March 13, 1951 W. O. RUSSELL 2,545,005

CAMP BROILER

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FIG. 1.

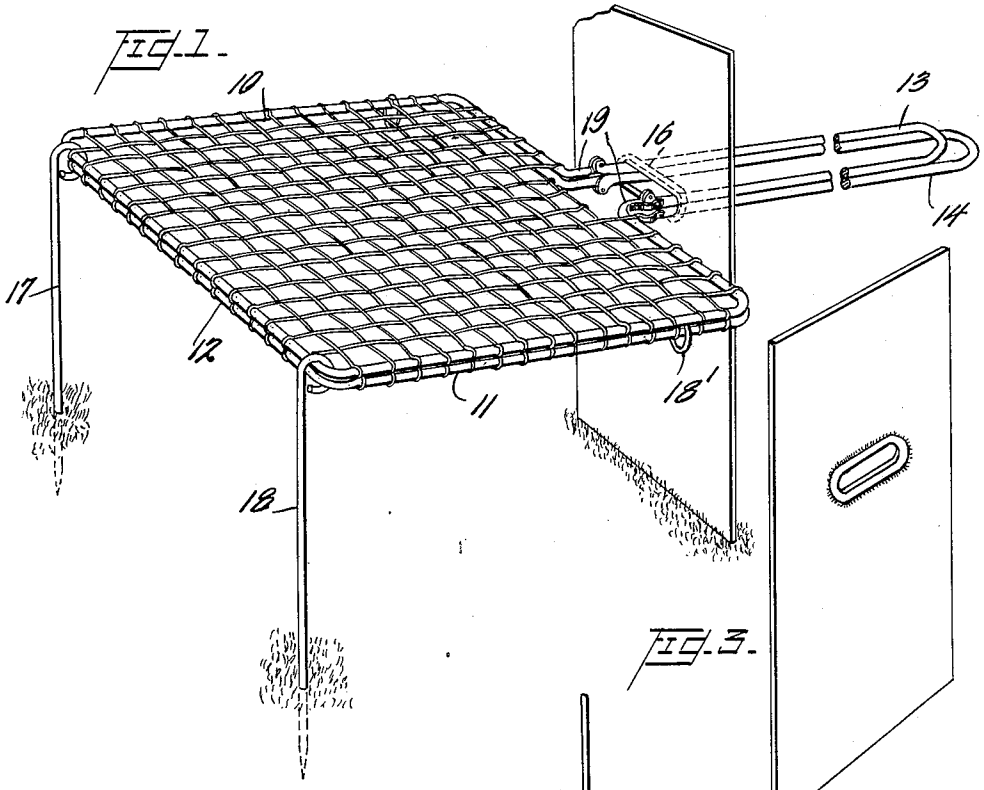


FIG. 3.

FIG. 2.

