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APPLYING WAFERS TO HAMBURGER PATTIES

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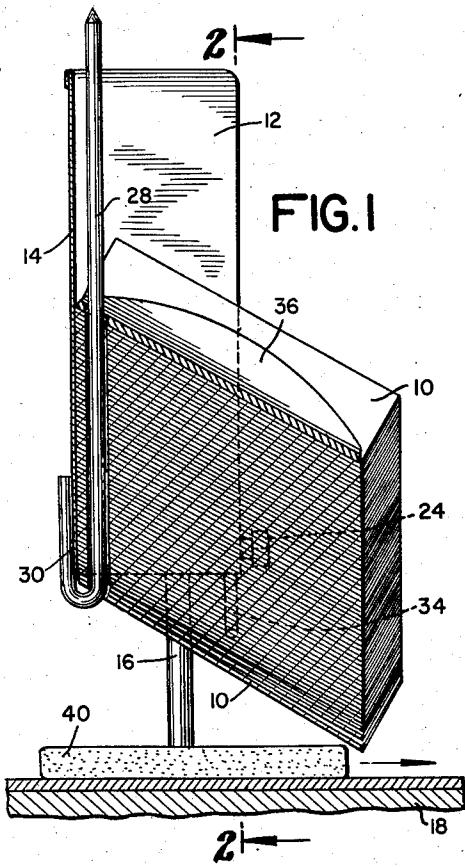


