Sept. 13, 1932. G. WEBSTER 1,877,211

CULINARY KNIFE

Filed March 24, 1930

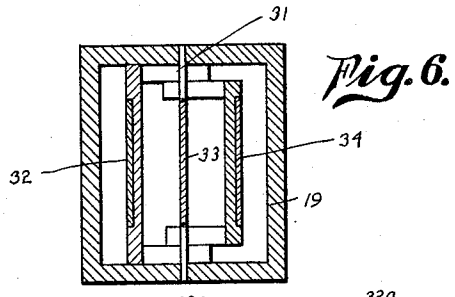


Fig. 6.

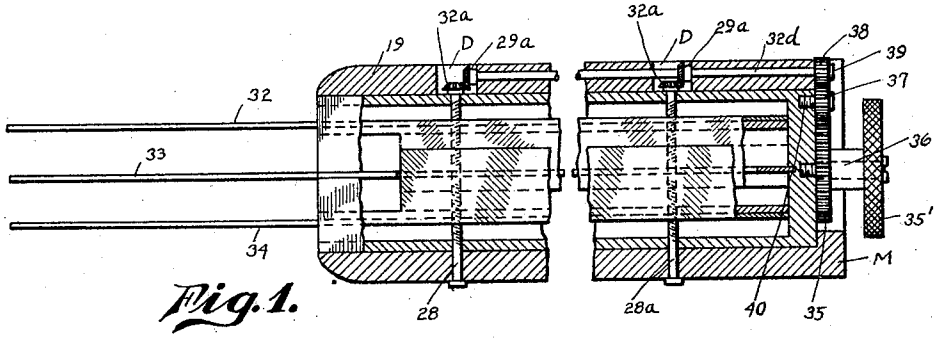


Fig. 1.

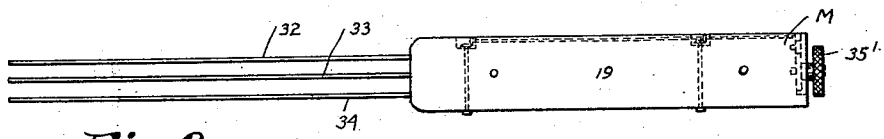


Fig. 2.

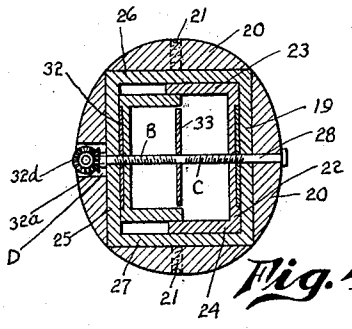


Fig. 4.

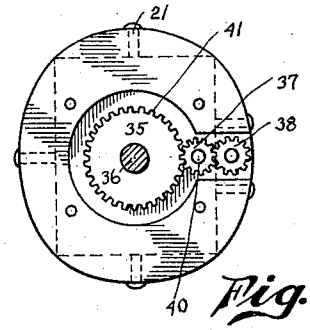


Fig. 5.

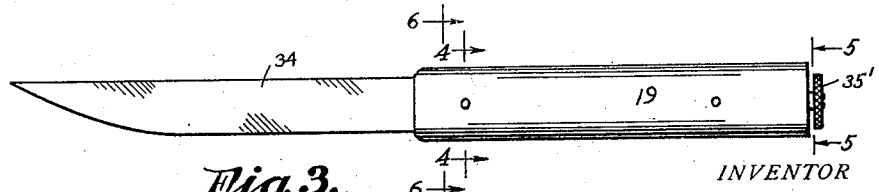


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR

Gertrude Webster.

Patented Sept. 13, 1932

1,877,211

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GERTRUDE WEBSTER, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

CULINARY KNIFE

Application filed March 24, 1930. Serial No. 438,315.

This invention relates to improvements in culinary implements and particularly to knives and has for its object to provide a simple, efficient and inexpensive cutting implement in which a plurality of knife blades are used for cutting two or more slices of material.

A further object thereof is to provide a culinary implement where use is made of a plurality of two or more knife blades the spaces between these knife blades being adjustable laterally by manually operated means.

A final object thereof is to provide a cutting implement with rotary means on the handle thereof, designed, when actuated, to space apart the several parallel knife blades variably so that slices of different thicknesses may be cut.

With the above and other objects the invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawing and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawing, wherein similar reference characters designate similar parts throughout the respective views,

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section through my invention,

Figure 2 is a top plan view thereof,

Figure 3 is a side elevation thereof,

Figure 4 is a cross sectional view of the complete device,

Figure 5 is an end elevation of the device looking from the rear,

Figure 6 is a cross-sectional view taken through the slidable members of the device.

