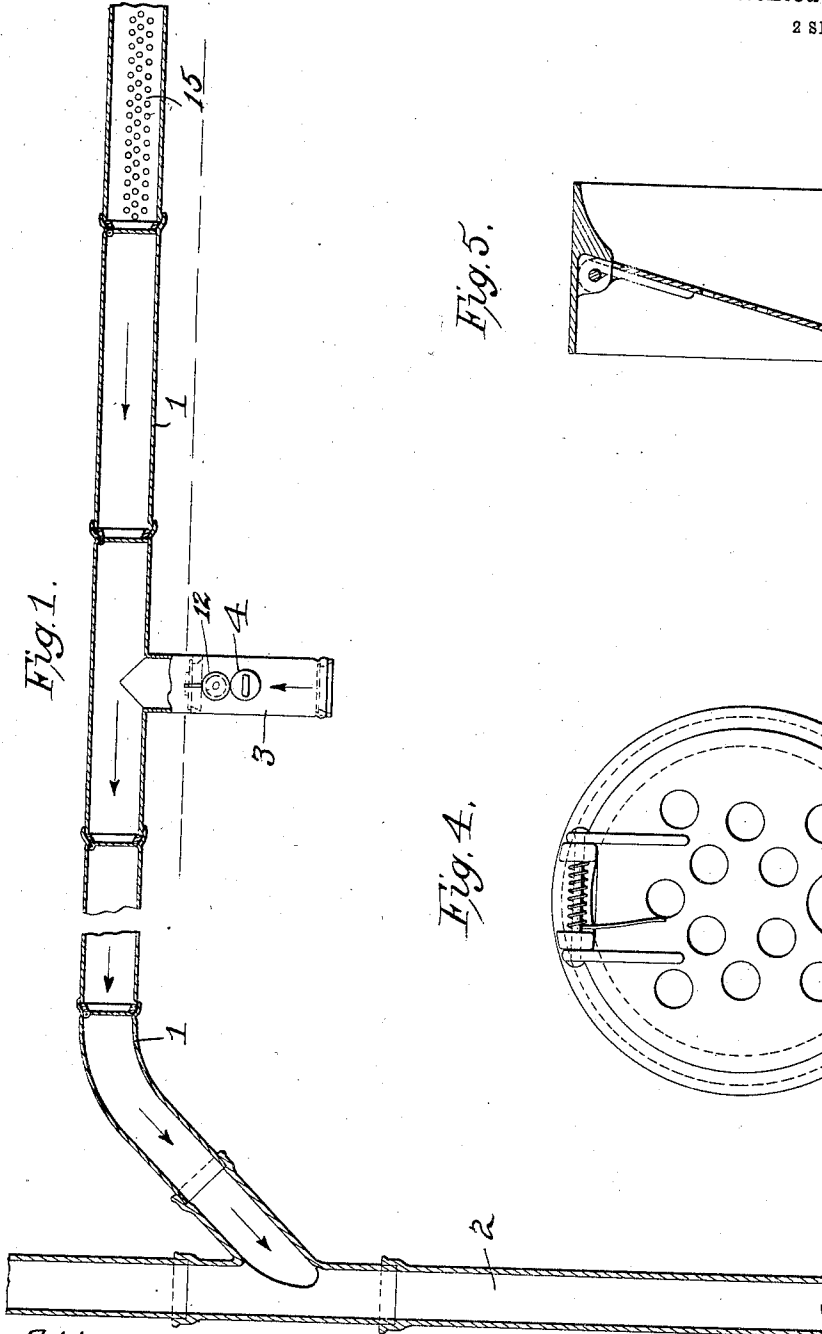


1,044,202.



Attest:
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C. A. LINDBERG.
 BAT TRAP.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 28, 1911.

1,044,202.

Patented Nov. 12, 1912.
 2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

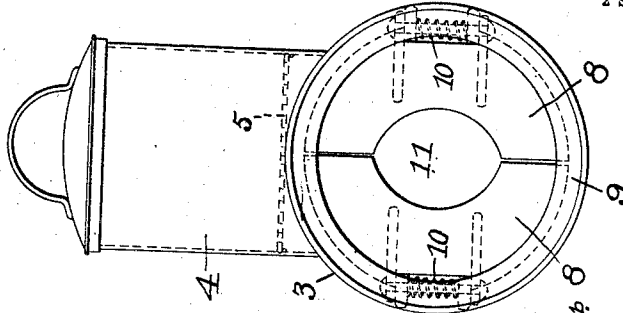
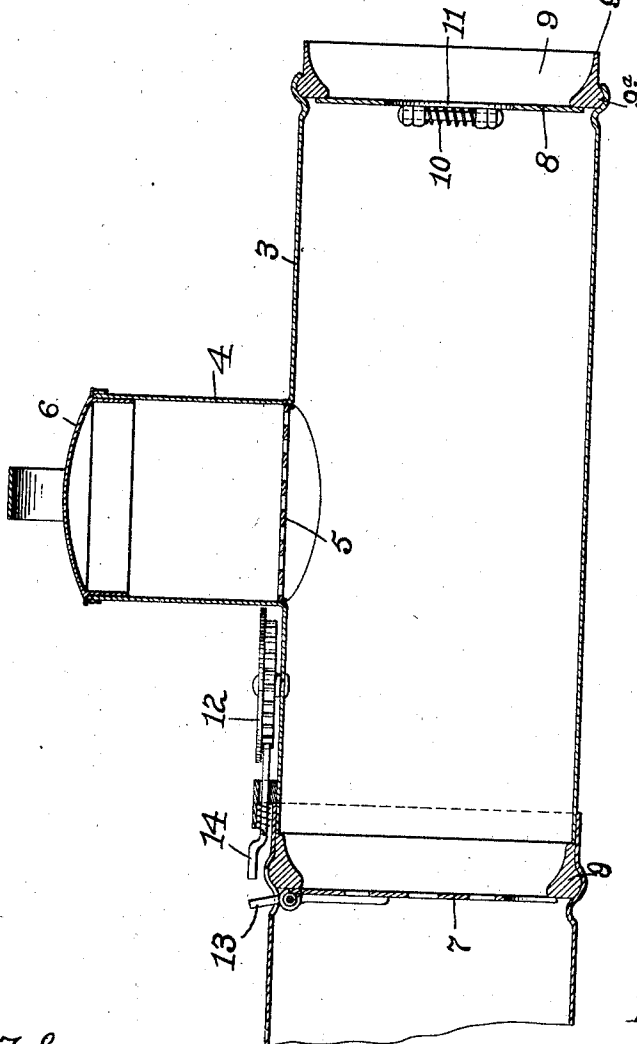


