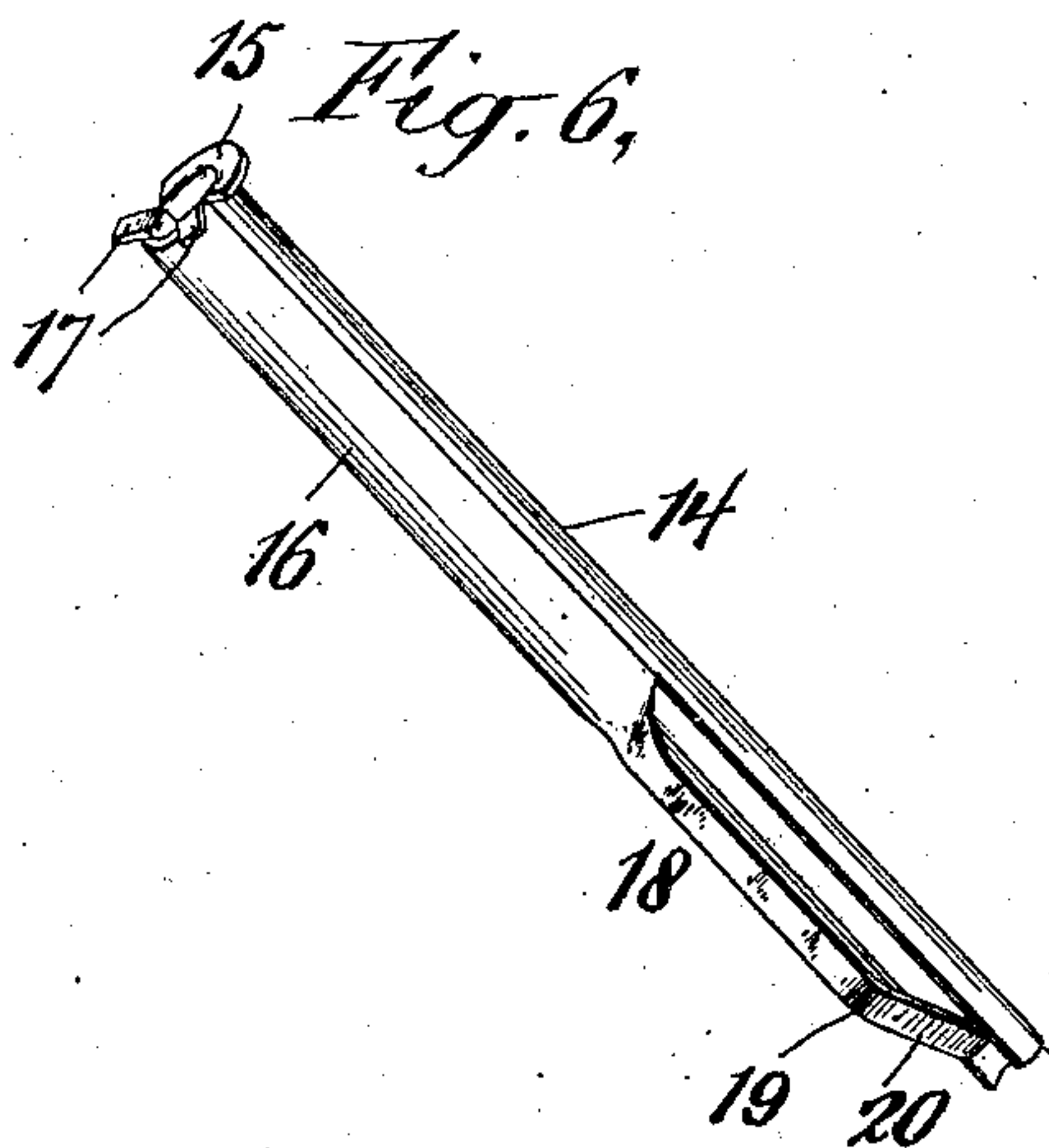
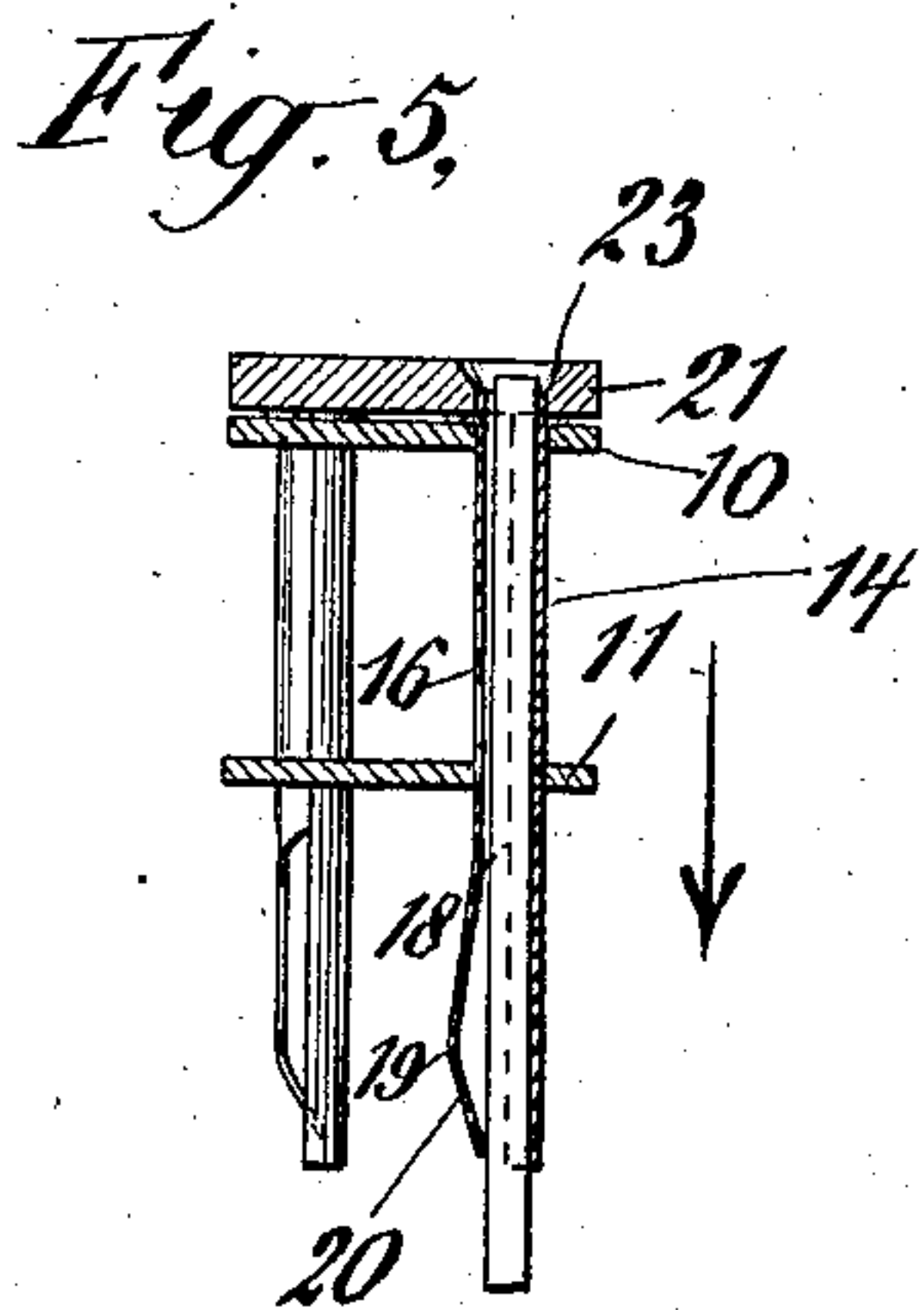
