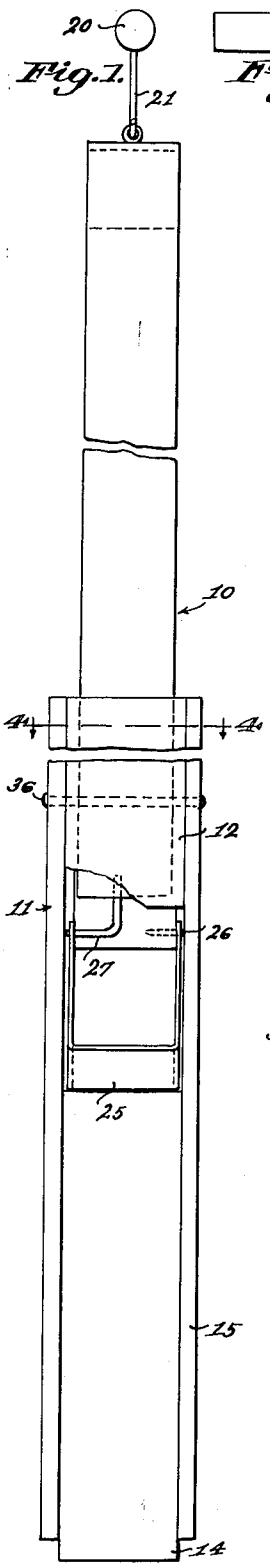
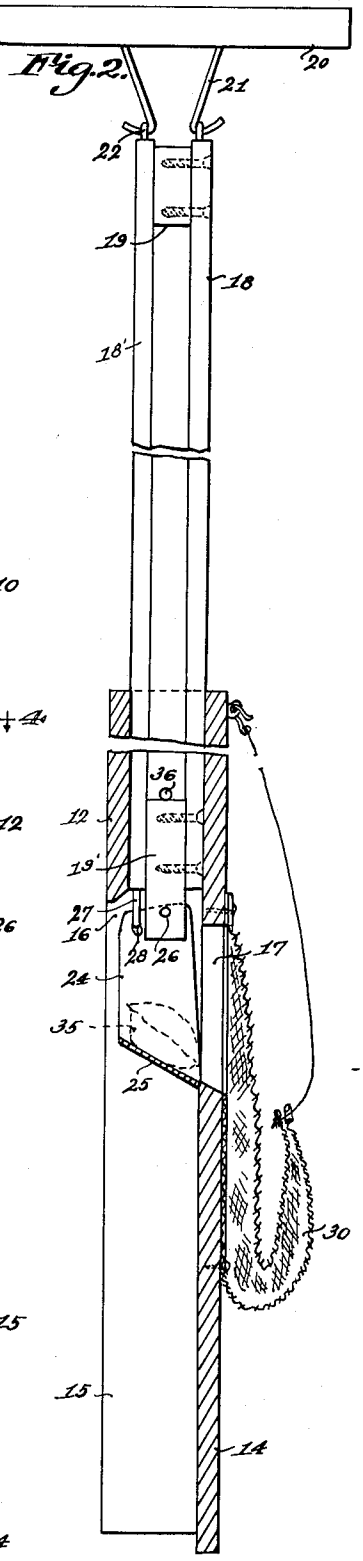
March 6, 1956 J. T. PICKERING 2,737,007

PICK-UP DEVICE

Filed June 17, 1954





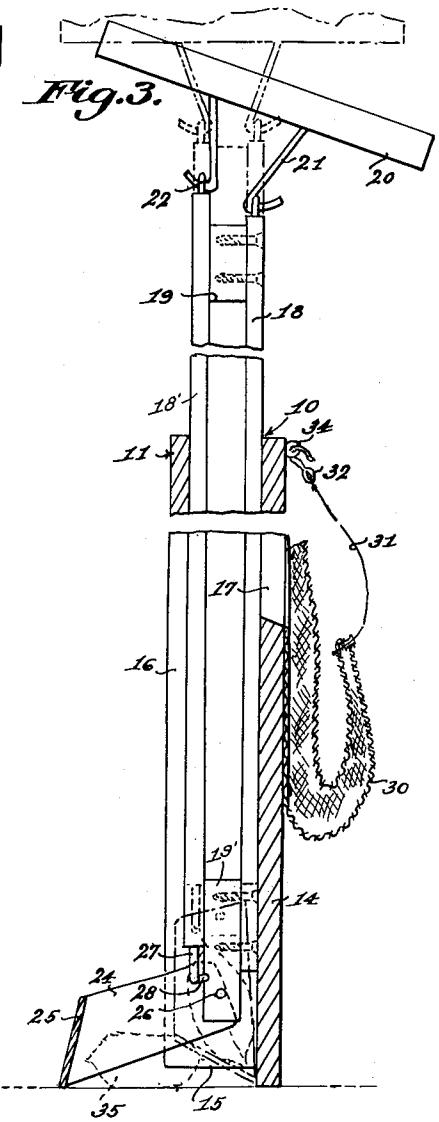
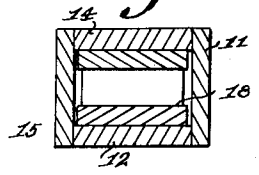


