No. 869,886. PATENTED NOV. 5, 1907.

F. M. DUCKWORTH.

APPLAUDING DEVICE AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 7, 1907.

Fig. 1.

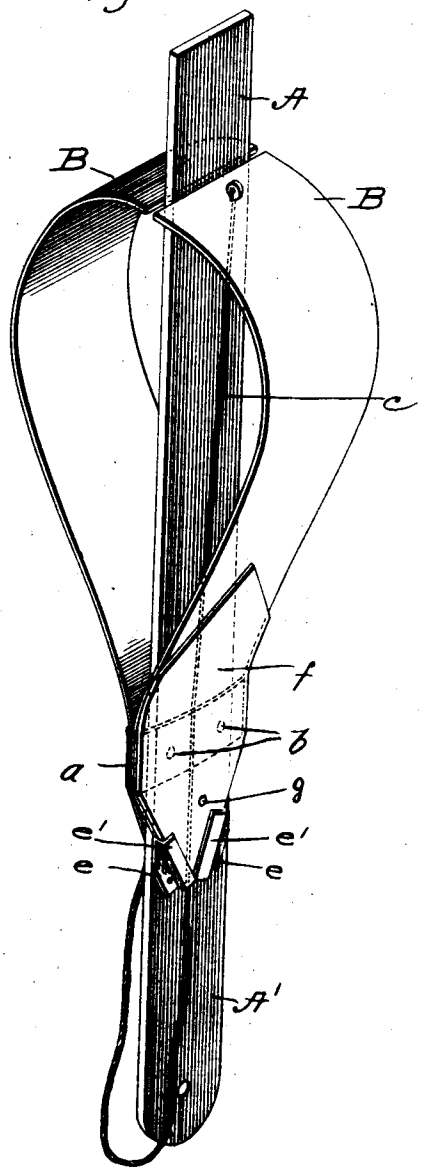
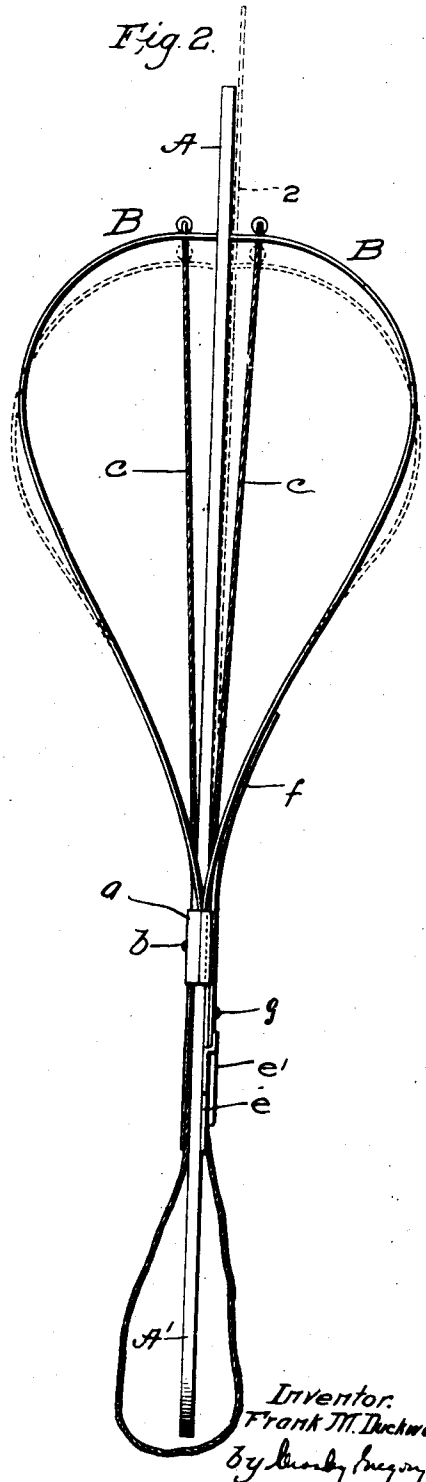


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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APPLAUDING DEVICE AND THE LIKE.

No. 869,886. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 5, 1907.

