

O. N. CALVERT.
ELECTRIC ANIMAL EXTERMINATOR.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 5, 1911.

1,024,060.

Patented Apr. 23, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

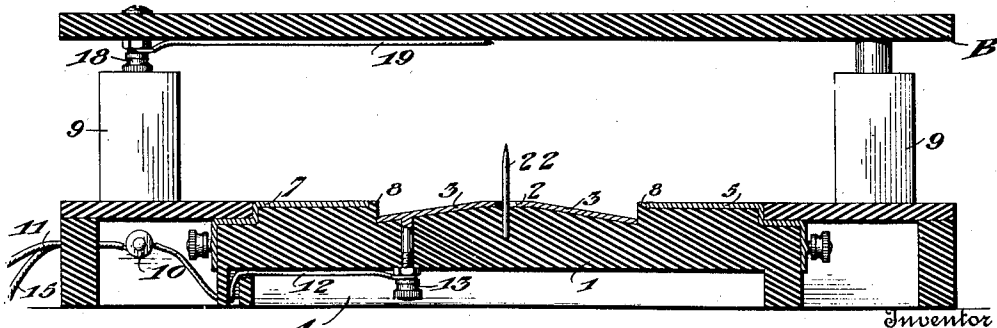
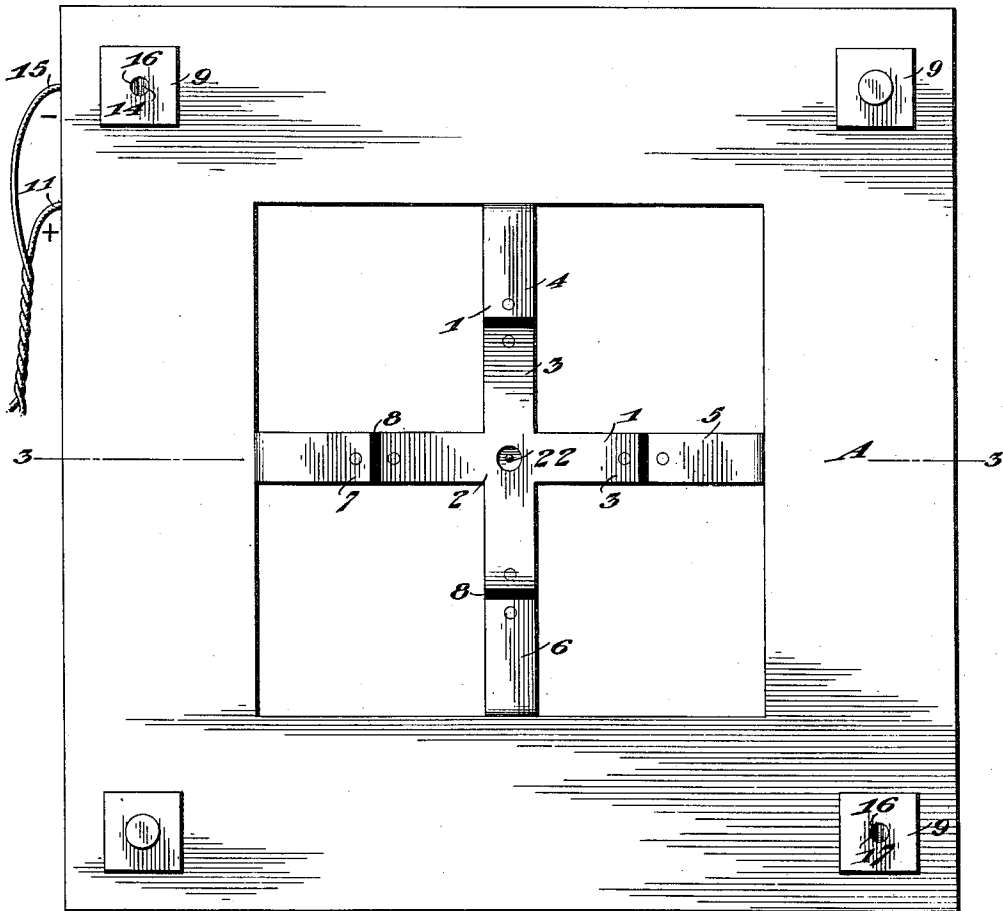


Fig. 3.

