

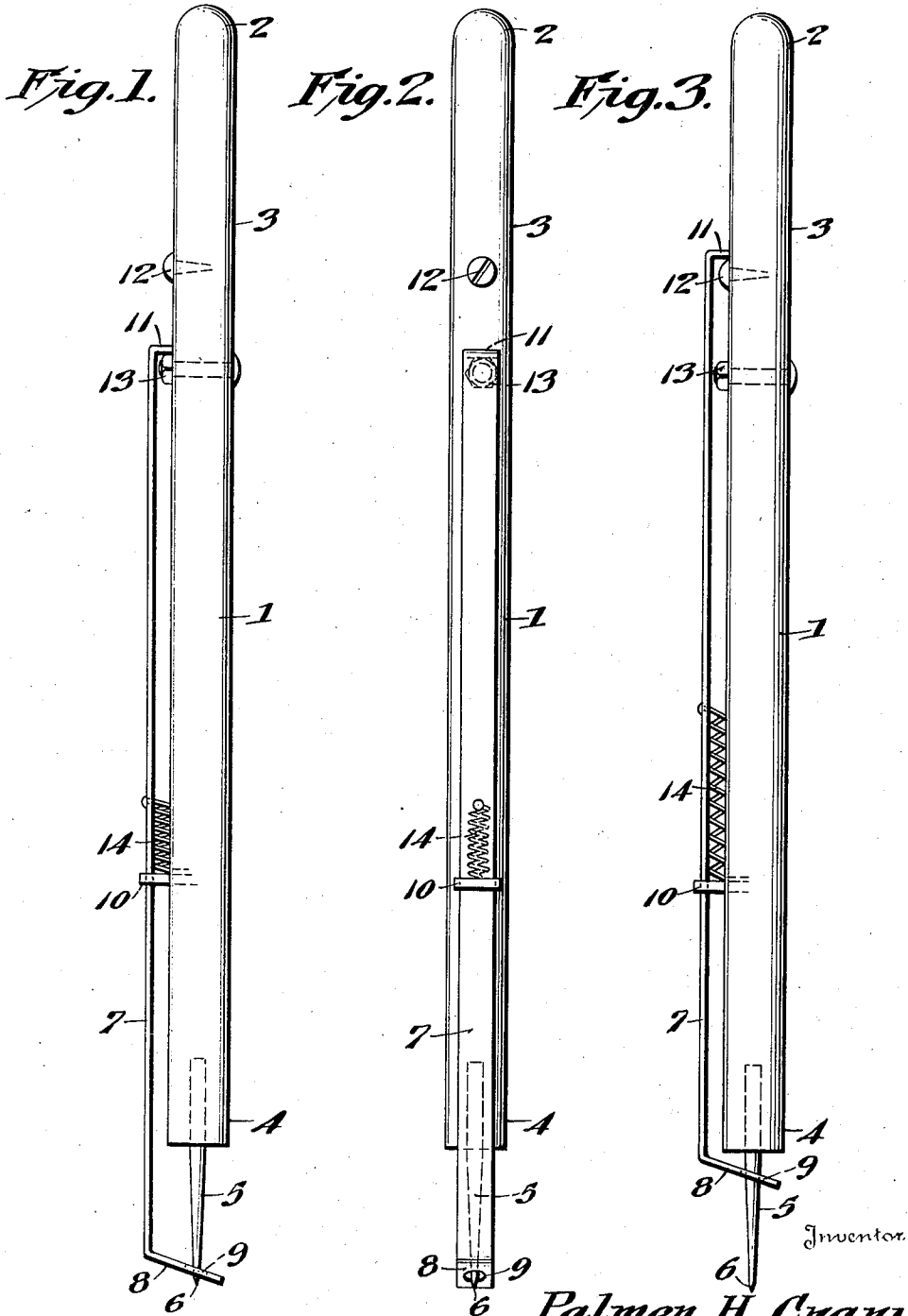
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P. H. CRARY

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SANITARY PAPER AND RUBBISH PICKER

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Inventor.

Palmer H. Crary

By Lloyd W. Patch

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SANITARY PAPER AND RUBBISH PICKER

Palmer H. Crary, Jamaica, N. Y.