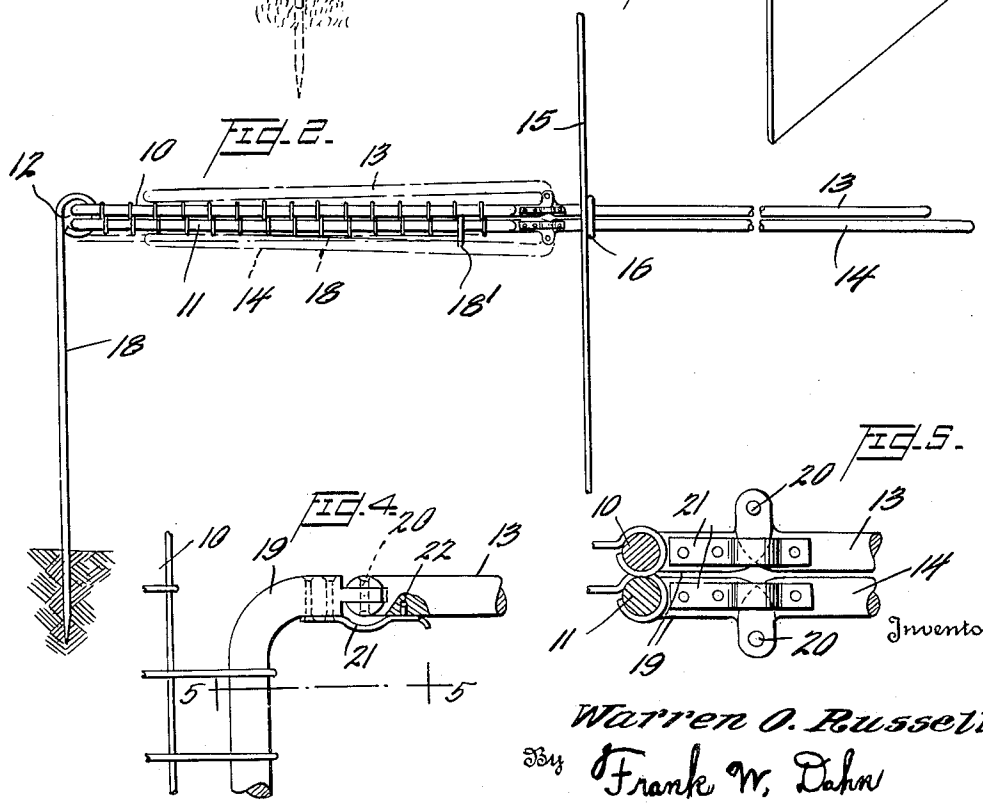


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

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CAMP BROILER

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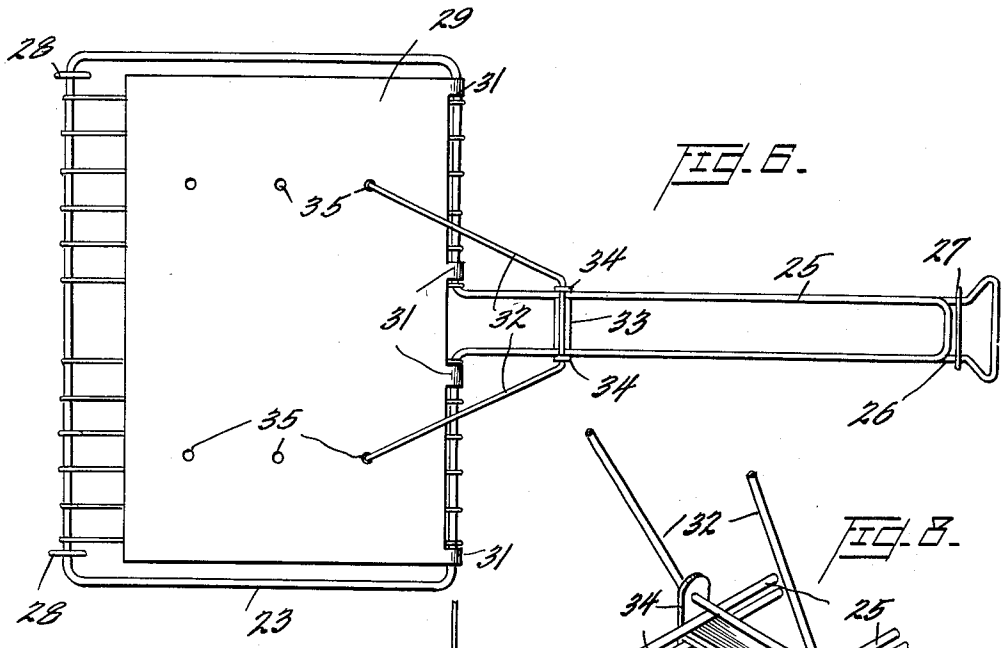


FIG. 6.

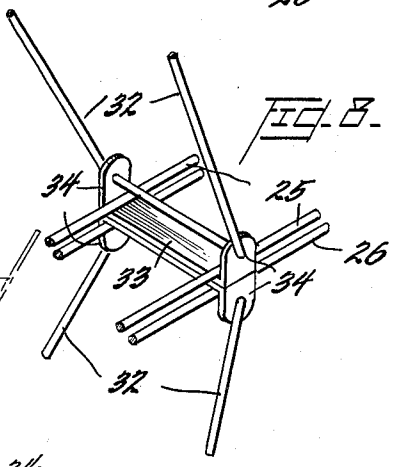


FIG. 8.

FIG. 7.

FIG. 9.

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2,545,005

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CAMP BROILER

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Application March 3, 1949, Serial No. 79,499

3 Claims. (Cl. 99—402)

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My invention relates to a camp broiler, though it is not limited to use in camp, and it is an object of the same to provide and disclose an improved device of this sort including means to prevent the usual scorching of the hands and face of the user when the broiler is used over a campfire either to broil meat or to toast bread, etc.

Another object of the invention is to provide a broiler with improved means for supporting the same in operative position above a campfire.

Another object is to provide a broiler that can be folded into small and compact shape, so as to be convenient for packing or carrying, but which can easily and quickly be put into shape for use.

Referring now to the annexed drawings, which are made a part of this application and in which similar reference characters indicate similar parts:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of my device in an operative position,

Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same,

Fig. 3, a perspective of a portion of the broiler,

Fig. 4, a fragmentary top plan, illustrating a joint between two parts of the device,

Fig. 5, a vertical section on line 5—5 of Fig. 4,

Fig. 6, a plan of a modified form of the invention,

Fig. 7, a side elevation of the same,

Fig. 8, a perspective of a portion of the modification, and

Fig. 9, a perspective of another portion of the same.

In the drawings, reference characters 10 and 11 indicate respectively the upper and lower members of a toaster or broiler of well-known type, said members being hinged together at 12 in any conventional or desirable manner and having handles 13 and 14 extending rearwardly therefrom. The upper handle is usually made shorter than the lower one and a ring encircles the two, which ring is movable from a position where it holds the parts in closed position with slices of meat or other viands between them, so that the broiling operation can be performed without danger of loss of the food due to inadvertent opening of the device, to a release position where the ring is spaced outwardly from the shorter handle while remaining upon the longer one.

