M. J. CORCORAN.

EGG WASHER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 3, 1917. RENEWED OCT. 22, 1919.

**1,340,020.** **Patented May 11, 1920.**

Fig. 1.

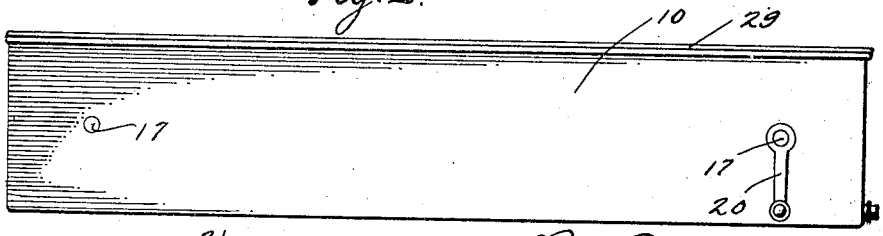



Fig. 2.

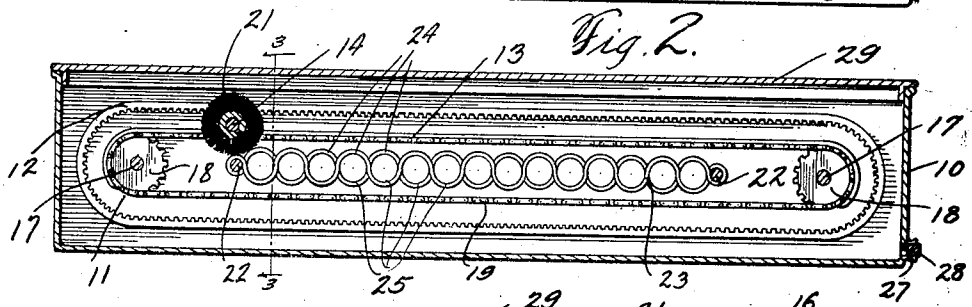



Fig. 3.

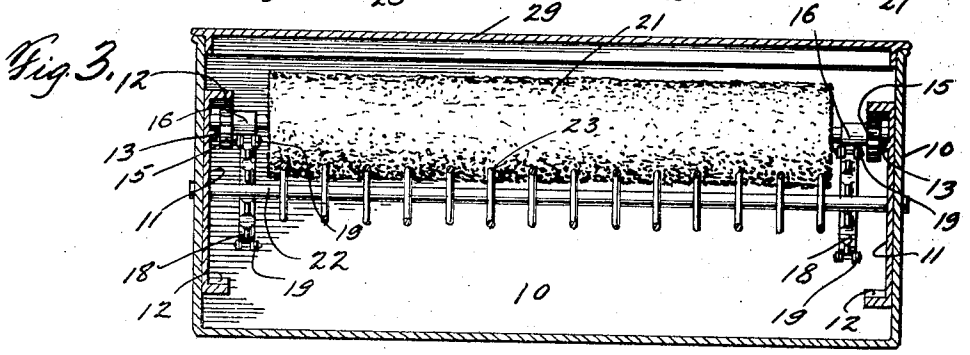



Fig. 4.

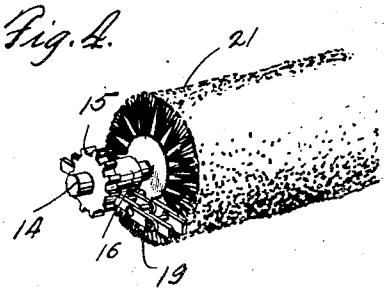
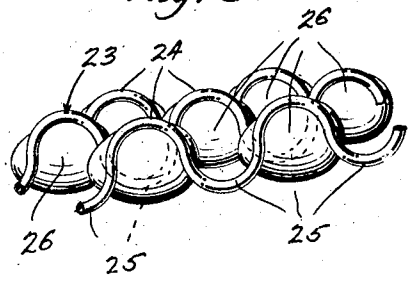



Fig. 5.




Witnesses
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARGARET J. CORCORAN, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

## EGG-WASHER.

1,340,020. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 11, 1920.

Application filed October 3, 1917, Serial No. 194,536. Renewed October 22, 1919. Serial No. 332,576.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARGARET J. CORCORAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Scranton, in the county of Lackawanna, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Washers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in washing machines and particularly to machines for washing eggs.

One object of the present invention is to provide a novel and efficient device of this character whereby a large number of eggs can be quickly and easily acted upon whereby the outer surfaces of the shells of the eggs will be thoroughly cleansed.

Another object is to provide a device of this character wherein a large number of eggs can be washed without danger of injuring or breaking any of the eggs.

A further object is to provide a novel and efficient egg supporting means which can be quickly and easily inserted or withdrawn and without damage to the eggs.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is an elevation of an egg washing machine made in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view taken centrally through the device.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the chain and one end of the cleaning brush.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the egg supporting tray showing a number of eggs therein.

