Nov. 5, 1929. J. F. PFEIFER 1,734,876

BARRELLESS BEAR GUN

Filed Feb. 15, 1926

Fig. 1.

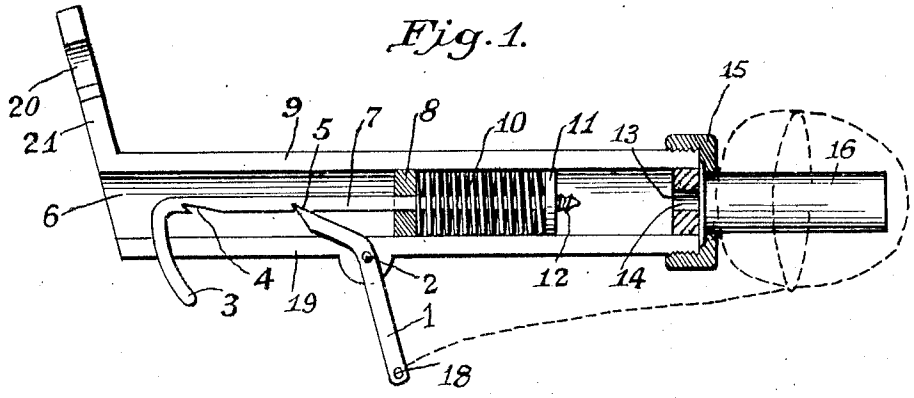


Fig. 2.

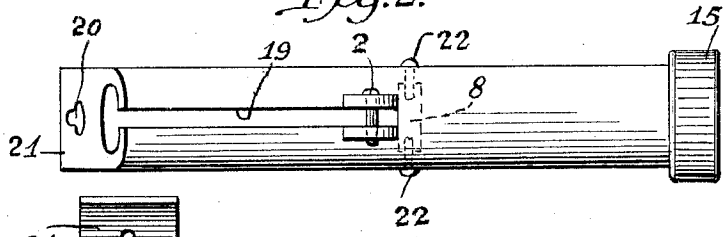


Fig. 3

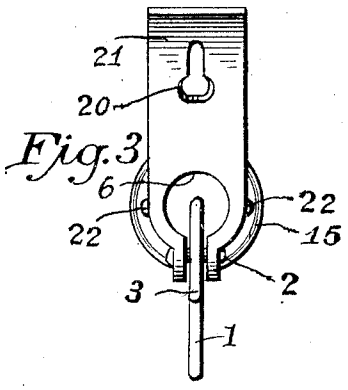
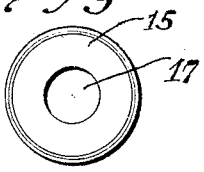


Fig. 4.



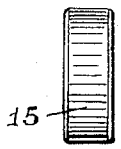


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BARRELLESS BEAR GUN

Application filed February 15, 1926. Serial No. 88,443.

The invention relates to a new type of bear-gun, which in principle resembles a trap, in that it is left for the bear to find, which, when bear grabs bait placed an said gun, will explode a previously prepared shell, having a breaking power instead of a carrying power, in the bear's mouth causing instant death; and the objects of the invention are, first, to provide a more convenient means for the trapper who often finds difficuty in moving the heavy bear-traps; second, to insure more instant death to the bear, thus reducing the suffering caused by exposure and pain while in trap; and third, reducing the danger of walking into traps, which often become snowed under while the "bear-gun" will be placed at such a height that it may be easily seen.

The form of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view,

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view,

Figure 3 is a rear end elevational view, and

Figures 4 and 5 are detailed views.

The structure embodying this invention includes the tubular breech or body portion 9, having its lower wall slotted at 19 for a portion of its length and provided with open ends. The rear end of the breech 9 is beveled and has projecting upwardly therefrom, at the same inclination as the bevel, a lug 21 formed with a keyhole opening 20, as illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive. The forward open end of the breech is externally screw threaded for a purpose to be described at a later point.

Positioned within the bore 6 of the breech 9 is a partition 8, of disc shape, which is secured in place by the pins 22. This partition is centrally apertured for the reception of the rod-like hammer 7. This hammer is pointed at its forward end 12 and is externally screw threaded for having secured thereto the disc-like partition 11. The rear portion of the hammer 7 is provided with a depending trigger-set 3 which is slidably positioned within the slot 19 of the breech. The hammer is also provided at its rear portion with longitudinally spaced notches 4 and 5.

Encircling the hammer 7 and interposed between the partition 8 and guide 11 is a coil spring 10 which functions to force the hammer towards the forward end of the breech. For the purpose of holding the hammer in its cocked position, against the tension of the spring 10, a trigger 1, of angular formation, is provided and is pivoted by the fulcrum pin 2 to depending, apertured ears which are located at the forward end of the slot 19. The upper end of this trigger is beveled so that it will properly seat in the notch 5 for holding the hammer cocked. The notch 4 engages the upper end of the trigger for retaining the hammer in a safety position.

The forward end of the breach 9 has positioned in its bore a centrally apertured shell backing disc 13. Detachably, threadedly connected to the forward end of the breach is a shell cap 15 which is formed with a central aperture 17 for the reception of the special shell or cartridge 16. Figure 1 clearly illustrates the manner in which the shell 16 is attached to the breach and it is to be understood that the shell is of the "center firing type" so that the cap, not shown, will register with the aperture 14 in the member 13.

The operation of this barrelless bear-gun may be described as follows:

The lug 21 is employed as a mounting for the gun and enables the same to be mounted upon a suitable upright by means of a nail, a screw or the like passed through the keyhole slot 20. It will be seen that the inclination of the rear end of the breach 9 and the lug 21 will cause the breach to be inclined with respect to the vertical face of the support, not shown. This manner of mounting the gun is intended to align the breach with the throat of an animal which is required to elevate or raise its head to reach the bait, not shown, secured to the forward end of the gun. This bait is to be attached, as by a cord or the like, which has not been shown, to the trigger 1 by means of the aperture 18 in the latter.

When the gun is properly mounted and the hammer has been pulled rearwardly by means of the setting element 3, the trigger end will seat in the notch 5 and retain the gun cocked. When an animal attempts to remove the bait from the forward end of the gun, it will pull

the trigger 1 and release the hammer. The forward end of the hammer will then pass through the aperture for firing the shell.

It is to be understood that this shell is of a special type, preferably "20 gauge" and will spread laterally or explode in its entirety rather than project a bullet or the like.

It is to be understood that the invention as shown and described may be changed with respect to shape, size and arrangement of parts so long as it does not depart from the spirit of the invention and scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described the invention, I claim;

In a gun of the type described, a tubular breech having a longitudinal slot in its wall, an angular trigger pivoted in one end portion of said slot, a stationary partition in the bore of the breech adjacent said end of the slot, a rod-like hammer slidable through an aperture in said partition and having a hooked end projecting outside of the breech through said slot and also having a pair of spaced notches receiving the inner end of the trigger to hold the hammer either in a firing or a safety position, a guide on the firing end portion of the hammer movable with the latter, a spring encircling the hammer between the partition and the guide, a centrally apertured shell backing disk positioned in the forward end of the breech, a shell clamping ring threaded on the forward end of the breech to hold a shell against said disk, and a rigid apertured lug on the rear end of the breech and extending at an angle less than the perpendicular.

JOHN FREDERICK PFEIFER.