

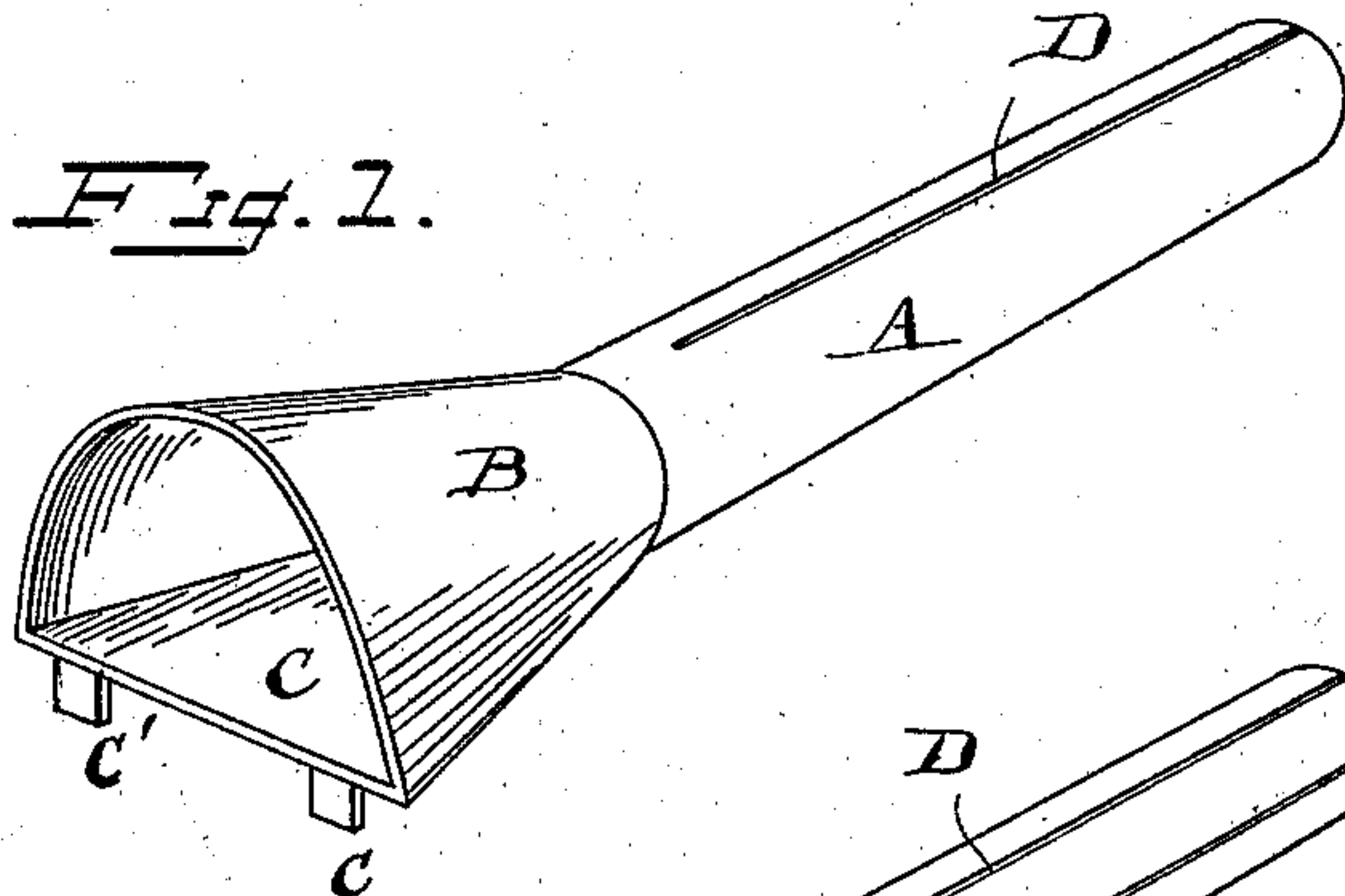
No. 743,505.

PATENTED NOV. 10, 1903.

