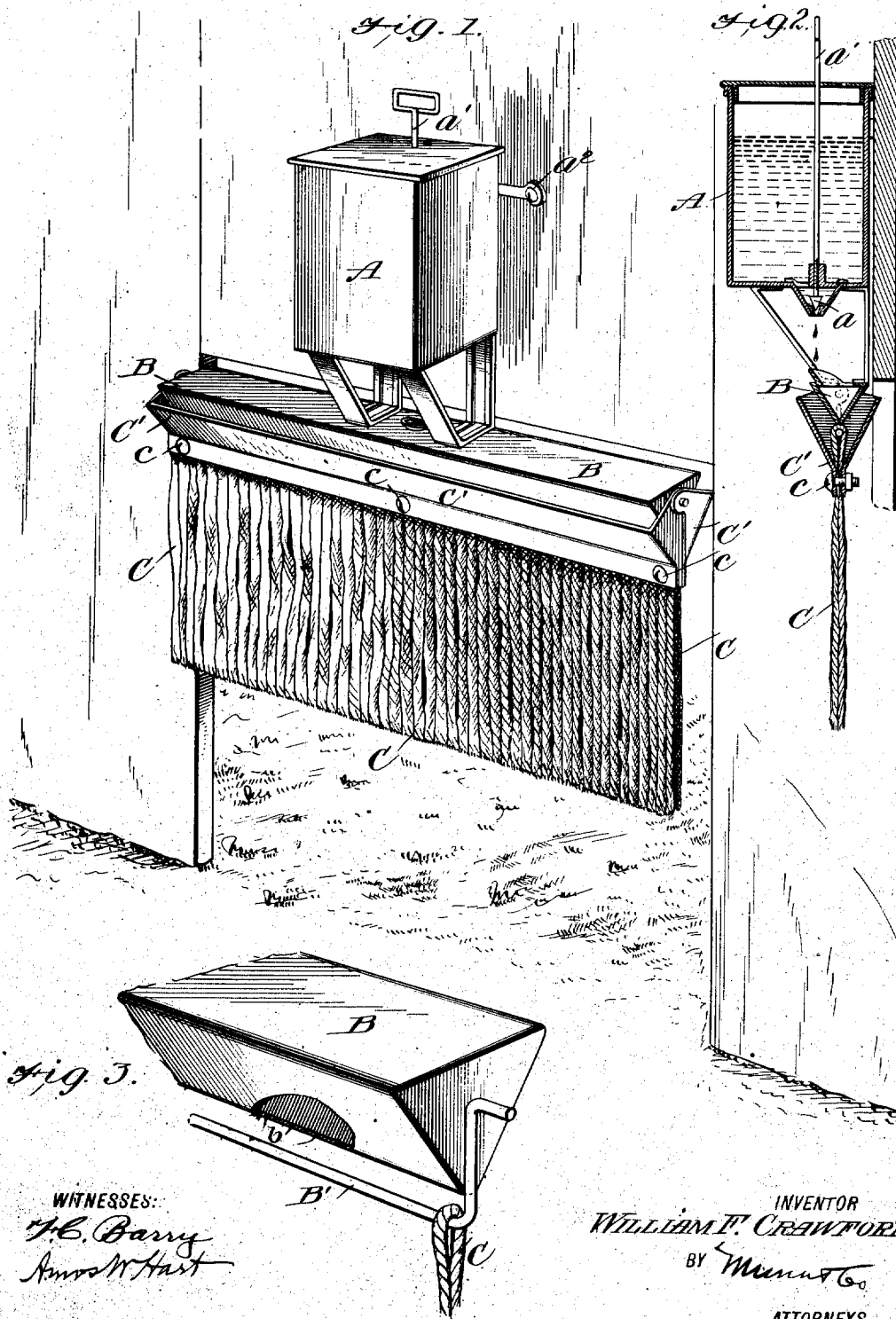


W. F. CRAWFORD.
VERMIN EXTERMINATOR FOR POULTRY.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 20, 1910.

987,433.

Patented Mar. 21, 1911.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM FRANK CRAWFORD, OF COLORADO, TEXAS,

VERMIN-EXTERMINATOR FOR POULTRY.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. CRAWFORD, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Colorado, in the county of Mitchell and State of Texas, have invented an Improved Vermin-Exterminator for Poultry, of which the following is a specification:

My invention is an apparatus adapted for location in, or adjacent to, the doorway of a poultry-house or -yard, and for applying to fowls, as they pass in or out, a liquid destructive to the vermin with which they may be infected.

