

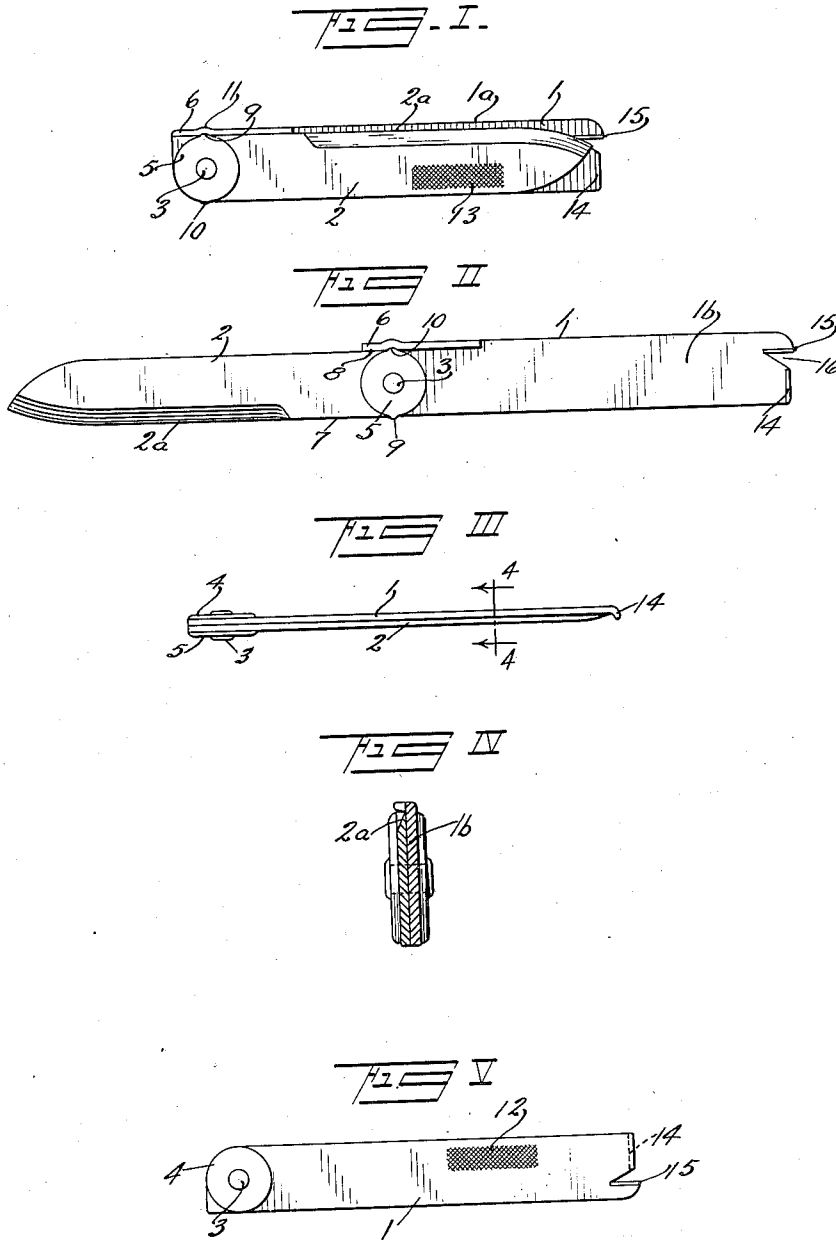
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POCKET KNIFE

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POCKET KNIFE

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This invention relates to knives, and particularly folding knives which in its preferred form is intended for a fruit knife for reasons that will hereinafter appear. In most if not all its forms it may serve as a pocket knife because of protection of the cutting edge of the blade when folded, and other characteristics.

The particular aims of this invention are to provide a folding knife with convenient handle, which can be made very compact, cheap to manufacture, and in particular permits entire cleansing by simple wiping of the parts at all times to remove fruit juices or other material that might ordinarily cause stain, or the accumulation of dust and dirt and other unsanitary accretions, and with these provide in the structure the embodiment of other useful adjuncts such as a fruit peel incision-claw with gauge or incision-limiting means, a file surface, bottle opener or other devices, which in all cases in no way preclude the thorough cleaning of the tool, and in closed position assures protection against accident to the user.