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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

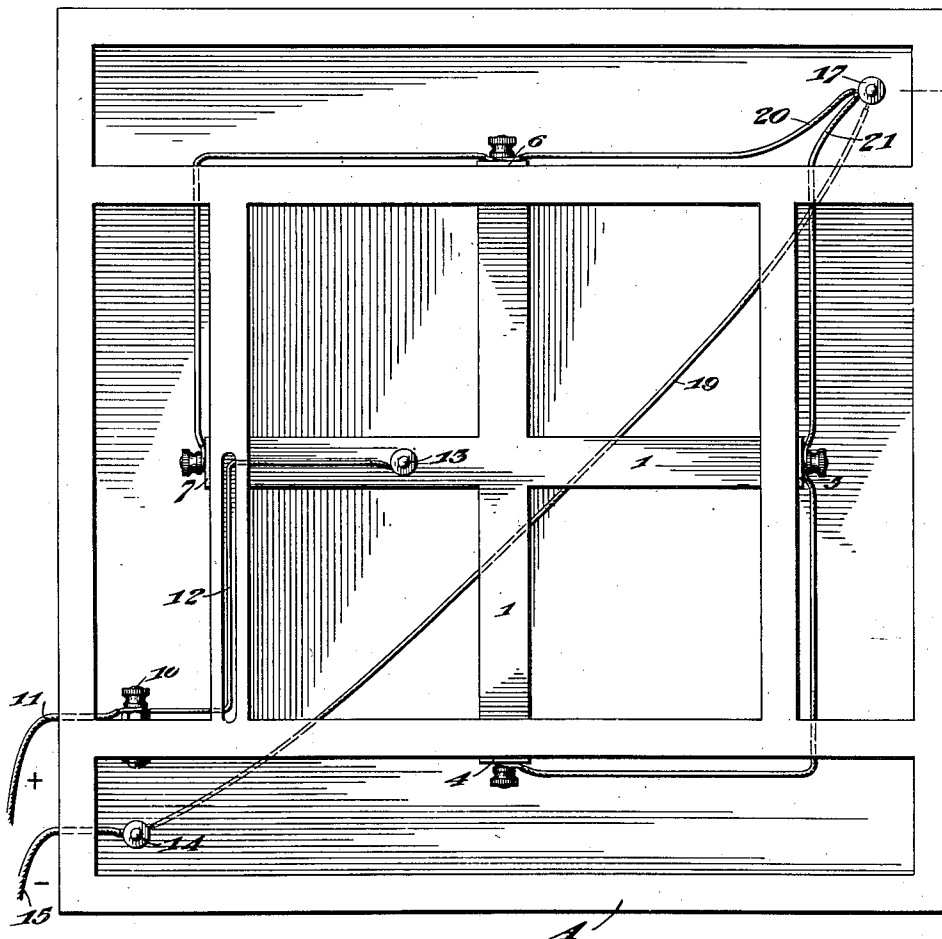
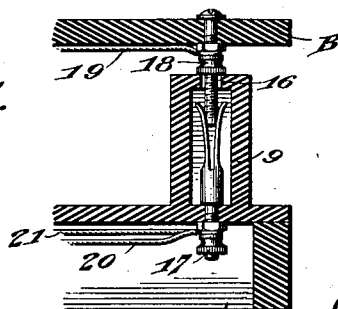


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ELECTRIC ANIMAL-EXTERMINATOR.

1,024,060.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 23, 1912.

Application filed May 5, 1911. Serial No. 625,200.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OMA NEWTON CALVERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kahoka, in county of Clark and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electric Animal-Exterminators, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in electric animal exterminators, and the object is to provide a simple and novel construction for killing rats, mice, and the like.

A further object is to provide a device which may be safely handled and will not endanger the lives of the occupants of houses, stables, or other places where it is used, especially the lives of children, or the lives of domestic pets such as dogs, cats, rabbits, or the like; and a still further object is to provide an electrical exterminator which will meet with the approval of insurance underwriters.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a top plan view of the base of the trap, Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view, Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, showing the cover applied to the base, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged section through a portion of the base and one of the posts 9 erected thereon.

