May 6, 1924. 1,492,828

A. N. BENDER

CALF WEANING DEVICE

Filed Oct. 30, 1922

Fig. 1.

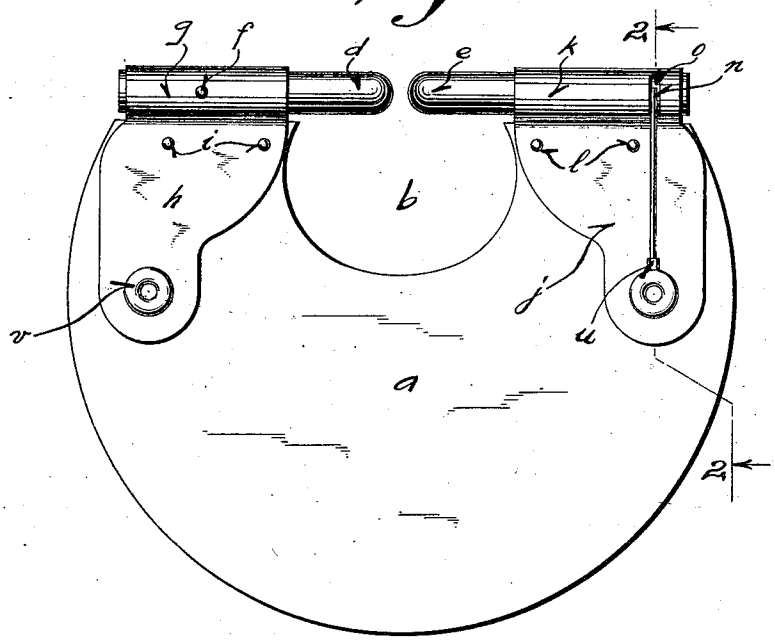
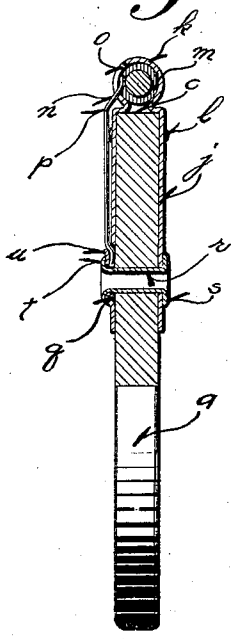


Fig. 2.



Witness!
Erwin B. Eiring

Inventor!
Albert N. Bender
By
Attorneys!

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT N. BENDER, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

CALF-WEANING DEVICE.

Application filed October 30, 1922. Serial No. 597,850.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT N. BENDER, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Calf-Weaning Devices; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The invention relates to devices for preventing calves from sucking at the udders of their mother.

It is in the nature of an improvement on the calf-weaning device, on which Patent No. 731,424 was granted to applicant on June 23, 1903. In the device of the patent, a pair of oppositely disposed pins are secured to a shield by means of a screw. In applicant's device, one of these pins is provided with an annular groove adapted to receive the ends of a retaining spring, which may be manually actuated to release the pin. The object of this construction is the facility of the securing of the shield to the nostril of the calf and the removal thereof.

The retaining spring is made of resilient wire formed at one end into an eye. This eye is held under a metallic strap and envelops a tube, the ends of which are spread, whereby retaining collars are formed. The object of this construction is the effective retention of the spring in place and the strengthening of the structure, whereby the device is rendered durable. At the same time the construction is easy to manufacture and cheap, being exceedingly simple and composed of a minimum number of parts.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, my invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, substantially as hereinafter described and more particularly defined by the appended claim, it being understood that such changes in the precise embodiment of the herein disclosed invention may be made as come within the scope of the claim.

In the accompanying drawing, I have illustrated one complete example of the physical embodiment of the present invention constructed according to the best mode I have so far devised for the practical application of the principles thereof, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the weaner.

Figure 2 is an edge view, partly in section, on line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing, *a* represents the main portion or shield of my device, which is preferably of a generally rounded contour with a horizontal upper rounded end centrally cut-out as indicated at *b*, and the two parts of the upper edge thus left each formed with a flat upper surface *c*, above which are spaced pins *d* and *e*. The pin *d* is secured permanently in place by a member *f* extending through the pin and secured by heads at the end thereof in the wall of a cylindrical portion *g* of a strap *h* which straddles the shield and grips both sides thereof, being rigidly secured thereto by rivets *i*. The shield *a* and the pins *d*—*e* are preferably made of wood. The second strap *j* is provided with a cylindrical portion *k* for the reception of pin *e*. The strap is secured by rivets *l*.

The pin *e* is provided with an annular groove *m* therein for the reception of the end *n* of a spring, which is directed through an opening *o* in the cylindrical portion of the strap. In practice, the pin *e* is separated from pin *d* and the device is then applied to the calf with the pin *d* drawn into the animal's nostril on one side up to the cartilage therein, and then the pin *e* is pushed back in the other nostril to a like distance, the end *n* of the spring snapping into the groove *m* and locking the pin *e* in position.

In this arrangement the shield *a* may effectually guard against the calf's sucking, but will not in any way injure the animal. Obviously, the affixation of the shield requires but a moment of time and is conveniently effected. The main stretch of the spring is substantially parallel to the surface of shield *a*, being bent at *p* to direct the end *n* inwardly. The lower end is formed into an eye *q* which envelops a tube *r*, the ends of which are spread forming collars *s* and *t*. The collar *t* contacts immediately with the surface of strap *j*, which is provided with an opening *t* round which the spring is extended. Thus the strap exerts an effective gripping action on the spring adjacent tube *r* and retains it securely in position.

A tube *v* functions somewhat similarly to tube *r* and secures the lower ends of strap *h* tightly against the shield *a*.

It is obvious that tube *r* effects diverse

useful functions. It retains the lower ends of strap *j* securely in position and also effectively grips the eye of the spring. Thus a structure is provided which is strong and durable and at the same time simple and easy to manufacture.

I claim:—

A calf weaning device comprising a rigid shield having a central opening in its upper edge, a pair of metallic strap members secured to said shield, adjacent said opening and folded over the upper edge thereof and spaced therefrom, rivets passed through the ends of said strap members and through said shields, a pair of inwardly directed pins positioned between the upper edge of said shield and said strap members, one of said pins being rigidly secured and the other of said pins having a groove therein, a slot in the corresponding strap member adapted to register with said groove, a spring having an eyelet and secured beneath the head of one of said rivets and having an upwardly directed portion adapted to pass through said slot and into said groove, whereby said pin is releasably secured against inward or outward motion.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand at Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin.

ALBERT N. BENDER.