One embodiment of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. I is a side elevation of the knife closed or sheathed.

Fig. II shows an open knife with the blade extended.

Fig. III is an edge view looking at the cutting edge of the knife when closed against the handle.

Fig. IV is a cross section IV—IV of Fig. III, on enlarged scale.

Fig. V is an elevation of the back of the handle stamping, in one form of my invention.

The particular form illustrated comprises a handle formed of a single metal stamping which in its perfected form is of stainless steel or stainless metal. A blade 2 is held by a pivot 3 with a washer 4 on one side and a washer 5 on the other side clipped together at one end of the handle 1 and blade by a single rivet, which rivet may be a hollow rivet and thereby provide a hole or eyelet to accommodate a link or cord or wire to form a chain connection for the support and carrying of the knife, for convenience.

On one edge of the flat handle stamping there is a lateral offset 6 extending longitudinally of the handle on both sides of the pivot 3, so that on closing the blade the edge 7 of the butt engages the underside of the offset 6, thereby preventing the cutting edge 2^a from extending beyond the edge 1^a of the handle. Similarly the blade is held in cutting position by the heel 8 engaging a portion of the offset 6, and thereby

locking the blade in its open position. I may also provide a slight protuberance on the semi-circular butt end of the blade, such as 9, and another such as 10, and a slight recess 11, or a slight offset in the metal of the stop 6, so that in either the open position or in the closed position the blade is locked against accidental movement, which after wearing of the pivot is very desirable to provide at least for the closed position when the knife is used as a pocket knife.

On one side of the handle, when this is made of a single thin metal stamping, I may provide an area forming a file 12 which in no way interferes with the use of the knife, nor would abrade anything or catch in a pocket, but forms the double purpose of a file, and a pulling or opening surface to facilitate the pivoting of the blade with respect to the handle in conjunction with a similar roughened or file surface 13 on the outer side of the blade where it will not accumulate juice acids or other undesirable dust or dirt.

At the end of the knife handle opposite to the blade pivot I form a small lateral offset when stamping the back, which may be slightly rounded, and this offset 14 may form a protection for the point of the blade, and also forms a depth gauge in conjunction with a fruit peel incision or ripping point 15, which provides for the complete utility of the article as a fruit knife, namely, the ripping or peel-incision point 15 provides for the initial severing of the surface of fruit peel, such as an orange, and then the opened knife blade serves its usual function, and parts of the article may thereupon be wiped perfectly clean eliminating the chance of secretion of unsanitary organic material, dust or dirt.

In particular, it will be seen from Fig. IV that the cutting edge 2^a of the blade lies flat against the surface 1^b of the handle or projector bar, and as both surfaces can be wiped perfectly clean when the blade is extended, the closed knife is assured of preventing the accumulation of dust and dirt or acid moisture that would affect the blade or tend to accumulate any undesirable material. The rivet washers are flush and tight, and in either the open or closed position the adjacent edge of the butt of the blade making contact with the stop 6 can be readily cleaned.

It will thus be seen that the simplicity of construction and cheapness of construction are added to by the compactness and entirely sanitary characteristics of the article, with also the complete protection of the cutting edge and the blade point when used as a pocket knife.

The outer or back side of the handle may be

decorated otherwise than with a file surface, and may be extra plated, inlaid, or supplemented with any other material for artistic purposes, or for increasing the thickness for convenience of grip-
 5 ping the handle, or any desirable advertising designations or fashioning may be applied to the back of the handle, and to certain other parts of the article without detracting from the advantages heretofore set forth, nor from the simplicity
 10 and cheapness of the construction of the essential parts of the article. The sharpening from time-to-time of the blade may readily be accomplished and still maintain the cutting edge flush, with the inside of the blade surface to meet the
 15 conditions above set forth.

