Dec. 24, 1940. C. B. PRESCOTT 2,226,324

NET MENDING TOOL

Filed April 7, 1939

Fig. 1.

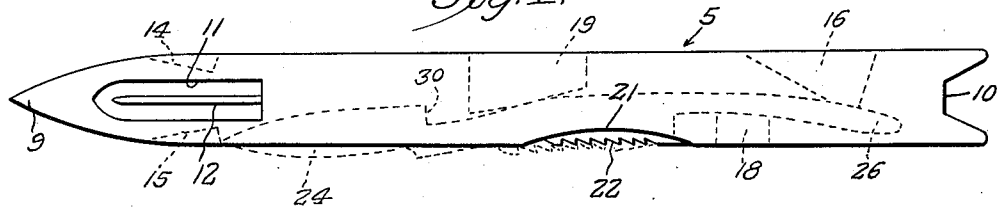


Fig. 2.

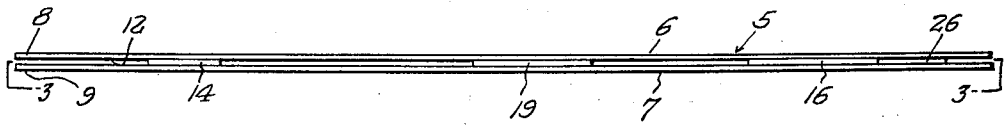
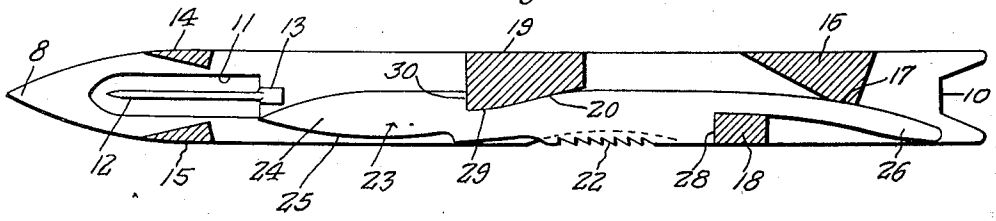


Fig. 3.



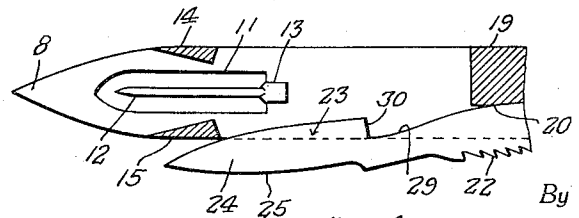


Fig. 4.

Inventor

C. B. Prescott,

By Clarence A. O'Brien and Hyman Berman

Attorneys

Patented Dec. 24, 1940 2,226,324

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,226,324

NET MENDING TOOL

Charlie B. Prescott, Oriental, N. C.

Application April 7, 1939, Serial No. 266,588

3 Claims. (Cl. 30—162)

My invention relates generally to net mending tools, and particularly a tool of this character combining the features of the ordinary net mending needle, with a knife employed in the net mending operations, and an important object of my invention is to provide a unitary device of the character indicated which is relatively inexpensive to manufacture, is practical, and saves considerable time and labor in the net mending operations.

Other important objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from a reading of the following description taken in connection with the drawing, wherein for purposes of illustration I have set forth a preferred embodiment of my invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a general side elevational view of the embodiment showing the blade in dotted lines in operative position.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view taken through Figure 2 approximately centrally and at one side of the blade and showing the blade in a retracted position.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view similar to Figure 3 but showing the blade in a partly removed position.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the numeral 5 generally designates the tool which is composed of a pair of similar side plates 6 and 7 which terminate at their front ends in points 8, 9 and at their opposite ends in fish-tail forms providing notches 10, elongated openings 11 being formed in the side plates adjacent the points. The points 8 and 9 are sufficiently closely spaced to act as a single point in the net mending portions, and projecting longitudinally in the openings 11 is the pointed needle 12 which is fastened as indicated by the numeral 13 to the side plates at the inner end of the openings 11. Spacing and securing blocks 14, 15, at the top and botttom of the openings 11 secure the two side plates 6 and 7 together at their point. An additional triangular spacing and securing member 16 located adjacent the notches 10 connects the side members 6 and 7 together and has a slanting surface 17 whose purpose is to be described. Below and axially inwardly spaced from the element 16 is another spacing and securing element 18, and to the left of this and above the element 18 is the spacing and securing member 19 which has a cam surface 20 on its underside. Both of the side members 6 and 7 are curvedly notched as indicated by the numeral 21 to expose the friction grip or toothed portions 22 on the knife which is generally designated 23.

