

July 21, 1931.

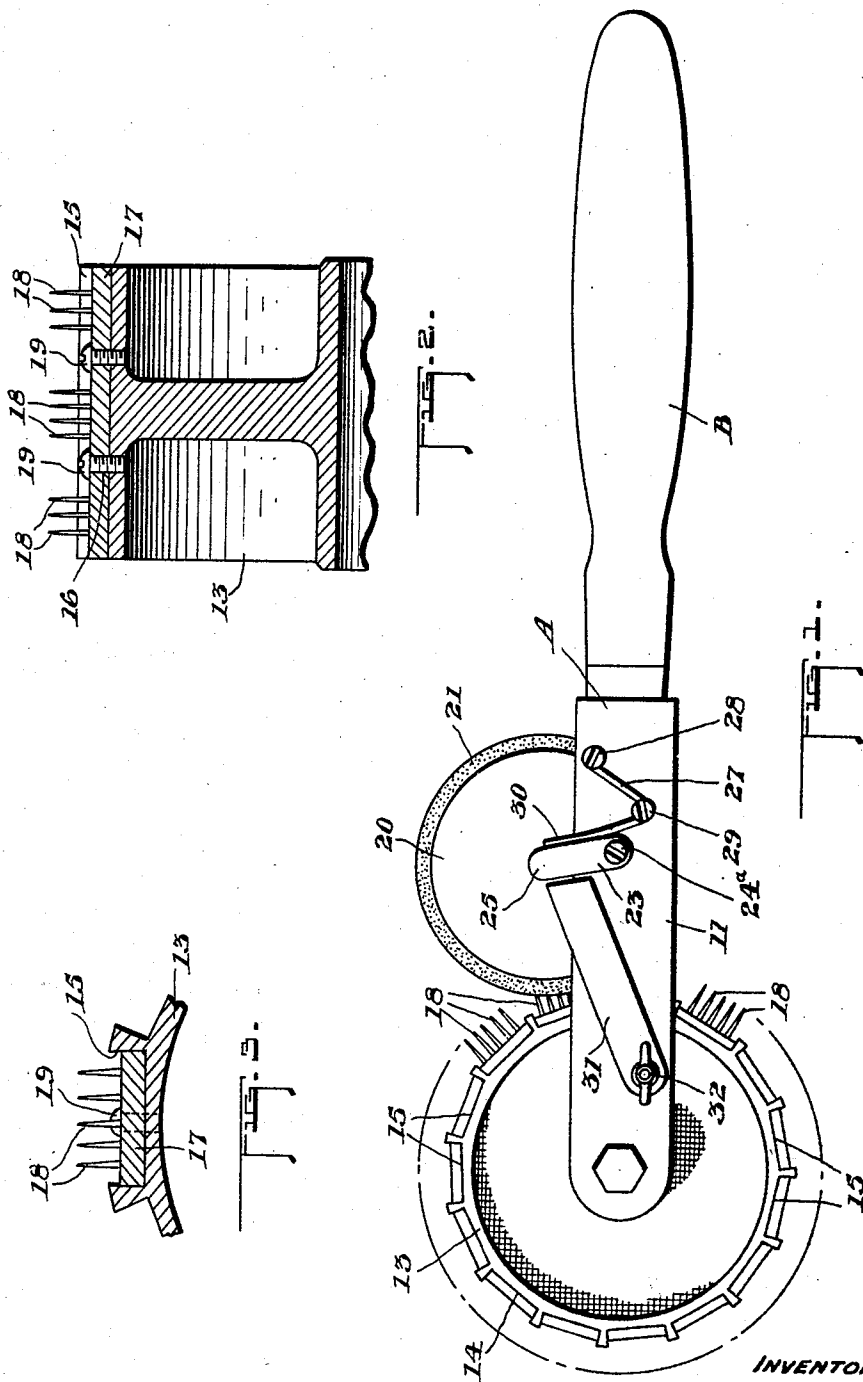
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1,815,716

