

J. D. EASTMAN.  
CHALK LINE HOLDER.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1909.

947,892.

Patented Feb. 1, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

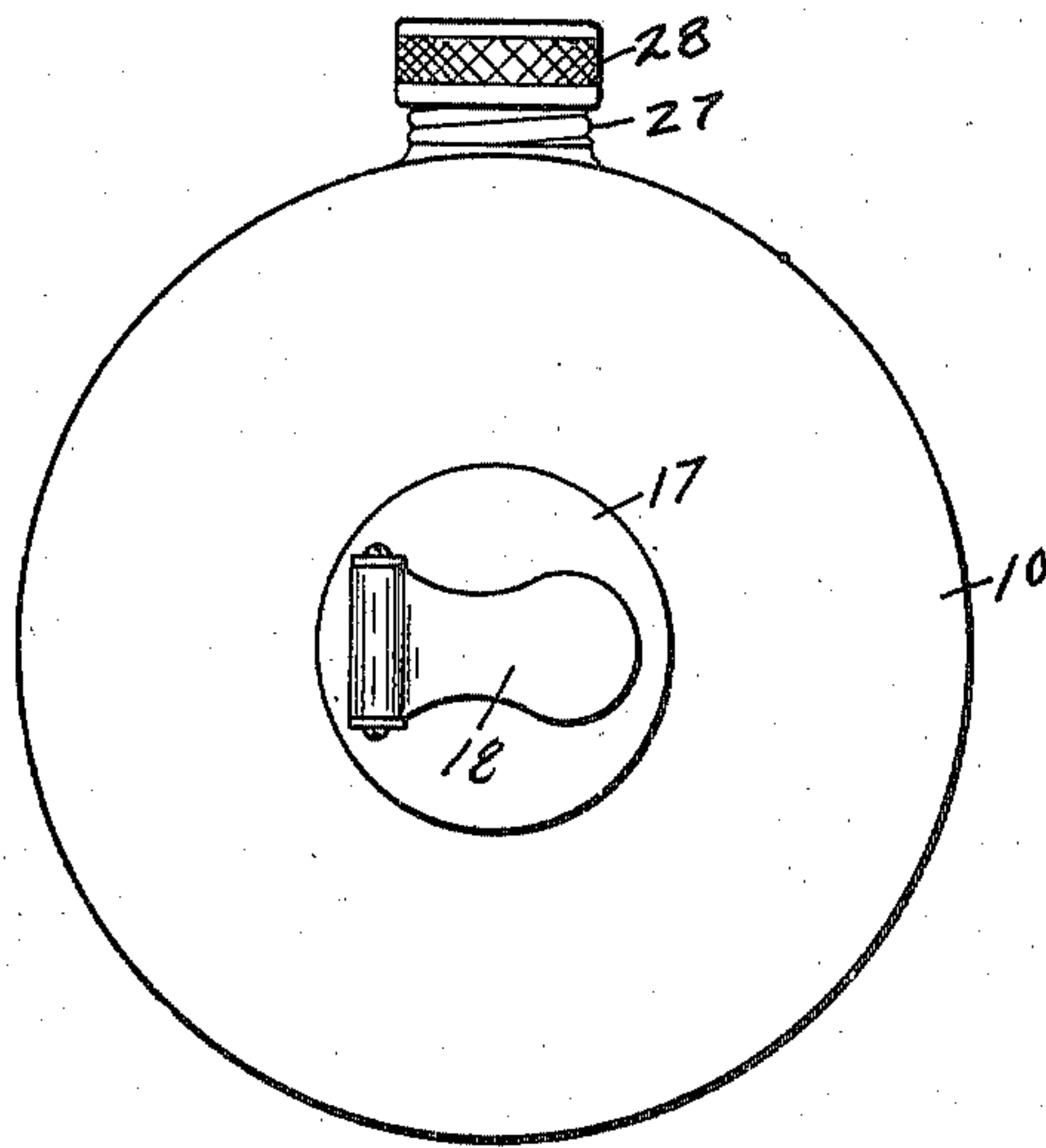


Fig 1.