Referring particularly to the accompanying drawing 10 represents an elongated box or like receptacle which is preferably watertight and is adapted to contain the water for washing the eggs. Secured to the inner faces of the longer sides of the box, and extending longitudinally thereof, are the metal plates 11. On the outer face of each of these plates there is formed an endless toothed track 12, and immediately below the upper portion of the track is a guiding rail or track 13, the purpose of which will presently appear. A transverse shaft 14 is disposed in the receptacle and has its ends disposed between the toothed tracks and the guiding rails, the said ends of the shaft being arranged to slide on said rails. Carried by each end of the shaft is a pinion 15 which is arranged to engage with the teeth of the endless tracks, whereby the shaft rotates axially as it travels around the toothed tracks. The pinions are each mounted adjacent bearing blocks 16, said blocks receiving the shaft ends therethrough and being secured to endless chains. Disposed transversely through the longer sides of the receptacle, and arranged concentrically with the curved end portions of the tracks, are the shafts 17 each having fixed thereon, adjacent the ends, the sprocket wheels 18. Engaged around these sprocket wheels are the chains 19, abovementioned. One end of one of said shafts 17 extends outwardly of the side of the receptacle where it is provided with a crank handle 20 which is grasped to rotate the shaft and transmit similar movement to the other shaft, and the driving of the chains. Thus as the shafts 17 are turned the shaft 14 will be moved from one end of the receptacle to the other and back again, while at the same time shaft 14 will be rotated. Fixed on the shaft, intermediate the chains 19, is a rotatable brush 21.

Mounted transversely in the receptacle, and between the upper and lower portions of the toothed tracks, are the rods 22 to which are secured to the ends of a plurality of longitudinally extending parallel wire members 23. Each of these wire members is formed with a succession of waves 24, the waves of one wire being arranged in staggered relation to the waves of the wires on each side thereof. It will also be noted that the waves of the different wires are offset with relation to the adjacent wires. These waves provide the downwardly bowed portions 25 and the upwardly bowed portions 24, and between the portion 24 of one wire and the portion 25 of the next adjacent wire the egg 26 is placed, the resiliency of the wires tending to firmly grip the egg and hold the same in proper position.

The receptacle being filled with water or a liquid cleansing compound, and the tray

filled with eggs, the handle is turned whereby the chains will move the brush around the tracks and rotate the same causing the brush to be submerged in the liquid where it contacts with the lower sides of the eggs, and again with the upper sides of the eggs. Thus the shells of the eggs can be quickly and effectively cleaned. After one set of eggs has been cleaned they are removed and another set placed in the tray, and the above operation repeated.

It will be noted that by reason of the resiliency of the trays, any danger of excessive pressure of the brush on the eggs, with a tendency to break the shells, is completely avoided.

In one end, near the bottom of the receptacle, there is disposed an outlet spout 27 in which is arranged a plug or stopper 28. By removing the stopper the receptacle can be easily emptied.

A removable cover 29 is carried by the upper open portion of the receptacle for the purpose of preventing the splashing of the liquid therein while the device is in operation.

What is claimed is:

1. An egg cleaning machine including a receptacle, an egg supporting means within the receptacle, a cleaning element within the receptacle, and means for moving the cleaning element in an orbital path to contact with the upper and lower portions of the shells of the eggs.

2. An egg cleaning machine including a receptacle, an egg supporting means within the receptacle, and an orbitally moving cleaning element arranged to contact with the upper and lower sides of the eggs successively and to be submerged at times.

3. An egg cleaning machine including a receptacle, a resilient egg tray mounted in the receptacle, an orbitally moving brush for contacting with the upper and lower sides of the shells of the eggs, means for moving the brush orbitally, and means for simultaneously rotating the brush axially.

4. An egg cleaning machine including a receptacle, endless toothed tracks mounted in the receptacle, a traveling brush mounted in the receptacle and having means contacting with the tracks to rotate the brush, and an egg supporting tray mounted within the path of the brush and including resilient parallel members having egg gripping waves therein.

5. An egg cleaner including egg supporting means, a cleaning element and means for moving the cleaning element in an orbital path about the supporting means to contact with the eggs therein.

6. An egg cleaning machine including egg supporting means and an orbitally movable cleaning element arranged to contact successively with the opposite sides of eggs in the supporting means.

7. An egg cleaning machine including a resilient egg tray, an orbitally movable brush for contact with the opposite sides of eggs in the tray, means for moving the brush orbitally and means for simultaneously rotating the brush axially.

8. An egg cleaning machine including endless toothed tracks, a traveling brush having means engaging the tracks to rotate the brush when moved along the tracks and an egg supporting tray mounted within the path of movement of the brush and including resilient parallel members having egg gripping waves therein.

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

MARGARET J. CORCORAN.

Witnesses:
WM. W. LEE,
S. FRANK CORY.