

# **Vintage Tackle Box**

**c1915-1929**



## Vintage Tackle Box c 1915-1929

### The c1915-1929 Tackle Box

This c1914 tackle box has leather covered wood/fiber exterior and an articulated tray system with two trays on each side and a lower storage compartment. The outside dimensions are 16" long x 8" high x 8" wide. The interior space at the bottom of the box below the trays is 3 ¾ inches high. Made by the Knickerbocker Case Company, Chicago IL, this was one of the high-end tackle storage systems of the period.





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**Knickerbocker Tackle Box Identification tag includes American, Canadian and French Patent Years – All patent dates are older than May 25, 1915**

This extremely fine leather-covered box with aluminum tray section required repair. The first time the author lifted the empty box by the handle provided, the old leather tore in a perfect horizontal line on each side, where a crease had developed from the leather bending open there for untold years, and the top and bottom separated. Actually, the repair turned out to be a fun project and I would do it again – repair a box, that is. Please, respect old leather and do not lift one in the manner that I did. Check out the large photo on page 1.



## **Vintage Tackle Box c 1915-1929**

### **Contents of the c1915 -1929 Tackle Box**

#### **Reels**

## Vintage Tackle Box c 1915-1929

### Pflueger Supreme Reel

**Made by the Enterprise Mfg. Company, Akron, Ohio**

This reel has a 2-¼-inch diameter and is one of the first Supreme Models produced, c1919.



The free spool Pflueger Supreme reel employs a modified Douglas patent clutch that engages upon retrieve. The self-winding mechanism uses an encased rotating endless-groove shaft and the anti-backlash (ABL) is either regulated by lure weight or disengaged. Many consider it one of the finest reels of the day.



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### Pflueger Supreme Reel

More photographs of the Supreme show the level-wind mechanism and the casting control (self-thumb) knob on the tail plate.



The small horned plates on the outside of the spool, to the right and left of the level line guide, rotate the line into the guide each time it engages the nub on their undersides.



The anti-backlash (ABL) control knob on the rear headplate can regulate ABL to the weight of the lure or disengage it completely, depending on the preference of the caster.

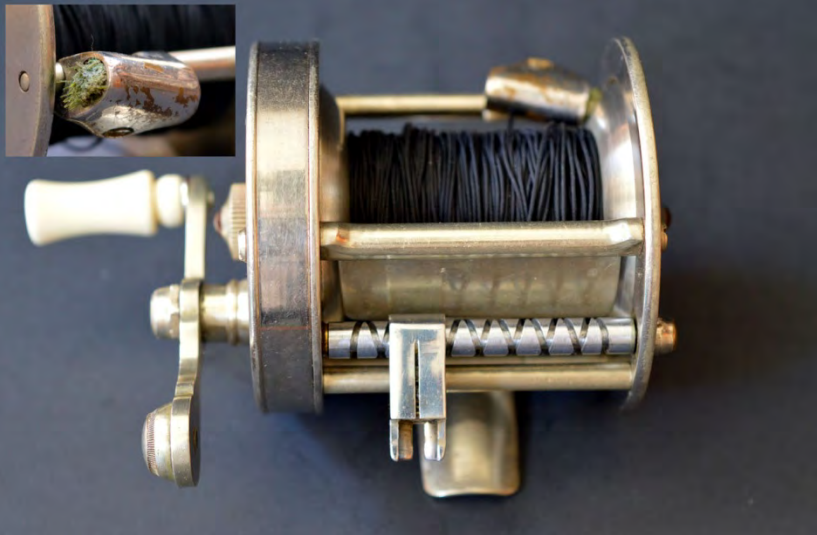
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### Beetzsel Reel

Made by the Redifor Rod and Reel Company, Warren, Ohio.



On this unique reel, the level-wind guide (up position in the top photo) drops down when the crank knob turns rearward, disengaging the spool for the next cast (bottom photo). The benefit was removal of line friction.



Note the fighting drag mounted on the rear pillar in the lower photo and the thumbnail insert photo taken from the rear of the reel. The non-standard drag manually rotates up and in to put the pressure of a small, stiff brass brush against the spool flange (large photo). Alternatively rotates rearward to disengage, as in the thumbnail photo.

