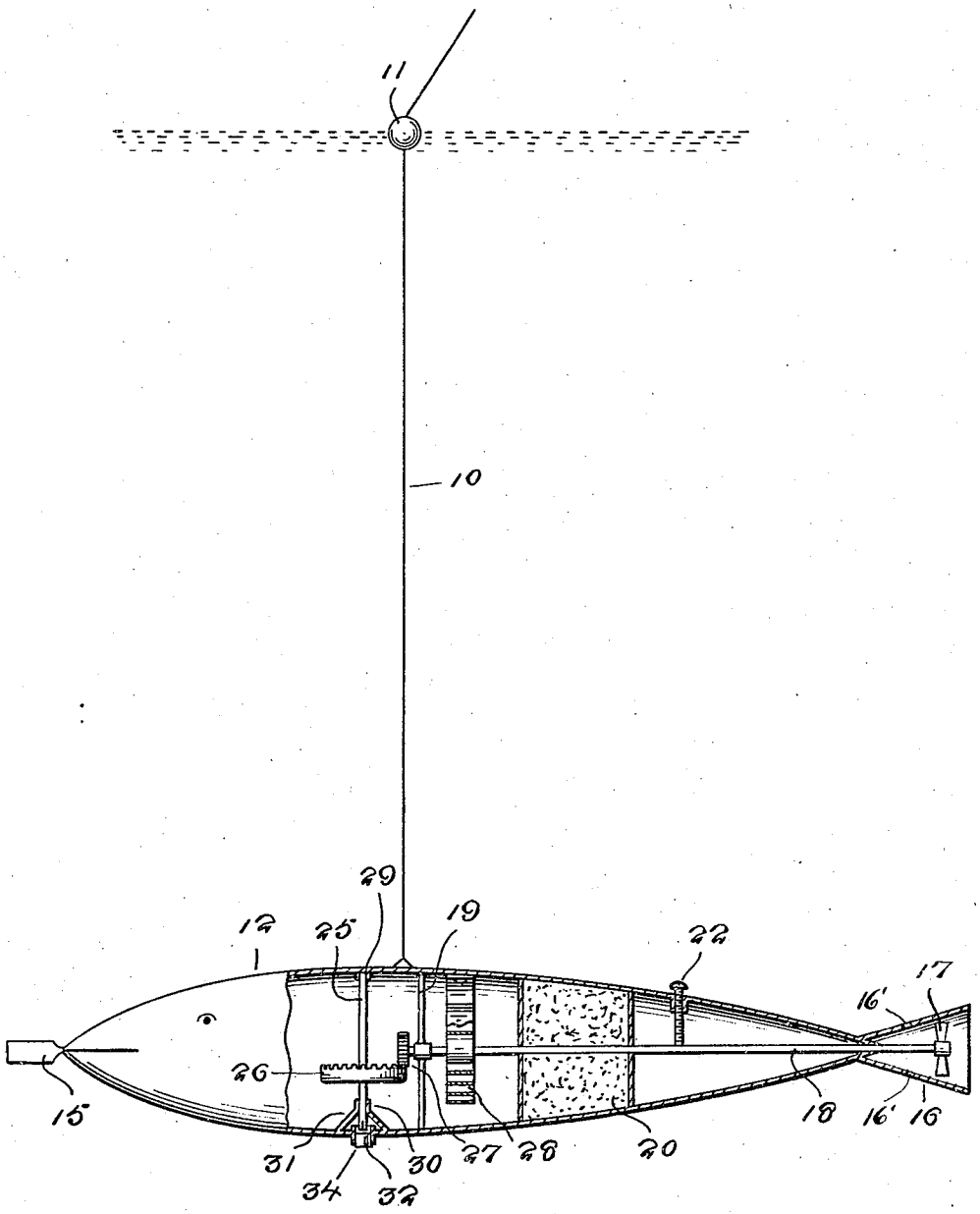
Feb. 27, 1923. 1,446,816

C. F. TAYLOR ET AL

ARTIFICIAL BAIT

Filed Sept. 23, 1919



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CALVIN F. TAYLOR AND EMITT SANDERS, OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA.