MEAT MARKER

Filed July 27, 1929

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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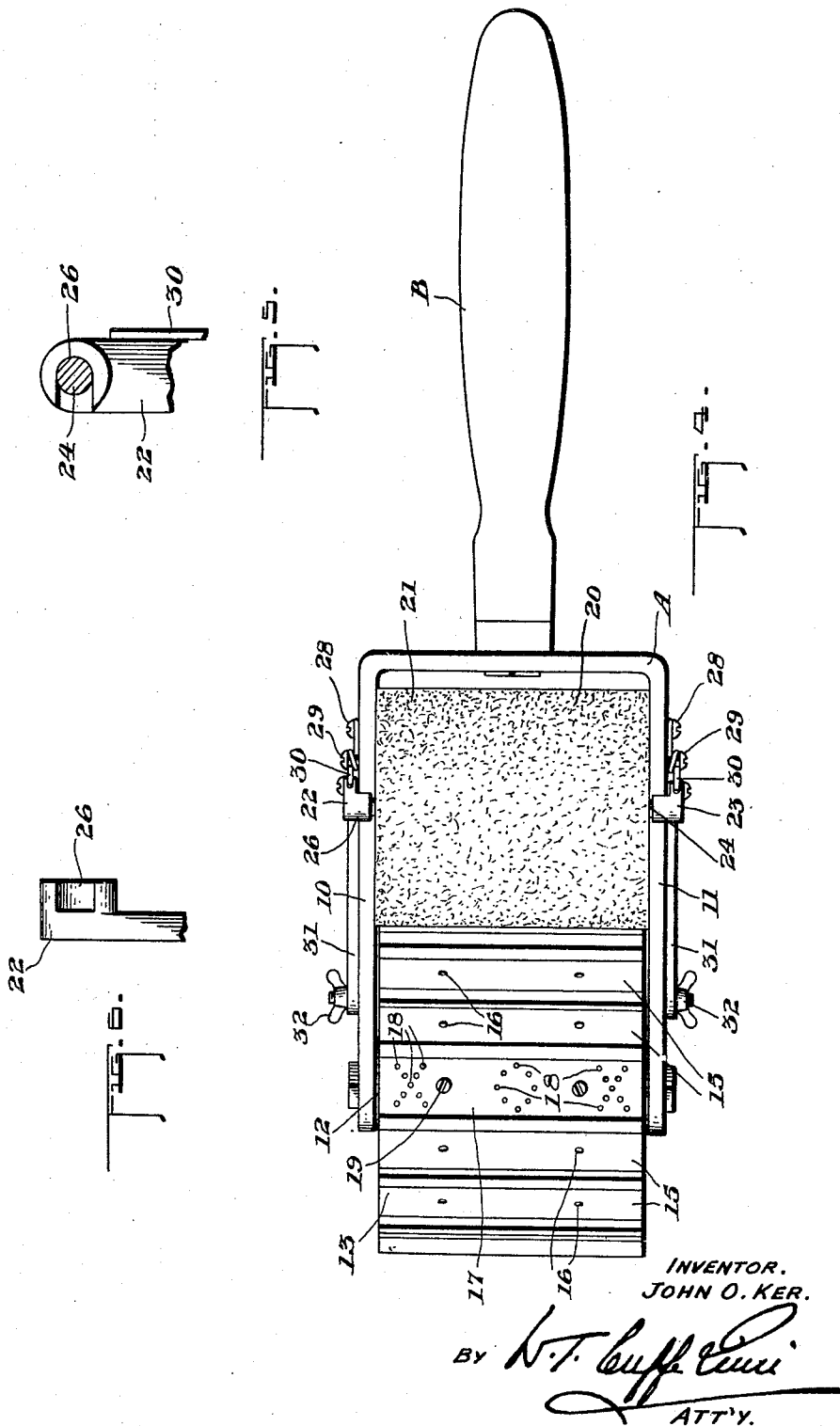
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MEAT MARKER

Application filed July 27, 1929. Serial No. 381,548.

This invention relates to improvements in meat markers and the objects of the invention are to provide a simply constructed, light and durable device for marking the entire length of the meat in a single operation.