The knife 23 is of longitudinally elongated form and of a thickness to slide between the side plates 6 and 7, the knife having a locust leaf-shaped head 24 having the cutting edge 25, and the inner side of the head opposite the cutting edge 25 is extended in a gently curved manner toward the right as indicated in Figure 3 and terminates in a relatively narrow spring material part 26 which slidably bears against the surface 17 of the element 16, the opposite edge of the part 26 also bearing on the top of the element 18, whereby a combined spring and friction resistance is present eliminating undue and unwanted shifting of the knife relative to the side plates 6 and 7, while permitting a limited amount of shifting of the knife by application of the thumb to the exposed portion 22 of the knife. The narrow spring portion 26 terminates in a stop shoulder 28 which is adapted to bear against the axially inward side of the element 18 so as to arrest retraction of the knife in a right hand direction, but permitting the knife sufficient movement in that direction to restore the knife to a concealed position such as is illustrated in Figure 3 of the drawing. The inner edge of the knife is notched as indicated by the numeral 29 to cooperate with the cam surface 20 on the element 19 and to provide a stop engagement of the shoulder 30 defined by the notch with the left hand side of the spacing and securing element 19. The spacing and connecting element 19 also acts to prevent the knife from moving laterally outwardly from between the side plates 6 and 7.

When it is desired to move the knife 23 from the retracted position shown in Figure 3, to the operative position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 in which the cutting edge 25 is exposed beyond the adjacent edges of the side plates 6 and 7, the thumb of the operator is applied to the roughened portion 22 and the knife pushed in a left hand direction as seen in Figure 3, whereupon the cam portion 29 will ride down along the cam surface 20 of the element 19 and cause the head of the knife to move partially out from between the side plates 6 and 7, in which position the cutting edge 25 may be applied to the work. The combined friction and tension exerted by the spring part 26 of the knife blade on the elements 16, 18 and 19 hold the blade in the operative position. The blade may be completely removed for sharpening or replacement by pushing the same beyond the operative position to, and beyond, the position illustrated in Figure 3, whereat the blade

may be pulled from between the side plates. To replace the blade, the spring part **26** is inserted between the side plates and between the elements **19**, **16**, and **18** and pushed home with the rounded terminal of the part **26** riding along the slanting surface **17** of the element **16** followed by the part **26** itself. Inasmuch as the frictional and tensional action of the part **26** holds the blade in the desired position all of the fingers of the operator's hand are free to work the tool as a whole.

Although I have shown and described herein a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be definitely understood that I do not desire to limit the application of the invention thereto, and any change or changes may be made in the materials and in the structure and arrangement of the parts, within the spirit of my invention and the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A net mending tool comprising a body having a working point at its forward end, said body being formed with a longitudinal recess opening through a longitudinal edge thereof, a knife mounted substantially entirely within said recess longitudinally inwardly from said working point, assembling means mounting said knife for longitudinal movement toward and away from said working point, and means operative to project the forward end portion of said knife in a lateral direction beyond said longitudinal edge as the knife is moved forwardly so as to expose the knife for cutting in a position immediately adjacent to said working point, said longitudinal edge of the body being formed with a cut out portion, and said knife having an operating element exposed by said cut out portion, said means comprising a cam surface within said recess with which a portion of the knife is engageable.

2. A net mending tool comprising a body having a working point at its forward end, said body being formed with a longitudinal recess opening through a longitudinal edge thereof, a knife mounted substantially entirely within said longitudinal recess, assembling means mounting said knife for longitudinal movement toward and away from said working point, cam means within said recess operative to project the forward end portion of said knife in a lateral direction as the knife is moved toward said working point so as to expose the knife beyond said longitudinal edge for cutting in a position immediately adjacent to said working point, said longitudinal edge of the body being formed with a cut out portion, and said knife having an operating element exposed by said cut out portion, said assembling means comprising laterally spaced elements within said recess and between which portions of said knife are slidably disposed, said knife having a spring part frictionally engaged between two of said laterally spaced elements to resist unwanted movement of the knife relation to said body.

3. A net mending tool comprising a body formed of a pair of elongated side plates terminating at their forward ends in working points, blocks spacing and connecting said side plates, some of said blocks being laterally spaced with respect to each other, a longitudinally movable knife disposed between said side plates and having a spring part frictionally slidable between two of said laterally spaced blocks whereby unwanted movement of the knife relative to said body is prevented, one of said blocks having a cam surface engaged by the laterally inward edge of said knife whereby forward movement of the knife produces laterally outward projection of the forward end of the knife to a point alongside of said working points.

CHARLIE B. PRESCOTT.