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FIRING-PIN SELECTOR DEVICE FOR FIREARMS

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

INVENTOR

BY

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Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

INVENTOR

WILFRED I. SMITH

BY Martin & Rendell

ATTORNEYS
UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FIRING-PIN SELECTOR DEVICE FOR FIREARMS

Wilfred I. Smith, Chicopee Falls, Mass., assignor
to Savage Arms Corporation, New York, N. Y.,
a corporation of Delaware

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10 Claims. (Cl. 42—42)

This invention relates to a firing pin selector device or as more fully stated a device for selecting one or two or more separate firing pins to be operated by the single trigger released by the single trigger in a gun having two or more barrels.

The purpose of my present invention is to provide a firing pin selector device of the type mentioned, which is of new and improved construction, economical to make and assemble, safe and effective in use and not liable to get out of order.

Further purposes of the invention are to provide a device of the character described where a movable, preferably sliding selector or selector plate is interposed between the rearwardly placed movable or swinging hammer and the series of firing pins operatively separately connected to the several barrels of the gun and with said selector plate having associated therewith a forwardly and rearwardly projecting extension, which extension on movement of the said selector rod can be brought immediately to the rear of any one of the firing pins so that upon the driving forward of the hammer that firing pin will be actuated without disturbing or operating any of the other firing pins.

A further purpose is to provide a construction of the type indicated where the selector device can be moved to make its selection at any stage or position of the parts of the gun and without interfering with the firing mechanism of the gun or rendering the gun less safe.

A still further advantage and purpose of the invention is to provide in connection with such a selector device means extending from the interior portion of the device, that is the selector plate per se, outwardly of the gun frame for manually operating the selector, an outward portion of said operating means also serving as an indicator visible to the eye or indicating by its position to the hand or fingers of the shooter which position the selector device is at.

A still further purpose is to provide a selector device of the type above described having a spring tensioned device for yieldingly holding the selector itself in either position at which it has been set against any accidental displacement but still allowing the selector to be easily manually moved by the shooter.

A still further purpose is to provide a selector of the general type indicated where the selector works independently of all other working mechanism of the gun so that the selector does not complicate nor interfere in any way with the other mechanism or its working operation.

Further purposes and advantages of this invention will appear from the specification and claims herein.

Fig. 1 is a view of the frame and the rear portion of the upper and lower barrels and the forestock of a two-barrel gun of the so-called "over and under" type, equipped with the preferred form of my invention, said view being partly in side elevation and partly in central longitudinal section, the selector device being in its upper position and so adapted to operate the upper firing pin.

Fig. 2 is a view on a much enlarged scale of the breech block and adjacent parts of the gun shown in Fig. 1, the selector device being still in its upper position, and the hammer being at its rebound position, that is the position it takes after the firing operation and before it has been drawn back or cocked.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal longitudinal section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a view substantially similar to Fig. 2 put with the selector device moved down to its lower position to render operative the over firing pin which operates against a cartridge in the lower barrel of the gun, dotted lines showing the forward position of the selector. This view also shows the spring plunger that yieldingly holds the selector in either of its two positions.

Fig. 5 is an edge elevation of the selector device per se, as a separate assemblage but as seen in Figs. 2 and 4.

Fig. 6 is a rear elevation of the parts shown in Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation of one of the firing pins and

Fig. 8 is a front elevation of said firing pin.

Fig. 9 is a view similar to Figs. 2 and 4 but of a modified form of my invention. In Fig. 9 the selector plate is at lowered position and the enlargement in the form of a plunger movably mounted in the selector plate is shown at its forward position as having driven the lower firing pin forward, and the hammer is also shown in extreme forward position before it has gone back to the rebound position.

Referring to the drawings in a more detailed description and first to the form shown in Figs. 1—6, it will be seen that my present invention is illustrated in connection with a so-called "over and under" gun wherein solely for illustration and not as a limitation, the top barrel 10 is a rifle barrel and the under or lower barrel 11
is a shotgun barrel, both being mounted as a unit upon the forestock 12, the forestock iron 13 of which is hinged in the usual manner upon the hinge pin 14 extending transversely of the forward end of the frame 15 beneath the lower barrel, so that the said barrels, when they are in operative position, have the rear end of their chambers butting against the forwardly directed face of the breech block 16 projecting upwardly intermediate the forward and rearward ends of the frame 15.