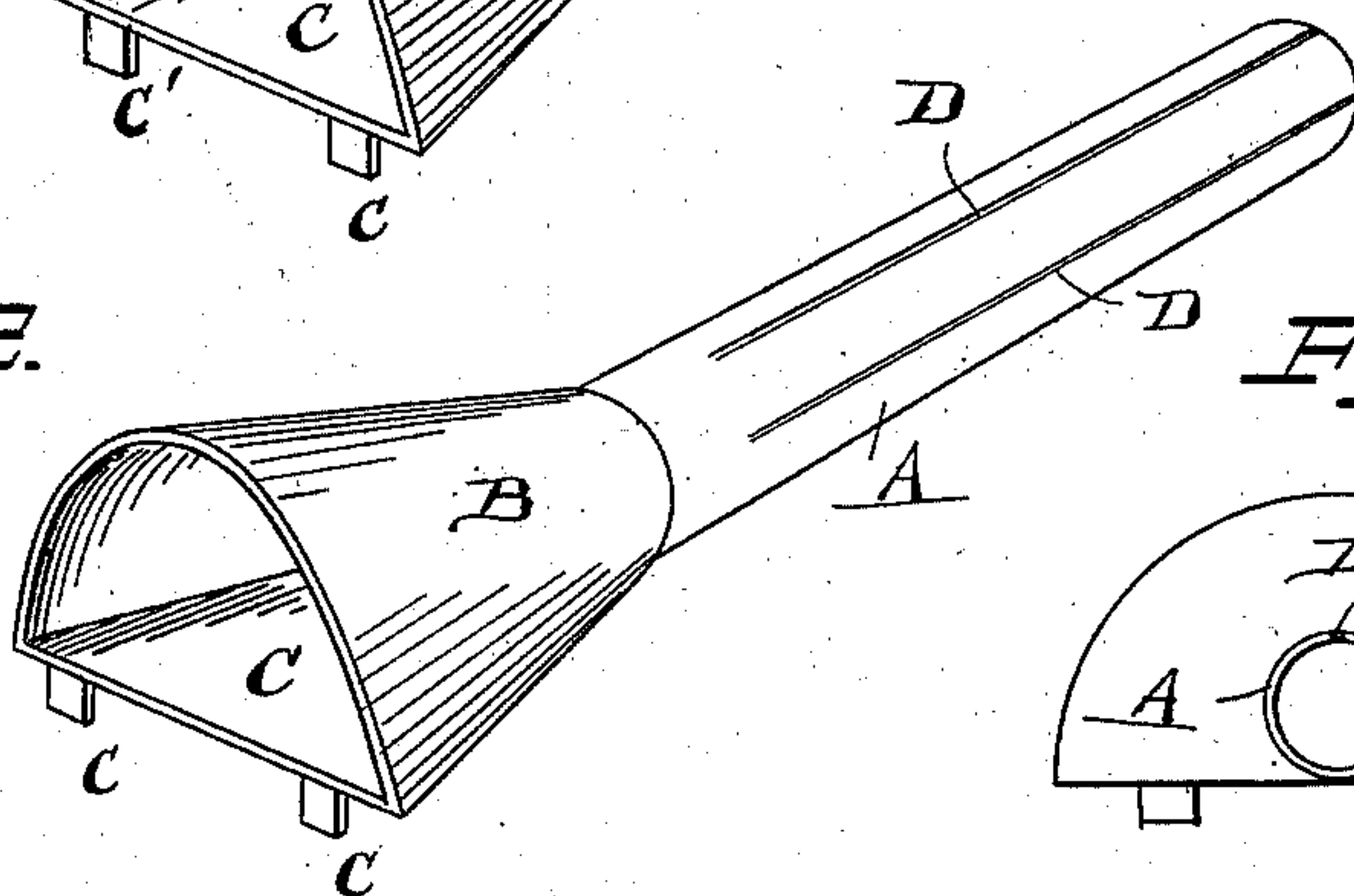
J. L. HEFFNER.  
UPHOLSTERING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1902.

