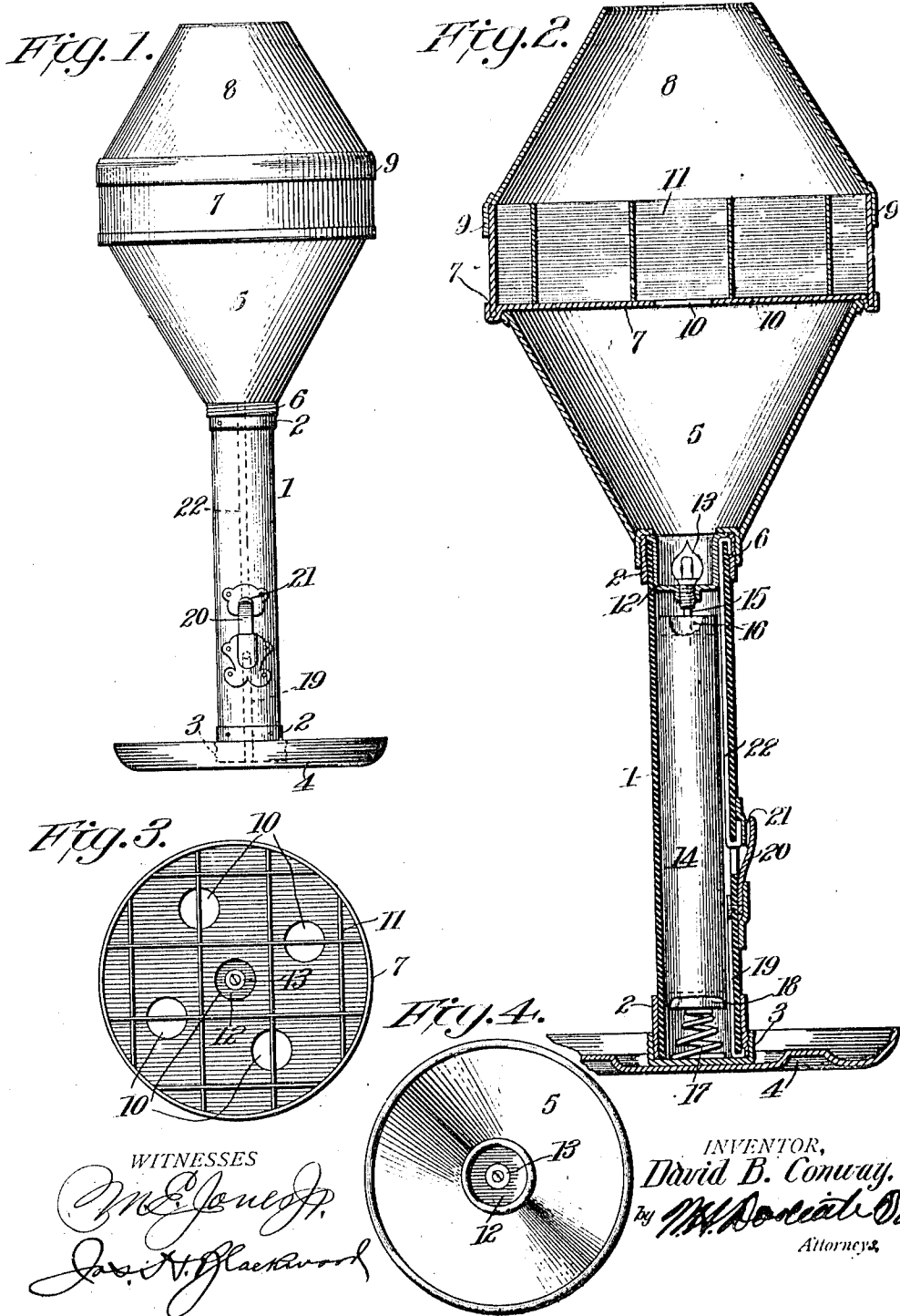


D. B. CONWAY,
EGG TESTER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 23, 1910.

1,040,626.

Patented Oct. 8, 1912



WITNESSES
W. E. Jones
Jas. H. Blackwood

INVENTOR,
David B. Conway.
By *M. A. Donnell*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID B. CONWAY, OF FORT DODGE, IOWA.

EGG-TESTER.

1,040,626.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID B. CONWAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Dodge, in the county of Webster and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Testers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to egg testers and its object is to provide a device of this kind having electric illuminating means beneath the egg-retaining means and having a normally open circuit therefor and means whereby the circuit may be established, and a tester of simple and durable construction.