Adapted to cooperate with the upper barrel there is slidingly located in the breech block 16 a firing pin 17. Preferably this firing pin consists of a forwardly extending pin 17' and the enlarged head 17''. This firing pin is slidingly mounted in the breech block by said breech block having extending in from its front face a small longitudinally extending hole 18 just large enough to allow the small pin portion 17' of the firing pin 17 to freely slide therein. This hole 18 extends only for a short distance in from the face of the breech block and then the hole is enlarged and extended to the rear a short distance, and then the hole is enlarged still further to make a pocket 19 in which easily slides the enlarged head 17'' of the firing pin 17. The firing pin is normally yieldingly held in its normal rearward position by a small coiled spring 20 encircling the small end of the firing pin and housed within the intermediate sized hole in which the firing pin is located. It will be obvious that the forward end of the spring takes against the shoulder adjacent the rear end of the small hole 19 and the back end of the spring takes against the forward face of the enlarged head of the firing pin. Vertically spaced below the upper firing pin 17 there is slidingly mounted in the breech block 16 the lower firing pin 21 adapted to cooperate with a center fire shell located in the cartridge chamber of the shotgun barrel 11. This lower firing pin 21 is constructed similar to the upper firing pin 17 and is slidingly located in a similar larger pocket 22 for the enlarged head of the firing pin with the small forward end of the firing pin 21 sliding in a small hole 23 extending through to the front face of the breech block; the two firing pins and their sockets being exactly alike. No further detailed description is deemed necessary of said lower firing pin nor its sockets except heretofore immediately mentioned.

As the parts are illustrated in the drawings the upper firing pin is mounted with its longitudinal axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of the upper or rifle barrel 10 and with the firing pin adapted to engage a lower part of the rim of the rim fire cartridge located in the said rifle barrel. The lower firing pin 21 is illustrated and preferably be located on a line extending downward as it extends forwardly. This arrangement still gets a good striking contact of the hammer to the firing pin with the center fire cartridge and still gets the rearmost portion of the rounded rear half of the firing pin 21 slightly nearer to the central portion of the rounded rear end of the enlarged portion of the upper firing pin 17. The purpose of thus drawing together the rear ends of the firing pins is to reduce the necessary vertical movement of the roller.

On a line somewhat to the rear of the breech block as heretofore described there is provided the conventional hammer 24 swingingly mounted towards its lower end on the transversely extending hammer pin 25 with the upper part of said hammer provided with a forwardly directed face 26 which is of considerable extent vertically so as to be to the rear of both the upper firing pin 17 and the lower firing pin 21. The hammer 24 is slingly mounted and longitudinally extending slot 27 cut into the upper portion of the frame for the conventional movement of said hammer. At the forward end of this hammer slot 27 there is provided extending downward into the frame immediately to the rear of the breech block 16 another transversely extending and vertically directed slot 28 for the mounting therein of the selector 29. This selector 29 is of somewhat irregular shape but its detailed construction will be readily understood by referring to the two detailed views thereof Figs. 5 and 6. This selector 29 consists of a flat plate portion 30 hereinafter called the selector plate. Towards the bottom of this plate 30 there is a laterally projecting ear 31 extending to the right as seen in Fig. 6 and so to the right hand side of the gun. From the right hand side of this ear 31 there is an extension 32 of inverted L-shaped form best seen in Fig. 5 but appearing also in Figs. 1, 2 and 4. This extension projects further down below the bottom of the bottom of the selector plate 30. The L-shaped form of this extension happens to be made in this particular gun to avoid the transversely extending locking bolt pin and also the locking bolt, this detailed shape being simply an incidental construction for this particular type of gun. The whole purpose of this long extension 32 is to provide a means of manually operating the selector plate 30 low enough down on the right hand side of the frame to be within convenient reach of the shooter's finger or thumb on that side of the gun.

On the forward side of the selector plate 30 and towards its upper end there is provided a local enlargement or forwardly extending protuberance 33 and preferably to the rear of this protuberance and at the rear side of the selector plate 30 there will be another enlargement 35 of the selector plate. This rearward enlargement is the preferred and most economical form of constructing the device but the rearward enlargement is not absolutely essential in all forms of the invention and a construction where this rearward enlargement is not used is within the scope of certain of the claims hereinafter set forth.