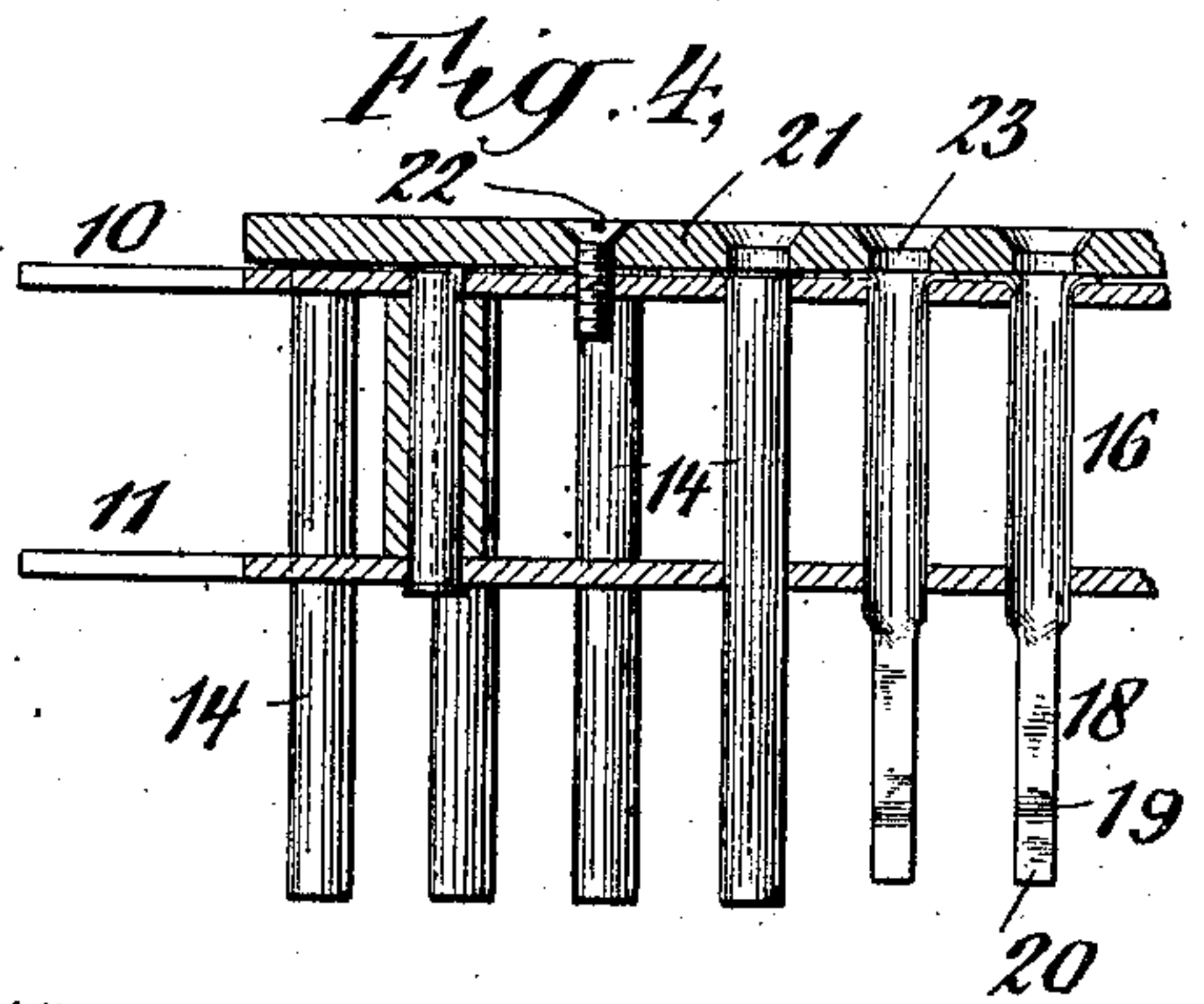