It will be particularly noted that a suitable rivet such as 3, or a hollow rivet, has its heads engaging the outer surface of each of the washers 4 and 5, and that these washers have a diameter
 20 substantially equal to the breadth of the butt of the blade and the width of the back or handle stamping, so that a liberal surface of the inner side of each washer forms frictional contact against the adjacent member of the knife. Particularly
 25 on the blade side this relatively large area of washer forms a frictional contact that holds the blade in the closed or open position with security under normal conditions. The washer on the blade side essentially serves this
 30 purpose, and in some cases I may omit the washer on the back of the handle stamping, particularly when the thickness of the stamping and the dimensions in general provide a firm support or resistance to the head of the rivet on that side.

The slight protuberances 9 and 10, however, may be used as a means of more firmly locking in the extreme positions closed or open, and in
 35 place of such offset 6 may in its middle be slit for a short distance from the body portion of the handle stamping, as by touching it with a grinding
 40 tool, so that a small portion of the offset forms a spring-yielding member with a slight depression to engage corresponding protuberances in the butt of the blade in the two extreme open and closed
 45 positions.

On the whole, this article embodying my inventions, it will be seen may be made by the simple stamping of two major parts, practically in one
 50 operation after the blanks have been sheared to size, and thereafter a few small grinding operations, and then the riveting together of the parts. The liberal size of the bearings assures proper friction and fit without any precision operations. This illustrates the simplicity and cheapness of
 55 manufacture in particular.

While various modifications may be made without departing from my invention, in forms other than herein particularly shown and described, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:
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1. A fruit knife comprising a blade having its cutting edge flush with one surface of the blade, a pivotal support for the blade on a handle having an adjacent flat flush side for engagement of the
 65 flat surface of the blade flush with the cutting edge, and a fruit peel incision-means formed on the handle beyond its contact with the blade when sheathed and a flat offset adjacent the in-

cision means forming a depth gauge therefor and a protection for the point of the blade.

2. A fruit knife having a single flat stamped stainless metal handle plate embodying at one
 5 end a limited incision-claw and a cooperating depth-gauge offset from the handle plate, and forming at the same time an end protection for the knife blade, a knife blade pivoted on one side
 10 of the handle and adapted to swing to an open position or closed position limited by an offset on one edge of the handle stamping adjacent the pivotal connection of the blade, whereby the entire inner surface of the handle is accessible for
 15 cleansing when the blade is open, and the incision claw is operable when the blade is sheathed.

3. A collapsible knife consisting of a blade and a single side-handle, pivotal connections between the two embodying means adapted to hold the
 20 blade flat against one surface of the single sided handle with the cutting edge inside of the edge of the handle, whereby the blade and the handle constitute a grip when the blade is closed to operate
 25 an incision claw integrally formed with the handle, an incision claw integrally formed at one end of the handle, and a depth gauge for said claw integrally formed of the adjacent part of the
 30 handle end offset on the side of and in proximity to the end of the blade for protection of the blade point, whereby in sheathed position of the blade the implement is conveniently operable for incising
 35 fruit peels to a limited depth, and when the blade is open it forms a convenient fruit paring knife.

4. A folding fruit knife comprising a handle in the form of a single rigid flat flush one-side
 35 strip of material such as metal, a blade hinged on said flat flush side of the strip by a pivot at one end thereof and an incising claw formed as part of said knife with a cooperating gauge stop
 40 to limit the penetration thereof as when forming an incision on the peel of an orange or the like and projecting from the end of the flush side of the handle to form a protection for the blade
 45 point.

5. A pocket knife of the character described
 45 having a blade lying flat against one side of a single strip forming the handle, said single strip having one side juxtaposed to the blade flat and flush from side-to-side, a roughened patch formed on
 50 the back of the handle strip and on the outer surface of the blade and having the blade held solely by a butt-engagement against accidental opening and closing, whereby the opening of the knife is facilitated and providing the double
 55 purpose of a file.

6. A fruit knife having a single flat metal handle with one side flush from edge-to-edge, a blade
 60 pivoted at one end to one end of said flat handle surface, and a detent adjacent the pivot to position the blade open or closed with respect to the handle, and having at the extremity of the handle an offset on the side of the blade to protect the point of the blade and to simultaneously act as a depth gauge for fruit peel cutting by
 65 an inciser embodied in said handle member adjacent the offset.

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