

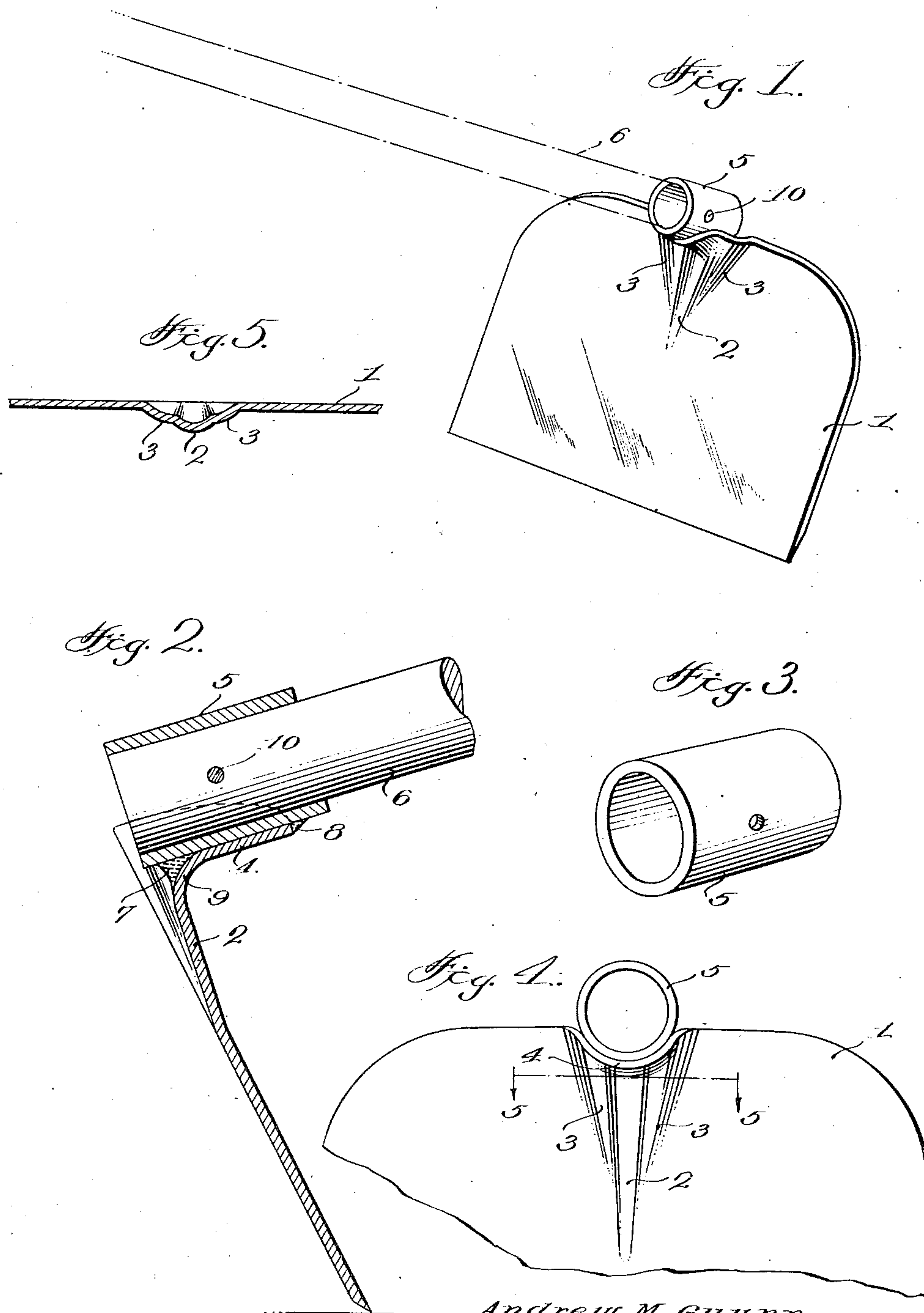
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GARDENING IMPLEMENT

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## GARDENING IMPLEMENT

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## 1 Claim. (Cl. 97—65)

This invention relates to gardening implements, and its general object is to provide a hoe that is capable of being subjected to great strain, without fear of damage to the blade adjacent to the handle socket means or breakage or disconnection of the socket means from the blade, in that the blade is formed to provide a reinforced pocket to fit and partially surround the socket means which in the present instance is a sleeve welded within the pocket in a manner to reinforce the connection thereof, so regardless of the direction of the straining action on the blade, the possibility of damage, breakage or separation is reduced to a minimum.