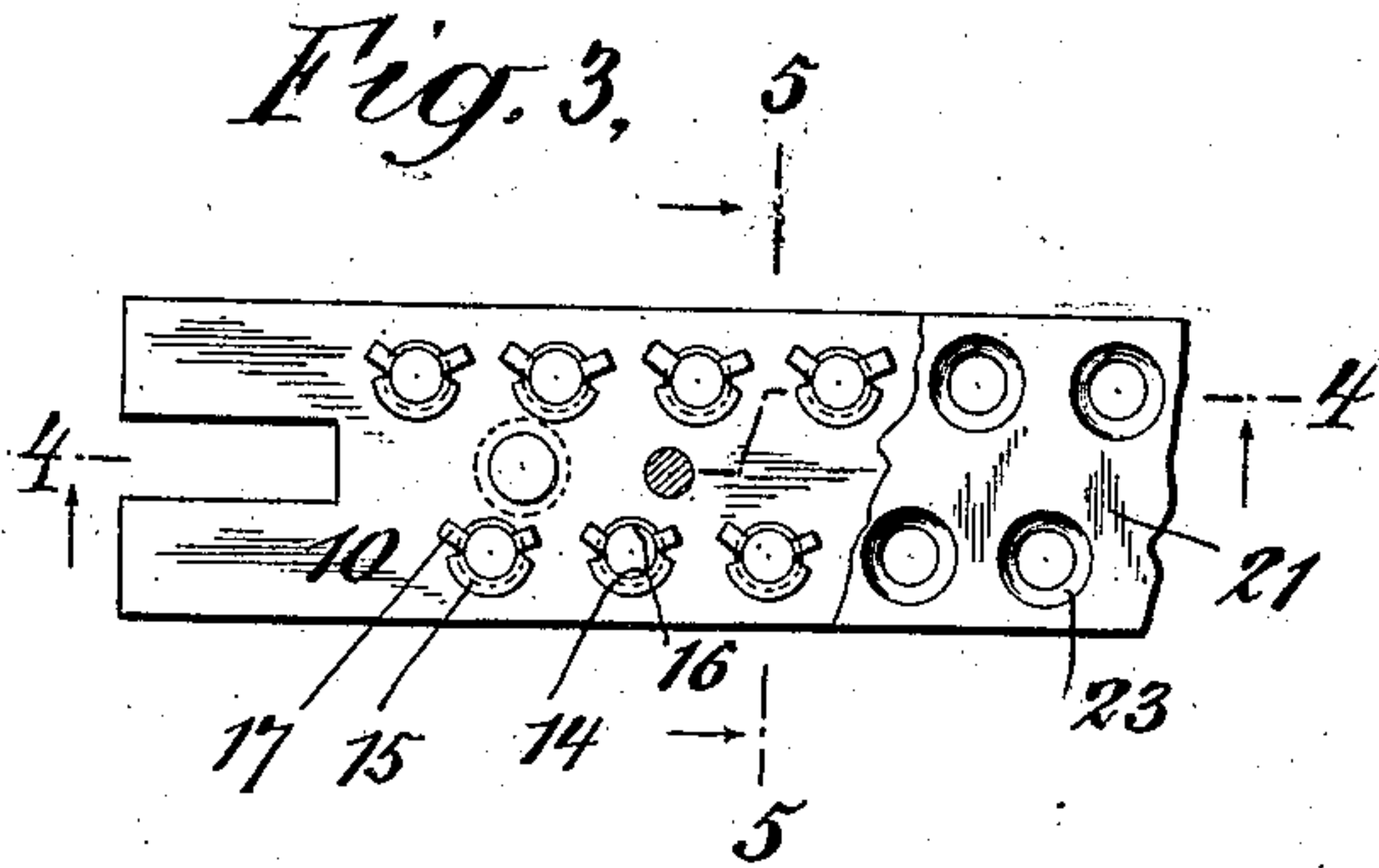
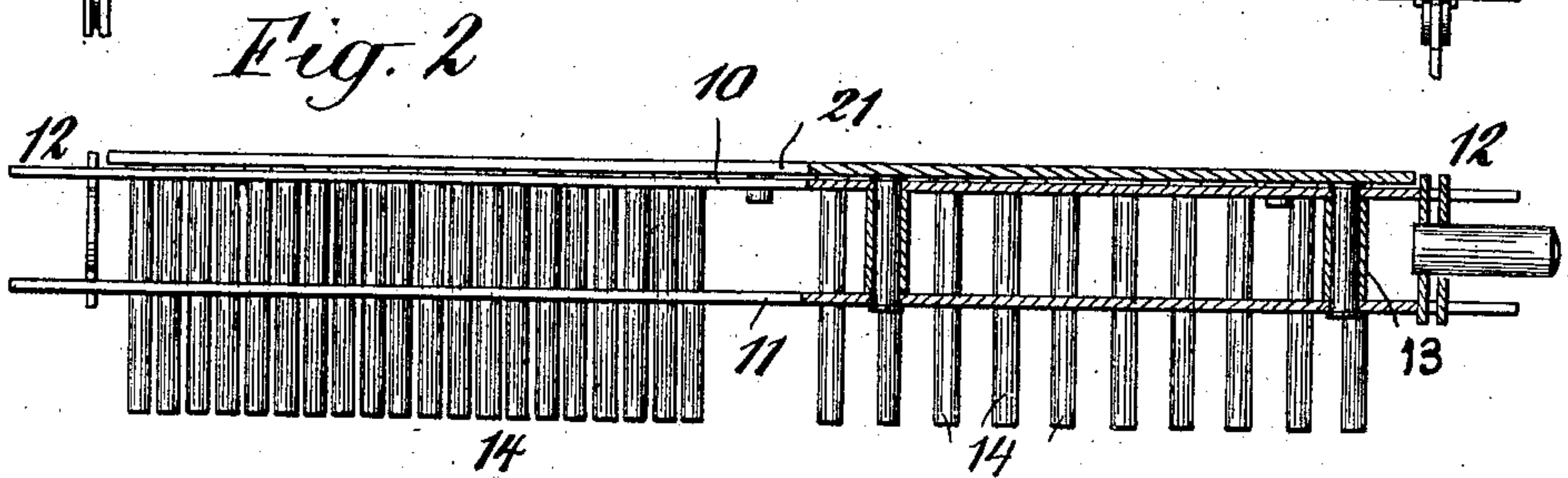