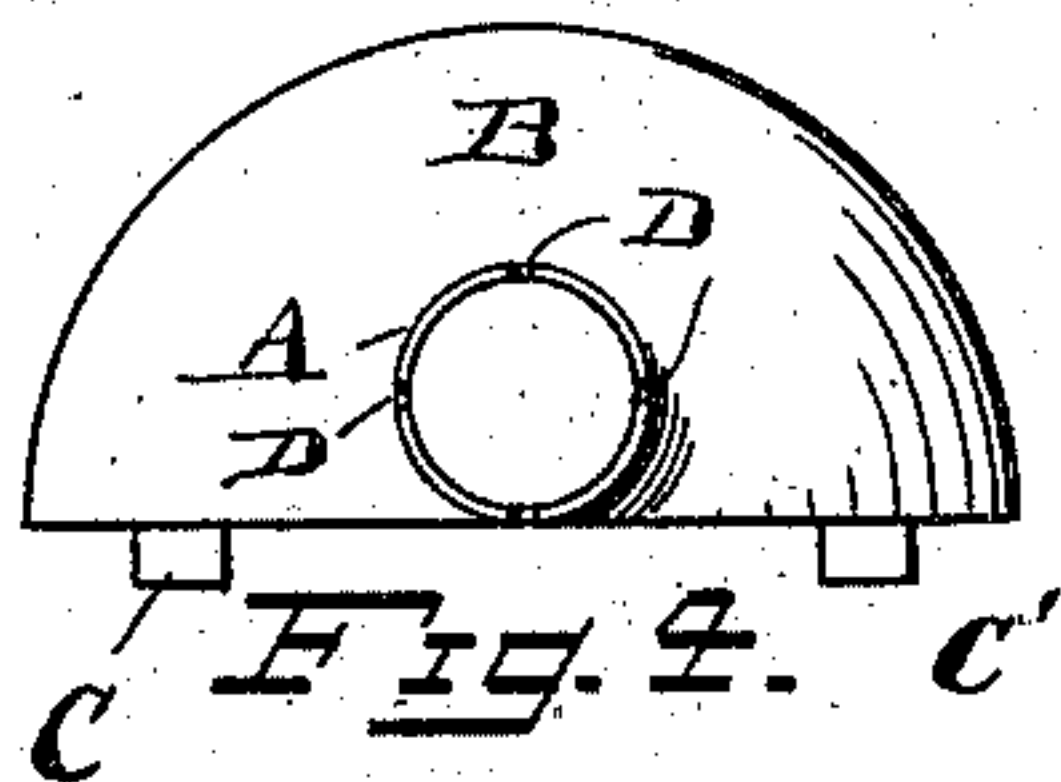
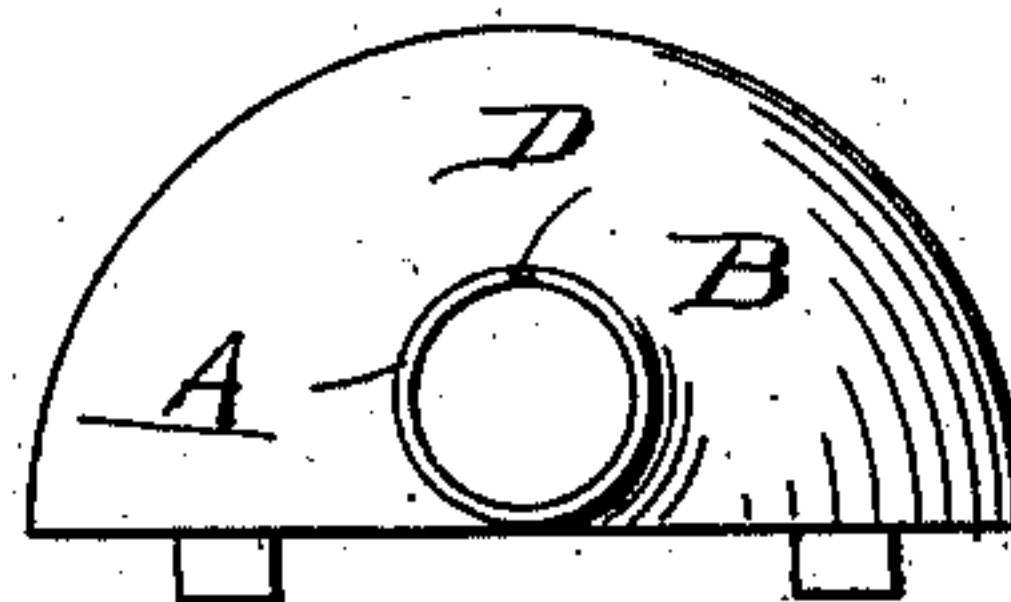
NO MODEL.



