Aug. 11, 1942. F. E. McCANN 2,292,709

BAIT CASTER'S BELT

Filed April 11, 1941

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

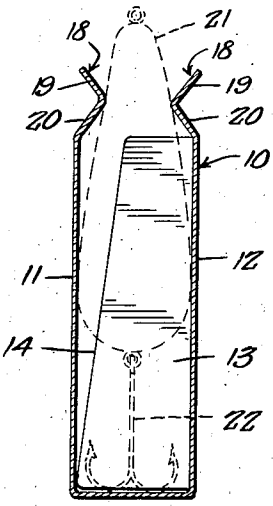


Fig. 3.

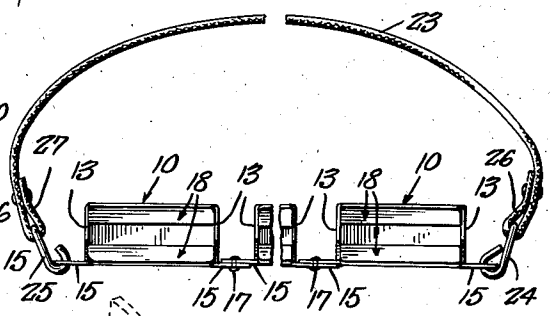


Fig. 4.

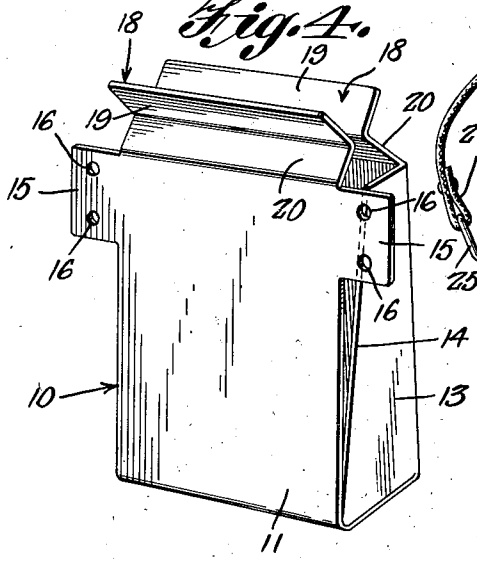
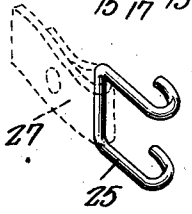


Fig. 5.



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WITNESS

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BAIT CASTER'S BELT

Fay E. McCann, Rochester, Pa.

Application April 11, 1941, Serial No. 388,164

1 Claim. (Cl. 224—5)

This invention relates to a bait caster's belt and has for an object to provide a waist belt including a plurality of metal pockets to receive individual plugs and prevent the gang hooks thereof from catching into the clothing.

A further object is to provide plug holding pockets, each formed of a single blank of resilient sheet metal provided with jaws having reversely inclined entrance and inner portions to permit easy insertion of the plug, hook foremost, into the pocket, and to permit easy withdrawal of the plug from the pocket without the hook catching in the jaws.

A further object is to provide apparatus of this character which will be formed of a few strong, simple and durable parts, which will be inexpensive to manufacture, and which will not easily get out of order.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, it being understood that various modifications may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claim without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bait caster's belt constructed in accordance with the invention showing plugs therein.

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view of one of the pockets.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary plan view of the belt.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of one of the pockets showing the tabs for securing the pocket to the next adjacent pockets.

Figure 5 is a detailed perspective view showing the fastener for securing one end of the series of pockets to the waist encircling web belt.

Referring now to the drawing in which like characters of reference designate similar parts in the various views, each pocket 10 is formed of a single blank of resilient sheet metal bent to provide a front wall 11, a rear wall 12, and two end walls 13, all of substantially the same height, the end walls having the front edges 14 sloped rearwardly and upwardly, see Figure 2. The front wall is provided with laterally extending tabs 15 at the upper end provided with openings 16 to receive rivets 17 for securing the pocket to the tabs of the next adjacent pockets, see Figure 3.

Each pocket is provided with a pair of jaws 18 formed integral respectively with the upper end of the front and the rear wall of the pocket. Each jaw has reversely bent entrance and inner portions 19 and 20, that is, each jaw is substantially V-shaped in cross section, see Figure 2, with the apex of the V extending into the space between the front and the rear wall.

A plug 21 may be inserted in the pocket, hook foremost, by simply passing the hook 22 downwardly through the space between the jaws 18 and forcing the body of the plug downwardly to spread the jaws open as the plug progresses downwardly in the pocket, the jaws, by virtue of their resiliency, moving toward each other to follow the tapered contour of the plug at the end to which the fishing line is secured, to hold the plug securely against accidental dislodgment from the pocket. To withdraw the plug, it is simply necessary to pull the plug upwardly to again spread the jaws apart so that the body of the plug may be withdrawn from between the jaws, to be followed by the hook passing through the space between the apices of the V-shaped jaws.

A web belt 23, see Figure 3, is provided at one end with a closed hook 24 which is engaged through the openings 16 of the tab of the pocket of one of the terminal pockets of the series. The other end of the web belt is provided with an open hook 25, similar to the hook 24, see Figure 5, adapted to be removably engaged in the opening 16 of one of the tabs of the other terminal pocket of the series of pockets. Both hooks are carried by respective loops 26 and 27 formed on the ends of the web belt 23. The web belt of course is of sufficient length to pass around the back of the wearer at the waist, while the pockets form a continuation of the belt around the stomach of the wearer with the tabs 15 disposed outwardly so as not to catch in the clothing.

From the above description, it is thought that the construction and operation of the invention will be fully understood without further explanation.

What is claimed is:

In a bait caster's belt, a plug holding pocket formed from a single blank of resilient sheet metal bent to provide a front wall, a rear wall, end walls integral with the rear wall but free from the front wall, all of substantially the same height, the end walls having the front edges sloped rearwardly and upwardly to permit the front wall to yield toward the rear wall when the belt is tightened about the waist of the wearer, tabs extending laterally from the upper end of the front wall for securing the pocket to the tabs

of similar pockets to form the front portion of a fisherman's waist belt, and a pair of jaws formed integrally respectively with the upper end of the front wall and the upper end of the rear wall of the pocket, each jaw being substantially V-shaped in vertical section with the apex of the V extending toward the median plane of the pocket, said jaws and the front wall being resilient to permit easy insertion of a plug into the pocket and removal of a plug from the pocket between the jaws, and a flexible belt adapted to engage said tabs and secure the pocket to the waist of the wearer.

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