May 18, 1948. O. A. DIRKSEN 2,441,690

KNIFE HOLDER AND SHARPENER

Filed June 24, 1946 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

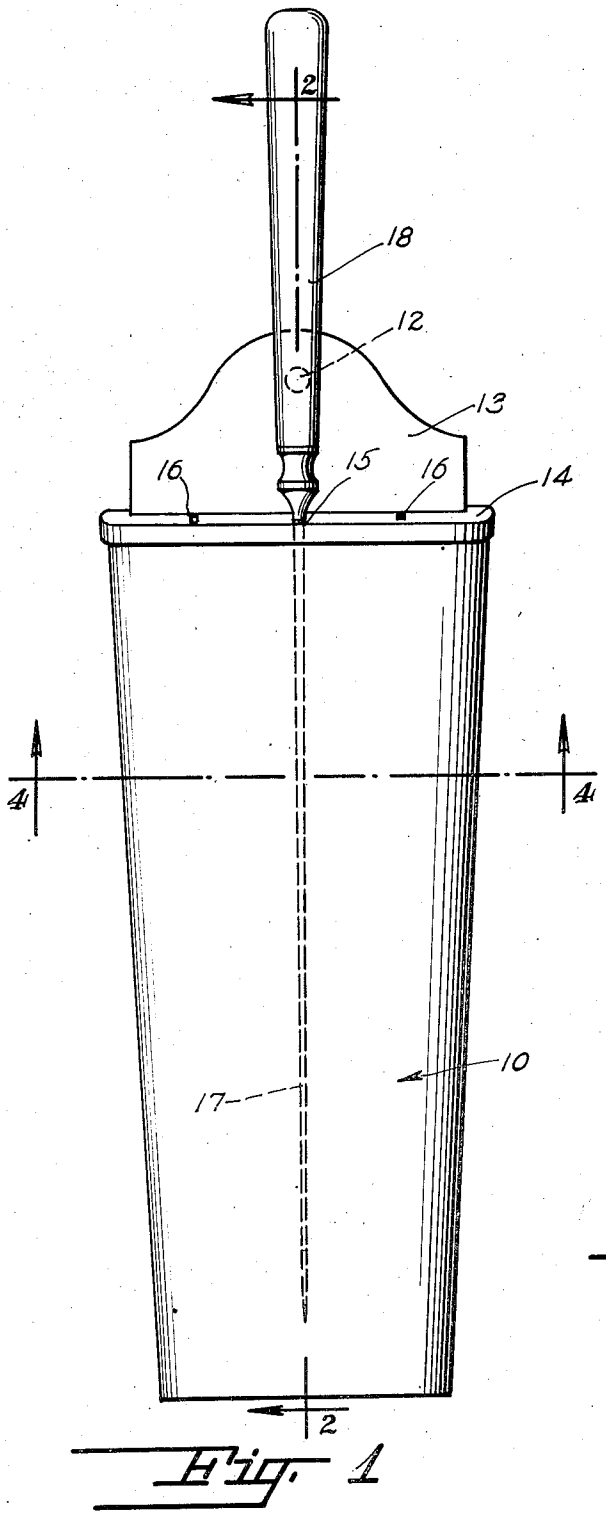


Fig. 1

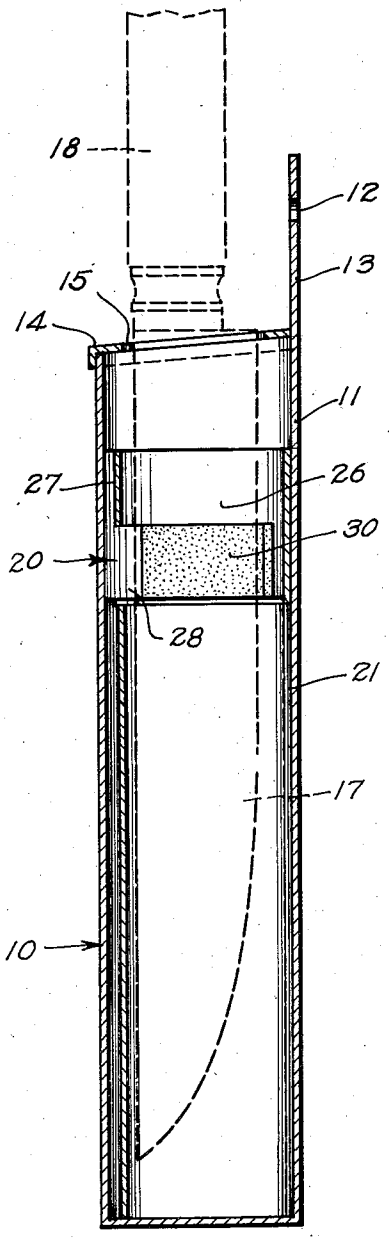


Fig. 2

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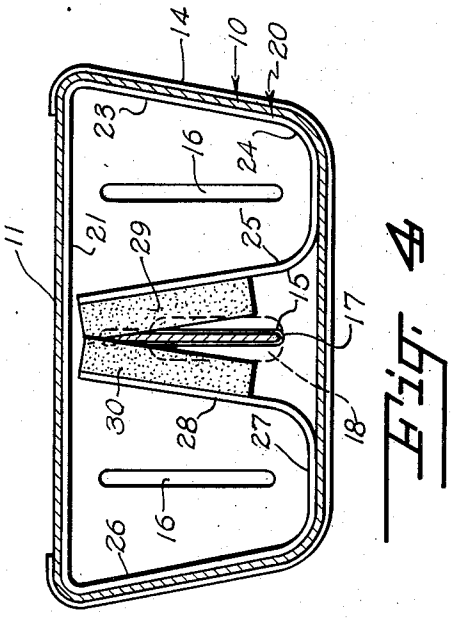