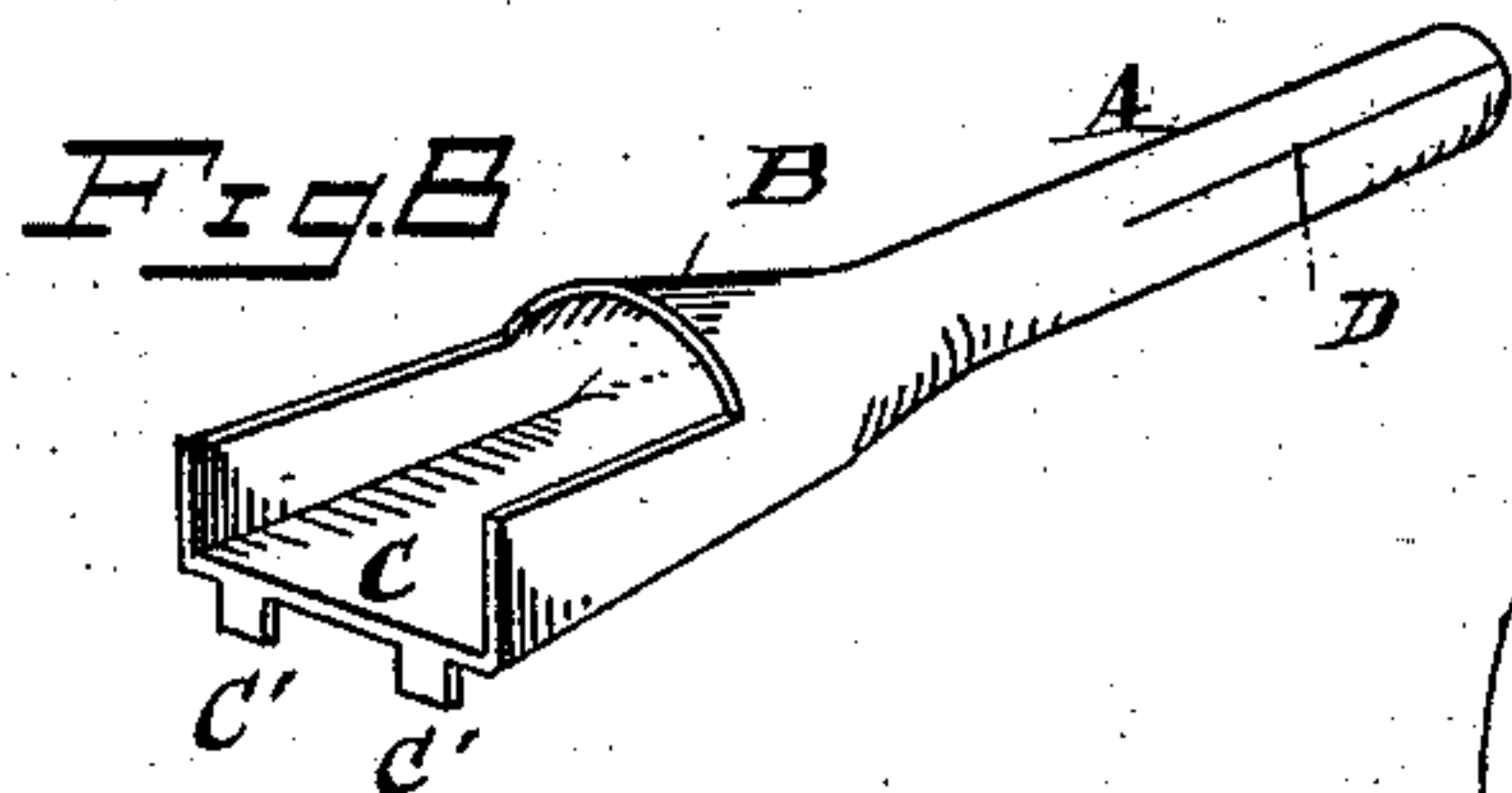