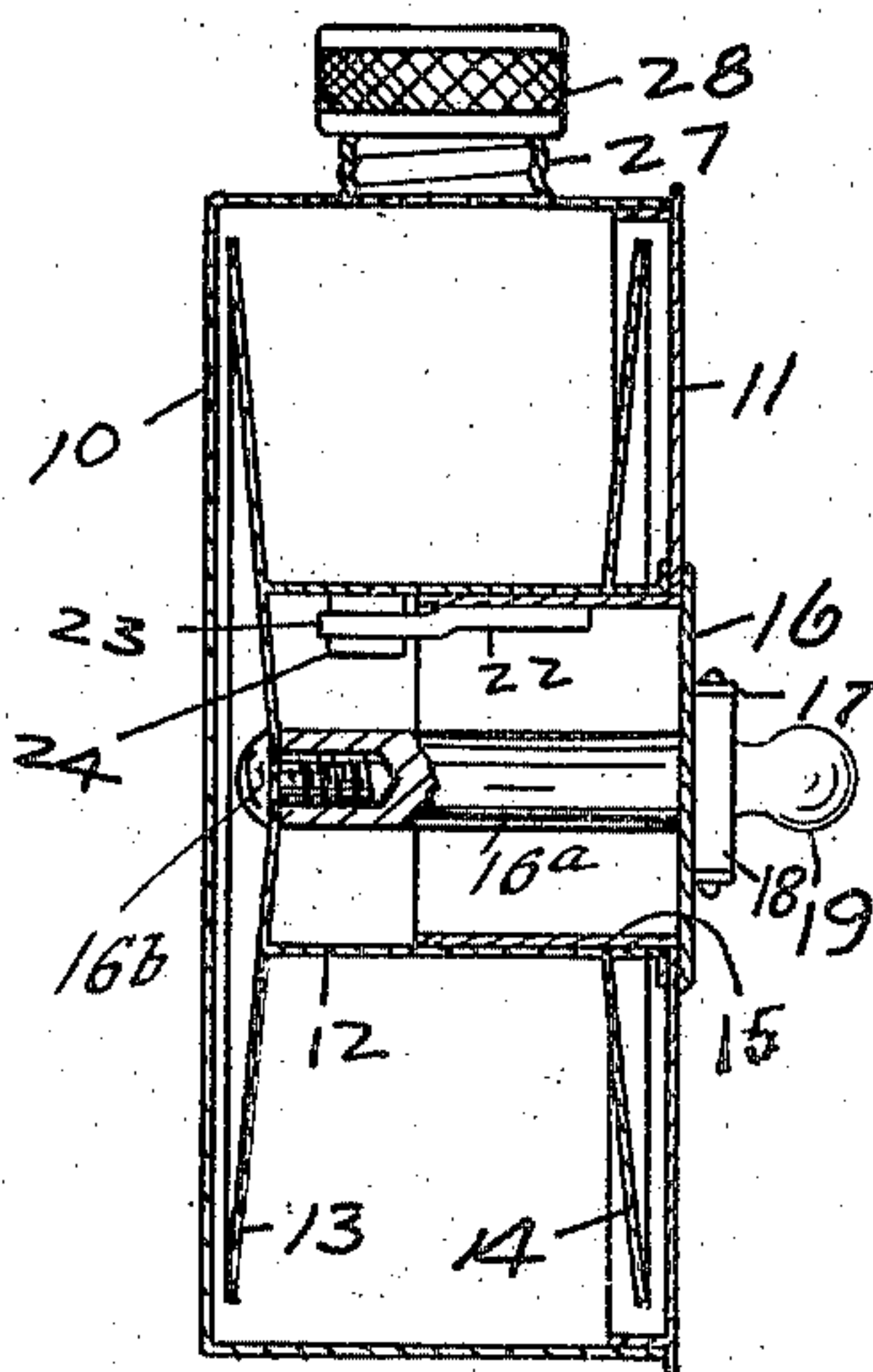


Fig 2

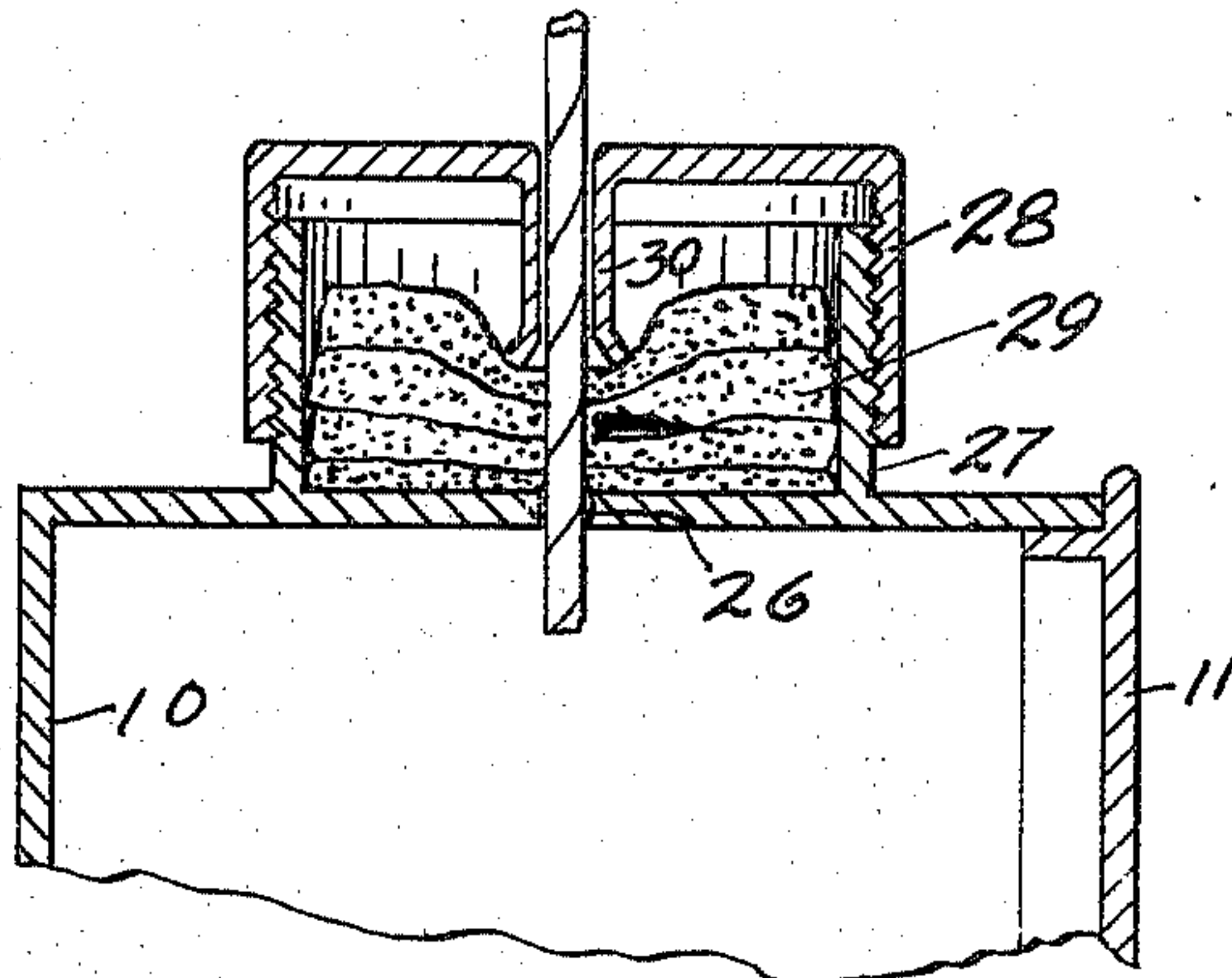


Fig 3.