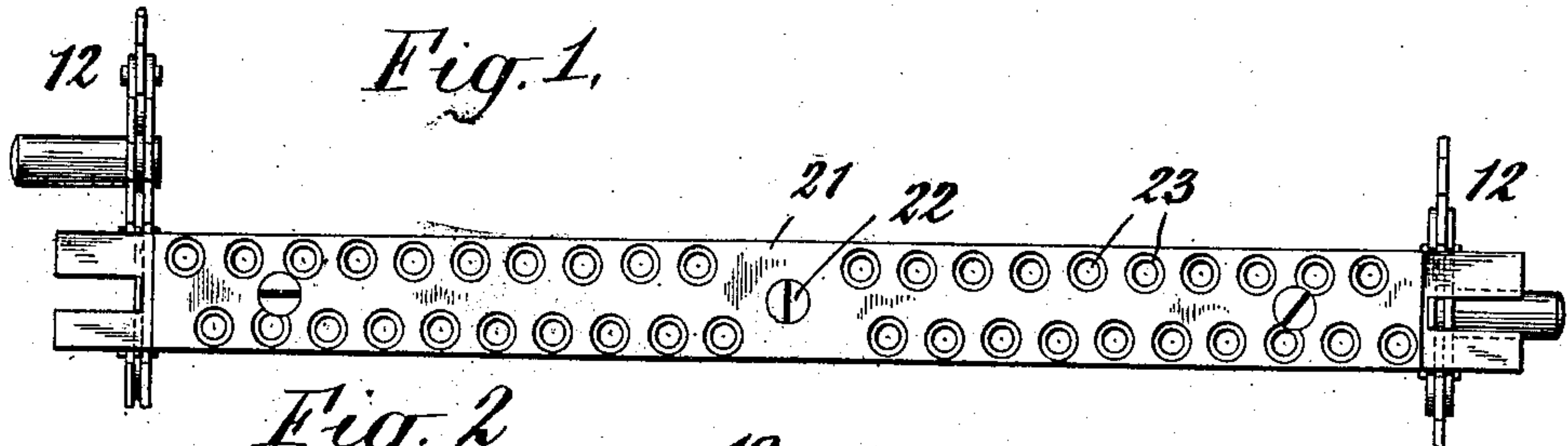


