C. H. PEARCE & L. T. TEUSCHER.

PORTABLE FLY CATCHER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 14, 1909.

954,337. Patented Apr. 5, 1910.

Fig. 1.

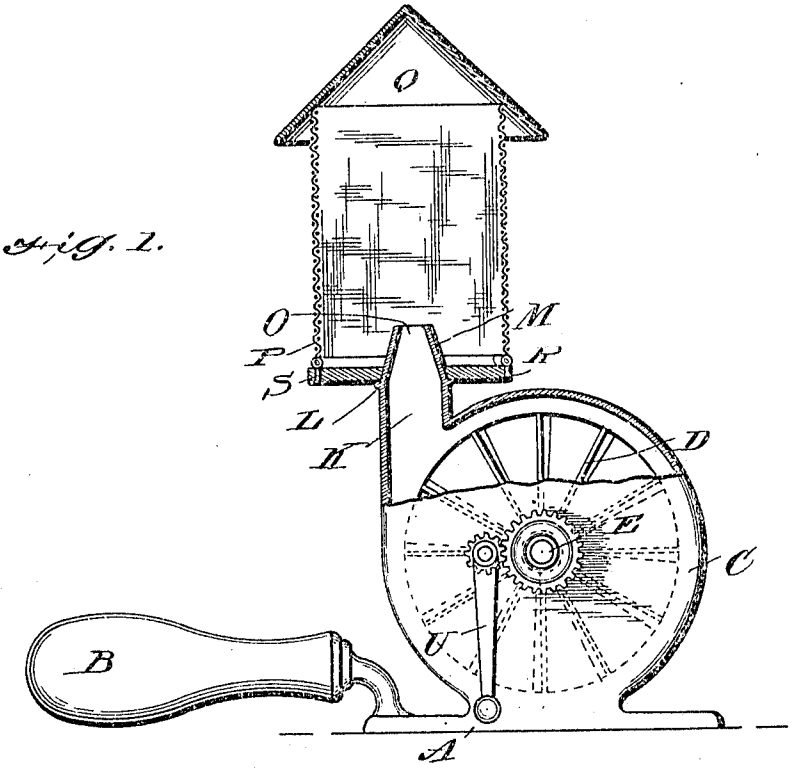


Fig. 2.

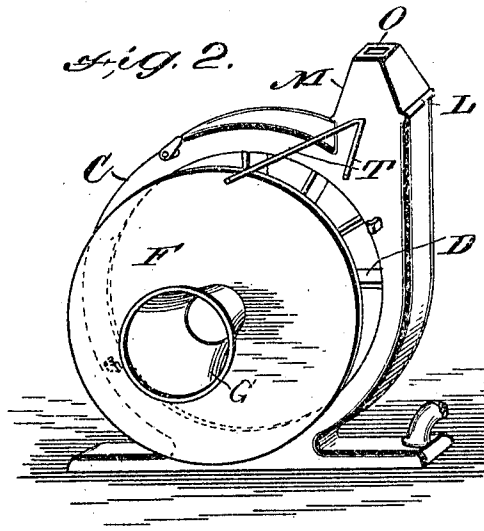
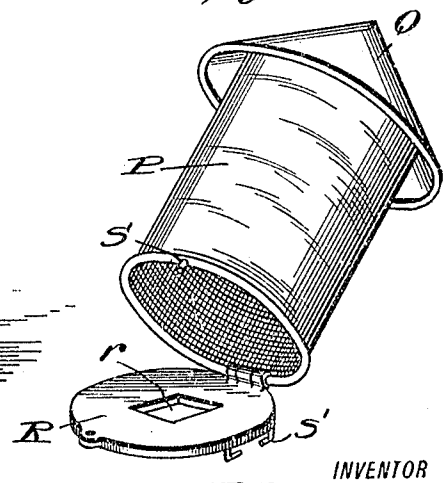


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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PORTABLE FLY-CATCHER.

954,337. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 5, 1910.

Application filed May 14, 1909. Serial No. 496,004.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES HALLAM PEARCE and LOUIS THEODORE TEUSCHER, citizens of the United States, and residents of Aspen, in the county of Pitkin and State of Colorado, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Fly-Catchers, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in portable means for catching flies, and it consists in the constructions, combinations and arrangements herein described and claimed.

The ordinary house fly is a source of constant annoyance and various means have been proposed for ridding dwellings of these pests. A very common way is to make use of sticky fly paper, but the sheets used for the purpose are unsightly, the composition thereof is likely to smear the clothing of persons coming into contact with the same and these disadvantages prevent its use in a great many cases where the need for a fly catcher is imperative. Another method of ridding a dwelling of flies is to use the so-called fly killers, which consists of a broom-like device by means of which the flies are killed in the places where they generally congregate, notably on windows and walls. This method obviously has disadvantages, since the flies, after being killed, have to be removed.

Our invention has for its object the provision of a device by which the flies in a house or dwelling may be removed quickly and effectually, while at the same time obviating all of the disadvantages of the foregoing methods.

Our invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the device, the upper part being shown in section. Fig. 2 is a view of the fan housing and cover, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the receiver.

In carrying out our invention we provide a base A having at its rear end a handle B. Secured to the base is a fan housing C, within which is located a fan D, which is mounted upon an axle E journaled in the sides of the housing. On one side of the housing is a removable plate F, which is provided with a central tube G having a flaring mouth. The tube G communicates with the interior H of the housing, which is also provided with an outlet or exit tube K. The latter tube has a laterally extending flange L and a contracted portion M, which provides a small opening O at the end of the tube. The receiver P is preferably made of wire gauze and is provided with a top Q and a hinged bottom R which has an opening *r* adapted to fit over the reduced end portion M of the outlet K, so as to bring the bottom R into engagement with the flange L in order to support the receiver. The bottom R is provided with suitable spring catches S to hold it to the body of the receiver P. The bottom R is provided with downwardly extending hooks S′ arranged to engage the spring arms T, which project laterally from the sides of the walls of the outlet tube K to hold the receiver securely in place upon the tube.

The foregoing description of the various parts of the device will be sufficient for an understanding of the operation thereof. The fan may be driven by means of a crank U or by other means. The motion of the fan produces a strong draft of air into the mouth of the tube G up through the tube K and into the receiver P and out through the meshes of the same. The apparatus is held by the handle B and moved into the vicinity of the congregated insects. Thus it may be moved along a window or wall immediately over the flies which will be sucked up through the fan and be projected into the receiver P through the opening *o*. The device may be easily carried from place to place and the insects rapidly and effectually collected. After they are collected the receiver may be detached from the tube K by turning it until the hooks S′ are clear of the pins T, when the receiver and bottom will be disengaged. The insects may then be destroyed by immersing the receiver in hot water or in some similar manner, the bottom unlatched and swung down and the contents discharged.

We are aware that other forms of the device based upon the same general idea, might be made, but we consider as our own and desire to claim all such modifications as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of the invention.

We claim:

A portable fly catcher comprising a base portion, a handle secured thereto, a fan carried by said base portion and provided with a flaring inlet and an outlet tube having a restricted opening and bearing laterally pro-

jecting arms, said outlet tube being disposed above the rear end of the base, a receiver provided with a hinged perforated bottom, the latter having downwardly projecting hooks arranged to engage the arms on said outlet tube to detachably secure said receiver to said tube, and means for operating said fan and thereby causing bodies in the vicinity of said inlet to be projected through said fan and exit tubes into said receiver.

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