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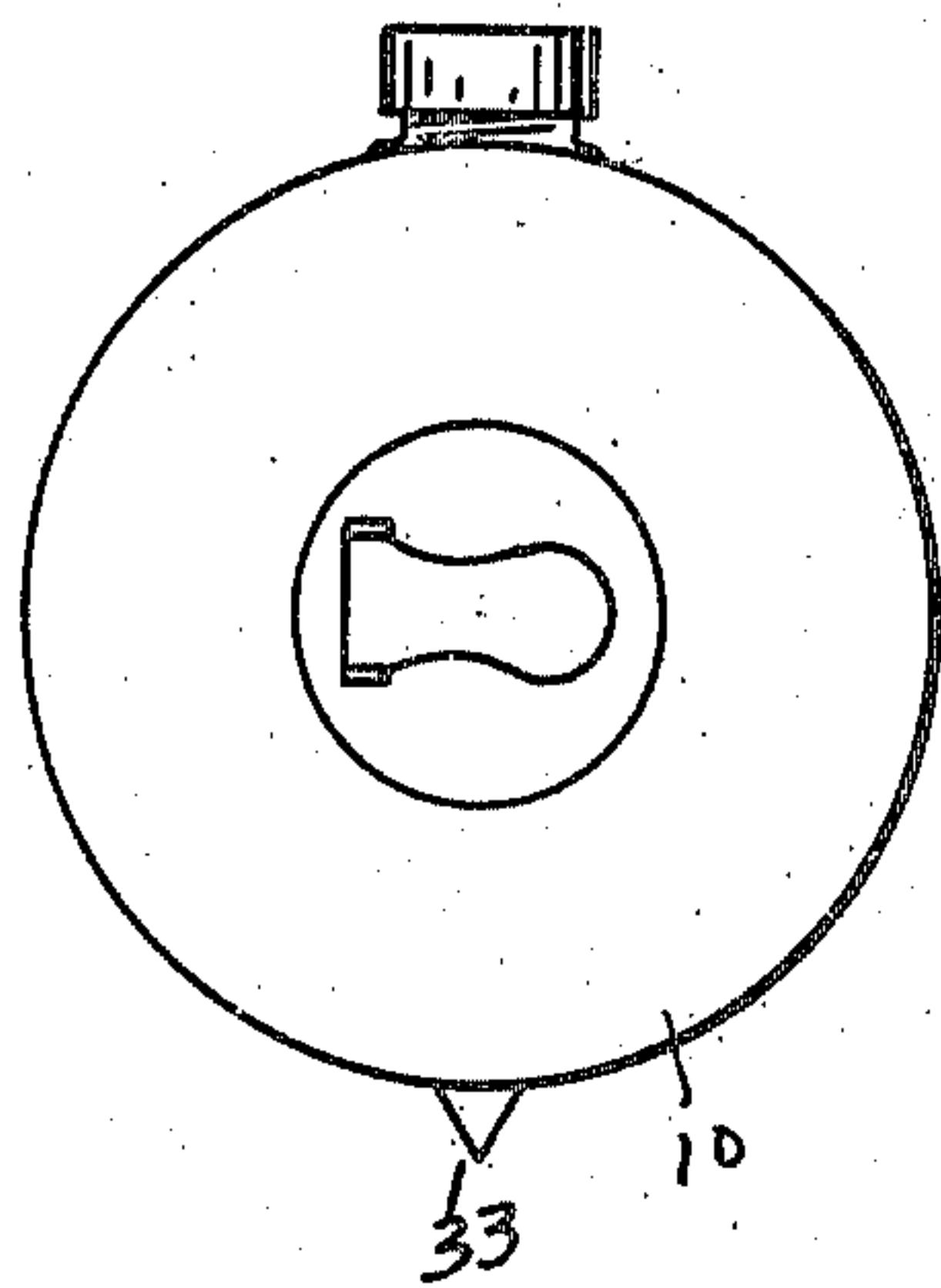


Fig. 9.