In practice and preferably, the forward enlargement 33 is formed by the head of a rivet, the shank of which conveniently passes rearwardly through a hole 34 provided in the selector plate 30 and the portion of the shank of the rivet that extends to the rear of the selector plate is spread out and riveted over forming a rearward enlargement 35 which keeps the said rivet permanently and solidly assembled upon the selector plate 30.

Suitable means are provided for holding the firing pins 17 and 21 in their proper rearward positions, which positions of these two firing pins are about as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 4. The means for so limiting rearward movement of the said firing pins to this proper position conveniently and preferably consist of said firing pins being cut away upon one side at the right hand side as they are illustrated in the several drawings herein providing a flat face 36 parallel to the axes of the pins and on the line of a chord of a cross section of the pin and extending in from the rear end of the enlarged head of the
firing pins to within a short distance of the front of said enlarged portions, and there forming a shoulder 36' 37 and 20 to the proper rearward position as shown in the drawings herein and as limited by the said stop screws 31. It will now be apparent that when the selector plate 30 will carry the head 32 of the attached rivet to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, that is immediately to the rear of the upper firing pin 17. It will be apparent that upon manipulating the trigger 46 to release the hammer 24 the hammer under the force of its main spring (not shown) will be driven straight forward and its face 28 will engage the rearward end of the selector plate 30 and thereby not only the rivet but the selector plate 30 rigidly connected thereto will be swung forward and at once engage or physically strongly engage the already slightly engaged rearwardly directed round head of the upper firing pin 17, and thereby move this firing pin forward to fire the cartridge in the upper barrel. As soon as the forwardly driven hammer acting through the selector plate and its rivet-like enlargements thereon 31 and 35 respectively has driven the upper firing pin 17 forward to have its small forward end project through the small passage therefor far enough to strike and indent the lower part of the rim of the cartridge in the upper or rifle barrel 19 enough to fire said cartridge, the hammer 24 will rebound to its so-called rebound position as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and the upper firing pin under the tension of the coiled spring 29 about its forward smaller diametered portion will yieldingly force the said upper firing pin 17 forward to its normal position as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, where it is stopped from further rearward motion by the stop screw 37 as already described. This rearward movement of the upper firing pin 17 especially with the hammer 24 having already moved back to its rebound position, will cause the selector 30 including the selector plate 30 to bodily swing the slight distance backward to its normal position as best shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Such forwardly swung position of the selector and especially of the selector plate 30 is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4. If the gun is to have its upper barrel, that is, in this case, its rifle barrel, loaded without firing the cartridge in the lower barrel, then the gun may be broken and the shell from the upper barrel removed and another cartridge supplied in place of the said rifle barrel and the gun again loaded; all of these operations will be performed without having to move the firing pin selector from its upper position as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. Further forward of the upper barrel removed and another cartridge supplied in place of the said rifle barrel and the gun again loaded: all of these operations will be performed without having to move the firing pin selector from its upper position as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. Furthermore, if the selector 30 is not in position for such firing of the upper barrel. If however the lower barrel is to be fired or if the lower barrel is to be fired without reloading the upper barrel then the selector will be moved downwardly to its lowered position as shown in Fig. 4, the enlargement 33 upon the forward side of the selector plate is substantially opposite the lower firing pin. Thereupon after of course cocking the hammer, the usual pull of the trigger will release the hammer 24 and it will, under the action of its spring drive strongly forward and upon the hammer striking the rear side of the rearward projection 35, which as already mentioned in this form of my invention is permanently attached to the selector plate 30, will cause the whole selector to bodily swing forward on its pivoted lower end and cause the forward projection 33 to sharply strike the rear end of the lower firing pin 21 and cause that firing pin's forward end to impinge upon the percussion cap of the center-fire cartridge usually used in the lower or shotgun barrel 11. The means for pivotally supporting the lower end of the extension 32 and for moving the whole selector up or down as already suggested consists of a spacing sleeve 38, the inner end of which bears against the outermost or right hand side of the extension 32 of the selector close to its bottom end, and a threaded rod 39 extending through said sleeve and having its 39 screw-threaded into a threaded hole provided in said lower end of the extension 32. The outer end of said sleeve projects to an operating button 40 or disk 40 located adjacent but spaced slightly by said sleeve from the right hand face of the frame 15. The outer end of the rod 39 has its enlarged head or its outer end countersunk into the outer side of the button 40 to meet the outer end of the sleeve 38, the outer end of the said rod being provided with a slot for setting up said screw-threaded rod as by a screw driver or other proper tool. The hole through the right hand side of the frame 15 is in the form of a vertically elongated slot 41 as suggested in Fig. 4, the length and location of said slot 41 being such as to properly limit the upward or downward movement of the selector 30 by reason of the sleeve 38 engaging either the upper or the lower end of the said slot 41. It will be obvious that manipulation of said button or disk 40 by the fingers or thumb in an upward or downward direction will move the selector bodily to an upward or downward position from its lowered position or to a lowered position from its upward position as the case may require. As this disk is in plain sight upon the right hand side of the gun frame it will be seen that the shooter can at once tell by its position or by a manual investigation whether the selector is set to bring into operation the upper or lower firing pin. It will thus be seen that the operating disk or button 40 readily indicates either to the eye or to the hand or fingers of the shooter the exact setting of the firing pin selector. Preferably proper means, in practice spring tensioned means, such as a round-headed plunger 41 engaging the vertically movable sleeve 38, are provided to insure that the selector will be moved its complete extent of travel to go either to its raised or lowered position, and such means will also function to yieldingly hold the said selector in its said position against shifting to its other position by rough usage of the gun or from being shifted from one position to its other position by any light pressure accidentally exerted on the button as distinct from a definite hand motion of said button by the shooter. Fig. 9 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in longitudinal section similar to Figs. 2 and 4 of a two-barreled gun embodying a modification of my invention. In this modified form the conventional hammer 24 is the same as be-
fore and the upper and lower firing pins 17 and 21 together with their mounting pockets or sockets in the breech block are all the same as heretofore illustrated and described and so do not need any further description and even the same numerals for parts that have been heretofore used seem to be most properly applicable. Even the frame of the selector 29 and its selector plate 30 is the same as heretofore illustrated and described except that in place of the permanently located forward extension 33 and rearward extensions 35 already described the enlargement upon the selector plate 33 in my modified form of the invention consists of a rivet-shaped plunger 42. This plunger is really rivet-shaped in that it has an enlarged head 43 in the form of one type of common rivet and the shank 44 of the rivet extends freely slidingly through a round hole 45 provided at the proper point in the selector plate 30 in the same way as in the other form the enlargements 33 and 35 were located.

