

No. 864,149.

PATENTED AUG. 27, 1907.

J. H. BELL.  
FIRE EXTINGUISHER.  
APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1907.

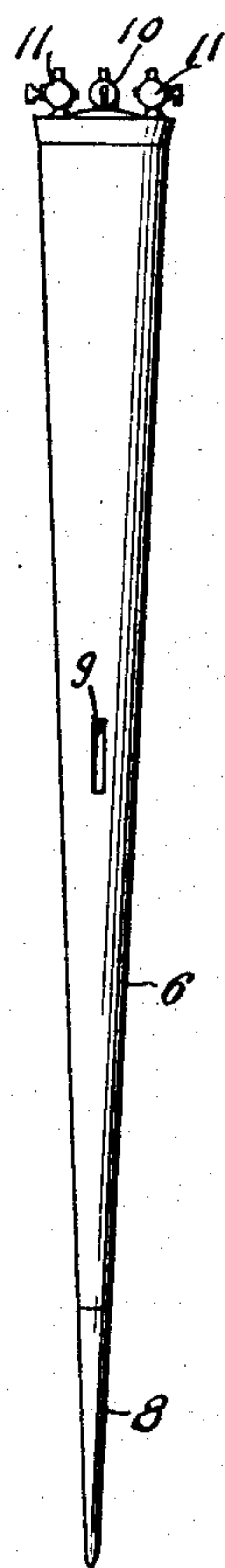


Fig. 1.

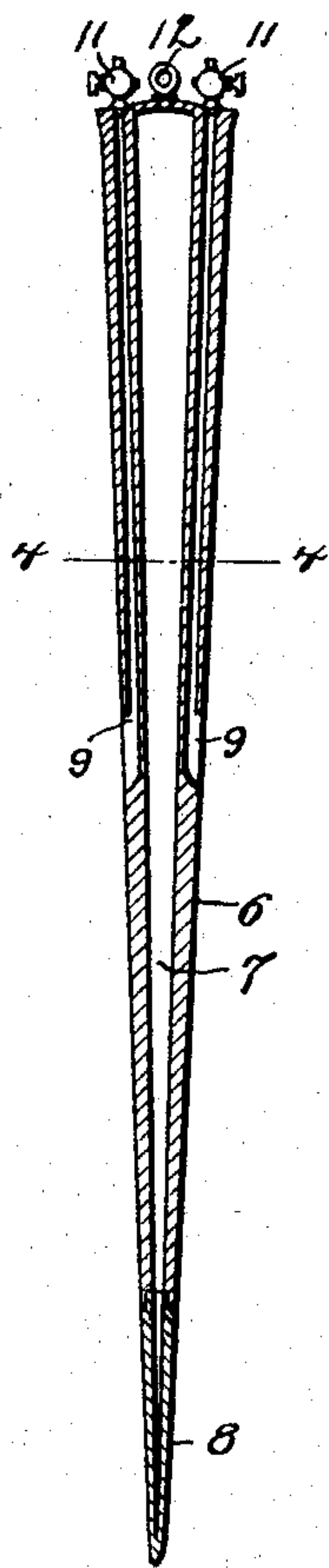


Fig. 2.

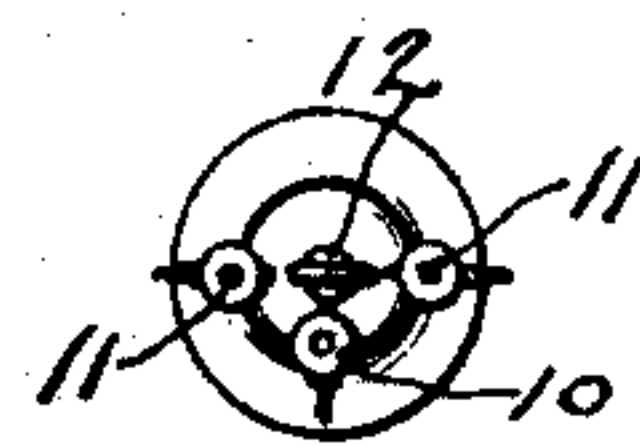


Fig. 3.

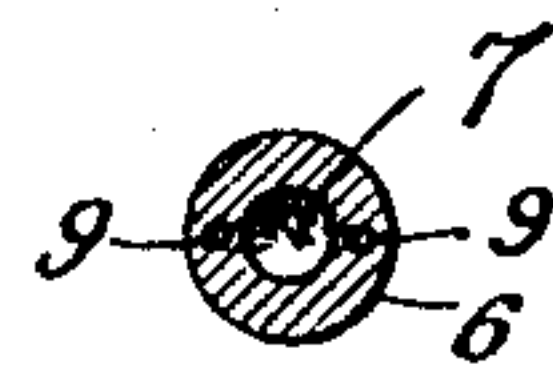


Fig. 4.

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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FIRE-EXTINGUISHER.

No. 864,149.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 27, 1907.

Application filed May 29, 1907. Serial No. 376,368.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES H. BELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis City and State of Missouri, have invented  
5 certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Extinguishers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is a fire extinguisher for oil or gas wells and has for its object to provide a simple and efficient device of this kind, and also one which can  
10 be easily operated.

The device comprises a tapering plug which is dropped into the well-tube and smothers the fire. Means are provided for the escape of gas from the plug.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an elevation  
15 tion of the invention showing the application thereof. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a top plan view. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring specifically to the drawing, 6 denotes an  
20 elongated conical plug which is hollow, its bore 7 forming a water-chamber. The plug has a removable tip 8 which is secured by screwing it thereon. On diametrically opposite sides of the bore 7 the block has longitudinal passages 9 which extend from the top of  
25 the plug and open into the sides thereof about midway between its ends. In the top of the plug are fitted stop-cocks 10 for the bore 7 and stop-cocks 11 for the passages 9. To the top of the plug is also secured an eye 12 for attachment of a hoisting device.

30 In use, the chamber 7 is filled with water and the plug is inserted into the tube of the burning well, the

cocks 11 being left open to permit the escape of gas through the passages 9. The cock 10 is also left open in order that any steam which may form in the water-chamber 7 by reason of the heat from the fire may  
35 escape. The water prevents the plug from getting hot enough to set the oil or gas on fire. If steam is made, the water-chamber will be refilled. As the needle descends in the well-tube the fire is gradually smothered after which the oil will commence to flow from the  
40 cocks 11 whereupon they are shut off. If the diameter of the well-tube is such that the plug will not fit tightly, the top of the tube can be packed with a ring of clay or other non-combustible material.

I claim:

1. A fire extinguisher for gas and oil wells comprising a plug adapted to be inserted into the well-tube, and having gas outlets. 45
2. A fire extinguisher for gas and oil wells comprising a plug adapted to be inserted into the well-tube, and having  
50 gas outlets and a chamber to receive a cooling medium.
3. A fire extinguisher for gas and oil wells comprising a plug adapted to be inserted into a well-tube, and having gas outlets, and valves controlling said outlets.
4. A fire extinguisher for gas and oil wells comprising a  
55 conical plug adapted to be inserted into the well-tube, and having longitudinal passages extending from the top and opening into the sides of the plug.

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

JAMES H. BELL.

Witnesses:

MARY D. WHITCOMB,  
L. C. DYER.