Oct. 8, 1935. L. PIGNATELLI D'ARAGON 2,016,989

TARGET

Filed May 14, 1934

Fig. 1.

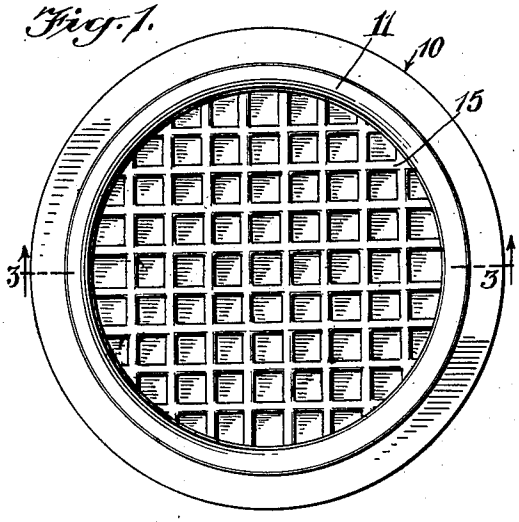


Fig. 2.

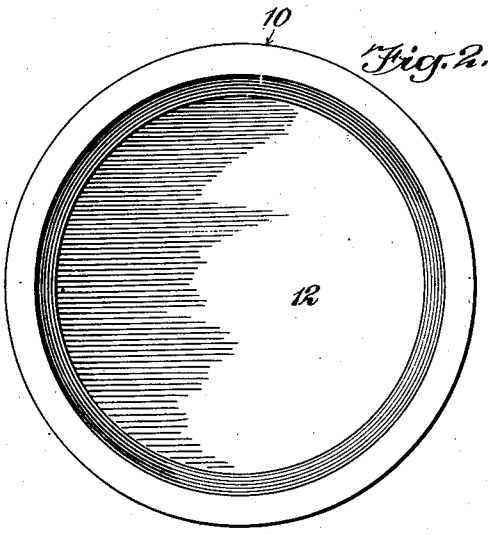


Fig. 3.

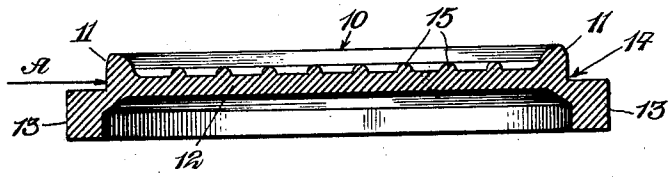
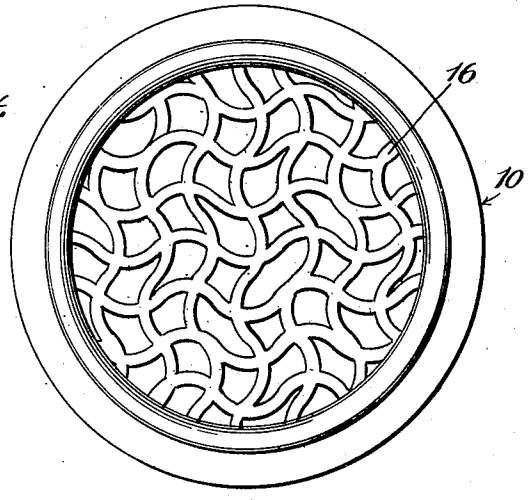


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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TARGET

Ludovic Pignatelli d'Aragon, Nice, France

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3 Claims. (Cl. 124—17)

This invention relates to an improvement in flying targets or clay pigeons and has for its primary object the provision of an improved target which when thrown more nearly resembles the flight of a bird.

Another object of the invention is to provide a target which may be thrown at a high rate of speed for long distances.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a target so constructed that it can stand the strain of being thrown from the target throwing machine at a great rate of speed and still be fragile enough to break when hit by the shot.

In building a target of this type the construction of various machines must be taken into consideration and I have provided a target which is adaptable to all types of machines and so built that one or more targets may be telescoped one on top of the other for shipping purposes and for use in automatic machines.

The ordinary clay pigeon or target in use today is shaped like an inverted cup or saucer and the throwing arm of the trap acts against the curved side of the target. As a result the strain on the target when the trap is sprung is placed against a relatively weak spot and a great many targets are broken by the force of the throwing arm. This is especially true in the new type of machine described in my application for Letters Patent Serial No. 716,192, filed March 17th, 1934.

The ordinary target in use today is thrown from thirty five to fifty yards and then drops unless it is broken before that time. My improved target, when used with the machine described in the application mentioned above, can travel up to one hundred and fifty yards and naturally it travels at a higher rate of speed and more nearly resembles the flight of a live pigeon. When the ordinary saucer-shaped target is used in a high speed machine, a great percentage of the targets are broken due to the force of the throw and the air pressure. As will be more clearly described hereafter, my improved target provides one strong enough to withstand breakage from the trap and yet fragile enough to be broken by the shot.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination of elements and arrangement of parts.

In the accompanying drawing

Figure 1 is a plan view of the top of a target constructed in accordance with the features of the present invention,

Figure 2 is a plan view of the bottom of the same target,

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is a plan view of a modified form of the target.

Referring to the drawing, and more especially to the specific embodiment illustrated therein, Figure 1 shows the improved target referred to in its entirety by the numeral 10. The target is provided with an annular raised portion forming a shoulder 11 and consists of a flat disc portion 12, the shoulder 11 and a depending wall or flange 13. The depending wall 13 and the shoulder 11 define a recess 14 for the reception of the throwing arm of the trap. The upper surface of the target is also provided with ribs 15, or, as shown in the modified form, 16. These ribs, while strengthening the construction of the target, provide an uneven surface and eliminate the possibility of a shot glancing off the target without breaking it. The shoulder 11 also tends to prevent the shot from slipping off the target without breaking it. By the use of the ribs 15 and 16 the thickness of the disc portion 12 may be lessened.

It will be seen that the action of the throwing arm exerted in the direction of the arrow A will be in the same plane as the surface of the disc and at a point between the upper and lower surfaces. In this way the strain is directed against the strongest part of the target and not against a hollow wall.

The bottom of the target is hollow and the space surrounded by the annular wall 13 is slightly larger than that enclosed by the shoulder 11. In this way the targets may be packed telescoped one on top of another for shipment and for use in automatic traps.

What is claimed is:

1. A frangible target comprising a disc, a raised portion defining an annular shoulder on said disc, and an annular base abutting the lower periphery of said disc, the upper surface of said base forming with the periphery of the disc a recess for the reception of the throwing element of a trap, said recess being in a plane between the upper and lower surfaces of the disc.

2. A target comprising a circular disc, an annular raised portion at the edge of the disc defining a shoulder, and an annular base abutting and integral with the lower periphery of the disc and offset therefrom, the periphery of said disc and the top of said base defining a recess for the

reception of a throwing means of a target-throwing trap.

3. In a target comprising a circular disc, ribs on said disc, a raised portion at the edge of the disc defining a shoulder, and an annular depending base integral with the periphery of the disc and offset therefrom, said base defining with the periphery of the disc a recess substantially in the plane of the disc for the reception of the throwing means of a trap.

LUDOVIC PIGNATELLI D'ARAGON.