The invention is embodied in preferable form in the device hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In these drawings, Figure 1 is a side view; Fig. 2 is a central vertical section; Fig. 3, a plan of the device with the hood removed, and Fig. 4 is a plan of the device with the hood and tray removed.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a vertical tube having at each extremity a screw-threaded band 2 riveted or otherwise secured thereto. At the lower extremity of the tube, the threads of the band 2 are adapted to be screwed into a threaded member 3 of a base-plate 4. At the opposite end this tube is adapted to be screwed to a cone-shaped member 5 at 6. A removable egg-retaining tray 7 rests upon the member 5 and the outer wall of the tray is extended slightly below the bottom of the tray so that the extension will prevent lateral movement thereof upon the member 5. Upon the tray 7 rests a removable cone-shaped hood or cover 8 provided with a central opening at the top thereof through which the condition of the eggs may be seen. This hood has a vertical wall 9 at its base and this wall is adapted to fit over and embrace the upper edge of the tray 7 to prevent lateral movement of the hood upon the same. The bottom of the tray 7 is provided with suitable openings 10. The eggs are placed in compartments 11 within the tray 7 and the openings 10 are arranged beneath the compartments. The interior of the tray 7 and the walls of the compartments are preferably darkened by painting the same a dark color or by covering the same with felt or other material of a dark color.

Removably seated in the upper end of the tube 1 is a socket member 12 for an

electric bulb 13. The tube 1 is preferably made of paper, vulcanized rubber, fiber or other suitable insulating material. Within the tube is a removable electric battery 14 and a conducting portion 15 of the socket contacts with a conductor plate 16 connected to one element of the battery. The conductor is kept in contact with the socket by means of the spring 17, which is of conducting material and by means of its contact with the conductor plate 18 establishes a circuit with the threaded member 3. In contact with this member 3 is a conducting strip 19 which leads to a contact finger 20 which is made of spring metal and arranged exteriorly of the tube. A contact member 21 is arranged opposite the finger 20 and the current is adapted to pass from the socket of the electric bulb into the socket member 12 and thence into the conducting strip 22 which is in contact with the member 12; the strip 22 contacting with the contact 21. The circuit is normally open as the finger 20 is normally out of contact with the contact 21 and in order to close the circuit and thereby light the filament of the bulb, the finger 20 is pressed against the contact 21 and the circuit remains closed as long as the said parts are held in contact. Upon releasing the finger, it will return to its normal position and the circuit be broken. By providing the normally open circuit, the period of usefulness of the battery is considerably lengthened.

Instead of the form of cover shown, I use in some cases a slidable cover, and also in some instances, I provide an opening in the cover through which the hand may be inserted to remove bad eggs.

In the cases of testers of large size such as are used principally in stores and hotels, the tester may be connected to the electric lighting means of the store or hotel and the separate battery dispensed with.

With my device it is unnecessary to employ a reflector beneath the eggs.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In an egg tester, an electric battery lamp device having an electric battery and lamp means to which current from said battery is supplied, egg receptacle means above the lamp means, means to detachably connect the receptacle to the electric battery lamp device, a base member and means

to detachably connect the base member to the electric battery lamp device, substantially as described.

2. In an egg tester, an electric battery lamp device comprising an electric battery, lamp means to which current is supplied from said battery, a battery inclosing member, and a make and break circuit device for the lamp means on the exterior of the battery inclosing member, egg receptacle means above the lamp means, means to detachably connect the receptacle means to the battery inclosing member, a base member, and means to detachably connect the base member to the battery inclosing member, substantially as described.

3. In an egg tester, an electric battery lamp device comprising an electric battery, lamp means to which current is supplied from said battery, a battery inclosing member and a make and break circuit device on the exterior of the inclosing member, an egg receptacle in alinement with the lamp means, a member supporting the receptacle, and screw thread means connecting the supporting member and the battery lamp device, substantially as described.

4. In an egg tester, an electric battery lamp device comprising an electric battery, a lamp to which current is supplied from said battery, a battery inclosing tube of non-conducting material and a make and break circuit device on the exterior of the tube, a ring secured to said tube at one end provided with exterior screw threads, an

egg receptacle in alinement with the lamp and provided with openings in its bottom, a supporting member for said receptacle having screw threads engaging the ring, a base member, and means to detachably connect the base member to the tube, substantially as described.

5. In an egg tester, an electric battery lamp device comprising an electric battery, an inclosing tube of non-conducting material, a make and break circuit device on the exterior of the tube having a fixed contact and a spring finger to engage the fixed contact, a cup device secured in said tube at one end, a lamp receiving current from the battery supported in the cup, a ring secured to the tube at said cup end provided with exterior screw threads, an egg receptacle above the lamp provided with opening in its bottom, a hood for said receptacle, a supporting member beneath the receptacle provided with screw threads to detachably engage the ring, screw threads on the base member at the end of the tube opposite the cup end, and a base member having screw threads to detachably engage said screw threads of the tube, substantially as described.

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

DAVID B. CONWAY.

Witnesses:

W. M. HEALY,
KATE B. JORDAN.