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J. C. PFEIFFER

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STARLING SCARING DEVICE

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Fig. 1

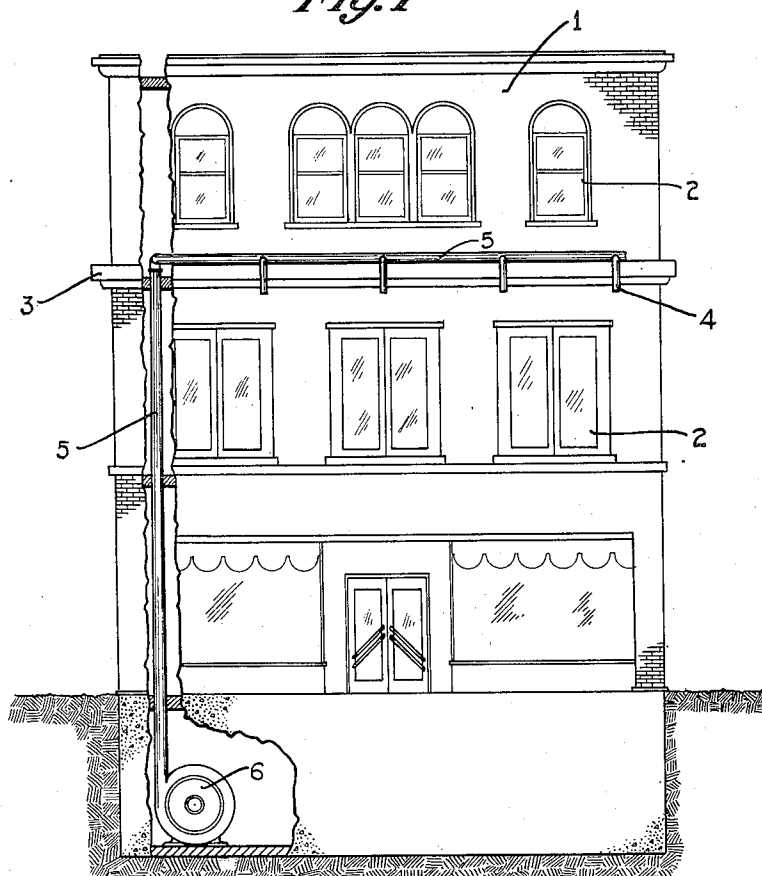
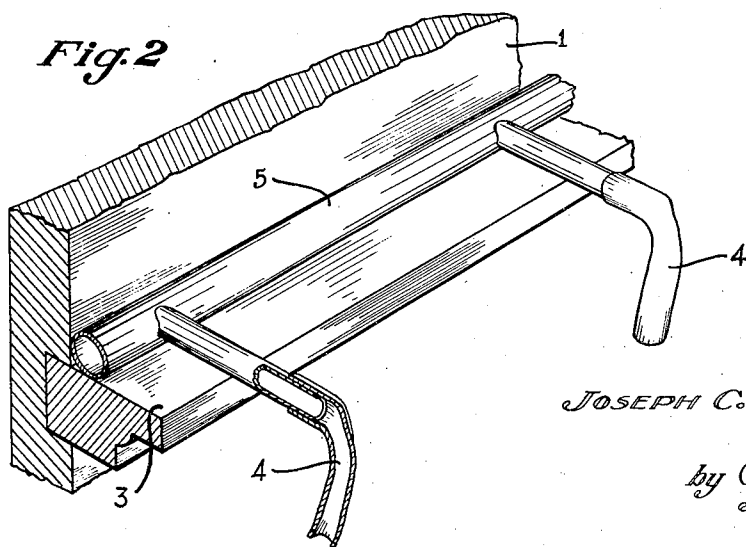


Fig. 2



JOSEPH C. PFEIFFER,
INVENTOR,
by Arthur J. Robert
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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STARLING SCARING DEVICE

Joseph C. Pfeiffer, Louisville, Ky.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 20-1)

Many cities today experience the nuisance of having countless numbers of starlings flock to the city around sundown and there roost overnight usually on the facades of various downtown buildings. A wide variety of measures have heretofore been taken to abate this nuisance but, so far as is known, none has been successful.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a simple mechanical arrangement which may be readily installed on the facade of a building, for successfully abating the nuisance insofar as that particular building is concerned.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein an embodiment of the invention is shown as applied to the facade of a building.

A building facade 1, as illustrated in the drawing, has one or more windows 2 and ledges 3. Ordinarily, the starlings will roost upon the sills of the window 2, the ledges 3 and other protuberances on the front of the building. I have discovered that the starlings may be effectively frightened away from a substantial section of the facade simply by securing one end of a flexible hose 4 at the facade and passing air through the hose under sufficient pressure to thrash the hose and, at the same time, emit a staccato noise. A series of such hoses, say 6 to 10 inches long, spaced from 10 to 15 feet apart over the upper portion of the facade will ordinarily be sufficient to keep the entire facade clear of starlings.

In carrying out the invention, a desired number of hoses 4 should be distributed over the facade of the building and connected through air-supply pipes 5 to a blower, compressor or other air-supply means 6. Operation of the device should be instituted around sundown and continued until the starlings have roosted for the night. Ordinarily, this will require the device to be operated from two to five hours. I have found, however, that after the device has been so operated for a month, more or less, the starlings will avoid the building entirely and make no attempt to roost upon it. Nevertheless, I prefer to continue the operation of the device more or less indefinitely although the daily operating time may be reduced to a minimum.

In operating the device, it is not necessary to thrash the hose violently or otherwise so operate it as to produce a loud staccato noise. It is effective when the air flow through the hose is sufficient only to produce a soft or dull succession of reports. It will be appreciated that the invention as illustrated essentially involves the use of a movable arm, coupled with means for swinging it and means for making an accompanying noise. Consequently, it may readily be embodied as for example in the form of an arm which is actuated electrically by any of a variety of well-known electrical mechanisms which are capable of making an accompanying noise.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A mechanism for scaring starlings and the like from the facade surfaces of building structures and the like comprising: a flexible hose having an air inlet adjacent one end and an air outlet adjacent its opposite end and providing an air passage therebetween; means securing the air inlet end portion of the hose to hold it at a point adjacent the surface to be protected, the air outlet end portion being free to thrash over the surface to be protected; and means for creating a flow of air through the hose with sufficient force to cause the hose to thrash about and emit a staccato noise.

2. A mechanism for scaring starlings and the like from the facade surfaces of building structures and the like comprising: an air supply pipe fixedly mounted on the structure and having an air outlet opening adjacent the surface to be protected; a flexible hose having an air inlet adjacent one end and an air outlet adjacent its opposite end and providing an air passage therebetween; means anchoring the air inlet end of the hose to the pipe and connecting the hose air inlet to the pipe air outlet, the air outlet end portion of the hose being free so that the hose may thrash over the surface to be protected and about its anchorage; and means for creating a flow of air through the hose with sufficient force to cause the hose to thrash about and emit a staccato noise.

JOSEPH C. PFEIFFER.