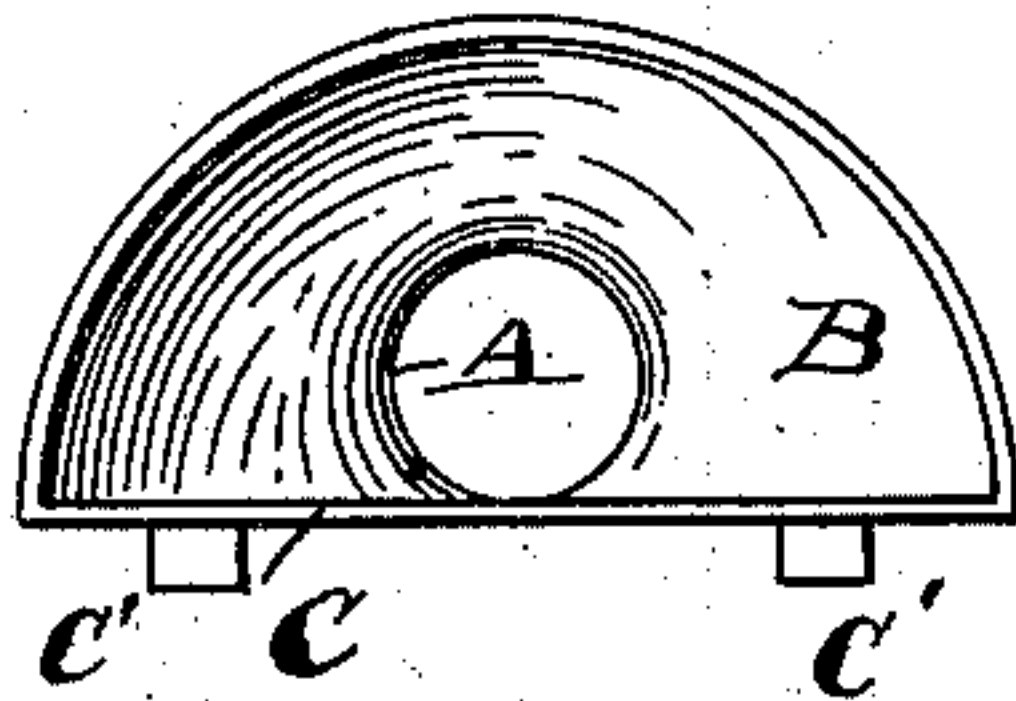
*Fig. 2.*



