July 19, 1949. J. L. BROWN 2,476,355

GUNSTOCK CARTRIDGE HOLDER

Filed March 30, 1948

FIG. 1.

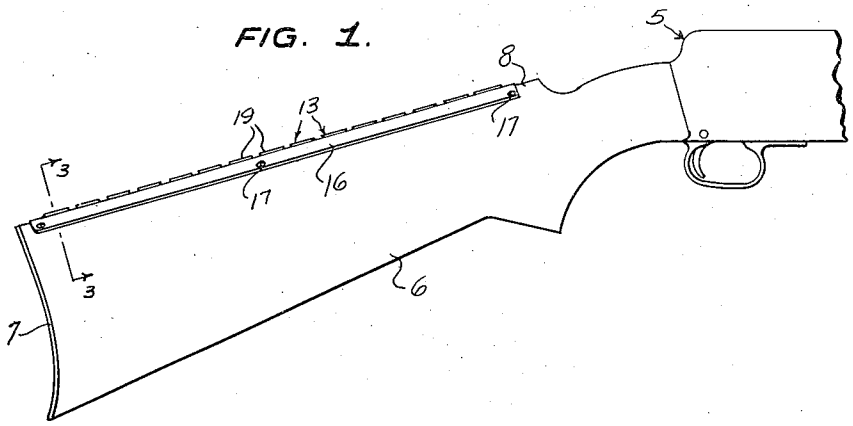


FIG. 2.

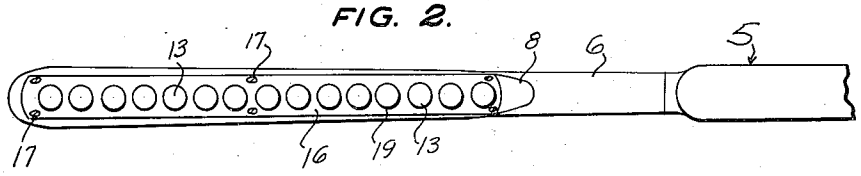


FIG. 3.

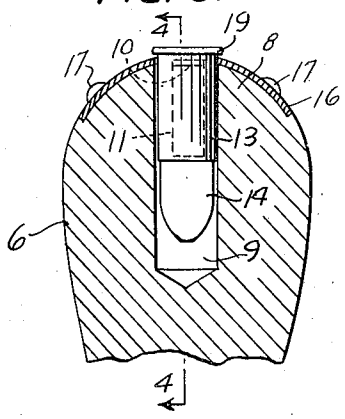
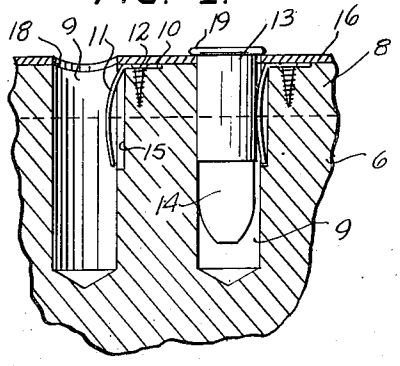


FIG. 4.



INVENTOR.

JOHN L. BROWN,

BY

McMorrow, Berman & Davidson

ATTORNEYS.

Patented July 19, 1949

2,476,355

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,476,355

GUNSTOCK CARTRIDGE HOLDER

John L. Brown, Lacon, Ala.

Application March 30, 1948, Serial No. 18,000

1 Claim. (Cl. 42—71)

1

This invention relates to a cartridge holder for a 22-caliber, single-shot rifle, and particularly for the butt or stock of the rifle.

The main object of the invention is to provide the stock of a rifle with a special cartridge holder which enables the hunter using the rifle to insert a supply of cartridges into a portion of the stock thereof which retains the cartridges in unobtrusive, yet accessible, position for individually extracting them for use in loading the rifle.

Another object is to form the comb of the stock of a rifle into a plural receptacle for a group of cartridges which tend to remain suspended therein by force of gravity.

A further object is to have the comb or crest of a rifle stock provided with a series of recesses or receptacles for receiving a group of cartridges point down and having retaining springs for frictionally retaining the individual cartridges in place until deliberately withdrawn for use in the rifle.

It is also an object of the invention to have a cartridge holder of the indicated character which can be installed upon existing rifle stocks of any accepted form and of different sizes without having to resort to a new design of rifle stock.

It is, of course, likewise an object of the invention to have such a cartridge holder which is simple, effective and convenient and which improves the appearance of the rifle, while being reasonable in cost.

Other objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

In order to bring out more comprehensively the features of the invention, the latter is illustrated on the accompanying drawing forming part hereof, and in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a 22-caliber, single-shot rifle with the barrel broken off to reduce the view and emphasize the rifle stock forming the locale of the invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the same as seen from the top in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a transverse section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a longitudinal section taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

In the four views, the same reference numerals indicate the same or like parts.