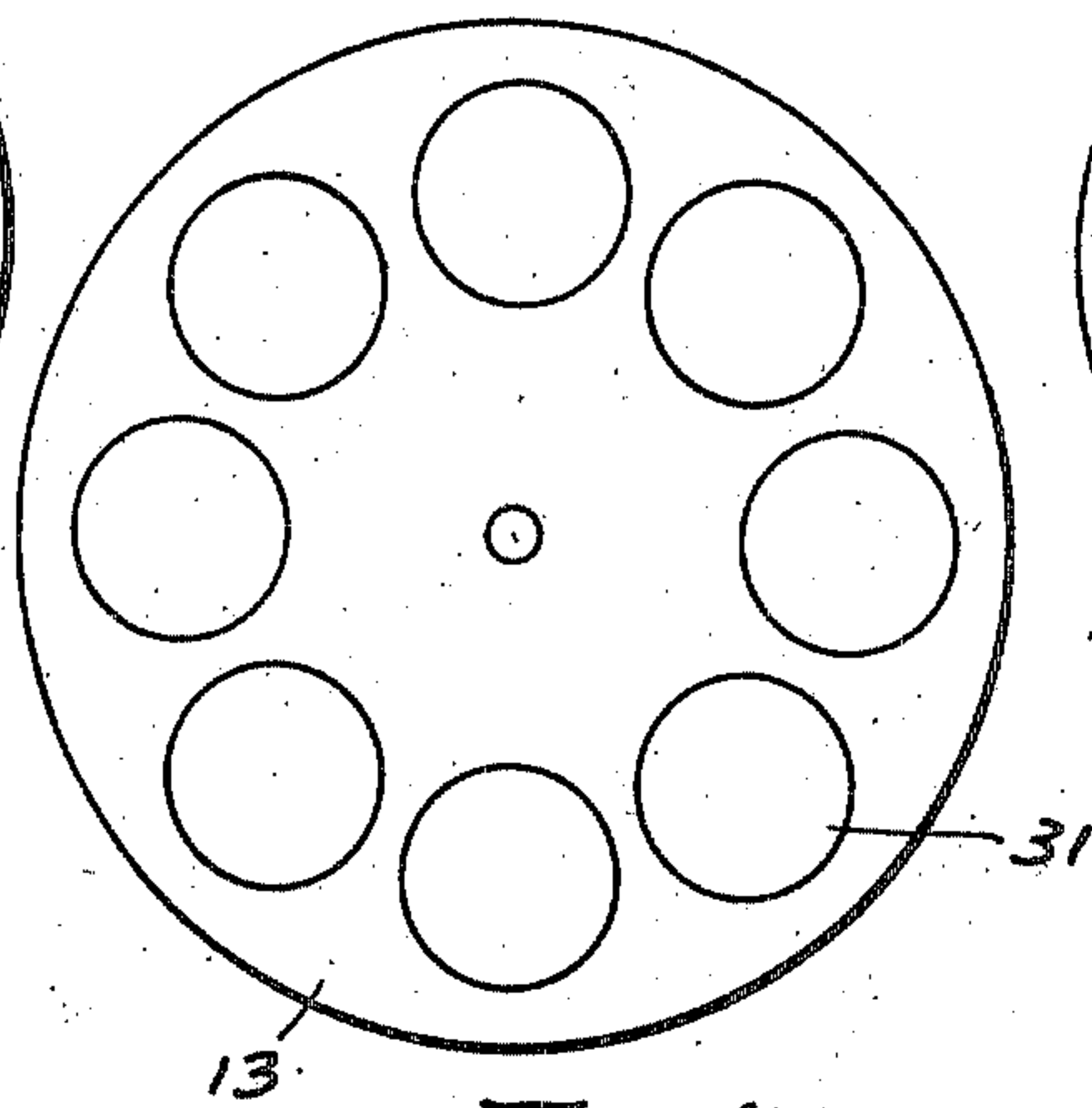


Fig. 4.