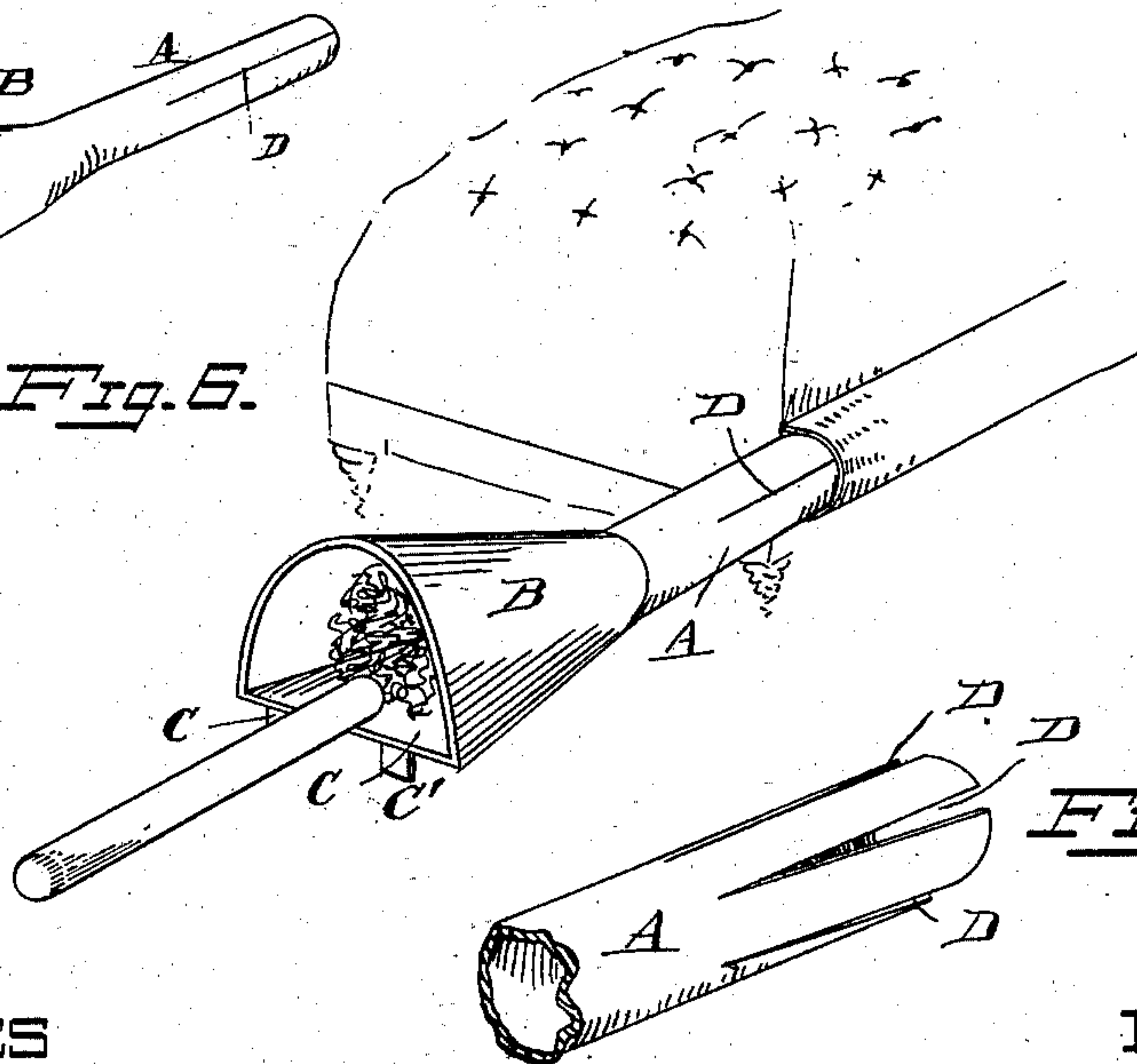
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 6.*