No. 845,439.

PATENTED FEB. 26, 1907.

H. W. SPELLMAN.
SPLINT CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 26, 1906.



WITNESSES:

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SPLINT-CARRIER.

No. 845,439.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 26, 1907

Application filed May 26, 1906. Serial No. 318,867.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT W. SPELLMAN, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Newark, county of Essex, State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Splint-Carriers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention relates to improvements in splint-carriers, and particularly to improvements in carriers arranged to support and carry splints in the manufacture of matches.

My invention consists in the combination with a suitable support of a plurality of individual splint-grippers, each comprising a tube, preferably split, arranged substantially rigid throughout, except for one portion which is fashioned so as to form a resilient finger with a substantially flat sharp edge inclined in the direction in which the splint is introduced into the tube, so that the said edge will press against the side of the splint to hold it with yielding pressure against the opposite wall of the tube and to act as a catch to prevent return movement of the splint, while readily yielding to allow the splint to be introduced and expelled.

In order that my invention may be thoroughly understood, I will now describe the same in detail, with reference to the accompanying drawings illustrating an embodiment thereof, and will then point out the novel features in claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top view of a portion of a splint-carrier embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a view partially in side elevation thereof and partially in central longitudinal section therethrough. Fig. 3 is a top view, on a larger scale, of a portion of the carrier, with a part of the cover-plate removed. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view substantially upon the line 4 4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view substantially upon the line 5 5 of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a view in perspective of one of the individual tubes removed from its support,