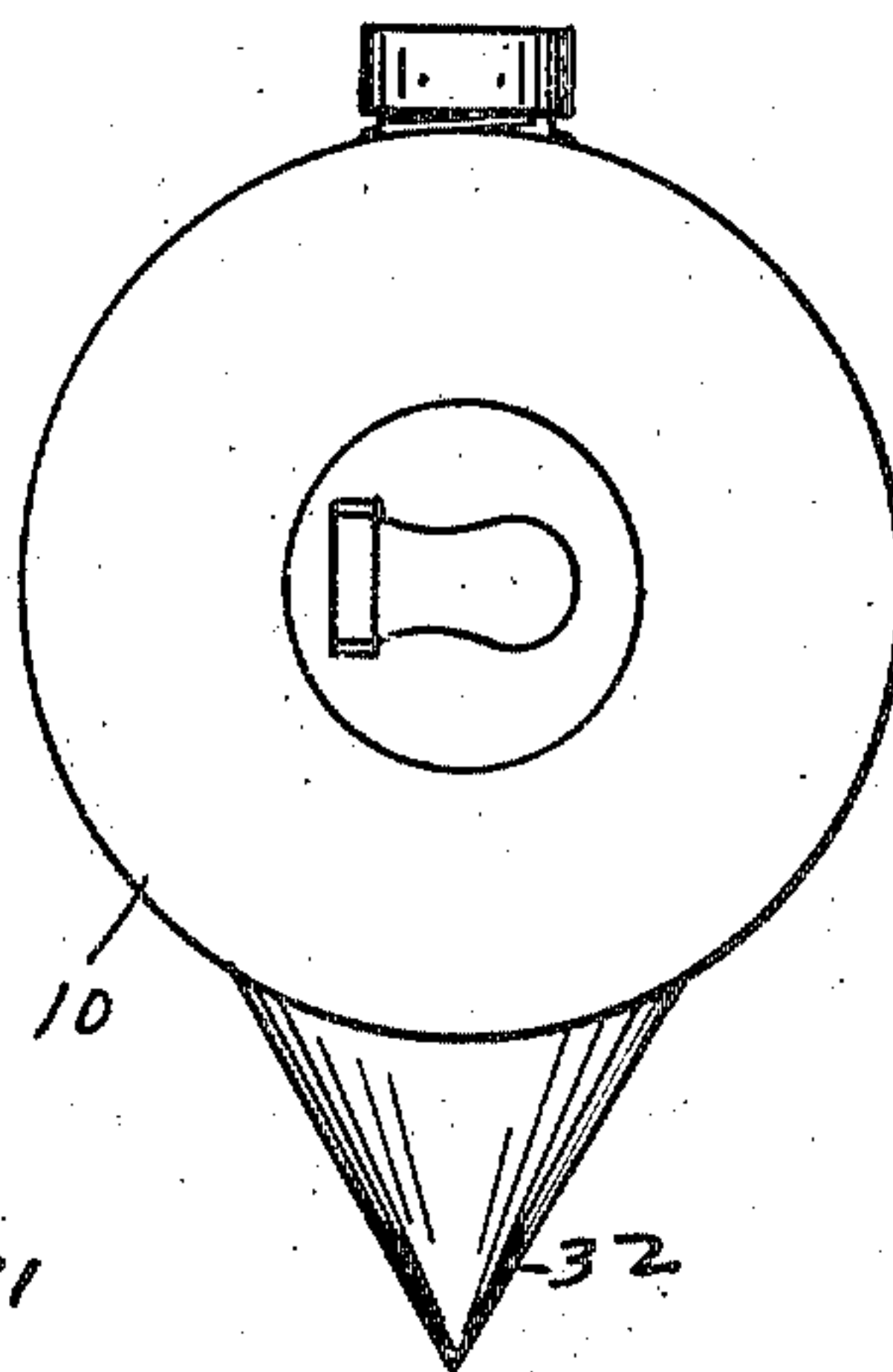


Fig. 8.

