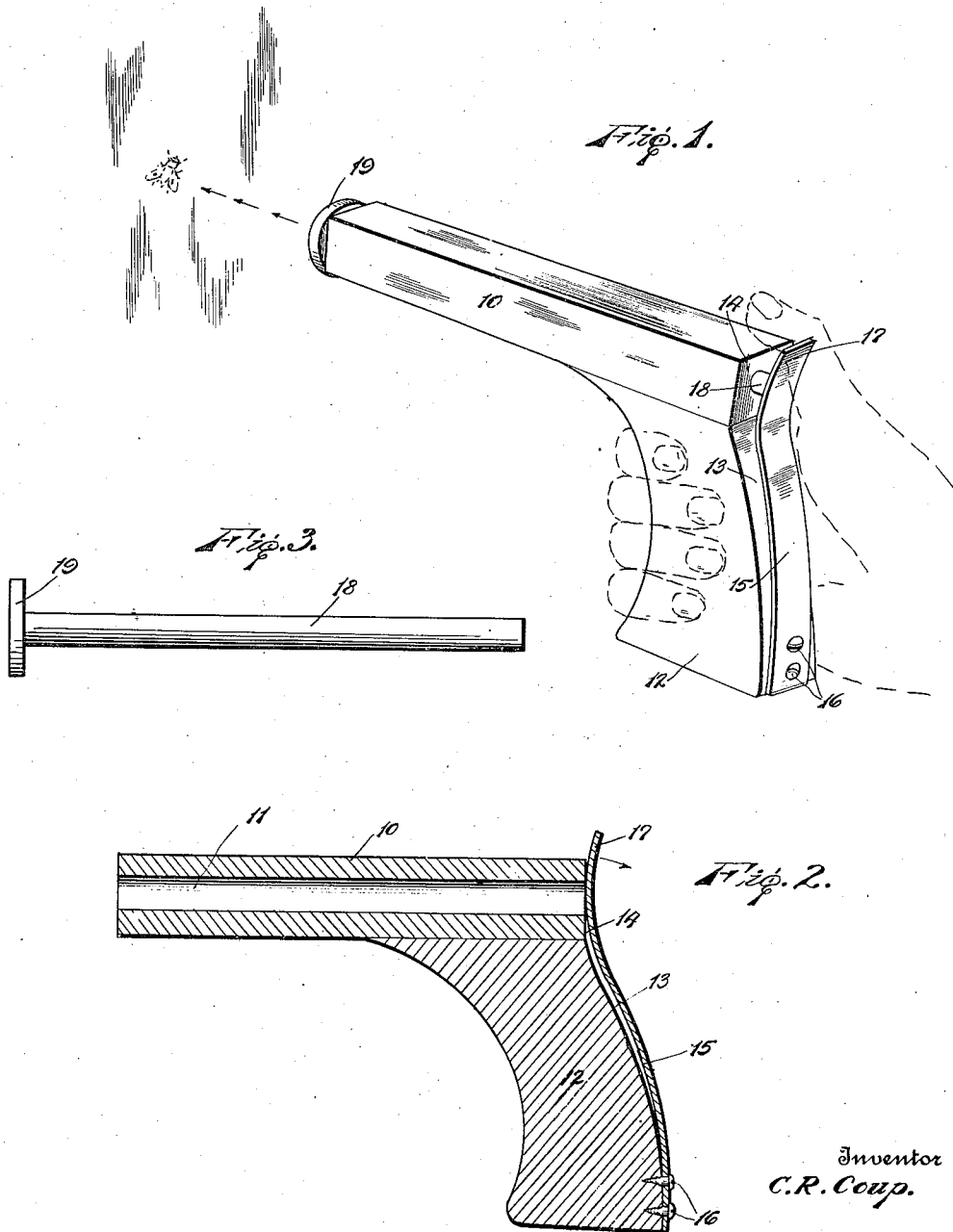


C. R. COUP.
FLY SWATTER.
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1,387,922.

Patented Aug. 16, 1921.



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FLY-SWATTER.

1,387,922.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES RAYMOND COUP, a citizen of the United States, residing at McKeesport, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fly-Swatters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved fly swatter essentially embodying a toy pistol and has as one of its principal objects to provide a toy of this character which may be employed for killing flies, being especially designed for use by children in lieu of ordinary fly swatters.

A further object of the invention is to provide a fly swatter employing a projectile having an enlarged head and a manually retractable spring hammer for discharging the projectile.

And the invention has as a still further object to provide a device of this character embodying exceedingly few parts, which may be very cheaply manufactured, and which may, consequently, at very little expense, be employed for creating and sustaining the interest of children in fly swatting campaigns or the like.

Other and incidental objects will appear hereinafter.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved toy illustrating the spring hammer thereof manually retracted to position for discharging the projectile employed and showing the manner of use of the device.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view through the device showing the spring inactive, and

Fig. 3 is a detail elevation of the projectile.