The support for the individual grippers herein comprises upper and lower plates 10 and 11, supported by links 12. Rivets and spacing-thimbles 13 secure the two plates together and maintain them a proper distance apart. The individual grippers comprise each a tube composed of two members, one

member, 14, being semitubular throughout and formed with a flange 15 at its upper end, the other member, 16, being semitubular for a portion of its length only and provided at its upper end with lugs 17. Near its lower end the metal is cut away, so as to form a narrow tongue 18, which is flattened substantially throughout its length, and at about one-third the distance from the end is bent, as at 19, so that the portion 20 will incline inwardly toward the opposite member 14. The plates 10 and 11 are suitably provided with corresponding orifices arranged in line with each other to receive the two members 14 and 16, comprising the individual splint-tubes, the said members being fitted quite accurately to the two said orifices and forced down therethrough until the flanges 15 and 17 rest upon the upper side of the top plate 10. To hold the grippers positively in position, a cover-plate 21 is provided, secured to the top plate 10 by screws 22 or other suitable means, the said plate being provided with orifices 23 in line with the gripper-tubes, said orifices being preferably flared outwardly, as shown. Splints to be supported in the tubes will be inserted there-through through the openings 23 in the cover-plate 21, being forced downward until the lower ends protrude beyond the lower end of the said gripper members. In this position they may be held for dipping and for other purposes. In Fig. 5 I have shown a splint-gripper in section with a splint so held therein, and I have also shown another splint-gripper (in side elevation) in a relaxed position without any splint therein. It will be noted that because the tongue 18 is narrow it is permitted to enter into the hollow of the semitubular walls of member 14 when relaxed, and also it will be seen that the inclination of the part 20 is such as to oppose a minimum of resistance to a splint when it is being inserted or ejected, both insertion and ejection taking place in the direction of the arrow of Fig. 5. It will also be seen, however, that because of the form and inclination of the chisel-like edge of the part 20, considerable resistance will be exerted to prevent the splint from moving upward (in a direction opposite to the arrow,) the edge of the tongue 20 having a tendency to enter the wall of the splint if such a movement is attempted.

Because of the accurate fitting of the splint-

tube to the lower plate 11 the individual grippers as a whole will be held firmly in predetermined positions, the only movement of any kind permitted being that which is permitted to tongue 18, which commences at a point below the said plate. This is an important feature in that it enables perfect register of the tubes to be maintained with any other mechanism, such as with the composition-applying mechanism or unloading devices.

What I claim is—

1. In a splint-carrier the combination with two supporting-plates spaced apart and having a plurality of corresponding splint-receiving orifices, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers, comprising tubes fitted to said orifices and rigidly supported by the walls thereof in both said plates, said tubes having each a finger resilient at points only beyond said plates.

2. In a splint-carrier the combination with two supporting-plates spaced apart and having a plurality of corresponding splint-receiving orifices, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers, comprising tubes fitted to said orifices and rigidly supported by the walls thereof in both said plates, each said tube formed of two members, the one semicylindrical and rigid throughout its entire length, and the other semicylindrical throughout a part of its length, and having a relatively narrow tongue portion comprising a spring-finger, at a point beyond the said plates.

3. In a splint-carrier the combination with a suitable support, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers comprising independent tubes rigid throughout the major portion of their lengths, and provided each with a spring-finger at the lower end thereof.

4. In a splint-carrier the combination with a suitable support, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers comprising tubes rigid throughout the major portion of their lengths, the lower end of each tube comprising a part forming a spring-finger inclined toward the opposite wall and terminating in an abrupt shoulder.

5. In a splint-carrier the combination with a suitable support, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers comprising tubes rigid throughout the major portion of their lengths, the lower end of each tube comprising a part forming a spring-finger substantially flat in cross-section, and having a portion inclined toward the opposite wall, and terminating in an abrupt shoulder.

6. In a splint-carrier the combination with a suitable support, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers comprising tubes longitudinally split into two members, one said member substantially rigid throughout its length, the other rigid throughout a part of its length and terminating in a resilient finger whose end inclines toward the other said member.

7. In a splint-carrier the combination with a suitable support, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers comprising tubes longitudinally split into two members, one said member substantially rigid throughout its length, the other member rigid throughout a part of its length and having throughout the remaining part a resilient portion of reduced width inclined toward the first said member, the end of which is adapted to be received within the conical walls of the first said member.

8. In a splint-carrier, the combination with a suitable support, of a plurality of individual splint-grippers each comprising a tube composed of two members, one said member semicylindrical and rigid throughout its length, the other member semicylindrical and rigid throughout a portion of its length, the remaining portion being narrowed, substantially flat, and inclined toward the first said member, substantially as specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of May, 1906.

HERBERT W. SPELLMAN.

Witnesses:

F. M. SEYMOUR,
C. A. DOUGHERTY.