Sept. 22, 1925.

1,554,288

F. MADLE

INSECT DESTROYER

Filed Aug. 9, 1923

Fig. 1.

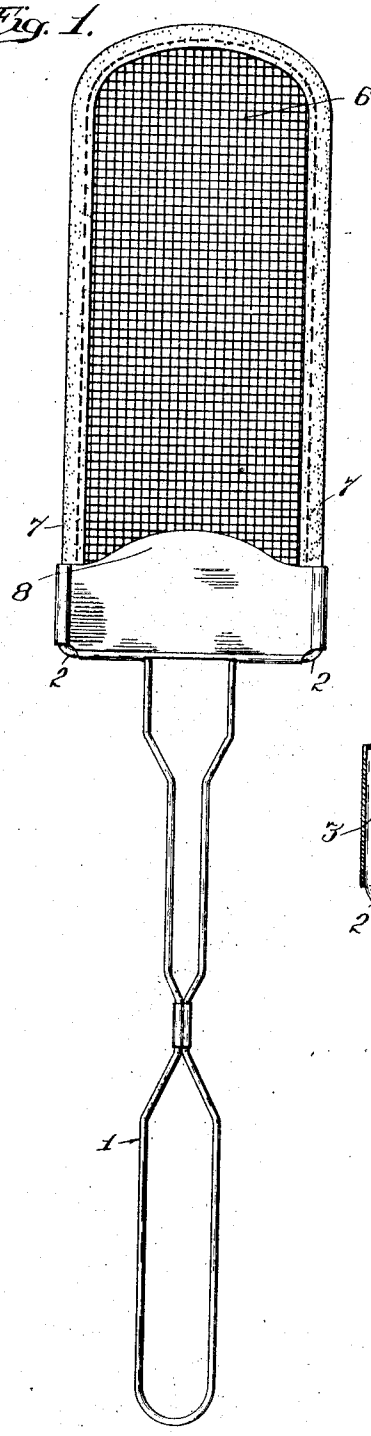
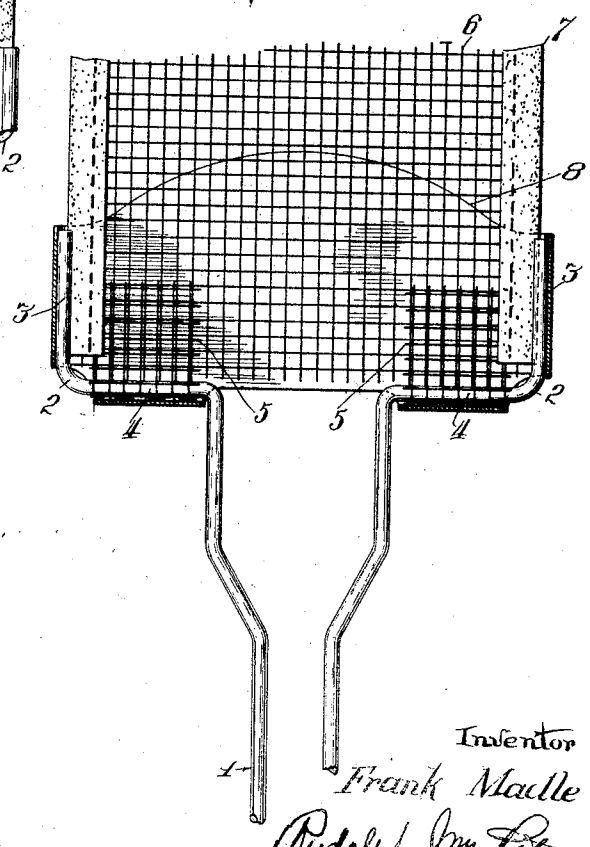


Fig. 2.



Inventor

Frank Madle

By Rudolph Wm. Lotz

Attorney

Patented Sept. 22, 1925. 1,554,288

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK MADLE, OF BERWYN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO CRUVER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

INSECT DESTROYER.