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**The Beetzsel Reel Originally Made by the Redifor Rod and Reel Company, Warren, OH, and later Produced by Wm. Shakespeare Jr., Kalamazoo, MI.**



Redifor built this reel with five patent dates, 5/8/1906, 5/25/1915, 1/16/1917, 10/29/1918, and 11/26/1918 because after that, new reels had the "Washington D.C." trade stamp instead of the "Warren, OH" mark. Redifor's Fish Trademark on this reel lacks a city name possibly meaning that this is a transition reel. However, that information is immaterial because by this date we believe from 1921 to 1934, that the Shakespeare plant was producing the Beetzsel.



In the upper photograph is the Redifor c1919-1920 Beetzsel. The lower photograph is of a Shakespeare Beetzsel model produced in 1924.






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### **Contents of the c1915-1929 Tackle Box**

#### **Lures, Tools and Accessories**

## Vintage Tackle Box c 1915-1929




 A vintage fishing lure with a yellow body and black horizontal stripes. It has a red eye, a silver diving lip, and two sets of three treble hooks.	<p><b>Baby Pikie Minnow No. 900</b></p> <p>Made by the Creek Chub Bait Company (CCBC) of Garrett, Indiana, this early version of the lure, c1921, is in the most common color, Pikie Scale. It is 3 ¼ inches long.</p>
 A vintage fishing lure with a green body and a red side. It has a silver diving lip, a washer hardware, and two sets of three treble hooks.	<p><b>Baby Wiggler No. 200</b></p> <p>This is the earliest version of the CCBC bait as denoted by washer hardware, an unmarked diving lip and no metal tail hook insert. The color is Red Side and it is 2 ¾ inches long.</p>
 A vintage fishing lure with a green body and a red side. It has a silver diving lip, a washer hardware, and two sets of three treble hooks.	<p><b>Injured Minnow</b></p> <p>This second version of the CCBC minnow has a more rounded body than the first version, which was thin and flat, or the third version that was thicker than the first but also flat-sided. This rounded lure, phased out prior to 1930, is in Perch color.</p>

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	<p><b>Wiggler No. 100</b></p> <p>The second version of the Creek Chub lure with cup-rig hardware and a diving lip, marked only with the company name and no patent number c1918.</p>
	<p><b>Luminous Coaxer</b></p> <p>Made by The W.J. Jamison Company, Chicago, Illinois, this lure is somewhat of a mystery to me because the cork body is 1 ½ inches long. The No. 1 Coaxer should be 1 7/8 inches and the No. 2 Coaxer 1 1/8 inches. Definitely the luminous version of a Jamison, and made prior to 1928, it fits this period.</p>
	<p><b>Underwater Coaxer</b></p> <p>Metal painted body, no wings with a single weedless hook, this lure has an overall length of 2 3/8 inches, c1928.</p>



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 A vintage Heddon Baby Crab Wiggler lure. It has a yellow and orange body with a black eye, a small silver fin on top, and three silver treble hooks hanging from the bottom. The lure is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Heddon Baby Crab Wiggler</b></p> <p>The Baby Crab Wiggler, Series 1900, and introduced in 1915 is 3" long. This model is a 1909C meaning that it is Imitation Crab color. It has L-Rig hook hanging hardware, an "inch worm" type line tie and a "Heddon Dowagiac" stamp in small script on the "U" shaped collar. These features identify this example as the earliest version of this lure, vintage 1915-1916.</p>
 A vintage Heddon Deep-O-Diver lure. It has a white body with greenish-black spots, a single silver hook on the side, and a silver pin-type pork rind attachment on top. The lure is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Heddon Deep-O-Diver</b></p> <p>The Deep-O-Diver lure, Series 7000 introduced in 1919 is 2 ½ inches long. It has L-Rig hook hanging hardware and the color on this example, White Body with Greenish Black Spots, is unique to this model. This example with a pin-type pork rind attachment on top indicates that it is the earliest version of this lure, vintage 1919-1921.</p>
 A vintage Heddon Tad Polly lure. It has a yellow and orange body with a black eye, a small silver fin on top, and three silver treble hooks hanging from the bottom. The lure is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Heddon Tad Polly</b></p> <p>A Series 5000 lure, the Tad Polly introduced in 1919 is 3 7/8 inches long. This example is Rainbow color and is the earliest version, as determined by a heart or apple shaped metal plate on the nose stamped "Heddon Dowagiac" in an inverted "V" pattern. Later versions will have a "bell" shaped plate with the logo stamped in a "V" pattern; vintage 1919-1921.</p>