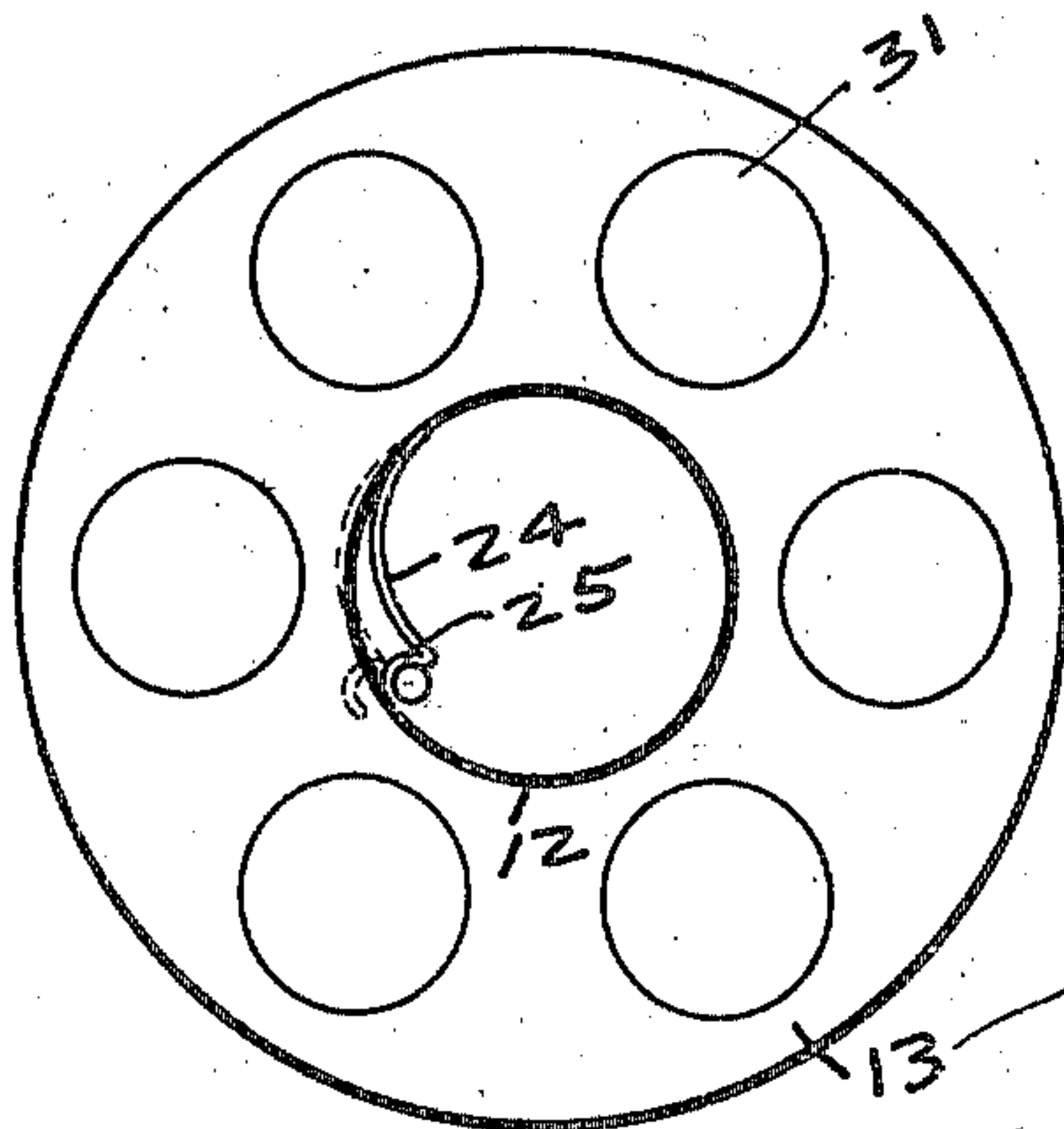


Fig. 5.

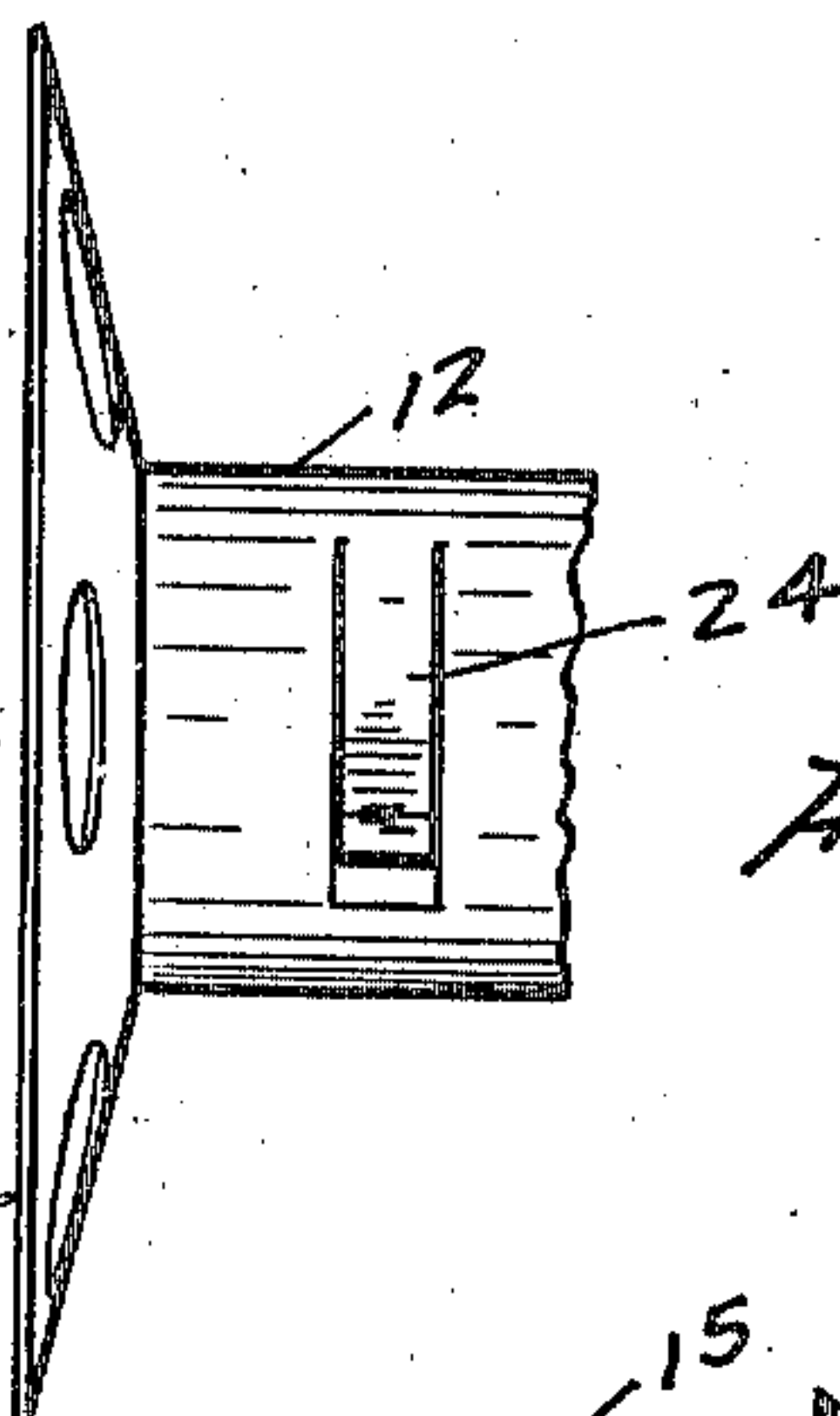


Fig. 6.

