

## PATENT NEWS FOR PLUMB BOB COLLECTORS

### WR Plumb bob collectors PATENT NEWS # 2007-04

This time we look at 2 American patents:

- 1) Patent US266671 BERGEN 1882 and
- 2) Patent US5426860 LEE 1995  
Leonard G. LEE Ottawa Canada  
Assignee: LEE VALLEY TOOLS Ltd Ottawa

In 1882 BERGEN needed **1/2 page only** to describe his invention and 1 page for the drawings.

Nearly the same we find more than 100 years later in the LEE patent. Now they had 4 pages full of information. As I saw the name LEE, I thought he came from Taiwan or Asia, but he is from Ottawa CANADA. He seems to be the director of Lee Valley Tools Ltd. that we know from some catalogues about woodworking tools.

In the **newer patents** you find some "REFERENCES CITES" in this case patents back to 1882 from BERGEN, CONVERSE, PIPHER, RENEAU, LEARNIHAN, JOHNSON, DAMRON and KURSCHER. We have seen all these patents already in "THE PLUMB LINE" of Bruce Cynar and now in "THE PLUMB LINE continuum" of Nelson Denny. (Bruce has given the rights to Nelson.)

There we have the drawings only. I have attached these complete patents to the email. This listing very often gives good information about related patents (remark for your own search)

Also is mentioned as "OTHER PUBLICATIONS" a **photograph** of plumb bobs from "The 1994 American Woodworker Calendar, copyright 1993" This calendar was edited by Lee. I could not get this photo. **Has anyone this photo?**

#### THE INVENTIONS to compare:

**BERGEN:** "My invention consists in the **combination** of a **case to protect the point** of a plumb bob from injury **with a spool** on which to wind the line used with the same"

**LEE:** [57] **ABSTRACT**  
A plumb bob assembly including a bob, a collet for suspending the bob from a drill press chuck, and a housing within which the collet and bob may be stored and around which a plumb bob cord may be wrapped when the bob is not in use. The housing protects the tip of the bob from damage and diminishes the likelihood that the cord will become entangled during storage.

### PATENT NEWS FOR PLUMB BOB COLLECTORS

The **BERGEN** patent I found in a catalogue **BESLEY 1891** together with a **VAJEN**, (will be described in a later WR patent news) and some pictures unknown source.

From the **LEE** patent I did not find any trace. Did anyone see one?



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(No Model.)

W. L. BERGEN.

PLUMB BOB.

No. 266,671.

Patented Oct. 31, 1882.

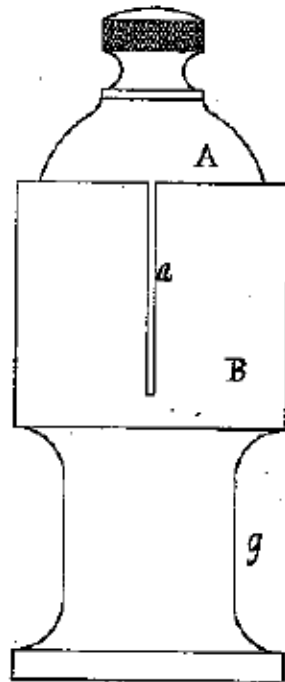


Fig. 1

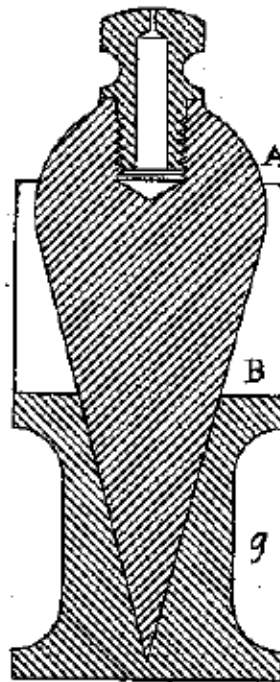


Fig. 2

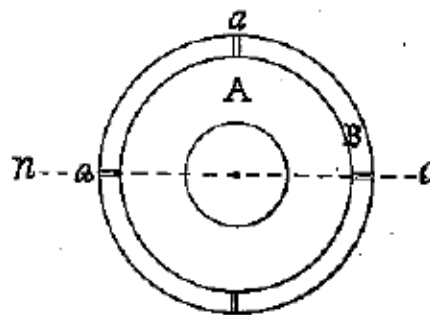


Fig. 3

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US005426860A

**United States Patent** [19]  
**Lee et al.**

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,426,860**  
[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 27, 1995**

