Feb. 12, 1924. 1,483,304

A. C. HEFFNER

TOY GUN

Filed Oct. 15, 1923

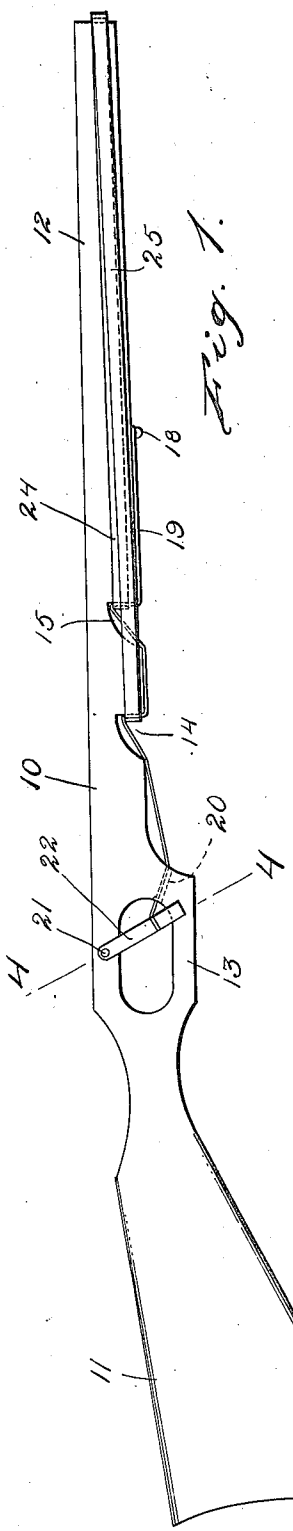


Fig. 1.

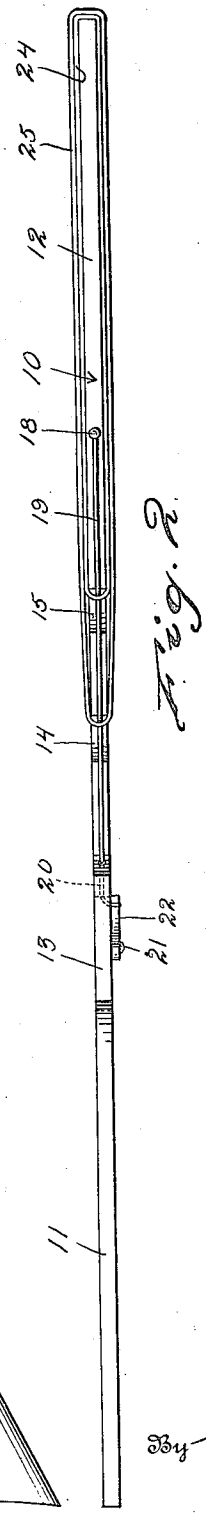


Fig. 2.

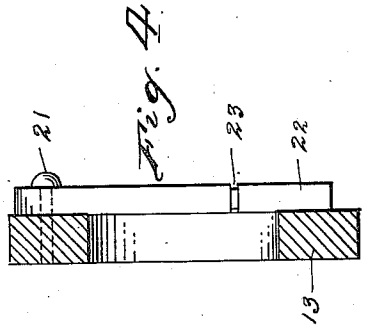


Fig. 4.

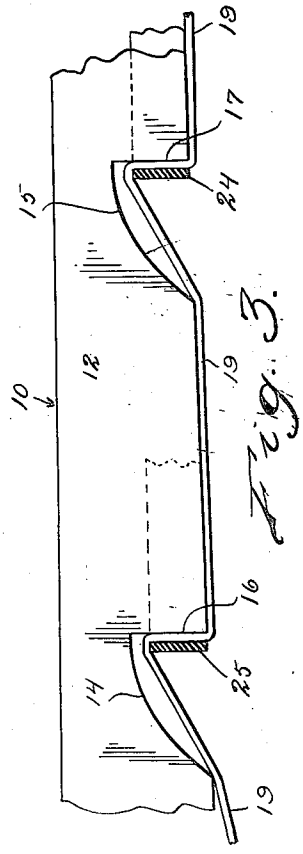


Fig. 3.

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Patented Feb. 12, 1924. 1,483,304

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUSTUS C. HEFFNER, OF CROWLEY, LOUISIANA.

## TOY GUN.

Application filed October 15, 1923. Serial No. 668,711.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AUGUSTUS C. HEFFNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Crowley, in the parish of Acadia and State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Guns, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to projecting apparatus, particularly to toy guns, and has for its object the provision of a gun designed to shoot rubber bands, peculiar trigger means being provided for releasing the stretched bands and permitting them to be projected.

An important object is the provision of a gun of this character which will shoot two or more rubber bands successively at one loading and which is bound to be amusing and entertaining to the young, especially as it is well adapted for employment in connection with some special target or the like in the playing of a game.

An additional object is the provision of a device of this character which will be simple and inexpensive to manufacture, easy to operate, positive in action, efficient and durable in service, and a general improvement in the art.

With the above and other objects and advantages in view, the invention consists in the details of construction to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the gun showing it loaded or set ready for use;

Figure 2 is an edge view looking toward the lower side of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the notched portion showing in detail the engagement of the flexible members with the rubber bands; and

Figure 4 is a cross section on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Referring more particularly to the drawings I have shown the device as comprising an elongated body 10 which may in actual practice be a single piece of material and which is sawed, cut or otherwise formed so as to resemble a gun, the numeral 11 indicating the stock, 12 the barrel, and 13 the trigger guard. In its lower edge the rear portion of the barrel is cut or notched at 14 and 15 to define right angular shoulders 16 and 17 respectively.