A further object is to provide a meat marker of this character adapted to mark the meat by tattooing it with ink moistened needles.

I am aware that meat markers and meat stampers have already been marketed in the form of a roller or cylinder fitted with needles having associated therewith means for inking the needles in the form of a brush fixedly mounted in an ink reservoir to which a reciprocatory movement is imparted on the roller being operated. This construction is not only complicated, but necessitates refilling of the reservoir with consequent loss of time and the possibility of spilling the ink. It also increases the weight of the marker and makes it, from a practical standpoint, unwieldy and not entirely satisfactory in the results obtained.

With my improved marker, I have overcome these objections by eliminating the ink reservoir and so changing the construction generally as to provide a meat marker that will give complete satisfaction and be one hundred per cent efficient.

To this end, the novel features of my marker consist in the combination with a frame having a marking needle carrying roller rotatable therein, of an ink roller pivotally and detachably suspended, relative to the frame, and automatically balanced in resilient and continuous flexible contact with the tattoo needles and simultaneously rotatable therewith.

The accompanying drawings represent an example of the device which is particularly adapted to give good commercial results in the marking of meat.

Referring now to the drawings in which like numerals of references indicate corresponding parts in each figure.

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the meat marker as a whole.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section of the needle carrying or stamping roller.

Fig. 3 is a sectional detail of the means for

securing the needles to the marking roller or drum.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the meat marker.

Fig. 5 is a side view of one of the supporting arms for the carrying roller.

Fig. 6 is an end view of Fig. 5.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, A designates the frame here shown as substantially U shaped, provided with a handle B rigidly secured thereto in any well known manner.

Mounted in suitable bearings adjacent the outer ends of the sides 10 and 11 of the frame A is a shaft 12 on which in turn is mounted a roller or drum member 13, the periphery 14 of which is formed of a plurality of transverse channels 15 with orifices 16 therein. Into these channels are fitted the plate members 17 (see Figs. 2 and 3) carrying the marking needles 18 and adapted to be detachably secured therein by means of screws 19. As will be understood, the marking needles are arranged to pierce or mark the surface of the meat and to mark it as required, on the roller 13 being run along the meat by the operator. The needles being automatically inked by means forming the essential feature of my invention and comprising a second roller 20, the surface of which is provided with an ink pad 21. This roller is rotatably and detachably mounted on the arms 22 and 23 and is provided with a shaft 24 to engage with said arms. The arms in turn being pivotally mounted as at 24a on the sides 10 and 11 of the frame and protruding upwardly therebeyond as at 25 (see Figs. 1 and 2) are formed at the shaft engaging outer ends with socket heads 26. It will thus be seen that when the roller 20 is slipped into its bearings, in the arms 22 and 23, as shown in Fig. 1, the pad 21 will contact with the tattoo needles to ink them and that, as the roller 13 is rotated, to mark the meat, the roller 20 will also rotate in continuous contact with the needles, thereby evenly and efficiently, without clogging or otherwise, maintaining the needles inked.

For automatically retaining the ink roller in operative contact with the tattoo needles

and rendering it resilient and thus provide free and efficient working, a spring strip 27 is secured at one end as at 28, in any suitable manner to the side 10 of the frame, it is then
 5 immediately bent over or beneath the retaining screw 29 also in the side 10 of the frame, while the loose end 30 brought into contact with the arm 22 of the ink roller, thereby imparting resiliency to and spring
 10 actuating said roller.

For regulating the contact between the ink roller and the marking needles, I provide a bar 31 adjustably secured at one end by thumb screw or the like, as at 31 to the
 15 sides 10 and 11 of the frame and adapted at its loose end to engage with the spring actuated supporting arms 22 and 23 and thereby automatically retain the ink roller in balanced operative position relative to the
 20 tattoo needles and the frame A.

This construction, whereby the means for inking the needles is provided by a resiliently and pivotally suspended roller automatically balanced for continuous contact with
 25 said needles and regulating means associated therewith, whereby the wear and tear of the ink roller is automatically taken up, forms a very important and novel feature.