Fig. 4

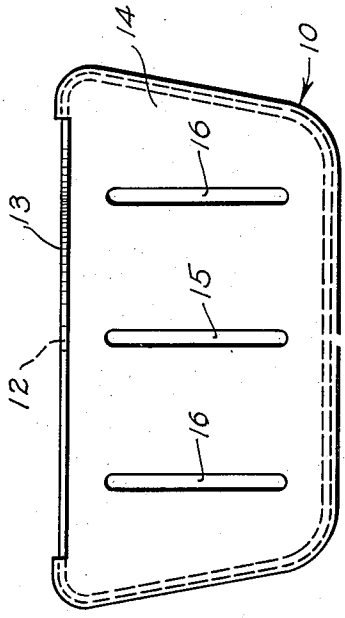


Fig. 3

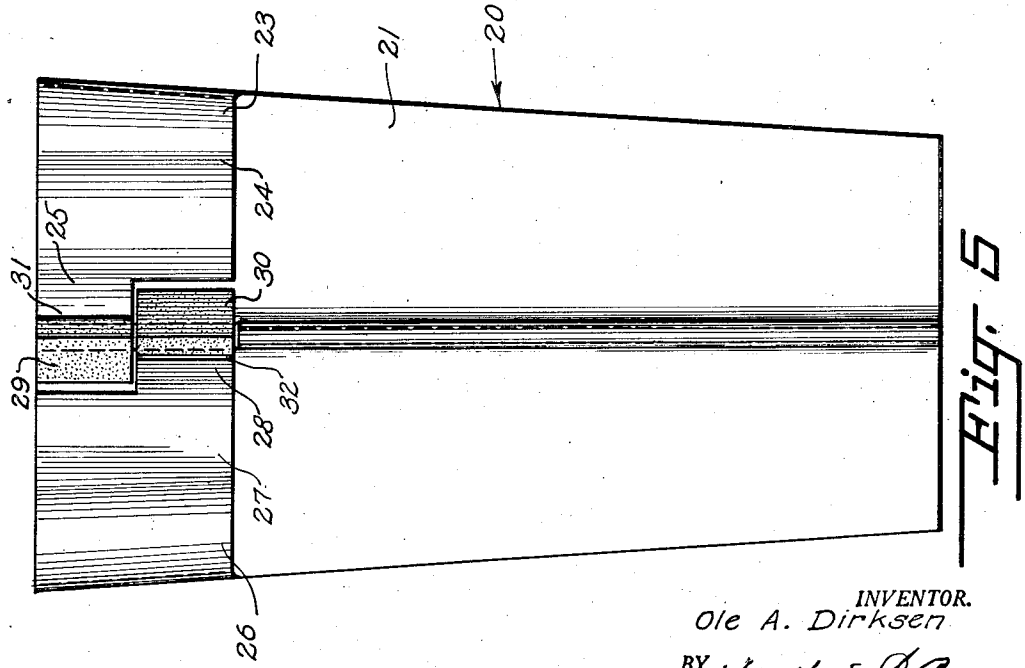


Fig. 5

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KNIFE HOLDER AND SHARPENER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 51—156)

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The present invention relates to a pocket or holder in which to deposit carving or butchers knives, when temporarily not in use, in combination with an appliance within the holder, whereby the knife becomes sharpened automatically every time the knife is deposited in or removed from the holder.

This holder is made in the shape of a deep bag or pocket adapted for hanging on a wall in a kitchen or butcher shop within easy reach of the user.

One object and the main advantage of this invention is that the sharpening element is always at hand and in the same place, so that no search or hunting for it is necessary when sharpening is needed, and since the knife is continually kept sharp, no time is lost for such operation.

Room for additional knives is also provided in the holder just for storing but without any sharpening facility and whenever any of said additional knives need sharpening, this can, of course, be done in the middle slit.

One great advantage of using this holder is that no knives are now permitted to lie around in reach of children and irresponsible persons that might be hurt.

Other objects and advantages will be made clear in the following description with the aid of the drawing, wherein like numerals refer to the same details in different views:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the holder;

Figure 2 is a side elevation in vertical section along line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken along line 4—4 of Figure 1; and

Figure 5 is a view in front elevation of the sharpener by itself.

In the drawing the holder or casing is denoted by reference numeral 10, made of tin plate or some suitable plastic material. It has preferably a straight flat back 11 to fit snugly against a wall from which the holder may be hung on a hook engaging a small opening 12 provided in the upward back extension 13.