[54] **PLUMB BOB ASSEMBLY**  
[75] Inventors: **Leonard G. Lee; John S. Lynn; Thomas S. Gardiner**, all of Ottawa, Canada  
[73] Assignee: **Lee Valley Tools Ltd.**, Ottawa, Canada  
[21] Appl. No.: **263,757**  
[22] Filed: **Jun. 22, 1994**  
[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... **G01C 15/10**  
[52] U.S. Cl. .... **33/392; 33/393**  
[58] Field of Search ..... **33/392, 393, 413**  
[56] **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|           |         |           |        |
|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|
| 266,671   | 10/1882 | Bergen    | 33/393 |
| 787,896   | 4/1905  | Converse  | 33/392 |
| 1,060,855 | 5/1913  | Pipher    | 33/393 |
| 1,538,746 | 5/1925  | Reneau    | 33/393 |
| 1,577,133 | 3/1926  | Learnihan | 33/393 |

|           |         |           |        |
|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|
| 2,135,211 | 11/1938 | Johnson   | 33/393 |
| 2,791,037 | 5/1957  | Damron    | 33/392 |
| 2,803,067 | 8/1957  | Kurschner | 33/392 |

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Photograph of plumb bobs from The 1994 *American Woodworker* Calendar, ©1993.  
*Primary Examiner*—Christopher W. Fulton  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Kilpatrick & Cody

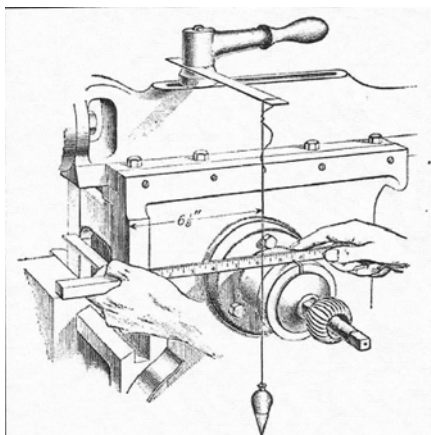
[57] **ABSTRACT**  
A plumb bob assembly including a bob, a collet for suspending the bob from a drill press chuck, and a housing within which the collet and bob may be stored and around which a plumb bob cord may be wrapped when the bob is not in use. The housing protects the tip of the bob from damage and diminishes the likelihood that the cord will become entangled during storage.

**7 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**

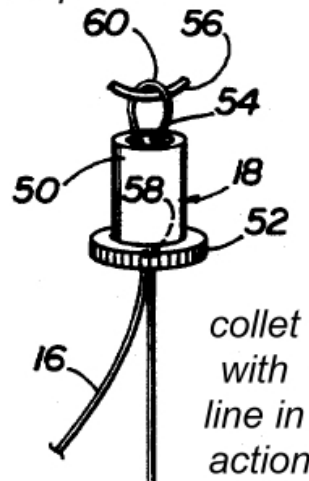
Lee talks about a COLLET that is put into a drill press chuck. **HAS ANYONE SEEN A PHOTO OF THIS SITUATION?** Please let me know.