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. LINDBERG, OF BRADFORD, PENNSYLVANIA.

RAT-TRAP.

1,044,202.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 12, 1912.

Application filed March 28, 1911. Serial No. 617,344.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. LINDBERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bradford, Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rat-Traps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to means for ridding vessels, buildings, wharves and the like of rats or other rodent animals, and the object of the invention is to provide means whereby the bodies of the rats will be disposed of and will not be visible to other rats.

The invention relates to the features of construction and combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a sectional plan view of an arrangement of the invention but showing the sewer pipe and the connection thereto in sectional elevation. Fig. 2 is a central sectional view of one of the entrances. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the same. Fig. 4 shows a modified form of spring door. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of a gravity door.

In carrying out the invention suitable tubing 1, such as the ordinary three inch stove pipe, which may be put together in joints in the ordinary way, is placed in the hollow spaces between partitions in buildings, or in any other desirable place, for any length or distance. At desired points in the main line of tubing, entrance pipes 3 are provided with lead into the room or place where the rats are likely to assemble. On top of each of these entrance pipes are provided a bait receptacle 4 separated from the pipe by means of a perforated bottom 5, and having a removable cover 6. At each end of the pipe 3 and at suitable points in the main line of tubing are provided spring or gravity doors 7 which permit the rat to enter, but prevent his return after once having started to enter the system. As shown in the drawing, a door is provided at each joint. Of course any form of non-return door may be used but that preferably used consists of a pair of members 8, hinged at their sides to a ring 9 held at the joint of the pipes. In order to securely hold the rings 9 at the joints, in a simple and efficient manner, each ring is provided with an annular bead 9^a near one face of the ring,

which engages an internal annular groove in the end of the tube, and said ring has a projecting annular flange 9^b which is adapted to engage the end of the adjoining tube. A spring 10 on the hinge keeps the members against the ring so that said members can only open in one direction, that is, inwardly. The members of each pair have their meeting edges cut away in the center to provide a small opening 11 in the center of the door. The rat smells the bait at the entrance end, pushes its nose into the opening 11 and thus swings the members inwardly. If it attempts to pull back the edges of the members will grip it so that it cannot back out and it will be compelled to go forward. The rat finds itself in the first joint or entrance pipe 3, and it is the nature of a rat that as soon as it is trapped it will make a desperate effort to get at any possible opening; therefore as it cannot get out the way it entered, it proceeds on to the end of the joint of the entrance pipe through the second door, which also opens in the direction that the rat desires to go, but prevents the rat from returning, and so reaches the main line, where he passes from joint to joint, opening the spring door at each joint as it passes, until it finally reaches the end of the line of pipe which, as shown in the drawing, leads to a sewer 2, or to a large tank of water or other liquid, or if the invention is used on a vessel, it would lead to the exterior thereof. The last joint of pipe is inclined downward at an angle of 45° so that as the rat starts down, the metal pipe being slippery, it is bound to be discharged into the water or sewer. If desired the receptacle into which the rat drops may be provided with live wires so as to electrocute the rat.

In Fig. 4 is shown a form of door which is made of one piece of perforated material and is hinged at the top of the ring by a spring hinge. Another form of door is shown in Fig. 5. In this form the door is held closed by gravity and the spring hinge is omitted.

If desired an indicating device 12 may be provided to keep a record of the number of rats disposed of. This device is operated by a projection 13 on one of the doors, which, when the door is raised by a rat, comes in contact with a movable part 14 and so actuates the indicator.

It may be necessary in some places to lay

some of the pipe at an incline or on an up
grade, and also when said pipe is laid on
board a ship, during times of rough weather,
the pipe will be thrown off the level by the
5 pitching or rolling of the vessel. In such
cases it will be difficult for the rat to run
along on the smooth surface of the pipe.
To obviate this, the under side of the pipe
is perforated by small holes, perforated from
10 the outside inwardly so that the inside of the
surface is a little rough, as shown at 15 at
the right hand end of Fig. 1, and this will
give the rat sufficient footing to climb the
pipe even at quite an incline.

15 It will be noted that the rat cannot reach
the bait, though he can see it and smell it,
so that the bait will last for some time.

I claim as my invention:—

In a rat trap of the character described, a

cylindrical tube of sheet metal of a diameter 20
but slightly in excess of the size of a rat, a
ring 9 having a bead engaging an annular
internal groove in the end of the tube, and
having a projecting flange adapted to en-
gage the end of an adjoining tube, and a 25
pair of semicircular doors hinged to opposite
sides of said ring, the free edges of said
doors having central notches and abutting
portions above and below the notches, and
springs acting upon said doors and holding 30
them normally pressed against the face of
the ring, substantially as described.

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

CHARLES A. LINDBERG.

Witnesses:

EDWIN E. TAIT,

KATHARINE BURKE.