In carrying the invention into effect, I employ a pistol of wood or other suitable material shaped to conform to the general outline of an ordinary revolver. Preferably, the pistol is formed in two parts, one of which comprises a barrel 10 provided throughout its length with an axial bore 11 and suitably connected to said barrel is the other of the parts providing a hand grip 12. However, it is to be understood that, if desired, the grip and barrel may be formed integral. At its rear edge, the grip is provided with a rearwardly curved face 13 merging at its upper end into the lower end of the vertical rear end face 14 of the barrel.

For actuating the projectile employed, I provide a spring hammer 15 preferably

formed from a single piece of flat spring metal arranged to overlie the rear face 13 of the pistol grip as well as the rear face 14 of the pistol barrel with its lower end disposed flush with the butt of the grip. The spring hammer is secured at its lower end to the lower end portion of the grip by screws 16 or other suitable fastening devices, said screws preventing sideways movement of the hammer. As will be noted, the hammer is curved to conform to the curvature of the grip face 13 and is provided near its upper end with a reversely bowed portion resting against the rear end face of the barrel, holding the hammer throughout the major portion of its length spaced from the grip. The upper end of the hammer projects above the top of the barrel and is preferably curved rearwardly to form a finger or thumb piece 17 by means of which the spring may be retracted to discharge the projectile. As will be appreciated, in mounting the hammer spaced from the grip in the manner stated, practically the full spring action thereof will be realized when the thumb piece 17 is retracted and suddenly released.

In Fig. 3 of the drawing, the projectile is illustrated in detail. This projectile comprises a stem 18 freely insertible through the bore 11 of the barrel from the outer end thereof and is of a length somewhat greater than the length of the barrel so that said stem may, when the hammer is retracted as clearly indicated in Fig. 1, be caused to project at its rear end portion beyond the rear face 14 of said barrel. At its outer end the stem is provided with an enlarged flat disk shaped head 19 formed integrally therewith and adapted to abut the outer end face of the barrel for limiting the stem in its rearward movement through the barrel.

In the operation of the device, the stem 18 of the projectile is inserted within the bore 11 of the barrel and the grip grasped by one hand in the manner indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1. The upper end portion or thumb piece 17 of the hammer is then engaged by the thumb, as also indicated in dotted lines in said figure, for retracting the hammer rearwardly away from the rear face 14 of the barrel and the rear end of the barrel tilted downwardly whereupon the projectile will move by gravity until the rear end of the stem projects at the rear end of the barrel. By then suddenly releasing the

thumb piece, the hammer will, in its return movement, strike the rear end of the stem of the projectile and forcibly discharge said projectile from the barrel. It will be noted
5 that the spring hammer 15 lies entirely within the lines of the side faces of the grip of the pistol while the fixed end of said hammer terminates flush with the bottom of the grip so as not to offer any obstruction or
10 sharp edges which would tend to cut or otherwise lacerate the hand of the operator. I accordingly provide a toy which will prove highly amusing and which may, in the manner suggested, be used for killing flies. In
15 Fig. 1, is conventionally illustrated a flat vertical surface such as a wall or the like, having a fly resting thereon. The pistol may be aimed at the fly and the hammer operated for discharging the projectile from the pis-
20 tol to strike the fly.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A device of the character described including a hand grip having a rear face, a
25 projectile receiving barrel upon the grip having a rear face merging into the rear face of the grip, and a spring hammer mounted upon and closely overlying said rear face of the grip normally resting at one
30 end against the rear face of the barrel, the hammer being manually retractable to permit exposure of a projectile at said rear face of the barrel whereby when the hammer is released the projectile will be struck and
35 discharged from the barrel.

2. A device of the character described including a hand grip having a convex rear face, a projectile receiving barrel upon the grip having a flat rear face intersecting the
40 rear face of the grip, a manually retractable curved spring hammer secured at its lower end to and closely overlying the rear face of the grip and conforming to the curva-

ture thereof, the free end portion of the hammer being reversely bowed to normally
45 seat flat against the flat rear face of the barrel spacing the intermediate portion of the hammer from the grip face, and a projectile adapted to be exposed at the rear face of the barrel when the latter is tilted rearwardly
50 and the hammer retracted whereby when the hammer is released the projectile will be struck and discharged from the barrel.

3. A device of the character described including a hand grip having a rear face, a
55 projectile receiving barrel upon the grip having a rear face merging into the rear face of the grip, a manually retractable spring hammer mounted to overlie the rear face of the grip and normally resting at its
60 free end flat against the rear face of the barrel, a projectile shiftable rearwardly through the barrel to be exposed at the rear face thereof when the barrel is tilted rearwardly and the hammer retracted, and stop
65 means upon the projectile for limiting rearward movement of the projectile through the barrel.

4. A device of the character described including a hand grip having a rear face, a
70 projectile receiving barrel upon the grip having a rear face merging into the rear face of the grip, a manually retractable spring hammer mounted to overlie the rear face of the grip and normally resting at its free end
75 flat against the rear face of the barrel, and a projectile shiftable rearwardly through the barrel to be exposed at the rear face thereof when the barrel is tilted and the hammer retracted, the projectile being formed at its
80 forward end with a head adapted to bear against the front end of the barrel for limiting rearward movement thereof through said barrel.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature. 85
CHARLES RAYMOND COUP. [L. S.]