In operation which will be apparent from the foregoing description, the frame A, by means of the handle B, is moved along the
 30 meat to be marked, causing the roller 13 to rotate and with it the marking needles 18 detachably fitted in the periphery thereof. At the same time, the pad 21 on the spring actuated pivotally suspended roller 20 is
 35 balanced in contact with the needles 18 and rotates simultaneously therewith inking the needles which in turn penetrate the meat and mark it, as required, from end to end.

As the ink pad 21 becomes worn, the regulating member 31 is moved upwardly permitting the roller 20 to move inwardly under the influence of the springs 30 thus taking
 40 up the slack and maintaining a balanced resilient contact between the ink roller and the needles. As shown in Fig. 1, the roller 20 is detachably suspended in the pivotally mounted arms 22 and 23, these in turn, are
 45 spring pressed to cause the roller 20 and the pad 21 to move forward into flexible resilient contact with the tattoo needles and in this way the roller 20 is balanced in operative and continuous contact with said
 50 needles, thus eliminating all danger of excessive pressure and permitting free running of both rollers with sufficient intercourse therebetween to sufficiently and satisfactorily carry out the objections sought namely: the
 55 inking of the needles 18, which may be pointed or blunt to either pierce the object being marked or just stamp it, as is well known in connection with flat-faced hand stamp meat markers.

60 Modifications may be made in the appa-

tus above described within the scope of the claims, without departing from the spirit or scope thereof.

What I claim for my invention is:

1. A meat marker comprising a frame, a
 70 rotatable marking cylinder carried thereby, rigid meat marking projections extending from said cylinder, an inking roller rotatably carried by said frame and comprising an
 75 inking pad penetrable by said projections, means providing for relative approaching and receding movement between said roller and cylinder, and means for adjusting the extent of said approaching movement to limit the extent of penetration of said inking pad
 80 by said projections and thereby limit wear and tear upon said pad.

2. In a meat marker comprising a frame and a rotatable marking cylinder provided with rigid meat-marking projections and carried by said frame; inking means for said
 85 projections comprising a roller carried by said frame and movable toward and from said cylinder, an inking pad carried by said roller and adapted to be penetrated by said projections, means resiliently urging said roller
 90 toward said cylinder, and means for limiting the extent of penetration of said inking pad by said projections to thereby limit the wear and tear upon said pad.

3. A meat marker comprising a frame, a rotatable marking wheel provided with rigid meat marking projections and carried by said frame, and means for inking said projections comprising a roller carried by said frame and movable toward and from said cylinder, an inking pad carried by said roller and adapted to be penetrated by said projections, means resiliently urging said roller toward
 100 said cylinder, adjustable means for limiting the extent of penetration of said inking pad by said projections to thereby limit the wear and tear upon said pad and compensate therefor, and means for locking said last named means in adjusted position.

4. In a meat marker, the combination with a frame having a rotary marking cylinder journaled therein and provided with marking elements of a rotary ink roller behind the cylinder, spring pressed supporting arms for said roller pivotally mounted in the frame, a stop plate pivotally mounted in the frame adapted to engage with said arms to hold the ink roller in balanced predetermined operative position relative to the marking elements while permitting free rotation of the cylinder and ink roller.

5. In a hand operated marker especially designed for marking meat, the combination with a frame and a wheel journaled therein and provided at its periphery with marker members, of means for inking said marker members comprising spring pressed arms pivotally mounted on the frame behind the
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wheel, an ink roller journaled in said arms, pivotally mounted stop means engaging therewith, and means for locking said stop means to retain the ink roller in operative contact with the marker members.

5 6. In a meat marker, the combination with a frame of a wheel journaled therein provided at its periphery with marker members, an ink roller progressively cooperating with
10 the wheel and pivotally supported on the frame and rotatable by said marker members, means for normally retaining the ink roller in operative position relative to the marker members, manually operable means on the
15 frame for regulating the position of the ink roller relative to the marker members, and means for locking said manually operable means to retain the ink roller in predetermined contact with the marker members while
20 permitting free rotation of the ink roller.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

JOHN ORMOND KER.

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