The holder preferably tapers downwardly and is closed at the bottom. The length is sufficient to accommodate the length of the knife blade and a cover or lid 14 is fastened over the otherwise open top. This lid 14 is slightly inclined in downward direction and is provided with one main narrow slit 15 and two auxiliary slits 16, one on each side of the main slit.

These slits each have a width and length to accommodate a knife blade 17 allowing a slight

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play. As usual the handle 18 of the knife has greater cross section than its blade 17, so that when the blade is inserted in one of the slits 15 or 16, the knife will hang on its handle 18 from the lid 14 with the blade reaching down towards the bottom of the holder.

A short distance below the lid the sharpener 20 is located. The same consists of a straight rear plate portion 21, which lies flat against the back wall 11 of the holder 10. This plate has a medial, longitudinal forwardly projecting fold 22 from the bottom through the major portion of its length. The two walls formed by this fold form a sheath in which a knife is received. The bottom end of the fold rests on the bottom 10' of the casing 10 and assists in maintaining the device upright. Above the plane of the top end of fold 22, the sides of the plate are formed to provide wing strips 23 and 26. The strip 23 extends forwardly and is bent to contact with the right side wall of the holder 10 and is continued by an inwardly bent wing portion 24, which contacts with part of the front wall of the holder and finally terminates with a rearwardly bent finger 25 reaching towards the middle line of the rear portion 21. Similarly the other wing strip 26, portion 27, and finger 28 projects from the right edge of the top of the support. The entire support 20 is made of thin spring sheet material the free ends of the two fingers 25 and 28 are in different planes and are biased to move into crossing relation. As a consequence the sharpening blocks 29 and 30 are always touching a knife blade pushed between them as seen in Figure 4. The abrasive blocks, which may consist of emery stone, pieces of file or any other abrasive body, are firmly secured on the adjacent faces of the fingers between a pair of projecting ledges 31, 32 formed on said fingers.

With the holder hung from a hook on a wall adjacent a butcher's bench or a kitchen table, one or more knives may now be placed in the holder for immediate or subsequent use.

Evidently the blade 17 of a knife inserted through the slit 15 will now be rubbed by blocks 29, 30 on both sides along its entire length, when pushed down until stopped when its handle 18 strikes the top plate 14 of the holder. The same thing happens again when the knife is drawn up and down several times until its edge becomes sufficiently sharp. In order to increase the inward pressure of the shapening blocks 29, 30 the fingers 25, 28 may be located one above the other, so that they actually cross when free.

Accordingly the fingers will have more swing

or travel and thus give greater pressure against the knife blade 17.

It is to be understood that the invention as herein disclosed may be varied from the details described and shown without departure from the spirit of the subjoined claims.

I claim:

1. A knife holding and sharpening device of the character stated, comprising a relatively long casing having a top wall provided with a slot for the reception of a knife blade, a plate member removably supported within the casing against the rear side thereof, a pair of wing members formed integrally with the plate at opposite sides and extending forwardly from the plate, each of said wing members being continued in a front portion and a rearwardly directed resilient finger, said wings and the front portions thereof engaging adjacent walls of the casing to maintain the plate positioned in the casing, said fingers being disposed in rearwardly convergent relation upon opposite sides of the vertical plane of said slot, the fingers being in vertically spaced planes and biased to move into an overlapping relation, and an abrasive sharpening element carried by each finger upon the side thereof which is in opposed relation with the other finger.

2. A knife holder and sharpener of the character stated, comprising a relatively long casing having a top wall, back, side and front walls and a bottom wall, said top wall having a slot therein designed to receive the blade of a knife, a plate member disposed vertically within the casing against the back wall thereof, means forming a part of the plate member and engaging the bottom wall to maintain the plate member in upright position against the back wall, said plate member at its top end having formed integrally with the opposite longitudinal edges, forwardly projecting wings adapted to bear against the inner surfaces of the adjacent side walls, each of said wings being continued at its forward end in a portion designed to bear against the rear side of the front wall of the casing, each of said front wall engaging portions being continued in a rearwardly directed finger, said fingers being of a vertical width approximately half the vertical width of the portion of which it forms a part, the fingers being in vertically spaced planes and biased to assume a rearwardly converging overlapping relation, and sharpening elements secured to the adjacent faces of the fingers, the said fingers being positioned to have the vertical plane of the knife receiving slot pass centrally therebetween whereby a knife blade when extended downwardly through the slot will pass between and have contact with the adjacent faces of the sharpening elements.

3. A knife holder and sharpener of the character stated in claim 2, wherein the said means forming a part of the plate and engaging the bottom wall of the casing, comprises a fold forming a part of the material of the plate and extending longitudinally of the plate in the casing.

4. A knife holder and sharpener of the character stated in claim 2, wherein the said means forming a part of the plate and engaging the bottom wall of the casing, comprises a fold in the plate, extending longitudinally of the plate on a medial line, the fold providing two spaced portions between which the said plane of the slot passes whereby the fold provides a knife blade receiving sheath.

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