July 3, 1923. 1,460,807

F. WALTHER ET AL

SELF LOADING FIREARM

Filed Aug. 29, 1921

Fig.1.

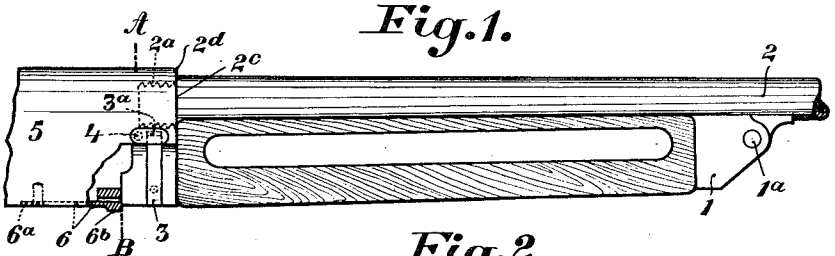


Fig.2.

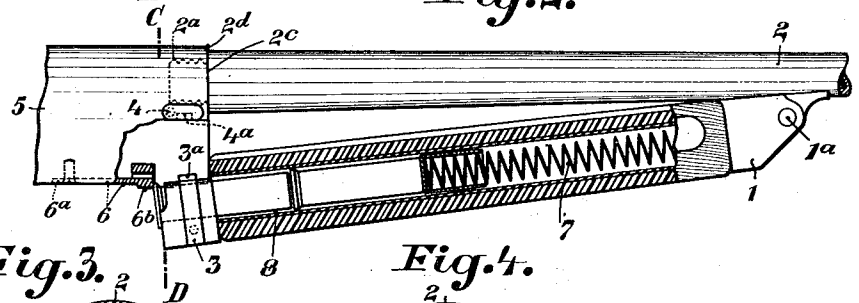


Fig.3.

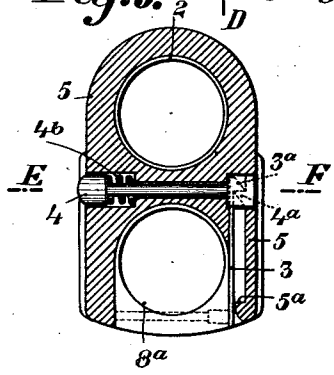


Fig.4.

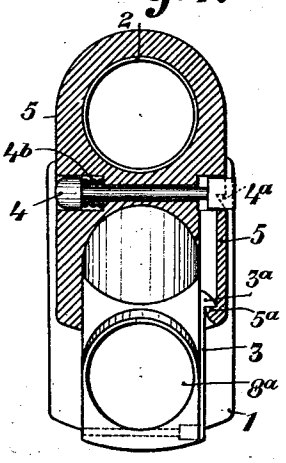
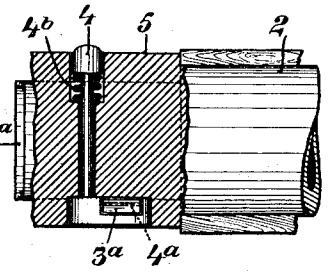


Fig.5.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRITZ WALTHER AND GEORG WALTHER, OF ZELLE-MEHLIS, GERMANY.

SELF-LOADING FIREARM.

Application filed August 29, 1921. Serial No. 496,757.

(GRANTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF MARCH 3, 1921, 41 STAT. L., 1313.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRITZ WALTHER and GEORG WALTHER, citizens of the German Republic, residing at Zelle-Mehlis 1, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Loading Firearms (for which applications for patent have been filed in Germany, 21st November, 1918, 16th May, 1919; Austria, 31st May, 1919; Sweden, 28th May, 1919; Norway, 4th June, 1919; France, 12th June, 1919; Spain, 22nd July, 1919; Denmark, 26th August, 1919; Holland, 30th August, 1919; Italy, 29th August, 1919; Switzerland, 10th September, 1919; Belgium, 11th September, 1919; Great Britain, 6th November, 1919; Poland, 7th May, 1920), of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to self-loading fire arms and has the distinguishing feature that the fore end of the stock is pivoted with its head portion to the barrel, so as to allow of it being swung away from the barrel into a position at right angles thereto and to serve as a lever or handle for unscrewing the said barrel from the breech of the gun. Besides, as in this kind of fire arms the breech is closed at its rear, it becomes necessary from time to time to remove the barrel from the breech for cleaning purposes, which would not be possible if the latter were allowed to remain in position on the breech.

Another feature of the invention consists in the arrangement of the cartridge magazine at the fore end of the stock. This arrangement, considering that the fore end of the stock is pivotally mounted with its head portion upon the barrel of the gun, permits of the rear end of the magazine being swung away from the barrel, whereby said rear end becomes accessible for the introduction and removal of the cartridges into or from the magazine.

A further object of the invention consists in the provision of novel cartridge retaining means at the end of the magazine.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings by way of example; said drawings illustrating two modifications of the invention.

