Oct. 24, 1933. R. P. WARNER 1,932,237

DEVICE FOR USE IN CATCHING EARTH WORMS, INSECTS, AND THE LIKE

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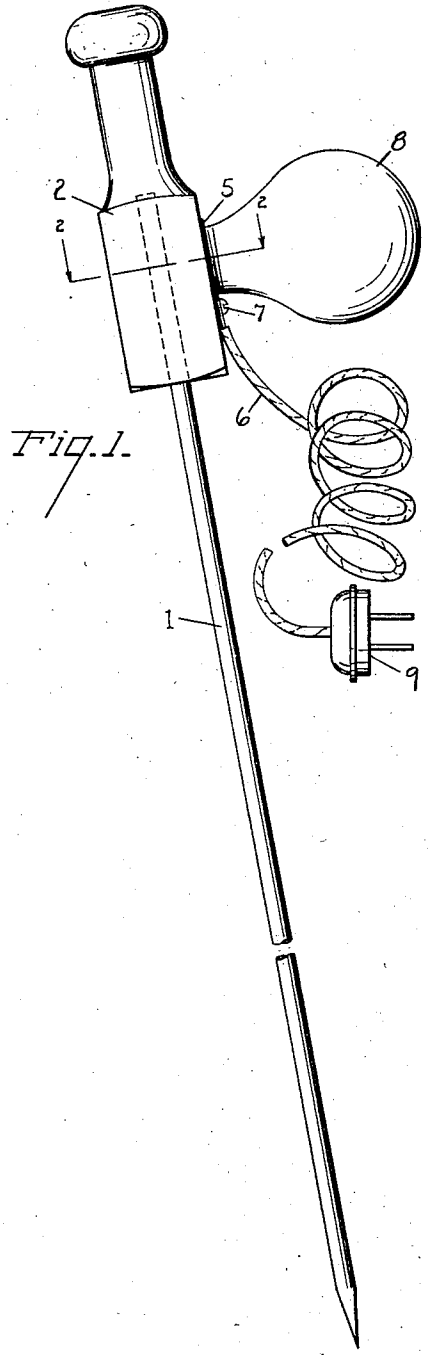


Fig. 1.

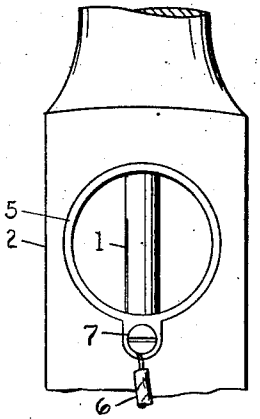


Fig. 3.

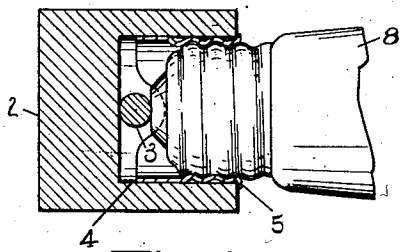


Fig. 2.

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DEVICE FOR USE IN CATCHING EARTH WORMS, INSECTS, AND THE LIKE

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7 Claims. (Cl. 175—311)

The main object of this invention is to provide a device for use in catching earth worms and insects, such as ants, grubs and the like, which is efficient and at the same time safe and convenient to use.

Objects pertaining to details and economies of my invention will definitely appear from the description to follow. The invention is defined in the claims.

A structure which embodies the features of my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of my device, a portion of the earth rod or prong being broken away and a portion also of the circuit wire being broken away.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged side elevation looking from the right of Fig. 2, the lamp being omitted.

Referring to the drawing, the rod 1 is of metal, preferably sharpened to facilitate pushing or driving into the ground, and is of such cross section that it is not likely to be bent. The handle 2 is formed of wood or other non-electrical conducting material and has a longitudinal bore 3 into which the rod is secured. The handle also has a transverse bore-like recess 4 which intersects the bore for the rod so that the rod extends into or across the recess 4.

A threaded lamp socket 5 is secured in the recess 4, the handle constituting an insulated support therefor. This socket is insulated by the handle from the rod 3. The single circuit wire 6 is connected to the socket 5 through the binding post or screw 7. This circuit wire is flexible and preferably of considerable length so that it may be plugged into a socket, in a residence, for example, and the device used on the lawn.

The lamp 8 may be of standard type and is threaded into the socket 5 so that it may be adjusted into engagement with the rod 3 as shown in Fig. 2, thereby closing the circuit or connecting the rod to the circuit wire 6. The circuit wire 6 is of the single wire type, or, at least, only one wire is connected to the socket. The lamp constitutes a switch member and when adjusted to switch closing position is also in the circuit so that it constitutes an illuminating means and a visible means for determining when the switch is closed, assuming, of course, that the plug 9 is engaged in a socket.

This provides a safety factor as the operator is made visibly aware when the circuit is closed and the current on.

The rod is inserted into the ground, the earth acting as one element of the circuit. With the earth sufficiently moist the current is evident for a considerable area around the rod, and this will drive earth worms and insects to the surface; or, if sufficiently strong current is employed they may be destroyed.

The device is very convenient to use, simple and economical.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the class described comprising a metal rod adapted to be inserted into the ground, a handle of non-conducting material having a longitudinal bore into which said rod extends and a transverse bore intersecting said longitudinal bore, said rod extending across said transverse bore, a threaded lamp socket arranged in said transverse bore and provided with a binding post, said socket being insulated from said rod, a circuit wire connected to said socket, and a lamp threaded into said socket to coact with said rod and constituting a switch for connecting said circuit wire to the rod.

2. A device of the class described comprising a rod of conducting material adapted to be inserted into the ground, a handle of non-conducting material for said rod, said handle having a socket recess into which said rod extends, a threaded lamp socket arranged in said recess and provided with an electrical connection, and a lamp threaded into said socket to coact with said rod and constituting a switch for connecting said electrical connection to said rod.

3. A device of the class described comprising a rod of conducting material adapted to be inserted into the ground, a handle of non-conducting material for said rod provided with a lamp socket constituting a circuit member, a lamp adjustable in said socket and adapted when adjusted to one position to engage said rod and thereby close the circuit and in another position to open the circuit.

4. A device of the class described comprising a rod of conducting material adapted to be inserted into the ground, a handle for said rod of non-conducting material, and electrical connections for said rod including a lamp adjustably mounted on said handle and constituting a switch for said electrical connections, the lamp being in the circuit when the connection to the rod is closed.

5. A device of the class described comprising a metal rod adapted to be inserted into the

ground, a handle of non-conducting material for said rod having a socket recess into which said rod extends, a threaded socket arranged in said recess and provided with an electrical connection, and a member threaded into said socket to coact with said rod and constituting a switch for connecting said electrical connections to said rod.

6. A device of the class described comprising a rod of conducting material adapted to be inserted into the ground, a handle for said rod of non-conducting material, a socket constituting a circuit member, and a member adjustable in said socket and adapted when adjusted to one position to engage said rod and thereby close the circuit.

7. A device of the class described, comprising in combination a rod of conducting material adapted to be inserted in the ground, a handle insulated from said rod, and a receptacle on said rod for receiving an electric light bulb to connect said rod in series circuit relation with a source of power.

ROE P. WARNER.