## Vintage Tackle Box c 1915-1929

 A vintage fishing lure with a green and yellow body, a white tail, and two large, curved metal hooks. It is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Lane's Wagtail Wobbler</b></p> <p>Produced by Charles W. Lane, Madrid, New York, c1924, this lure body is 2 ¾ inches long, ¾-inch tail not included. These rare lures are not as rare as Lane's Automatic Minnow, Patent No.1,068,908, and his only other known product that featured a tail propeller that upon retrieve turned a drive shaft and moved the bait's pectoral fins. It also featured a hook that detached from the bait upon hooking a fish.</p>
 A vintage fishing lure with a white body, a yellow eye, and two large, curved metal hooks. It is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Heddon 100 Underwater Minnow</b></p> <p>This lure has L-Rig hardware and a marked propeller. Using the Identification and Dating Chart a novice collector could date this lure somewhere between 1912 and 1934. Comparing it, however, to the Heddon cup-rig 100 in the previous tackle box, it will be noted that the bodies are similarly shaped; c1915-1918 is more accurate.</p>
 A vintage fishing lure with a yellow body, a red nose, and two large, curved metal hooks. It is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Heddon 210 Dowagiac Minnow</b></p> <p>C1921, this shorter version of Heddon's 200 Surface Minnow has L-Rig hardware and two double hooks.</p>






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 A small, cylindrical fishing lure with a yellow body and a red tip. It has three wire twisted hook guards attached to the rear.	<p><b>Jim Dandy Wobbler</b></p> <p>Made by Wiseman's Sports Supply, Chicago, IL, this small 2-¼ inch lure has unusual wire twisted hook guards. The lure was first produced C1915 and the hook guards patented (#1,226,701) 5/22/1917.</p>
 A fishing lure with a yellow body and a red tip. It features a metal diving plate at the front and three wire twisted hook guards at the rear. The text "SOUTH BEND PIKE-ORENO" is visible on the metal plate.	<p><b>Pike-Oreno</b></p> <p>Produced by South Bend Bait Company, this is the earliest version of the lure, c1920. The body of this early version was similar to their famous Bass-Oreno apart from the metal diving plate that transformed it into an underwater bait.</p>
 A green, elongated fishing lure with a textured, scale-like pattern. It has three wire twisted hook guards attached to the rear.	<p><b>Bass-Oreno</b></p> <p>The most well known and most common South Bend lure, the Bass-Oreno first appeared c1916. This no-eye version is the earliest model.</p>



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	<p><b>Bass-Oreno</b></p> <p>Identical to the Bass-Oreno above, this Red Head, White Body color scheme is, I believe, one of the most common. These old lures always seem to be value priced, likely because of their numerous quantities produced.</p>
	<p><b>Stump Dodger</b></p> <p>Produced by Albert Winnie, Traverse City, MI, c1915 this 3 ½-inch lure has a large distinctive line tie and a double lip blade. Hook hardware consists of screw eyes and small washers.</p>
	<p><b>American Spinner Type</b></p> <p>This spinner is unmarked and may be a Hendrix American Spinner knockoff. It shows significant patina, sports an old brass box swivel and the length is 3 ¾ inches without the swivel and hook. The blade is the same size as a No. 4 Pflueger version (these were marked) made until 1916, but the shaft is longer.</p>

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 A vintage fishing lure with a white, elongated body and a flanged lip. It has three treble hooks attached to the bottom. The lure is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Wilson Flanged Wobbler</b></p> <p>The first of four Wilson lures contained in this tackle box. Made by Hastings Sporting Goods Company, Hastings, MI in 1914. This lure pre-dates our current historical period by one year. It is included here because the other three Wilson lures do fit our period. Made with a formed metal wobbling lip, this example is a handsome lure with an extremely nice white (patina) paint job.</p>
 A small, teardrop-shaped fishing lure with a yellow body and a red-orange tip. It has a single double hook attached to the top. The lure is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Wilson Grass Widow</b></p> <p>First produced in 1919, this is another Hastings Sporting Goods Company lure and at 2 ¼ inches a very small one at that. The single double hook remains secure to the body when pushed over the small metal stud.</p>
 A vintage fishing lure with a green body and a white lip. It has two treble hooks attached to the bottom. The lure is shown against a dark blue background.	<p><b>Wilson Six-in-One Wobbler</b></p> <p>A truly unique lure, this 1917 innovation has a 6-way adjustable diving lip.</p>