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4 Claims. (Cl. 294—61)

My invention relates to improvements in sanitary paper and rubbish pickers, and particularly to a device of this character intended and adapted for use by park employees, and others, for picking up paper and rubbish from the ground and for dropping this into a bag, can, or other collection container in which the paper or rubbish is removed.

An object of my invention is to provide a device of this character that can be held and used and operated and manipulated by one hand of the workman, thus leaving the other hand free for carrying or manipulating the container for receiving the material as picked up.

Another object is to so construct the parts that the pickup pin or spike is normally guarded to thus prevent injury to the person or damage to the pin or objects with which it may come in contact by being carried, that the picking up operation causes the pin to be exposed to impale and hold the paper or rubbish, and that the parts can be readily manipulated to cause the paper or rubbish to be pushed off or removed from the pin.

Still another purpose is to provide a device of this character that is of simple and inexpensive construction, thus permitting sale at a low price with consequent wide distribution and use, and which will prove completely sanitary in use since the operator or user need not touch or handle any part of the paper or rubbish as picked up, while at the same time the parts are such that there is little likelihood or danger of any portion becoming broken or damaged while in use.

With the above and other objects in view, some of which will be apparent to those skilled in the art and others of which are inherent in the construction and operation and use of the device, my present invention includes certain novel features of construction and arrangements and associations of parts which will be hereinafter set forth in connection with the drawing and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation illustrating the parts in pin guarding relation and in position for use.

Fig. 2 is an elevational view taken substantially at right angles to the showing in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 disclosing the relation of the parts in pick up position with the pin exposed.

The handle or staff 1 can be made of wood or of any other suitable material, and this handle or stick or staff is preferably of cylindrical form with the end 2 thereof rounded over to present a

smooth surface for and prevent injury to the hand of the user when grasping this handle or staff by the handgrip portion at 3. This handle or stick or staff 1 is made of any desired and suitable length, such that as the user grips the portion 3 within the hand the pickup or opposite end is readily and conveniently brought adjacent to the ground. This pick up end 4 has a pin or spike or prong 5 suitably mounted or fixed thereon or therein to extend with its pointed end 6 presented substantially axially so that the user grasping the handle at 3 can readily and conveniently pick up paper, fruit skins, and other rubbish by impaling the same upon this pin or spike or prong 5.

Pick up devices similar to the parts thus far described have heretofore been used, but it has been customary and necessary for the workman using such devices to remove the paper or rubbish from the pin 5 by using the other hand, and obviously this two hand operation does not permit the user to carry a bag or other container, and does require constant exposing of the hand used to clear the pin to possible contact with germs, infection, and other injurious substances and organisms.

To permit operation with one hand and to obviate the necessity of manual removal of paper or rubbish from the pin 5, I provide an elongated metal strip 7 having one end thereof bent angularly to present an obliquely disposed extension 8. This extension 8 has an opening therethrough to loosely and slidably receive the pin or spike 5, and the metal strip or bar 7 is slidably mounted on one side of the handle 1 through the medium of a guide 10, so that the spike or pin 5 is received in the opening 9 and the strip or bar 7 is capable of endwise sliding movement. This strip or bar 7 has a flange 11 at its inner end extending to terminate closely adjacent to the side of the handle or staff member 1, and a rounded or bead-like retaining stop 12 is provided on the handle 1 in such position that the flange 11 will travel over this retaining stop on the inward or upward movement of the strip or bar 7, as illustrated in Fig. 3. A positive stop 13 is provided on the handle 1 in position to engage with the flange portion 11 and positively limit downward or outward movement of the strip or bar 7 to such an extent that the pin 5 will be displaced from the opening 9 of the extension 8.

A spring 14 is connected with the strip or bar 7 to normally exert resilient force thereon to move this strip or bar to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and this same spring serves to draw the