Application filed August 9, 1923. Serial No. 656,593.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK MADLE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Berwyn, Cook County, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in and for Insect Destroyers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in insect destroyers of the type popularly termed fly swatters and has for its object to provide a structure of this character including a flexible foraminous element and means for securing same to a suitable stem, the invention being more particularly directed to a detail of construction of the securing means whereby breakage of the flexible element at its base portion is prevented while, at the same time, the said securing means are given a more graceful and attractive appearance and a somewhat greater area, thereby adapting the same for receiving or bearing advertising matter, these devices being extensively manufactured and sold as advertising novelties.

The present invention relates more particularly to an improvement upon the structure particularly illustrated and described in Letters Patent to C. L. Cruver, No. 1,110,312, dated September 15, 1914.

The invention consists in the features of construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating the preferred embodiment of the invention:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation of a fly swatter constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary section of the same, partly in elevation, one wall of the means or device for securing the flexible element to the stem or handle being cut away.

The device comprises a wire handle 1, terminating at one end in two opposed L-shaped projections 2, having free parallel arms 3. The actually aligned portions 4 of said L-shaped projections are engaged by tongues 5 extending from the inner end of the flexible element 6 which is composed preferably of ordinary wire screen such as is used for window screens, said projections 5 being folded over upon the body portion 6 around said portions 4 of the handle. The side edges and outer end of the member 6 are bound with a border 7 of suitable fabric or other material secured thereto by stitching or otherwise, said binding being partly disposed between portions 3 of said arms. The said L-shaped projections, are, with the exception of the corner portions to which the reference characters 2 are applied, completely housed between opposed wall portions 8 of a plate which is suitably folded upon itself at a suitable median line, so that the member 6 and the binding 7 thereof are quite snugly clamped between said opposed wall portions 8, the portions of the latter receiving the portions 4 and 3 of the L-shaped projections, being formed to substantially tubular shape by the same. The plates or wall portions 8 are held against separation by doubling the metal housing and arms 3, but may be otherwise suitably held against such separation.

The edge portions of the plates or wall portions 8 lying between the extremities of the arms 3 includes a middle portion overlapping the member 6 to a greater extent than the side edge portions, said advantage preferably describing a graceful double ogee curve, as shown. Thus in flexing the member 6, as happens in the use of the device, it is found that flexion is distributed over a greater length of the member 6 than is the case where the upper or outer edges of the plates or wall portions 8 are straight or substantially straight in a line extending from one side edge portion to the other thereof. The life of the device has been found in practice to be very materially increased by such formation of the plates 8, besides rendering the device more attractive and increasing the area adapted for the application of advertising matter.

All the features of construction above described, with the exception of the new formation of the edge portions of the plates or wall portions 8 are disclosed in the aforesaid patent, the present invention being limited as defined in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. In an insect destroyer including a handle having divergent arms at one end and a flexible element secured to said arms, a plate forming a pair of opposed relatively inflexible wall portions secured to said arms and disposed upon opposite sides of the said flexible element over an area adjacent its connection with said arms to thereby maintain said portion thereof inflexible, the free

edges of said wall portions extending laterally of said flexible member being curved to provide for the intermediate portions thereof to project farther than the end portions thereof over said flexible element.

2. An insect destroyer comprising a wire handle provided with opposed L-shaped arms, a flexible element including portions engaged with the divergent portions of said arms and having its side edges disposed parallel with and contiguous to the parallel portions of said arms, a plate forming a pair of opposed substantially inflexible wall portions disposed upon opposite sides of the portion of said parallel arms and each presenting a double ogee curved outer edge portion, the middle portions of said wall portions bordered by said curved edge constituting projections extending partly over the body of the flexible member disposed beyond the area bordered by said L-shaped arms and serving to prevent bending of said flexible member along a straight lateral line while increasing the areas and attractiveness of said wall portions.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 30 day of July, A. D. 1923.

FRANK MADLE.