Sportsmen well know that when out hunting or on a shooting range, it is often important to have convenient and speedy access to a supply of cartridges for reloading a rifle, and especially a 22-caliber, single-shot rifle. Sometimes cartridge belts are worn, or boxes of cartridges carried, and in this connection many makeshifts have been resorted to, but each of these methods of supplying the cartridges for frequent reloading of the rifle also entails inconveniences and even delays and loss of time. In fact, most of such expedients are extraneous with respect to the rifle used and complicate handling of the latter, which is obviously a serious matter not to be tolerated, if at all avoidable.

2

However, I have found it easily possible to provide a supply of cartridges for the rifle used by a hunter or sportsman which presents the cartridges in convenient and instantly accessible position while keeping the entire supply in such unobtrusive condition that no inconvenience or disadvantage is involved in any manner, as I shall now proceed to describe in detail.

In the practice of my invention, and referring now again to the accompanying drawings, a 22-caliber, single-shot rifle, generally indicated at 5, has a more or less conventional rifle butt or stock 6, at the rear end 7 of which is a concave portion adapted to be held against the shoulder when the rifle is aimed and fired. The comb or crest of the rifle stock is formed with a series of upwardly open bores or receptacles 9, 9, while at the upper edge of each bore is secured the anchoring end 10 of a pendent friction spring 11 by means of a screw 12 for engaging against the side of a cartridge 13 when the latter has been inserted with the bullet 14 pendently pointing downward, the spring serving to prevent accidental displacement of the cartridge in each case, but not preventing manual removal thereof when desired. Each spring is slightly recessed into the wood of the rifle stock and the adjacent side of each hole or receptacle has a spring recess 15 into which the pendent portion 11 of the corresponding spring will seat when the cartridge is inserted. If desired, tallow or some other lubricant may be introduced into the holes to lubricate the cartridge and/or the balls stored in the same.

In order to retain the cartridge receptacles or holes 9 in perfect condition and further prevent wear at the upper edges thereof, despite such lubrication, and also to insure perfect alignment of the entire series of cartridges to be carried in the rifle stock, the comb of the latter is capped by a transversely-arcuate metal strip or cap plate 16 secured to the stock by nails or screws 17, 17. This cap plate covers the spring portion 10 and securing screws 12, but has a series of holes or openings 18 registering with receptacles 9, so that the cartridge inserted into one of the latter will

be suspended therein with its rear flange 19 resting directly on this cap plate.

When the rifle stock is fully loaded up with a supply of cartridges, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, it is self-evident that as the cartridge is required for placing in the breech of the rifle, it is simply a mere twist of the wrist to remove a cartridge 13 by pulling it up out of one of the receptacles 9 and then placing it in the breech of the rifle in a conventional manner, when the rifle is instantly ready for aiming and firing. Such withdrawal of cartridges in succession is convenient, instantly and easily performed and does not produce any obtrusive or projecting portion or change in the outline of the rifle, nor in the handling of the same in any way, but rather falls naturally in line with the normal handling of said rifle.

Obviously, the rifle stock may be made of plastic or cast or formed metal, or of any other suitable material, and when of wood, the cap plate may be made of metal or plastic or other material. The cartridge holder may be applied to rifles of larger than 22-caliber, and still be within the spirit of the invention. Also, the number of bores or receptacles for the cartridges may be varied to suit the size of the rifle stock involved and the sizes of the receptacles gauged according to the particular size of the cartridges used on the rifle associated with the stock.

Manifestly, variations may be resorted to and parts and features may be modified or used without others within the scope of the appended claim.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim:

In a rifle stock cartridge holder associated with the stock of a rifle, and comprising a plurality of upwardly-open, cylindrical cartridge receptacles extending a limited distance down into said stock from the comb portion thereof for supporting a supply of cartridges in inverted position with the noses down, a cap plate attached to the comb of the rifle stock having a series of apertures registering with the upper openings of the cylindrical cartridge receptacles, and downwardly-directed resilient means in the latter for frictionally engaging with and retaining the cartridges in said cylindrical receptacles, the features which include having recessed seats upon the comb portion of said rifle stock beneath the cap plate adjacent to each upper opening of said cylindrical receptacles and adjoining downwardly-extending spring recesses in the side walls of the latter connecting with the recessed seats, having the resilient means forming depending springs adapted to extend down into the downwardly-extending spring recesses in the cylindrical receptacles with upper anchoring ends thereon bent at an angle thereto and individually secured in said recessed seats, having each cylindrical receptacle of substantially the same cross-sectional area as that of the corresponding aperture in said cap plate for suspending a cartridge therein by resting the rear flange of the cartridge upon the cap plate and having each cylindrical receptacle sufficiently deep to support the cartridge solely by its upper suspension from said cap plate with the bullet nose thereof spaced from the bottom of the cylindrical receptacle involved.

JOHN L. BROWN.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
84,651	Smith	Dec. 1, 1868
394,376	Kelton	Dec. 11, 1888
711,989	Marble	Oct. 28, 1902