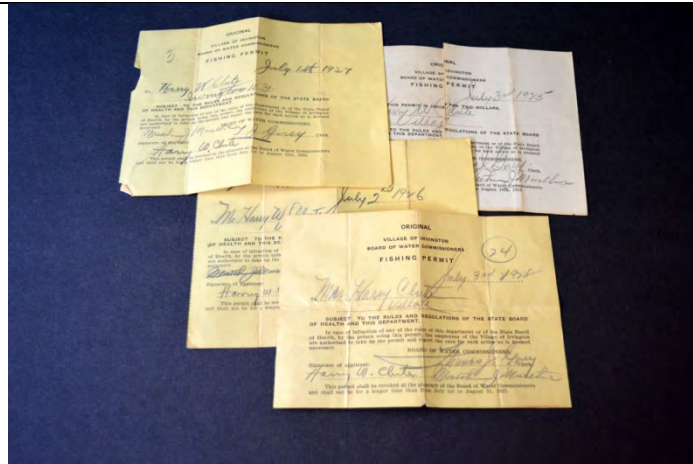


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 A yellow and red cupped wobbler lure with two treble hooks.	<p><b>Wilson Cupped Wobbler</b></p> <p>In 1915, Hastings did innovation well - an acoustic-type surface lure to produce a “burp.” Its durable paint job has lasted over 100 years.</p>
 A silver spoon lure with a wooden handle and two single hooks. The spoon has a stamped patent number 723,360 dated May 19th, 1903.	<p><b>Kewell-Stewart Spoon</b></p> <p>This 3 ¾-inch long spoon employing two single hooks has a stamped patent Number 723,360 dated May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1903. This datable item is included here to show that items dated prior to the period we are addressing may well have been in use during a later time and therefore it is not an anachronism. This is especially true with spoons, that tend to outlast most other lures.</p>
 A collection of various vintage lures, including spoons, spinners, and minnow-style lures, arranged on a dark surface.	<p><b>Representative Lures</b></p> <p>During this period, metal spoons and spinners remained extremely popular underwater lures. The genre, created originally for trolling, now sports some lures that cast like bullets (#2 and #5 in photo) and were the preferred lure of many bass and pike anglers. The top (#1), bait was set-up for minnows.</p>

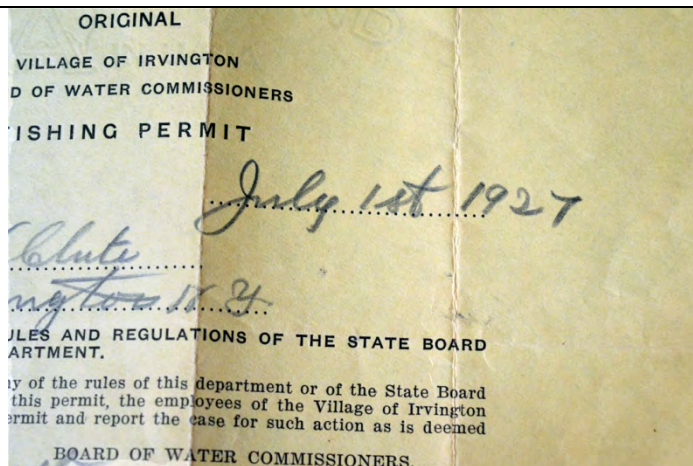


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### New York State, Village of Irvington, Fishing Permits

Would you go angling without a permit? This “true” angler from the mid-1920s has prepared well. Thank you, Robert Barnhill Roosevelt, for being a diligent resource guardian and Fish Commissioner.



### 1927, One of Four Local Permits

Detail of one item above.



### The 1927 New York State License

If you bypassed Chapter 7, in the book, please, go back; R.B. Roosevelt deserves a pat on the back.

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### Collapsible Drinking Cup

From Germany, high quality, with gold plate inside; handle unlocks and moves inside cup when collapsed. Custom leather case uses the old bird cage design (c1903-1914): male snap as detailed in the photo of the 18x magnifier in the 1889-1914 box.. Cup, c1914, a great appliance for toasting the catch of the day.



### "KEEP-EM-ALIVE" Fish Stringer

This stringer made by the Watkins Manufacturing Co. Howell, MI, is marked PATS PEND.

In his 1919 book, Fishing Tackle and Kits, Dixie Carroll provides a review of this c1919 model stringer.