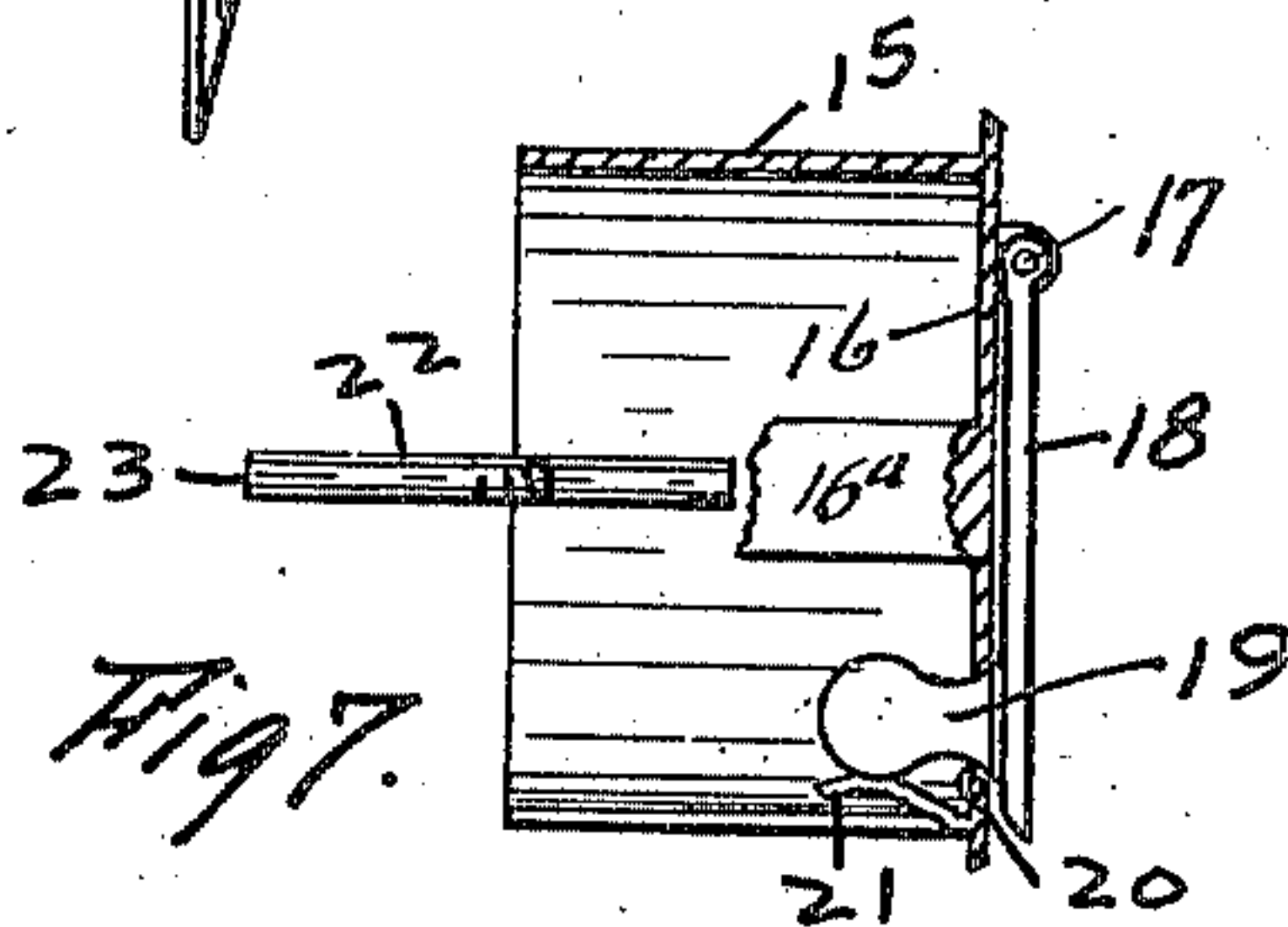


Fig. 7.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES D. EASTMAN, OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

## CHALK-LINE HOLDER.

947,892.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 1, 1910.

Application filed July 8, 1909. Serial No. 506,484.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES D. EASTMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Chalk-Line Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to chalk-line holders of that kind in which the line is wound on a reel inclosed in a casing containing powdered chalk, and it consists in a novel construction and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

It is the object of the present invention to provide in a device of the kind stated improved means for winding the line on the reel, and for disconnecting the reel, so that the line may be readily unwound.

Another object is to provide improved means for removing excess chalk from the line as it is pulled out of the casing.