Fig. 1 shows a fragmentary side elevation of the self-loading fire arm with the fore end of the stock hinged to the barrel; the cartridge retaining means being shown partly in section and the fore end of the stock as lying close to the barrel.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to that of Fig. 1 with the fore end of the stock being slightly diverted from the barrel. The magazine is partly shown in section and ready for loading; one of the cartridges being shown locked in the magazine.

Figs. 3 and 4 are cross sections through the improved fire arm and the fore end of the stock; Fig. 3 being a cross section on line A—B of Fig. 1, in which the magazine is tilted up so as to be close against the barrel, Fig. 4 is a cross section on line C—D of Fig. 2; whilst Fig. 5 is a cross section of a detail on line E—F of Fig. 3 and shows a catch for locking the fore end of the stock.

As will be seen from the drawings the fore end of the stock 1 is pivoted with its head portion to the barrel 2 by means of a hinge 1^a. The barrel 2 has a screw-threaded portion 2^a by means of which it is screwed into the breech 5, whereby the shoulder 2^c of the barrel rests against the surface 2^d of the said breech when the barrel is in position. The fore end of the stock 1 can be turned about its hinge 1^a so as to provide a handle or a lever for applying an increased force to the barrel when screwing it into or out of the breech. The magazine 8 is arranged within the hollow stock and has a spring 3 which is provided with a nose 3^a at its rear end. This nose 3^a is adapted to engage with a similar nose 4^a of a pin 4 arranged horizontally within the breech 5 and placed under the influence of a spring 4^b, thus imparting to the nose 4^b of the pin 4 the tendency to keep the nose 3^a of the spring 3 engaged. The head of the pin 4 is arranged so as to project slightly from the breech 5 (Figs. 3 and 4). On pressing the pin 4 into the breech 5 against the action of its spring 4^b, the nose 4^a of said pin moves away from the nose 3^a of the spring 3, whereby the fore end of the stock 1 is freed at its rear end and can now be swung away from the barrel. The breech 5 is provided with a projection 5^a located opposite the spring 3 and adapted to catch the nose 3^a of the fore end of the stock 1. Said projection is so arranged that the rear of the fore end of the stock can be lowered just sufficiently to permit of cartridges being introduced into the magazine 8. The latter is provided with

the usual spring 7 serving to press the cartridges out of the magazine.

In order to prevent the cartridges being ejected from the magazine by the action of the spring 7, when the stock 1 is in its turned-down position, a spring catch 6 is provided for retaining the cartridges in the magazine, said spring catch being fastened with its one end to the breech 5 and at its opposite end carries an enlarged head 6^b adapted to bear against the projecting flange of the last cartridge in the magazine (Fig. 2). When the fore end of the stock is to be completely swung open so as to stand at right angles to the barrel 2, the nose 3^a of the spring 3 will have to be depressed in order to become clear of the projection 5^a of the breech 5. Therefore the spring 3 together with its projection 3^a must be pressed inwardly. This can be carried out without difficulty as the said spring is arranged within a recess in the rear end of the magazine and is therefore easily accessible (see Fig. 4). On the spring 3 being pressed inwardly its nose 3^a is brought out of engagement with the projection 5^a of the breech 5, thus allowing of the fore end of the stock together with the magazine 8 being pivoted into any desired position.

We claim:—

1. Self-loading fire arm comprising in combination with the barrel a forestock hingedly connected with the barrel, a locking device for securing said forestock in its normal position and for releasing the same so that it can swing to an angular position with regard to the barrel, a second locking device for locking said fore end of the stock in this angular position and for releasing the same so that it can be swung to a position at approximately right angles to the barrel to serve as handle for screwing the barrel in or out of the breech.

2. Self-loading fire arm comprising in combination with the barrel a forestock hingedly connected with the barrel, a locking device for securing said forestock in its normal position and for releasing the same so that it can swing to an angular position with regard to the barrel, a second locking device for locking said fore end of the stock in this angular position and for releasing the same so that it can be swung to a position at approximately right angles to the barrel to serve as handle for screwing the barrel in or out of the breech, a cartridge magazine in the rear part of the fore end of the stock so that when the fore end is swung to the first angular position the mouth of the magazine is disclosed for inserting or withdrawing the cartridges.

3. Self-loading fire arm comprising in combination with the barrel a forestock hingedly connected with the barrel, a locking device for securing said forestock in its normal position and for releasing the same so that it can swing to an angular position with regard to the barrel, a second locking device for locking said fore end of the stock in this angular position and for releasing the same so that it can be swung to a position at approximately right angles to the barrel to serve as handle for screwing the barrel in or out of the breech, a cartridge magazine in the rear part of the fore end of the stock so that when the fore end is swung to the first angular position the mouth of the magazine is disclosed for inserting or withdrawing the cartridges, and a spring catch in said breech for retaining the cartridge in the said magazine.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of witnesses.

FRITZ WALTHER.
GEORG WALTHER.

Witnesses as to Fritz Walther:
PAUL HÄUPLA,
HERMANN RAMSPERGER.

Witnesses as to Georg Walther:
HERMANN DITZEL,
RUDOLF RÜCKER.