The apparatus includes, as chief elements, a cup- or can-like holder for the oil or other liquid used as the insecticide, a perforated conveyer into and from which the liquid is delivered, and a fibrous distributor with which the fowls come in contact as they pass in or out. The liquid holder is provided with a valve for regulating discharge into the conveyer, and the distributor is preferably formed of cotton strands that are hung from a pivoted rocking device in which they are clamped.

The details of construction, arrangement, and operation of the apparatus are as hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my invention as suspended and arranged in actual practice. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross section. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the apparatus.

A indicates a holder for the oil or other liquid used as an insecticide. The same is supported upon brackets which are rigidly attached to the flat top of the triangular conveyer B into which the liquid is delivered from the holder A, the bottom of the latter being provided with a conical valve *a* which is adjusted, that is to say opened or closed, by means of a slidable rod *a'*. The elongated conveyer B has a funnel-shaped opening at the top and a series of perforations *b* at the bottom, as indicated in Fig. 3. The oil or other liquid thus delivered into the conveyer B runs along the bottom and is delivered to the distributor C. The latter is formed of fibrous material, preferably of cotton or other twisted strands which are suspended from the conveyer B, being for this purpose looped over a bar *B'* that extends beneath and parallel to the bottom of

the conveyer B. The distributor C is further secured between the jaws of a rocking attachment *C'* which is pivotally attached to and suspended from the conveyer B. The part *C'* is constructed of two jaws which are pivoted together at their ends, thus giving the same a trough-like form of considerably larger width and depth than the conveyer B which is practically arranged within it, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The end portions of the rod *B'* on which the strands of the distributor C are hung are bent upward and secured to the ends of the conveyer B and their terminals project horizontally and constitute pivots upon which the clamping device *C'* is pivoted. The lower ends or jaws of the device *C'* are flat and practically parallel and are secured together by screw-bolts *c*—see especially Fig. 2. The jaws may, therefore, be clamped tightly upon the fibrous material and may retard the flow of the liquid through the same to a greater or less degree.

The operation of the apparatus will now be understood. In practice, it is suspended in or adjacent to a doorway or passage through which fowls are accustomed to pass in and out of a house or yard. For convenience, the suspension may be effected by means of rigid arms *a²* attached to the insecticide holder, as shown in Fig. 1, nails or screws being inserted through eyes in the ends of the arms. It is to be understood, however, that any other convenient means of suspension may be adopted. The strands of fibrous material C constituting the distributor thus hang free in the doorway, and as the fowls attempt to pass under it, they come in contact with the strands and thus a portion of the liquid is smeared over them. This operation is facilitated to a considerable degree by the pivotal arrangement of the holder *C'*, since it is adapted to rock or swing sidewise. In other words, by the pivotal arrangement referred to, the fibrous material is practically lengthened, since it swings from a higher point than it would if the clamp were fixed and incapable of moving laterally, and hence also swings more easily so, that the fowls meet less resistance while passing underneath said material. The insecticide is thus applied automatically and effectively and requires no attention on the part of the owner, save to replenish the holder A when required.

What I claim is:—

1. In an apparatus for the purpose specified, a conveyer for liquid insecticide consisting of a box-like receptacle having converging sides and a series of perforations in the narrow bottom, a rod attached to said conveyer and extending beneath the same parallel to its bottom, and fibrous material hung upon said rod and thus receiving the drip from the conveyer, substantially as described.
2. In an apparatus for the purpose specified, the combination with a conveyer consisting of a box-like receptacle having a perforated bottom, of fibrous material and a suspending medium therefor, the same being pivoted on and suspended below the conveyer and thus adapted to rock laterally, substantially as described.
- 20 3. In an apparatus for the purpose specified, the combination with the conveyer for insecticide comprising a box-like receptacle

having a perforated bottom, a rod extending parallel to the bottom, fibrous material looped over said rod and thus held in position to receive the drip from the conveyer, and a clamping device supported on the conveyer and comprising jaws and screw-bolts passing through the same and serving to clamp the jaws upon the fibrous material, substantially as described.

4. In an apparatus for the purpose specified, the combination with a conveyer for liquid insecticide, of a trough-like device suspended therefrom and having lower portions serving as jaws, fibrous material held between the jaws, and clamping devices applied thereto for compressing the fibrous material, substantially as described.

WILLIAM FRANK CRAWFORD.

Witnesses:

W. H. GARDNER,
W. L. DOSS.