*Fig. 7.*

WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. HEFFNER, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

## UPHOLSTERING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 743,505, dated November 10, 1903.

Application filed May 31, 1902. Serial No. 109,813. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN L. HEFFNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Upholstering Devices; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention pertains to a new and useful implement for use in upholstering lounges, chairs, and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a distinctly new device for upholstering purposes that is thoroughly practical in its application. In constructing lounges what is known to the trade as a "roll" is required to be placed along the edges to assist in keeping the article in its proper shape. This roll, however, is too well known to need further description here; but up to this time it has been customary for the manufacturer to twist excelsior into a roll, place it in the desired position on the lounge, and secure it by sewing burlap or other material around it to secure it. This method is quite crude and has led to bringing out the device forming the subject of this invention.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the device in its various forms and in the use thereof.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention. Fig. 2 is also a view of the same, showing a slightly-modified form. Fig. 3 is an end view thereof, showing a slot in the end of the tube. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing several slots in the tube. Fig. 5 is a view of the opposite end of the device, showing the interior of an enlarged head or hopper. Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing a lounge and my improved device used therewith in manufacturing a roll. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a portion of the tube of the invention, showing V-shaped slots therein. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a modified form of device.

In the various figures, A indicates a tube of any desired or convenient length having at one end a funnel or hopper B, flattened at one side to form a table C, which is in line

with the bottom of the tube-opening, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5. The said hopper is tapered smoothly toward the tube, so that anything pushed into said hopper will be guided into the tube without hindrance in any way. The tube is shown with one slit D in Figs. 1 and 3, while in Figs. 2 and 4 four of these are indicated. The purpose of this implement is clearly illustrated in Fig. 6, in which the end of the tube A is inserted into the under covering of a lounge which is intended to be filled with hair, excelsior, or other material of like nature. When working at a table, the device is laid thereon on its flat side in the positions shown in the figures and the hair or other filler is pushed thereinto, and by means of a suitable plunger the said filler is forced into the tube and thence into the portion of the cover being filled, all of which will be clearly understood. It will also be understood that it is possible to use a tube with no slits in it; but the expansion of the material being filled in by pressure of the plunger creates so much friction on the inside of the tube that its use is attended with too much annoyance and hard work, and besides this the filler is compressed to such an extent that its purpose is lost by the time it is pushed to its place; but by my device, which is provided with the slits, the filler cannot be so much compressed as to be useless, since the tongues left between the slits will expand slightly and let the material pass with ease. By using such a device the product is smoothly and evenly filled, since it can be handled with perfect ease. In Fig. 7 I show a slightly-modified form of my device in which the slits D are made V shape, whereby the end of the tube may be reduced in size by pressure of the hand, so that it can be readily entered in the roll, Fig. 6, after which it expands and holds firmly within said roll.

Evidently any number of the slits D may be employed; but I deem one of these sufficient to allow just enough expansion to accomplish the desired end.

Other parts of the upholstering may of course be treated and filled in the same manner as described in the foregoing. I do not wish to confine myself to any particular construction in the device herein described, as



various changes may be made without departing from the spirit and intent of my invention. The hopper of course could be eliminated from the device and the pipe  
5 slightly flared or turned over into a bead, so as to present a smooth edge, and in this condition the same work could be done with it as when using the hopper described.

My idea is to provide a split tube for upholstery purposes which will allow the filling material to be pushed therethrough without being congested, as has been described.

In place of the split tube a tapering one could be used, though it would not accomplish the same result as the split one, for the  
15 reason that when entering the filling material to the smaller end and pushing it out through the large end sufficient compression could not be had, whereas in the use of the split  
20 tube the tongues thereof exert a yielding pressure upon the material at all times and the filling is of a uniform thickness and state of compression throughout its entire length.

In Fig. 8 I show a slightly-modified form of the device in which a portion of the top of the funnel B is removed and the remaining sides are bent up, as shown, and in this way the material may be more easily entered and handled. It will also be seen in the several  
25 figures that I provide lugs C', attached to or formed with the bottom C. These are used to prevent the apparatus from moving when used upon a table or bench. When used in that manner, the said lugs are placed against  
35 the edge of the said table with the bottom C resting upon the latter. It will be seen that with lugs sufficiently strong the tube may be packed tightly with the filling material and crowded with the plunger without moving.

A more handy way of using the invention  
40 is to merely insert its end into one end of a previously-stitched tube of burlap and force the material thereinto until it is of the required size and hardness. Then the roll thus  
45 formed may be readily sewed to the lounge

where required. In this way a stock of rolls may be made up and kept on hand for use.

I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture for the uses and purposes set forth, a tube split for  
50 a portion of its length, the unsplit end thereof being flared outward to form a funnel substantially as described and shown.

2. In an upholstering device of the character described, a tube having longitudinal slits  
55 therein and a hopper surmounting the same substantially as described and shown.

3. In an upholstering apparatus of the character described, the tube A having the slit D therein and the hopper B surmounting the  
60 same, one side of said hopper having a flattened portion C as described and shown.

4. In an upholstering apparatus of the character described, the combination of the tube A having one or more slits therein, the same  
65 extending longitudinally of said tube for the greater part of its length, the hopper B mounted at the end of the tube opposite to the end having the slits, said hopper having a flat  
70 side at C as shown and tapered toward and into the tube for the purposes described.

5. An upholstering device comprising a split tube, a hopper at one end thereof, said hopper having a flattened portion, and a series of lugs on said flattened portion for the  
75 purposes described.

6. An upholstering device comprising a split tube, a hopper at one end thereof, said hopper having a flattened portion, a series of lugs on said flattened portion said hopper  
80 also being open on its side opposite the flattened portion substantially as described and shown.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN L. HEFFNER.

Witnesses:

E. J. ABERSOL,  
L. M. THURLOW.