the holding device is disclosed, it will be noted that this arrangement consists of a safety-pin like structure, preferably formed of a continuous integral piece of resilient wire, although it need not necessarily be formed in this manner. The device consists of the portion 25, which is preferably joined to the portion 26 by means of the complete turn 27, which increases the resiliency of the connection between the two members. If preferred, however, the parts 25 and 26 may be joined merely by a curved portion which will answer the same purpose as the complete turn 27. The part 25 at its end remote from the coil portion 27 is bent upwardly as indicated at 28, forwardly as indicated at 29 and then is looped as shown at 30. The part 26 at its free end is bent upwardly and then back on itself as shown at 31. Thus when the holding device is in operative position, the member 26 will underlie the loop 30 and the re-turned portion 31 thereof will be positioned within the loop 30 to prevent disengagement of the part 26 from the loop 30. The holding device will be employed as indicated in Figure 5, one of the devices being placed about the legs

of the fowl to which is attached a weighted cord 32, another of the devices being placed about the wings of the fowl to which is attached a weighted cord 33.

In Figure 5, 34 indicates the incision in the fowl, the edges of which are maintained in spaced relation by applicant's improved spreading device. In the application of this device, after the cut has been made, the parts 18 and 19 are placed in the incision. The spreader is arranged with its axis substantially along the line of the cut with the members 10 and 11 extending toward the front of the fowl. The parts 10 and 11 are then forced gently towards each other to separate the edges of the incision and the loop 23 is moved towards the free ends of the members 10 and 11 to maintain the spreader in its actuated position. Due to the provision of the props 20 and 21, the end of the spreader and also the hand of the operator may be steadied on the supporting surface while the incision is being spread. The spreader being placed in position, it is necessary for the operator to remove his hand from the spreader in order to permit the use of the other instruments. In speaders of the type heretofore employed, it has been customary to permit the spreader to merely hang from the incision, thus bringing an unnecessary strain on the edges of the incision and tending to cause the spreader to come out. However, this strain is removed from the incision in applicant's device by the fact that the props or legs 20 and 21 engage the supporting surface so that the spreader portions 18 and 19 of the device rest lightly on the fowl instead of there being a tendency to raise these portions of the spreader away from the fowl by a lever action.

While in the drawings and in the above description applicant has shown but one form of his spreader, it is readily understood that many minor modifications may be made in this device without departing from the spirit of applicant's invention. The invention, therefore, is to be limited merely by the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a spreading device a pair of rods or wires, each formed intermediate its ends with a complete turn, a pivot pin passing through the turns of said rods, angularly extending portions at adjacent ends of said rods, spring means for normally maintaining said portions adjacent to each other, the ends of said rods remote from said angularly extending portions being arranged at an angle to the axis of the rod to provide supporting means for one end of the spreader.

2. In a spreader device, a pair of pivotally joined members each comprising a handle portion on one side of the pivot and a spreader portion on the other side of the pivot, incision engaging members projecting downwardly from the ends of said spreader portions for extending into the incision and engaging the sides thereof and prop extensions at the outer ends of said handle portions also extending downwardly similarly to said incision engaging members for resting on the working surface, said prop extensions being sufficiently long to hold the device against the body of the fowl and prevent the weight of the handle portions from rocking the incision engaging members out of the incision.

3. In a spreading device, a pair of rods, each formed intermediate its ends with a complete turn, a pivot and pin passing through the turns of said rods, incision engaging members projecting downwardly from the spreader ends of said rods for extending into the incision and engaging the sides thereof, and prop extensions at the outer ends of the handle ends of said rods extending downwardly similarly to said incision engaging members for resting on the working surface, said prop extensions being sufficiently long to hold the device across the body of the fowl and prevent the weight of the handle ends from releasing the incision engaging members from the incision.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 19th day of March, 1924.

VICTOR D. LESPINASSE.