I provide a construction of knife wherein the plurality of blades are transversely adjustable in a simple manner. A rectangular case 19 provides the handle for the knife and secured therearound and secured upon the flat sides thereof are the four preferably wooden segment shaped pieces 20 secured by threaded pins or the like fasteners 21 to the flat sides of this case. Inside of this case are slidably mounted the oppositely arranged channel-shaped cutters. One cutter is composed of the vertical knife edged wall 22 whose parallel right-angular lateral flanges 23, 24 slidably rub against the interior walls of the case; these flanges 23, 24 normally engage with wall 22 at least in one half of the width of the case. The other channel shaped cutter is also composed of the vertical wall 25 whose right-angular parallel flanges 26, 27 are designed to slide against the interior surfaces of the flanges 23, 24 of the other cutter. There is a medial knife member extending vertically and fixedly and operatively secured at its rear to the rear wall of the case 19, and the flanges 26, 27 are constrained at all times to slide in contact with the upper and lower edges of this medial knife member 31. As a means of separating the walls 22, and 25 of the two slidable cutter members a screw shank 28 is provided with respectively right and left handed threads B and C, the ends of this screw shank being journaled operatively in the opposing vertical walls of the side wooden pieces 20, and may also operatively be mounted rotatively in the side walls of the case.

One of the side wooden pieces 20, the one shown to the left in Figure 4 is cut away to provide elongated lateral slots or is otherwise provided with spaces D for the longitudinal shaft 32*d* to extend freely in. At one end of the screw shank 28 is fixed a small bevel gear 29 projecting in the mentioned slot 25*a* where it meshes with the bevel gear 30 located at the end 32 of shaft 32*d*. The shaft 32*d* is journaled operatively in the wooden piece 20 already mentioned, and at one end 39 it projects so as to carry fixedly the gear or friction disk 38 engaging rotatively a friction disk or gear 37 mounted upon a shaft 40 operatively mounted upon the rear frame M of the case 19 and the disk or gear 37

frictionally and rotatively engages with the large disk or gear 35 fixed on a stub shaft 36 arranged centrally of the case 19 at its rear end, and carrying also the friction hand wheel 35′, all these parts being specifically shown also in Figure 5.

There are two screw or threaded shanks, one already described as at 28, extending transversely in the case and threaded with right and left handed threads into the vertical walls 22 and 25 respectively of the slidable cutter members or carriages. The second threaded shank is designated 28*a* and also extends transversely in the case. Each shank has at one end a bevel gear 32*a* which meshes with the bevel gear 29*a* also fixed on shaft 32*d*, and this second shank 28*a* is also formed with right and left hand threads tapped threadedly into the walls 22, 25 of the slidable cutter carriages. There may be an opening 41 formed in the back part of the frame M in which the gear 35 may freely rotate. The long narrow knife blades 32, 33 and 34 are respectively carried by the flange 25, the wall 31 and the flange 22 in the case, the wall 31 being stationary. Figure 8 shows the wooden pieces 20 removed from the handle, but these pieces give the handle a rounded appearance. When the operator takes hold of the handle case and frictionally engages the wheel 35′ and turns this wheel in the right direction, movement is imparted to gears 37, and 38 so shaft 32*d* turns, causing the bevel gears on the screw shanks to turn, and now the cutter carriages or members will move towards or from each other and so will the knife blades 32 and 34 move towards or from the fixed blade 33. The flanges 26, 27 will slide towards the fixed wall 31 and so will the flanges 23, 24 of the other cutter overlapping the flanges 26, 27. I do not mean to restrict myself to the exact details of construction but intend to cover all variations falling within the scope of the appended claim.

What I desire to claim and to secure by Letters Patent is:

A three-bladed cutter consisting of an elongated rectangular handle closed at its rear end and open at its front end, a channel-shaped carrier having its cross-piece normally seated against a side wall of the handle and having parallel cross flanges of a length greater than one half the cross area of the handle, a second channel-shaped carrier having parallel flanges of the same length as the other flanges but slidably and snugly fitting the inner faces of the first carrier, with its cross piece normally engaging another side wall of the handle, a plurality of screw bolts spanning the cross-pieces of the carriers and having terminal right and left handed screw threads engaging the same, whereby when they are turned the carriers are moved to and from each other transversely, a central fixed partition operatively disposed in the handle against the opposing edges of which the flanges of the second carrier slides, gears on the ends of said screw-bolts, a longitudinal shaft carried externally of the handle and having gears thereon meshing with the first gears to operate them, manually controlled means for actuating the longitudinal shaft and a lining around the handle in which the longitudinal shaft is mounted.

In witness whereof she has hereunder set her hand this 3rd day of February, 1930.

GERTRUDE WEBSTER.