The only picture I found for “plumb bob and lathe”:

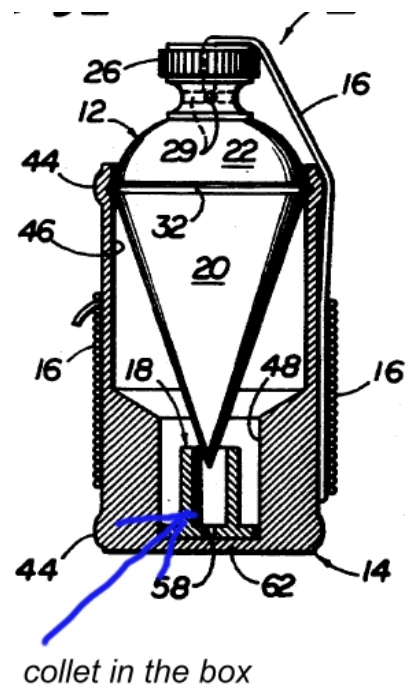
But this is **not** the use as mentioned in the patent.



LEE patent



collet with line in action



collet in the box

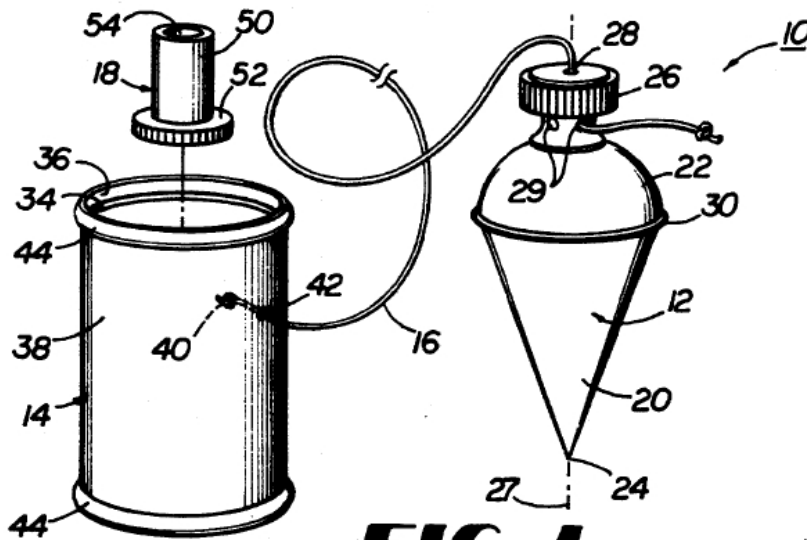
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THE LEE PATENT

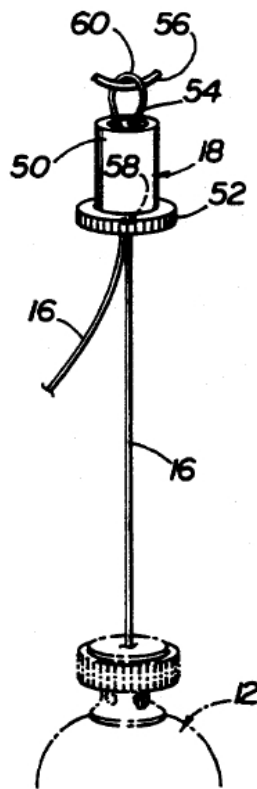
U.S. Patent

June 27, 1995

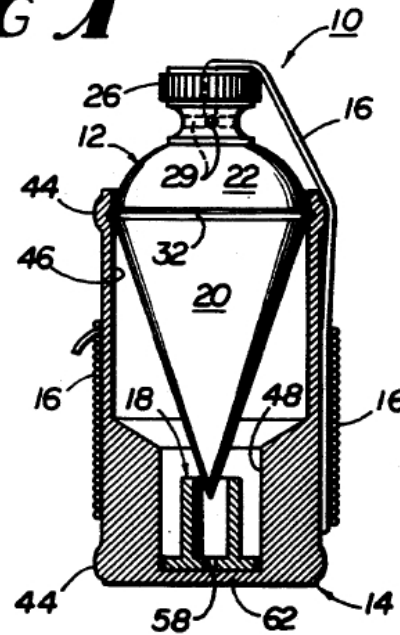
5,426,860



**FIG 1**



**FIG 3**



**FIG 2**