ARTIFICIAL BAIT.

Application filed September 23, 1919. Serial No. 325,738.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CALVIN F. TAYLOR and EMITT SANDERS, citizens of the United States, residing at Lakeland, in the county of Polk and State of Florida, have invented new and useful Improvements in Artificial Bait, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to artificial bait, and more particularly to that type of article designed to be self propelled.

The object is to provide a device which shall include a casing having the form of the body of a fish, or minnow, a propelling device projecting from the rear end of the casing, and a guiding device mounted at the front end of the casing, a spring operated motor being mounted within the casing, and operatively connected with the propeller.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of elements hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, the figure is a view, chiefly in longitudinal section.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the line to which the bait is attached is designated 10, a float 11 being fixed thereon at any suitable point. The casing 12 may have the form of a fish, such as a minnow, the casing being suitably colored if desired and provided with the representation of eyes, etc.

A guiding element projects from the forward portion of the casing and is in the form of a small blade which may readily be bent in the direction in which it is desired that the bait shall be guided when the motive power is applied. This guiding member is shown at 15. At the rear of the casing is a funnel shaped guard 16 having openings 16′ therein, the guard surrounding the propeller 17, and the element last named being mounted on shaft 18. The guard 16 obstructs the view of the propeller from the side, and prevents undue agitation of the water, but does not materially interfere with the function of the propeller, since there will necessarily be a body of water against which the propeller may act, due to the pressure of the fluid. The shaft is mounted in suitable bearings, one of the bearings being in an element 19 extending perpendicularly of the shaft. An oil packing 20 is mounted in any suitable position, for the purpose of making the major portion of the casing watertight, that is, preventing water entering by way of the rear bearing of the propeller shaft.

Suitable means are provided for retarding the movement of the shaft, after the spring referred to below has been wound, in order that any desired speed may be secured, within the limits of the mechanism. This adjustable element is designated 22, and it is obvious that it may be so tightened that the rotation of the shaft will be wholly prevented, if the spring is wound a considerable time before the device is placed in the water, or the line is cast. After it has been so tightened, it is released to the required degree to permit proper rotation of the shaft.

A shaft 25 extends perpendicularly with reference to the shaft first named and rigidly mounted thereon is a gear wheel 26 meshing with a pinion 27 on shaft 18, the ratio between the gear wheel and pinion being preferably nine to one, in order to permit of the rapid winding of the spring 28 encircling the shaft 18 and having connection with the latter, the spring supplying motive power for the shaft and the propeller.

One of the bearings for the shaft carrying the gear wheel 26 is designated 29, and the other bearing 30 is mounted in a brace or the like 31 connected with the inner wall of the casing. An opening 32 provides for the introduction of a key for engagement with the squared end of the shaft 25. After the spring has been wound, the opening is closed by means of a plug or the like designated 34. The casing is thus made water-tight, and the operative elements of the device are protected from rust.

The guiding element 15 having been bent by hand to insure the travel of the minnow in the direction desired, and the spring having been wound, and the plug 34 reinserted in the opening provided therefor, the adjustable speed controlling device is set to permit of the rotation of the propeller at the required speed, and the line and bait are cast in the usual manner.

What we claim is—

1. In a device of the class described, a casing, a longitudinal shaft mounted therein, a propeller carried by the shaft, means for rendering a portion of the casing watertight, means for driving the shaft and propeller, and guiding means carried by the casing said water-tight portion of the casing

housing the driving means and an additional water excluding element removable from the wall of the casing and permitting of the insertion of a winding device when removed.

2. In a device of the class described, a casing, a shaft mounted longitudinally therein, a propeller carried by the shaft, a guard member for the propeller, said guard member having continuous side walls obstructing the side view of the propeller, a spring for imparting movement to the shaft, means for winding the spring and means preventing the entrance of water through the wall of the casing adjacent to the winding means.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

CALVIN F. TAYLOR.
EMITT SANDERS.