Jan. 9, 1923.

1,441,230

W. R. LEGGE.
DEPTH SOUNDER.
FILED JULY 19, 1921.

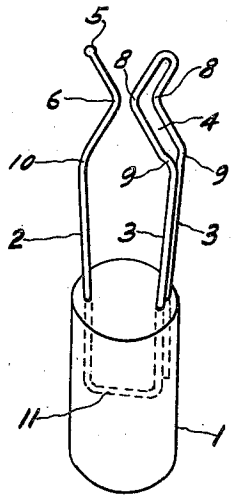


Fig. 1

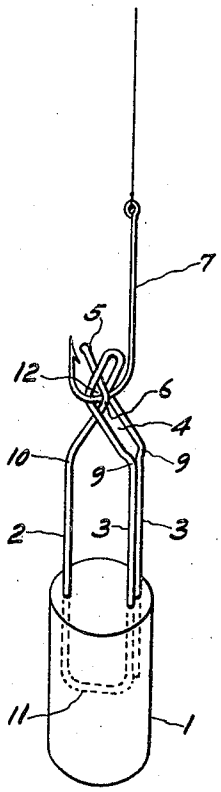


Fig 2

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Patented Jan. 9, 1923. 1,441,230

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. LEGGE, OF PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

DEPTH SOUNDER.

Application filed July 19, 1921. Serial No. 485,960.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. LEGGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pittsfield, in the county of Berkshire and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Depth Sounders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to depth sounding devices for use in sounding the depth of water for the purpose of fishing; and it contemplates the provision of a base and parallel bars which are so constructed and so connected to a base as to assure the free movement of the upper part of one bar with respect to the other bar so that they may easily and readily function together to engage a hook or other object. The bars are so formed that one bar is constructed with a loop and the other bar with a bent portion that may cooperate with the loop to form a tension eye in which may be inserted and held a hook without entailing the provision of a line knot or loop to hold the hook in place.

In many instances in which depth sounders are employed coil springs are used which necessitates the use of both hands to operate the device.

The main object of my invention is, therefore, to simplify the operation required to insert a hook in the depth sounder by operating the device with one hand only.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the depth sounder as it appears when not in use.

Figure 2 is a perspective view with the top or free ends of the parallel bars compressed to form a tension eye into which may readily and freely be inserted a hook or other similar device.

Referring by figures to the said drawings, 1 is a base or weight in which are cast a single bar 2 and two parallel bars 3. The bars 2 and 3 are preferably comprised in one continuous piece or wire, the bar 2 passing into the base 1 and being bent horizontally at 11 and then vertically, this vertical part emerging from the base 1 and being formed, by a return bend, into a loop 4 and the parallel bars or stands 3. The free end of the bar 2 is formed as a knob or is rounded so as to avoid sharp points. The bar 2 is bent at an obtuse angle inwardly at 10 and then outwardly at 6 to form an angular off-set, the angle of which may be any degree to suit the particular requirements. The strands of the loop 4 are similarly reversely bent to form a corresponding off-set at 8. By pressing the members 2 and 3 towards one another, the off-set in 2 may be caused to enter between the reversely off-set strands of the loop 4, the off-sets together thus forming an eye 12, into which the point of the fish hook 7 may be inserted, the hook being clamped by the resiliency of the rods 2 and 3, when the latter are released. For this purpose, the rods 2 and 3 are preferably made of spring steel.

Having thus described my invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A depth sounding weight comprising a metal base having two resilient rod-like members extending upwardly therefrom, said members being reversely and angularly off set towards one another at the upper ends, one member consisting of two strands between the off-sets of which the off set of the other member is adapted to enter when the two members are pressed towards one another, the two off-sets together, when the pressure thereon is sufficient, forming an eye, into which a suspending member may be inserted and gripped by the resiliency of the members, when the pressure thereon is reduced.

2. A sounding weight as specified in claim 1 in which the two members are formed as a single continuous wire the one-strand member being continuous at its lower end with a bend in the wire connecting with the corresponding end of one of the strands of the two-strand member, the other strand of said member being formed by the reverse bend in the wire, the base being cast about the lower portions of the wire thus bent.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM R. LEGGE.