In the accompanying drawings, in which the preferred embodiment of the invention is shown, Figure 1 is a face view of the holder. Fig. 2 is a vertical section. Fig. 3 is a sectional detail showing the means for removing the excess chalk from the line. Fig. 4 is an end view of the reel. Fig. 5 is a vertical section of the reel. Fig. 6 is an elevation of one end of the reel. Fig. 7 is an enlarged sectional detail of the crank hereinafter referred to. Figs. 8 and 9 are face views of modifications.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 10 denotes a casing which is circular in form, and is adapted to receive a suitable quantity of powdered chalk or other coating substance. The front wall of the casing consists of a removable cover 11 which may be attached by a tight fit, or by threads.

The casing 10 contains a reel on which the line is wound, said reel comprising a hub 12, and disks 13 and 14, respectively, at the ends thereof. The disk 14 is adjacent to the cover 11, and from this disk the hub 12 is extended to an opening in the cover, said opening registering with the bore of the hub. In this opening is rotatably mounted a sleeve 15 which extends into the bore of the hub. The outer end of the sleeve is closed by a disk 16 overlapping the edge of the aforesaid opening, to provide a tight closure and prevent escape of the chalk. From the inner face of the disk projects a stem 16<sup>a</sup> which

extends through the sleeve and hub up to the disk 13, to which it is fastened by a screw 16<sup>b</sup>. The latter is not tight, so as to permit free movement between the sleeve and the hub.

To the outer face of the disk 16 is hinged at 17 a crank 18 having a handle 19. When not in use, the crank may be folded against the face of the disk, with the handle extending through an aperture 20 therein, as shown in Fig. 7. The crank is held in this position by a spring 21 fastened to the inside of the sleeve 15, and pressing against the handle. With the crank in folded position, the device may be conveniently carried, and the crank is out of the way, and therefore not liable to be broken off.

The sleeve 15 carries a pin 22 which is secured to the inside thereof in any suitable manner, and has at one end an offset portion 23 which projects from the inner end of the sleeve, parallel to the axis of the reel hub. On the reel hub is a spring tongue 24 which extends into the bore thereof, and has at its outer or free end a seat 25 to receive the offset of the pin. The tongue may be formed by slitting the hub as shown in Fig. 6. The tongue is presented into the bore of the hub in such a direction that when the line is unwound, the reel runs loose, the tongue swinging back to let the offset pass. However, when the sleeve 15 is rotated by the crank 18 in the opposite direction, the offset engages the seat 25, and the reel is rotated in a direction to wind the line thereon. The line passes out of the casing through an opening 26 made in the edge thereof. This opening is surrounded by an annular flange 27 projecting outwardly from the edge of the casing, and forming a container in which a quantity of felt or other soft packing material, indicated at 29, is placed, and through which the line passes, and which serves to wipe off any excess chalk adhering thereto. The container is closed by a cap 28 which screws on the flange 27, the latter being screw-threaded for this purpose.

On the inner side of the cap 28 is a short tube 30 which extends into the container, and opens through the cap, and through which tube the line passes to the outside. The end of the tube is slightly flared, and is adapted to be screwed against the felt to compress the same around the line. The



proper degree of compression is obtained by screwing the cap down on the flange more or less.

In practice, the casing 10 is supplied with the desired quantity of chalk or other coating substance, and the line, which has been wound on the reel, is threaded through the opening 26 and the tube 30, the cap 28 being screwed down on the flange 27 to properly compress the felt around the line, by the engagement of the flared end of the tube 30 therewith as described. The line is withdrawn for use by holding the casing stationary, and pulling on the line, or by holding the line stationary, and pulling on the casing. As already described, the reel runs loose when the line is withdrawn from the casing, and to wind the line on the reel, the latter is rotated in the proper direction by means of the crank 18. When not in use, the crank will be folded as already described, and shown in Fig. 7.

The disk 13 has openings 31 to permit the chalk to pass to the line on the reel. The opening 26 and the bore of the tube 30 are slightly larger than the line, in order that the chalk may not be brushed off in passing therethrough.

The device is very simple in structure, and can be easily and cheaply manufactured, and it effectually serves the purpose for which it is designed.

In Fig. 8 is shown a modified form of casing which is constructed to form a plumb-bob, so that a combined chalk-line holder and plumb-bob is had. On the edge of the casing, opposite the point where the line

passes out, is a pointed weight 32 which gives the casing the required weight to serve as a plumb-bob. If desired, the weight may be left off, and a small point 33 substituted therefor, as shown in Fig. 9.

I claim:

1. A chalk-line holder comprising a casing having an opening through which the line passes, a container surrounding said opening, a body of packing material in the container through which the line passes, a closure for the container, a tube carried by the closure through which the line passes, said tube being engageable with the packing material for compressing the same around the line, and a reel in the casing on which the line is wound.

2. A chalk-line holder comprising a casing having an opening in one of its end walls, a sleeve rotatably mounted in said opening, and extending into the casing, a reel in the casing having a hub mounted on the sleeve, a spring tongue projecting from the hub into the bore thereof, and having at its free end a seat, a pin carried by the sleeve and extending parallel to the axis of the hub, said pin projecting into the path of the spring tongue, and being engageable with its seat when the sleeve is rotated in one direction, and means for rotating the sleeve.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES D. EASTMAN.

Witnesses:

H. E. SMITH,  
W. S. WILLIS.