A further object is to provide a hoe of the character set forth, that is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and extremely efficient in use and service.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and specifically pointed out in the appended claim.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawing wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the hoe which forms the subject matter of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken there-through.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the socket sleeve.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary rear view.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken approximately on line 5—5 of Figure 4, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the reference numeral 1 indicates the blade which as shown is substantially of the conventional rectangular shape, for the major portion of its area, in that it is relatively wide and has rounded upper corners, straight side edges and a beveled lower edge. The side edges of the blade may likewise be beveled, with the bevel of one side edge opposed to that of the other, while the bevel of the lower edge of the blade is on the front face thereof and inclined inwardly toward the rear face, as best shown in Figure 2.

In the formation of the blade, the upper portion thereof is stamped or pressed to provide from adjacent the center to the upper portion, reinforcing ribs gradually increasing in width from

their lower to their upper ends and arranged in corrugated formation, as best shown in Figure 5, there being a relatively long center rib 2 and side ribs 3 which radiate in diverging relation from adjacent the lower end of the center rib 2, as shown in Figures 1 and 4.

The blade is further stamped at the upper portion of the ribs to provide an elongated channel pocket 4 that is relatively deep and of transversely curved formation. The pocket portion extends from the front face of the blade and rearwardly thereof for a considerable distance, and the upper ends of the pocket portion are rounded downwardly from their front to the rear ends thereof, as best shown in Figure 2.

Mounted in the pocket is a sleeve 5 providing a socket for the handle 6, and it will be noted that the pocket is not only shaped to follow the curvature of the sleeve 5, but fits the sleeve and is of a width to partially surround the same.

The sleeve is fixed in the pocket by welding the same therein, as at 7 and 8, and from Figure 2, it will be noted that the pocket portion is curved rearwardly as at 9, with the sleeve extending forwardly beyond the curved portion to provide a recess for receiving the welded material 7, while the welded material 8 is disposed between the sleeve and the rear end of the pocket portion.

The forward end of the sleeve terminates rearwardly of the front face of the blade, and the handle is secured in the socket provided by the sleeve by a pin 10, in the form as shown. The sleeve is preferably tapered inwardly toward its rear end to set up a wedging action with the handle, for cooperation with the pin 10 for securing the handle therein, as will be apparent.

It will be further noted that the pocket portion is arranged at an acute angle with respect to the blade, so that the latter extends at a rearward inclination therefrom, so that the handle will be positioned at the proper angle, to facilitate the use of the hoe.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

A garden hoe comprising a relatively wide blade of substantially rectangular formation and having rounded upper corners and a beveled lower edge, a transversely curved portion formed on



the upper end of the blade centrally thereof and extending rearwardly therefrom, said portion providing a channel pocket, reinforcing ribs formed on the blade in corrugated formation and  
5 extending downwardly from said portion to adjacent the center of the blade, one of said ribs disposed centrally of the blade and the other ribs extending in diverging relation with respect to each other from adjacent the lower end of the  
10 center rib and upon opposite sides thereof, said

ribs increasing in width from their lower to their upper ends and merging into the pocket portion in curved formation, a sleeve welded in the pocket and extending forwardly therefrom to provide a recess at the juncture of the ribs with the  
6 pocket portion to receive the welding material, said sleeve providing a handle socket, and a handle secured in said sleeve.

ANDREW M. GUYNN. 10