inner end of the bar resiliently inwardly or toward the handle 1 so that as the strip or bar 7 is moved to the pick up position shown in Fig. 3 the flange 11 will resiliently ride over the bead-like retaining stop 12 and this flange 11 will then hold against the stop 12 to retain the strip or bar 7 in this pick up position and against being returned to the extended position through the resilient force exerted by spring 14. In use, the operator or user will grasp the handle 1 by the handgrip portion 3 with the thumb thus positioned adjacent to the retaining stop 12. Then, the user will point the handle at the paper or rubbish to be picked up and with a thrusting movement will cause the pin 5 to penetrate and impale the paper or rubbish. This same thrusting movement, usually directed at an object on soft earth, will cause the oblique guard portion 8 to be pressed and moved along the length of the pin 5 away from the point 6, and as the strip or bar 7 is moved inwardly the flange 11 will ride over the retaining stop 12 and will catch behind this stop so that the parts will be held in the position shown in Fig. 3. Thus, the portion 8 is retained against being moved outwardly under the influence of spring 14. When the user desires to release or discharge the paper or rubbish as thus speared or impaled upon the pin 5, the thumb is placed against the outer side of the flange portion 11 and with an upward and outward flip the flange is raised and released from the position behind the retaining stop 12 so that the strip or bar 7 is free to be moved and extended outwardly, under the influence of spring 14. The outward movement of the strip or bar 1 causes the extension 8 to be moved outwardly toward the point 6 of the pin 5, and in consequence paper or rubbish impaled upon the pin is withdrawn and discharged. This oblique arrangement of the extension 8 has a tendency to exert a biasing force that will facilitate withdrawal or removal of the paper or rubbish.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a sanitary paper and rubbish picker that is capable of being manipulated and operated by the use of one hand, and that at no time will it be necessary for the user or workman to touch any paper or rubbish or other material as picked up with either of his hands. Also, it will be seen that the portion 8 serves as a guard to protect the point 6 of the pin from possible injurious contact with the person of the user, and that the pin will be exposed only following the picking up operation and when paper or rubbish is contained or impaled thereon.

While I have herein shown and described only certain specific embodiments of the various features of my invention, it will be appreciated that changes and variations can be made in the form, construction, arrangement and assembly of the parts, and in the manner of use, without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. A paper and rubbish picker comprising, an elongated handle having a handgrip portion at one end, a pin at the other end of the handle, a bar slidably and swingably mounted on said

handle and provided at one end with a guard movable adjacent to and along the length of the pin, means normally urging said bar to a position in which the guard is positioned to shield the point of the pin, said guard being movable to clear the pin, and releasable means on said bar adjacent to the handgrip portion to retain the bar with the guard thereof leaving the pin exposed, said means being released by swinging movement of the bar.

2. A paper and rubbish picker comprising, an elongated handle having a handgrip portion at one end, a pick-up pin at the other end of the handle, an elongated bar endwise slidably mounted on one side of the handle, a guard on said bar having a portion thereof adjacent to the pin, a retaining stop on the handle adjacent to the handgrip portion, a flange on said bar releasably engageable over said retaining stop to hold said bar in position with the guard portion thereon located to expose the pin, and a spring acting upon said bar when the flange is released to move said bar endwise to cause the guard to travel along the length of the pin toward the penetrating end thereof.

3. A paper and rubbish picker comprising, an elongated handle having a handgrip portion at one end, a pick-up pin at the other end of the handle, an elongated bar slidably and swingably mounted on one side of the handle, an obliquely extending guard portion on the outer end of the slidable bar having a part thereof adjacent to the pin, means normally moving said bar to a position in which the guard portion is disposed adjacent to the penetrating end of the pick-up pin, and a retaining stop on the handle adjacent to the handgrip portion engaged by a portion of the bar and from which the bar is released by swingable movement of said bar.

4. A paper and rubbish picker comprising, an elongated handle having a handgrip portion at one end, a pick-up pin at the other end of the handle, an elongated bar slidably mounted on one side of the handle provided at its outer end with an obliquely disposed guard portion having an opening through which the pick-up pin is freely slidably received, said bar being provided at its inner end adjacent to the handgrip portion of the handle with an intumed flange, a stop on the handle engageable with said flange to limit outward movement of the slidable bar to preserve the guard portion always in position adjacent to the pick-up pin, a spring connected to and exerting resilient force to slide said bar to the extended position with the guard portion thereof protecting the point of the pick-up pin, and a bead-like retaining stop on said handle spaced from the positive stop in position that the flange of the bar engages over this retaining stop when the bar is moved inwardly with the guard portion thereof exposing the pick-up pin and in which retained relation the flanged end is positioned to be manipulated and released by the thumb of the hand holding upon the handgrip portion.

PALMER H. CRARY.