Secured at 18 on the lower edge of the barrel is one end of a flexible member 19 which extends longitudinally of the underside of the barrel and through a hole 20 in the front of the trigger guard portion 13. Pivoted at 21 at the top of the trigger guard is the trigger 22 which is formed simply as an elongated strip or piece of wood or metal grooved at 23 so as to prevent slipping of the flexible member which is tied within this groove.

The projectiles to be used are ordinary rubber bands and in the present instance I have shown the device constructed to shoot two of such bands 24 and 25 successively. To effect loading or setting, one rubber band 24 is engaged upon the free end of the barrel with its other end engaged within the notch 15, the band being so positioned that the flexible member 19 will be confined between the shoulder 17 and the band, as clearly indicated in Figure 3. The second rubber 25 is then engaged upon the free end of the barrel over the band 24 and its other end is drawn back and engaged within the notch 14 in such a way that the flexible member 19 will be disposed within the notch and held between the band and the shoulder 16. At this time the trigger 22 is necessarily in its forwardmost position. To shoot the gun, the operator hooks his forefinger upon the trigger 22 and swings it back whereupon that portion of the flexible member extending between the trigger guard and the shoulder 16 will be straightened and will pull away from the shoulder 16, thus moving the rear end of the stretched band 25 downwardly so that it will be no longer held but will project itself from the gun. By pulling still farther upon the trigger, that portion of the flexible member which is located within the notch 15 will be similarly straightened so as to dislodge the band 25 from the shoulder 17 and permit it to be projected or to project itself.

From the foregoing description and a study of the drawings, it will be apparent that I have thus provided a very simple, inexpensive and highly amusing and entertaining toy gun which will be safe to use, inasmuch as rubber bands can do no material damage. The gun is well adapted for use in connection with some attractive tar-

get which might be designed so that score of the hits may be kept to determine the relative merits of the marksmen in case several are engaged in testing their skill. The ammunition is easily obtainable and another advantage of the entire device is that it is noiseless. When, in the course of time, the flexible member 19 which in actual practice is a piece of string, becomes worn out it may be easily replaced so as to make the gun as good as new.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that I reserve the right to make such changes in the form, construction and arrangement of parts as will not depart from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

I claim:—

1. A device of the character described comprising a body formed as a representation of a gun and including a stock and a barrel portion, the barrel portion being formed at its lower edge with notches defining retaining shoulders, a flexible member secured at one end to the barrel and extending longitudinally of its lower edge, the barrel being adapted to have elastic bands engaged upon the end thereof and stretched whereby their other ends will be disposed at said notches in engagement with the shoulders, the flexible member being drawn into the notches and retained by the bands and the shoulders, and means for applying tension to the flexible member for unseating the bands from the shoulders.

2. A device of the character described comprising a body formed as a representation of a gun and including a stock and a barrel portion, the barrel portion being formed at its lower edge with notches defining retaining shoulders, a flexible member secured at one end to the barrel and extending longitudinally of its lower edge, the barrel being adapted to have elastic bands engaged upon the end thereof and stretched whereby their other ends will be disposed at said notches in engagement with the shoulders, the flexible member being drawn into the notches and retained by the bands and the shoulders, and means for applying tension to the flexible member for unseating the bands from the shoulders, said means comprising a pivoted trigger connected with said flexible member.

3. In a toy gun, a barrel portion formed with notches defining retaining shoulders adapted to serve as holding means for rubber bands stretched and engaged upon the end of the barrel, and a pullable flexible element engaged beneath the bands in said notches for effecting unseating thereof.

4. A device of the character described comprising an elongated body formed as the representation of a gun barrel and stock, retaining shoulders at the lower edges of the barrel adapted to be engaged by the ends of elastic bands stretched and engaged upon the free end of the barrel, and means for dislodging said bands from said retaining shoulders, said means comprising a flexible member extending along the barrel in position to be held against said shoulders by the bands, and trigger means connected with the flexible member for applying longitudinal tension thereon.

5. A device of the character described comprising a body formed to represent a gun barrel and stock, the lower edge of the body being notched, a movable trigger, a flexible member connected with said trigger and having its other end secured to the barrel, said flexible member traversing the notch, said notch defining a shoulder constituting retaining means for one end of a stretched elastic band engaged upon the free end of the barrel.

6. A toy gun having its barrel portion formed with retaining shoulders adapted for engagement by the ends of rubber bands stretched and having their other ends engaged at the forward end of the barrel, and a cord held against the shoulders by the bands and capable of movement for effecting dislodgement thereof.

7. A toy gun for shooting rubber bands, having retaining elements adapted to be engaged by the bands for holding them stretched, a flexible member engaged by the bands and held thereby in engagement with said retaining elements, and means for applying tension to the flexible member for dislodging the bands.

8. A toy gun having retaining means for holding the rear ends of stretched elastic bands engaged upon the forward portion of the gun, and a cord engaging beneath the bands and movable to effect dislodgement thereof.

9. A toy gun having retaining means for holding the rear ends of stretched elastic bands engaged upon the forward portion of the gun, said retaining means defining an irregular surface, a flexible member disposed against and held in conforming relation to the irregular surface by the engagement of the bands therewith, and means for straightening the flexible member to dislodge the bands.

10. A toy gun having notches for engagement by the rear ends of stretched elastic bands engaged upon the forward portion of the gun, a cord lying within the notches and held by the bands, and a movable element connected with the cord for withdrawing the same from the notches and dislodging the bands.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

AUGUSTUS C. HEFFNER.