In this form of the invention the normal position of the rivet-like plunger 42 is with its rear face of its head 43 against the forward face of the selector plate 30, this position of the plunger being brought about by the rearward movement of the separate firing pins 2 to their proper rearward position where they are stopped by the stop screws 31 already described. This rearward movement of the separate firing pins will move the rivet-like plungers 42 back to their normal rearward position with their heads against the front face of the selector plate 30 and with the rearward part of the shank 44 of the plunger extending appreciably to the rear of the rear face of the selector plate 30 and more or less towards the operating face 26 of the hammer 24. It will be now seen that when the hammer is released it will drive forward and as shown in Fig. 9 its operating face 26 will strongly engage the rear end of the shank 44 of the rivet-like plunger and move the rivet-like plunger forward relative to the larger and now substantially permanently located selector 29 and its plate 30, and will move the head 43 of the plunger forward away from the selector plate 30 and into positive engagement with the rear face of the firing pin 17 or 21, according to which position the said selector plate has been moved to. In Fig. 9 the selector plate is shown as in lowered position so as to bring the rivet-like plunger 42 opposite the lower firing pin 21. The position of the parts in this Fig. 9 is that at the completion of the forward drive of the hammer 24 so that the rivet-like plunger 42 is at its forward position and the forward face of its head 43 is in physical engagement with the rounded rear face of the lower firing pin 21 which has had its small forward end projected through the small hole in the front of the firing pin socket and with said forward end pushed far enough forward to enter to the proper extent into and with the proper force against the percussion cap or member in the center fire cartridge assumed to be used in this lower shot-gun barrel.