A, represents the base of the trap, and B, is the cover. The base or bottom is provided with a rectangular opening through the center in which are received bars 1, 1, the bars crossing each other at the center and connected to the walls of the opening. A central contact plate 2 is mounted at the intersection of the two cross-bars, and is provided with radial arms 3, which are mounted upon the cross-bars. Contact plates 4, 5, 6, and 7 are mounted on the bars preferably on a plane higher than the central contact plate 2 and are insulated from the radial arms of the central contact member or plate 2 by a suitable insulation 8. Posts 9, 9, are provided at the four corners of the base upon which cover B is mounted. A binding post 10 is connected to the base to which a positive wire 11 is connected. Leading from the binding posts 10 is a wire 12 which is connected to the binding post 13 of the central contact member or plate

2. A binding post 14 is connected to the bottom or base, and extends therethrough and beneath one of the posts 9. A negative wire 15 is connected thereto. Two of the posts 9 are provided with openings 16 there-through. Beneath one of the posts 9 is the binding post 14, and beneath the other is a binding post 17. Binding posts 18 are connected to the cover, and are provided with extensions which are adapted to be received in the openings 16 of the post 9. The two binding posts 18 are connected by wire 19, so that when the two binding posts 18 make contact with the binding posts 14 and 17, a current will be transmitted from the binding post 14 through the wire 19 to the binding post 17. A wire 20, connected to the binding post 17 connects the binding posts of the contact plates 6 and 7, while another branch wire 21 connected to the binding post 17 connects the binding posts of contact plates 4 and 5. The negative and positive wires 15 and 11 are connected up with any suitable source of supply, and an animal passing over the base A, and engaging any of the contacts 4, 5, 6, and 7, and the central contact member 2, would receive a current of sufficient voltage to kill the animal instantly. It will then fall between the cross-bars into any receptacle which may be placed beneath the base A.

A pin 22 is connected to one of the cross-bars 1 at the intersection of the bars upon which the bait or decoy can be placed for attracting the animal upon the contact plates.

The cover is a safety device. It is not charged with electricity. The wire 19 merely closes the circuit so that the cover prevents a person, or a large animal such as a dog or cat, from touching the contacts, or anything dropping upon them which might cause an arc to form and a fire to result in consequence, but also it makes it necessary to remove the cover to bait the trap, thus breaking the current and making it perfectly safe. And the object in placing the contacts 4, 5, 6, and 7 on a higher plane is that by so doing it provides against the liability of the rodent just touching the central contact plate and getting a slight shock which is likely if they are all on the same plane, whereas when they are not if he touches the central contact plate at all, he is likely to do so with sufficient force when they are on different planes to get the en-

tire current, which is more than sufficient to kill him.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. An animal exterminator comprising a base having an opening therein and intersecting bars thereacross, a central contact plate secured on said bars at their point of intersection, and a plurality of contact plates insulated from the central contact plate and on a higher plane or level, said plates forming the terminals of an electric circuit.

2. An animal exterminator comprising a base having an opening, a central contact plate at the center thereof and a plurality of contact plates adjacent to and insulated from the central contact plate, said central and adjacent contact plates forming the terminals of an electric circuit.

3. An animal exterminator comprising a base having an opening therein, bars extending across the opening, a central contact plate mounted thereon, a contact plate mounted on each of the bars adjacent to and insulated from the central contact member, said contact plates forming terminals for an electric circuit.

4. An animal exterminator comprising a base having an opening therein, bars extending across the opening, a central contact plate and a plurality of contact plates adjacent to and insulated from the central contact plate, positive and negative electric wires, the central contact forming a terminal for one of the wires and the adjacent plates serving as terminals for the other wires.

5. An animal exterminator comprising a base having a central contact plate and a plurality of contact plates adjacent to and

insulated from the central contact plate, a binding post having wires leading therefrom to the adjacent contact plates, a binding post having a wire leading to the central contact plate, a positive electric wire connected to the binding post of the central contact plate, a negative electric wire, a binding post on the base to which the negative wire is connected, a removable cover having binding posts thereon electrically connected, said binding posts adapted to engage the binding post of the negative wire and the binding post of the adjacent contact plates, whereby the current of the negative wire will be conducted to the adjacent contact plates.

6. An animal exterminator comprising a base having a main contact plate and a plurality of contact plates adjacent to and insulated from the main contact plate, said main and adjacent contact plates forming the terminals of an electric circuit, and a decoy connected to the base, said adjacent contact plates located at an elevation above the main contact plate.

7. An animal exterminator comprising a base having electric contact-plates, and a cover carrying a section of connecting wire, said cover when in place completing the electrical connection with said contact plates, and forming a guard against accidents, the removal of which cover renders the entire device harmless by breaking the electrical connection with the contact plates.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

OMA NEWTON CALVERT.

Witnesses:

THEO. CHEWNING,
J. W. WOODRUFF.