Fig. 4.



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PICK-UP DEVICE

James T. Pickering, Charlottesville, Va.

Application June 17, 1954, Serial No. 437,488

4 Claims. (Cl. 56—328)

This invention relates to a pick-up device and more particularly to a pick-up device for picking up pecans, loose nuts or other substantially solid small articles from the ground on which they have fallen or otherwise come to rest.

It is a primary object of this invention to provide a manually actuated pick-up device of the kind to be more particularly described hereinafter which is easily and readily manipulatable by a person bending his body and thus increasing the quantity of pick-up work which the person can accomplish in a given period of time without undue strain upon himself.

It is another object of this invention to provide a pick up device of this kind which is light in weight having movable parts which are moved relative to each other by a hand of the person using the device for both moving the scoop which engages underneath an article to be picked up and for discharging the article.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a pick-up device of this kind which is light in weight and easy to operate whereby the device may be readily manufactured at an economical cost and used by a person with very little skill or knowledge and training in mechanical movements.

Other and further objects and advantages of the invention will be hereinafter described and the novel features thereof defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary front elevation, partly broken away, of a pick-up device constructed according to my invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary side elevation, partly broken away and partly in longitudinal section, with the sliding elements in position for discharging an article picked up.

Fig. 3 is the fragmentary side elevation of Fig. 2, but with the sliding elements in position to pick up the article.

Fig. 4 is a transverse section through the device taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Heretofore it has been the custom for persons gathering pecans, nuts or other substantially solid articles on the ground to bend over to pick them up for accumulation in a receptacle. This work of the collector has been unusually hard and the production accomplished by the person has been limited by his physical ability. It is with the thought in mind of increasing the production of the collectors of such articles that I have devised the article pick-up device of this invention. Using my article pick-up device it is unnecessary for the collector to stoop or bend over to collect all of the pecans or a nut which he desires.

The article pick-up device, designated generally by the reference numeral **10**, is constructed according to my invention, to be carried about and actuated by the hands of the user for picking up and collecting pecans or other articles from the ground for transfer to a common receptacle usually located at a distance.

The article pick-up device **10** includes an elongated

open ended tube **11** which may be formed of metal or of wooden strips as shown in the drawings.

The open ended tube **11** includes a front wall **12**, a rear wall **14** spaced from the front wall and connected thereto by oppositely disposed longitudinally extending side walls **15**. The front wall **12** extends from the top of tube **11** downwardly part way only, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2 so as to leave an opening **16** in the lower part of tube **11**, to accommodate scoop **24**.

The rear wall **14** has an opening **17** intermediate the length thereof in spaced relation to the lower and the upper ends of the tube **11** and below the level of opening **16**.

A pair of rods **18** and **18'** are slidable in the tube along the length thereof and there is provided a spacer block **19** secured to the rod **18** for holding the other rod **18'** in horizontally spaced relation so that both of the rods **18** may be slid together or separately along the length of the tube **11**.

To accomplish this selective movement of the rods there is provided a transversely extending handle **20** which is pivotally connected to the upper ends of the rods outwardly from the upper end of the tube **11**. Pins **21** are dependingly connected at one end to the handle **20** and engage through eyes **22** fixed to the ends of the rods. In this way the handle **20** may be disposed substantially above the upper ends of the rods and hingedly connected thereto. The lower end of each of the pins **21** is shaped in the form of a hook which is engageable in one of the eyes **22** so that the handle **20** may be in a position perpendicular to the length of the rods or at an angle thereto. When the handle **20** is moved from a position perpendicular to the rods to an angular position relative thereto the rods are moved relative to each other. By pulling on the handle **20** in its horizontal position perpendicular to the rods the rods may be moved along the length of the tube **11** for the reason to be described hereinafter.