In my improved device I have substituted for the conventional ring a plate 15 which preferably has a reinforcement at 16 for strengthening the part of the plate immediately in contact with the handles, and which plate is of sufficient area to ward off the heat from the face of the user at least to such a substantial extent as to prevent undue discomfort, while also protecting his hands in their support of the broiler.

As an ordinary matter the camper can find other things to do while meat is broiling, and

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prefers to attend to them while keeping an eye upon the broiling operation, but without devoting his entire time to holding the broiler. In order that he may do this I have provided two legs 17 and 18 at the front of the broiler, these legs being widely spaced apart for stability of the broiler, and preferably being at or near the front corners of the device. These legs may consist of heavy wires sharpened at their free ends so that they can be thrust into the ground and having loops at their upper ends, large enough to encircle loosely either the front wire of the lower member 11, or to encircle the front wires of both members 10 and 11, in which latter case they serve as auxiliary hinges for said members.

A similar leg may be arranged on the lower handle 14, but it is preferred to make the plate 15 sufficiently large so that when its lower edge rests on the ground this plate and the legs 17, 18, will support the broiler in approximately horizontal position over a fire and at a suitable distance from the bed of coals commonly used for broiling meat.

It will be evident that the legs 17, 18 can be folded back underneath the body of the broiler where each leg can be held by a wire loop 18' on the body and that the plate 15 can be slid back off the handles and laid upon the said body. In order to reduce the space occupied by the broiler still further and to make the knocked-down broiler still more compact for convenient packing the handles 13, 14 are hinged to the respective body members 10 and 11.

As best shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the heavy wires that form the outer boundary of body members 10 and 11, and which strengthen and stiffen the margins of said members, are bent back as usual at 19 to form parts of the handles. But instead of being rigid throughout their length, as in conventional broilers, in my device the handles are sectional, the forward portion of each being mounted on a pivot 20 extending through registering holes in overlapping parts of the handles which parts are shaped to provide a hinged connection. It will be understood that these overlapping portions must be offset, as shown in Fig. 5, in order that the pivoted front handle portions can swing from the full line position of Fig. 2, into the knocked-down position shown in dotted lines in said figure.

For holding the handles rigidly in operative position, there is provided, adjacent each hinge, a leaf spring 21 that is fixed to the rearward projection of the outer heavy wire and which has at its other end a detent that is forced by the spring into a suitable hole at 22 in the hinged rear part of the handle.

In the modified form of the invention shown in Figs. 6 to 9, the body portions 23, 24, the handles 25, 26, the ring 27, the connecting members,

etc., may be as in the modification first described, or of any suitable or conventional form and arrangement, as may also be the front legs **28**.

The guard for protecting the face and hands of the user comprises a pair of flaps **29**, **30** that move in opposite directions about the wires at the rear end of frames **23**, **24** upon which they are mounted by means of ears **31**, from the solid line position shown in Fig. 7, where the lower flap **30** supports the middle of the broiler and the upper flap protects the user's face, through an arc of 90° to positions where each flap lies close to the adjacent face of the handle section of the broiler.

The flaps are each mounted on a wire of the body members **23** and **24** at **31** and are connected by links **32** to a slide **33** made up of the bodies of two U-shaped elements placed back-to-back with their bodies between the handles **25**, **26**, and the arms **34** projecting in opposite directions.

The links **32** are each attached pivotally at one end to a flap **29** or **30** at one end and at the other to an arm **34**, so that the parts **33** can slide on the handles as the guard flaps are moved.

For varying the operative position of the flaps **30**, I provide holes at **35** in the flaps in suitable numbers and suitably spaced.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that many changes can be made in the device herein disclosed, all without departing from the spirit of the invention; and, therefore, I do not limit myself to what is shown in the drawings but only as indicated in the appended claims. While the device is referred to in the claims as a broiler, it is to be understood that this is for description and not for limitation, since the device has other uses and is referred to by other names, such as grille, toaster, etc.

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

1. A camp broiler comprising a body having two flat parts hinged together at the front and a rearwardly projecting handle on each of said parts, and a plate mounted on said handles in position to shield the user from the heat of the fire over which the device is used, the broiler including a pair of legs each pivoted to a front corner of the broiler, and said plate extending substantially from side to side of the broiler across the rear end of said flat parts and down to ground level for supporting the broiler in horizontal position.

2. A camp broiler comprising a body having two flat parts hinged together at the front and a rearwardly projecting handle on each of said parts, means for supporting the front end of the broiler, and a plate mounted on said handles in position to shield the user from the heat of the fire over which the device is used, said plate extending substantially from side to side of the broiler and down to ground level and having an aperture to receive said handles and hold the broiler closed and said aperture being of suitable size to permit the plate to be slid off the handles for packing.

3. A broiler comprising two flat mesh members hinged together at the front and having handles extending rearwardly from said members, posts pivoted to the front corners of the broiler, and a plate extending substantially from side to side of the broiler adjacent the rear edge of said flat members and thence down to ground level to support the rear end of the broiler.

WARREN O. RUSSELL.

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