### Eveready DAYLO Flashlight

This "Baby" style c1919 fisheye lens flashlight takes 2 C-cell batteries. It has a side attachment clip, marked PAT APPLIED FOR that slides in the direction of the lens to turn the light on. 4 3/8 inches long and 1 1/4 inch diameter.



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### Round Nose Clamp-type Pliers

An unmarked, hand filed and fitted delicate iron utility tool perfect for this box – hook extractor, small clamp, large locking tweezers etc. with a nice patina.



### Insect Repellant

Wood's Improved Lollacpop, one of the greatest known Antidotes in the World for Mosquitoes, Black Flies and Gnats. The "Fisherman's Favorite." George B. Wood in Syracuse, N.Y., manufactured this product. The Buckeye Stamping Co., Columbus, OH, made the tin. c1880's - 1920's, measures 3 1/4" x 1 3/4" x 3/4 inches.



### Binoculars




Deraisme fab general purpose optics made in Paris late 19<sup>th</sup> early 20<sup>th</sup> century are handy for any outdoor activity or to function as opera glasses.



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	<p><b>Cigar, Cigarette Lighter</b></p> <p>An original wind-proof, brass World War I (smoke 'em" if you got 'em) Trench Lighter. Shown in the open position, the case with the tilted metal hood slides down to extinguish the flame and cap the wick.</p>
	<p><b>Match Case with Original Blue-Tip Matches</b></p> <p>Match cases were a nice accessory for those who lacked a trench lighter to fireup a smoke. The Boy Scouts of America also made a nice match case to commemorate their National Convention in 1930.</p>
	<p><b>Ansonia Finger Nail Clipper</b></p> <p>Patented August 22, 1905, and used into the 1920s: a sliding button on the bottom locks the clipper closed. Did anglers really use clippers as an angling tool in c1915-1930? I personally have not seen a reference but they did use gut, which this tool is capable of cutting. They also had finger nails.</p>

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	<p><b>Navigation Compass</b></p> <p>Plated brass case marked only "Germany" 1 3/4-inch diameter, configured for a fob. Used, with some outside plating loss. Unable to determine date manufactured but it has the right look, still works well and is a necessity for the tackle box. I believe a carried-home, USA-made WW I compass would be perfect here.</p>
	<p><b>Long Nose Pliers</b></p> <p>In 1911, Utica Drop Forge and Tool Co. registered their 3 Diamond logo as a trademark. Sometime around 1913-15, they began offering patterned handles on their tools to improve the grip. The pliers in our box have the 3 Diamond trademark and the smooth (non-patterned) handles. C1915, 6 inches long.</p>
	<p><b>Bottle Opener</b></p> <p>The use of cans to contain beverages followed glass bottles after a significant number of years. Crown Cork was the world's first bottle cap and this tool opened them.</p>



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### Small Oiler

Oilcans were a necessity for any bait caster's tackle box. This example, manufactured by the Shakespeare Co., was a popular style for many years.



### Queen Cutlery Fishing Knife

The high quality knife appears in unused condition except for a little rub on the scalier-disgorger. An early knife model popularized and sold by fine cutlery manufacturers such as Queen, Case, Ka-Bar and Robeson, the type was also marketed by numerous other companies in lower quality, value priced product lines.





### Sunglasses

These glasses have a saddle-type bridge design with curl temples around the ear, a popular design in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The case was impress-stamped by Dr. Hendrix, an Indiana optometrist. The case fits perfectly and appears to be correct.



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	<p><b>Tin Container</b></p> <p>Lipton's Ceylon Tea Tin Planter measures 3"x3"x4" and it provides storage for the oil can, tool kit, bottle opener, nail clips, match safe, and compass. Tins of various sizes employed to compartmentalize tackle box items worked well. An extremely common tin and the perfect size for small items, was the aluminum bath bar soap container issued by the military.</p>
	<p><b>Silk Casting Line, Wooden Spools</b></p> <p>The only legible print remaining on the label of this unused line says "Silk Casting Line". It appears the line spools were stored label to label thereby degrading the print. Silk line remained the standard until World War II but the particular shape and somewhat diminutive size of these wooden spools appear to indicate an earlier manufacturing date. These measure 2 ½-inches in diameter and 7/8 inches thick.</p>
	<p><b>Tool Kit</b></p> <p>Made in Germany, this kit contains a straight slot screwdriver, small wood auger, a pick and an easy out remover. For use, the various tools lock into the slot in the case by screwing on the case cover to form a "T" handle.</p>