The scoop **24** is pivotally connected to lower spacer block **19'** on the rod **18** adjacent rear wall **14** by a hinge pin **26** at one end of the open end of the scoop **24**. An actuating pin **27** connects the other rod **18'** for moving the scoop **24** to the various positions desired during the use of the pick-up device.

The scoop **24** is formed with an inclined bottom wall **25** remote from the open end thereof and remote from the hinge pins and hinge actuating pin. The inclined bottom wall and the side walls of the scoop are adapted to engage about a pecan or other nut to be picked up when the scoop is extended outwardly from the tube **11** in the position shown in full lines in Fig. 3 of the drawings.

The end of the actuating hinge pin **27** engageable with the scoop **24** remote from the hinge pin **26** is bent for engagement within an elongated hole **28** of the scoop **24**. This elongated hole **28** will provide for the change of the positions of the scoop **24** when the scoop is positioned longitudinally of the tube as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

A bag **30**, formed of paper or some flexible material, is connected to the tube **11** on the rear wall **14** and the open end of the bag **30** is secured about the periphery of the intermediate hole or opening **17** with the closed end of the bag depending therefrom.

A flexible cord **31** is connected to the closed end of the bag **30** having the end of the cord remote from the bag secured to a hook **32** which is engagable in an eye **34** carried by the tube above the opening **17**. The bag **30** may be folded along its length by raising up the closed end thereof by means of the cord **31** when the bag **30** is emptied of the material contained therein.

In the drawings there is shown a pecan **35** which will be picked up by the article pick-up device **10** before the

pecan is moved, by gravity, outwardly through the intermediate opening **17**.

In the use and operation of the pick-up device **10**, described above, the tube **11** is positioned vertically upstanding with one end adjacent to the ground on which the pecan **35** is located at the time when it is desired to pick up the pecan therefrom. The rods are initially extended from the lower end of the tube and then the handle **20** is inclined relative to the rods at which time the scoop **24** is extended outwardly from both the rods and the tube **11**. The handle **20** is held in the hand with the thumb and one finger extended, if desired, along front rod **18'** to steady the device. However, when the bottom end of rear wall **14** touches the ground, this is hardly necessary. Furthermore, if desired, the other hand can also hold the upper end of tube **11**.

The pecan **35** to be picked up is then engaged within the confines of the looped open ended scoop **24**. Then the rods and scoop **24** are slid within the tube **11** high enough to dispose the pecan, which has been picked up, adjacent to the intermediate opening **17**. The pecan will then roll down the inclined end or bottom **27** of the scoop outwardly through the intermediate opening **17** and into a bag which is secured to the tube as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

When the bag **30** has been sufficiently filled with pecans or other nuts the bag **30** may be released from the tube so that the nuts within the tube can be disposed in a collecting box or other container for which the pecans have been picked up.

The upward movement of the rods is limited by a stop pin **36** which is secured transversely of the tube at a position where the lowermost spacer block **19** can engage the stop pin with the scoop adjacent to the discharge opening **17**.

While the specific details of one embodiment of this invention have been herein shown and described, the invention is not confined thereto as changes and alterations may be made without departing from the spirit and scope thereof as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A pick-up device of the kind described comprising an elongated open ended tube open longitudinally thereof on one side adjacent the lower end, said tube having a discharge opening intermediate the length thereof on the opposite side, a pair of parallel spaced apart rods longitudinally slidable in said tube and relative to each other, a handle pivotally connected to said rods at their upper ends adjacent to and outwardly of said tube for sliding said rods in said tube, an article engaging scoop pivotally connected at one end thereof to each of said rods, so that when the scoop is adjacent the longitudinal opening, tilting of the handle causes relative movement of the rods and the scoop to swing outwardly, the scoop in the outward position being open on the lower side.

2. The device of claim 1, in which one rod is adjacent the longitudinal opening, and the other rod is adjacent the discharge opening.

3. The device of claim 2, in which the scoop is slidable upwardly to a point adjoining the discharge opening.

4. The device of claim 3, comprising also a receptacle attached to the tube and with an opening over the discharge opening.

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