FIG. 1

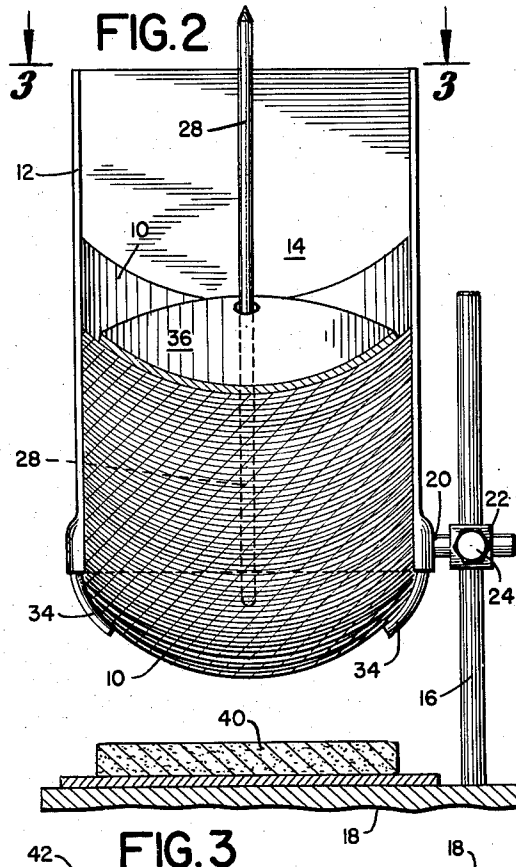


FIG. 2

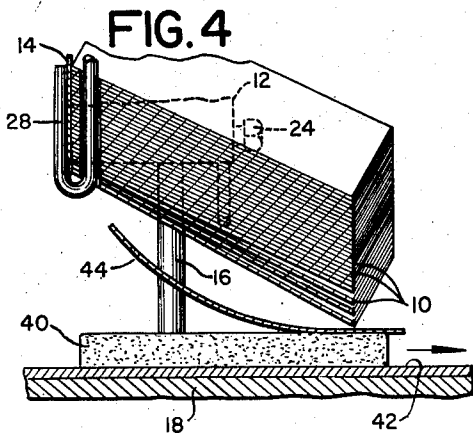


FIG. 4

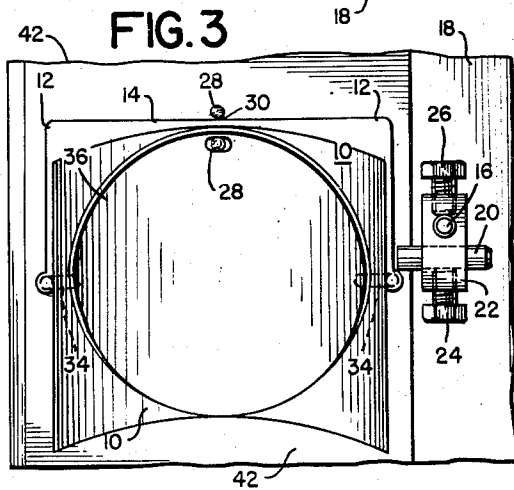


FIG. 3

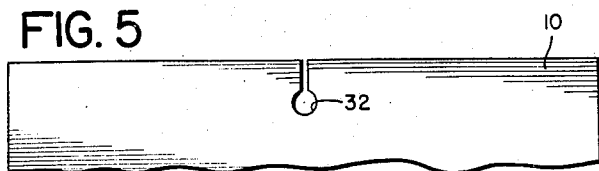


FIG. 5

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APPLYING WAFERS TO HAMBURGER PATTIES

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2 Claims. (Cl. 216-51)

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This invention pertains to the manufacture of hamburger patties, with particular reference to the placing of a wafer of paper or other material on each patty as it is moved from the patty-forming machine.

Further and other objects and advantages will be apparent from the specification and claims, and from the accompanying drawings which illustrate what is now considered the preferred embodiment of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a sectional view of a holder containing a stack of wafers, with a patty moving to the right and about to make contact with the lowermost wafer of the stack;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of line 3-3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view of the lower part of Fig. 1 after the patty has been moved to the right and has separated the lowermost wafer of the pack, which is falling into position on the patty; and

Fig. 5 shows a portion of a wafer, illustrating the means for holding it impositively in position in the pack.

Wafers 10 are stacked in a trough-like vertical container having sides 12 and rear surface 14, and are impositively held in position by a vertical rod 16 fast in the table 18 of the machine.

Stud 20 projecting horizontally from one side 12 of the container passes through a horizontal hole in a block 22, and a screw 24 clamps the block in adjusted position on the stud, while block 22 is held in any desired position vertically or rotatively by a screw 26.

Mounted vertically within the container, and close to rear wall 14 is a rod 28 which at its lower end is bent around the bottom end of container wall 14 and welded at 30 to the rear of wall 14.

Wafers 10 have slotted holes 32 at their rear edges (Fig. 5) and the wafers are stacked in the container with rod 28 threaded through holes 32. The holes are of such size and shape with reference to rod 28 as to provide an impositive lock so that a slight pull on a wafer is sufficient to detach it from the rod.

The wafers are additionally supported in the container by a pair of horns 34 projecting downwardly and inwardly from the lower front corners of container walls 12.

Resting on top of the stack of wafers is a curved sheet metal weight 16 having a hole 38 through which passes vertical rod 28.

As a result of the above method of support the wafers take the drooping position shown in the drawings with the front bottom edge of the lowermost wafer in the path of the advancing upper

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corner of each patty 40 moving from left to right on conveyor belt 42, as in Fig. 1.

Due to the characteristic stickiness of hamburger, it has been found that the adhesion between the patty and wafer is sufficient to overcome the resistance of impositive lock 32 and the friction between the wafers, the result being that, as disclosed in Fig. 4, the lowermost wafer 44 is drawn from the pack, then falls onto the top of patty 40, and remains there, as indicated by the broken line.

It is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific embodiment herein illustrated and described but may be used in other ways without departure from its spirit as defined by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a device for depositing a wafer into contact with a sticky meat patty, means for impositively supporting a wafer in inclined position, wafer curving means operative to curve a wafer upwardly towards its sides in order that the initial contact of a moving patty may be against the middle portion of the lowermost portion of the wafer, a curved plate adapted to rest on the wafer for insuring the desired curvature of the wafer, and means for moving a meat patty underneath the wafer and into contact with the under surface thereof whereby said wafer adheres to the patty and is drawn from its impositive support and falls to a position of rest on the patty.

2. In a device for depositing a wafer into contact with a sticky meat patty, means for impositively supporting a wafer in inclined position comprising a vertical rod having a bight under the high side of the wafer, wafer curving means comprising a horn under each side of the wafer operative to curve a wafer upwardly towards its sides in order that the initial contact of a moving patty may be against the middle portion of the lowermost edge of the wafer, and means for moving a meat patty underneath the wafer and into contact with the under surface thereof whereby said wafer adheres to the patty and is drawn from its impositive support and falls to a position of rest on the patty.

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