With this alternative form of my firing pin system it will be seen that the selector can at will move the selector to select either the upper or the lower firing pin as he wishes and that the selector can be changed from one position to the other or back again without regard to the position of the other mechanism of the gun. It will be noted here that the position of the parts in Fig. 9 is the special position where the hammer is shown at its extreme forward position where it in practice will never be seen by the shooter because the hammer will move from this extreme forward position with lightning-like rapidity back to its normal or rebound position as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4. As the hammer thus goes back from its advanced position of Fig. 9 the plunger 42 will also go back to a position closely against the front face of the selector plate and then the selector spring 51 moved to upward position by proper upward movement of the button 48 and all this without disturbing the other firing pin, it being understood that in this modified form of the invention the selector may be moved upward and the head of the rivet-like plunger will slide under or to the back of the rounded rear end of the upper firing pin without imparting any forward motion to such firing pin.

What I claim as new is:

1. In a firearm, the combination of a frame having intermediate its ends an upstanding forwardly facing breech block, two spaced barrels movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forward face of said breech block, a single hammer movably mounted and adapted to be selectively brought to a forward position of said breech block, a single trigger operatively connected to said hammer, a slider movably mounted for limited movement in said breech block between the hammer and said two firing pins, a rivet-like extension in one part of said slider with its head forward of the slider and adapted to be selectively brought opposite one or the other of said firing pins by lengthwise movement of said slider, the shank of said slider extension projecting rearwardly of the slider and adapted to be struck with said slider to be driven forwardly by the forward movement of the hammer and to project rearwardly of said slider and extending to a point outside the frame for manually moving said slider.

2. In a firearm, the combination of a frame having intermediate its ends an upstanding forwardly facing breech block, two spaced barrels movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forward directed face of the breech block, when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said breech block, a single trigger operatively connected to said hammer, a slider movably mounted for limited movement in said breech block between the hammer and said two firing pins, a rivet-like extension in one part of said slider with its head forward of the slider and adapted to be selectively brought opposite one or the other of said firing pins by lengthwise movement of said slider, the shank of said slider extension projecting rearwardly of the slider.
and adapted to be struck and with said slider driven forwardly by the forward movement of the hammer and means operatively connected to said slider and extending to a point outside the frame for manually moving said slider.

3. In a firearm, the combination of a frame having intermediate its ends an upstanding forwardly facing breech block, two spaced barrels movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slidingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said rearward movement of the firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge-receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against
lengthwise movement of said slider, said slider and its said forward projection being driven forwardly by the forward movement of the hammer and means operatively connected to said slider and extending to a point outside the frame for manually moving said slider, and a spring-ten-sioned, round-headed plunger adjacent a part of said means for manually operating the selector and adapted to be depressed on movement of the selector slider from either of its positions to its other position.

8. In a firearm, the combination of a frame having intermediate its ends an upstanding forwardly facing breech block, two spaced barrels movably mounted relative to said frame and said breech block and having cartridge receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slindingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said breech block, a single trigger operatively connected to said hammer, a slider movably mounted for limited longitudinal movement in said breech block between the hammer and said two firing pins, a plunger mounted in one part of said slider with a back and forward movement and having its front end adapted to be selectively brought opposite one or the other of said firing pins by movement of said slider, the rear end of said plunger extending rearwardly of the slider and adapted to be struck and driven forward by the forward movement of the hammer, and means operatively connected to said slider and extending to a point outside the frame for manually moving said slider.

9. In a firearm, the combination of a frame having intermediate its ends an upstanding forwardly facing breech block, two vertically spaced barrels movably mounted relative to said frame and breech block and having cartridge receiving chambers with their rear ends butting against said forwardly directed face of the breech block when the gun is in closed position, two firing pins slindingly mounted in the breech block and located and adapted to operatively and separately engage cartridges in the cartridge chambers of said two barrels, resilient means normally urging said firing pins to rearward position, means stopping said firing pins at rearward position, a single hammer movably mounted relative to said breech block, a single trigger operatively connected to said hammer, a slider movably mounted for limited lengthwise movement in said breech block between the hammer and said two firing pins, a rivet-like extension in one part of said slider with its head forward of the slider and adapted to be selectively brought opposite one or the other of said firing pins by lengthwise movement of said slider, the rear end of said slider extension projecting rearwardly of the slider and adapted to be struck and driven forwardly by the forward movement of the hammer and means operatively connected to said slider and extending to a point outside the frame for manually moving said slider.

WILFRED I. SMITH.