Application filed January 7, 1907. Serial No. 351,111.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK M. DUCKWORTH, a citizen of the United States, residing in Bridgewater, county of Plymouth, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Applauding Devices and the Like, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like letters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention has for its object the production of a novel device for applauding, it being used instead of "clapping the hands" the usual custom of approving anything well done, my device being for use on patriotic or festive occasions as a harmless noise maker.

My applauder comprises a resonant member and one or more connected strikers that, as the resonant member is shaken, will strike the side or sides of the resonant member.

Figure 1 in perspective shows one of my applauding devices in one of the best forms now known to me, and Fig. 2 a side elevation thereof.

The applauding device shown comprises a resonant member A extended to form a hand piece A′, said member being preferably of wood. At one or both sides of the resonant member I provide a striker B that may be made from any flexible springy material, I employing for sake of lightness of weight, cheapness and durability leatheroid, thin hard-pressed leather-board or their equivalents, and for a more expensive applauder I might make the striker or strikers of celluloid, or hard-rubber or like hard compound capable of being made in sheet form and bent to present their ends to strike the side of the resonant central member. The strikers are not an integral part of the resonant member and are preferably of a different material and wider than the resonant member. The strikers shown are connected at or near one end to the resonant member by a strong flexible band *a* cemented thereabout, and the band and strikers are further united to the resonant member by a fastening *b* that may be tacks. That the ends of the strikers may be inturned or put in position to strike the resonant member, I have combined with the strikers positioning means shown as cord *c* extended through holes in the strikers, thence led downwardly toward the opposite ends of the strikers and passed between the strikers and the resonant member, the cord being exposed at the handle that it may be pulled upon to curve the strikers more or less and retain them in their operative positions where they present their ends in position to strike the resonant member.

I may in some instances so bend the strikers permanently that they will occupy normally the position shown by full lines in the drawings, but when the applauders are to be marketed in large quantities and the size of the package needs to be taken into consideration, or when sent by mail, the strikers may be left substantially straight, as shown by dotted lines 2, Fig. 2, and when to be used the cord may be drawn to bend and retain the strikers in their operative positions shown by the full lines.

The inner extremity of each striker is shown as entering a socket *e* preferably of metal and having upturned sides with over-hanging flanges *e′*. The applauder is shown as provided with a card *f* the lower end of which may be inserted in the socket *e* and be secured to the striker and resonant member by a fastening *g*. This card may be of any suitable material and if the material is hard enough to be resilient, it will, by acting on the strikers tend to keep their acting ends in yielding contact with the resilient member. This card may be used as an advertising medium or be ornamented to suit any occasion on which the applauder may be used.

The strikers may be made of any color, as for instance crimson, and blue, if to be used at the football games; or be ornamented suitably for use on the Fourth of July, Christmas, or other special days or occasions. It is obvious that my invention would not be departed from if but one striker was used and that at one side of the resonant member, the noise or racket being less with one striker.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. An applauding device comprising a resonant member, a flexible striker connected thereto, and means secured to the device to transversely curve the striker.

2. An applauding device comprising a resonant member, a plurality of flexible strikers connected thereto capable of being laid flat on the resonant member, and means to curve the strikers at will and retain them in said position.

3. An applauding device comprising a resonant member, a flexible striker connected thereto, means to transversely curve the striker, and means for retaining the striker in its curved position.

4. An applauding device comprising a resonant member, a flexible striker connected thereto, means connected to the free end of the striker whereby said striker may be curved at will and retained in curved position.

5. An applauding device comprising a resonant member, a plurality of flexible strikers connected thereto, cords secured one to the free end of each striker whereby the strikers may be curved at will, and means for securing the opposite ends of said cords in position after the desired curvature in the strikers has been made.

6. In an applauding device, a resonant member a striker and a card, said striker and card being connected with the resonant member.

7. An applauding device comprising a resonant member, a striker connected thereto, a band encircling the striker and resonant member, a cord attached to the free end of said striker, the opposite end of said cord adapted to be passed between the resonant member and the striker at the point where said resonant member and striker are secured together and retained therein by friction.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK M. DUCKWORTH.

Witnesses:
GEO. W. GREGORY,
MARGARET A. DUNN.