

C. E. BEEHLER.
 DEVICE FOR USE IN STARTING COAL FIRES.
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984,791.

Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

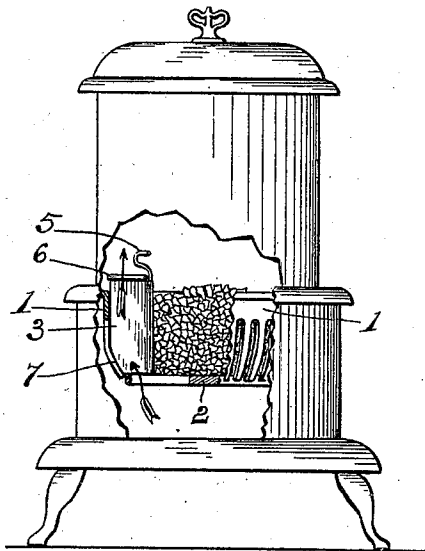


Fig. 1.

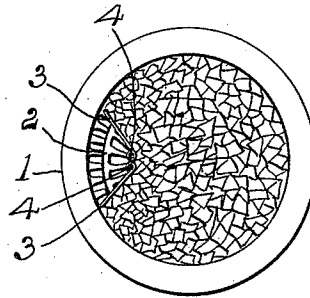


Fig. 2.

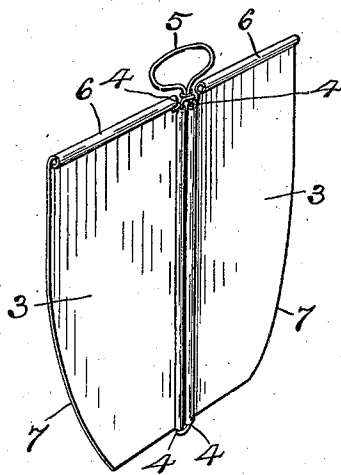


Fig. 3.

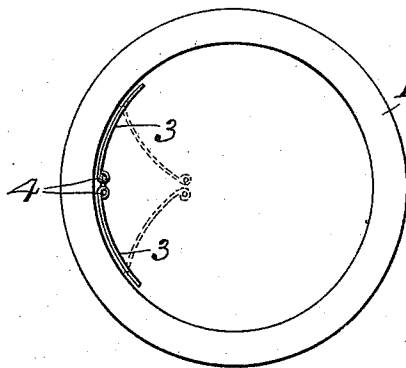


Fig. 4.

Witnesses.

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DEVICE FOR USE IN STARTING COAL FIRES.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. BEEHLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Owosso, in the county of Shiawassee and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Use in Starting Coal Fires, of which the following is a specification.

When a coal fire in a stove or furnace goes out, there is usually left in the fire pot a residue of ash and unburned coals and in order to start the fire it is necessary to either remove this residue and coals or to push the same aside to form an air flue upward through the fire pot.

This invention relates to a device which may be inserted in a fire pot to form an air flue through the coal therein and into which the kindlings for starting the fire may be placed.

The object of the invention is to provide a cheap and convenient device for the purpose and to so construct the same as to adapt it for use in the ordinary fire pot of a stove or furnace.

To this end the invention consists in the construction as hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims references being had to the accompanying drawing in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a stove with a portion thereof broken away to show the device embodying the invention in operative position therein; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the fire pot of the stove; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device embodying the invention; and Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic plan view of a fire pot showing a modified form of the device in place therein.

In the drawing 1 represents the fire pot which is circular in plan view and is curved inward toward its lower end.

2 is the grate forming the bottom of the fire pot which grate may be of any suitable form or construction and the device embodying the invention may be used in fire pots of rectangular shape as well as in those having the form shown in the drawings.

The tool or device embodying the invention consists of a pair of blades or plates 3 of sheet metal which are hingedly connected at their vertical adjacent edges by turning said edges around a wire which wire is folded upon itself to form vertical parallel pintles 4 upon which the blades turn. The

upper end of the wire forming one of the pintles is formed into a loop 5 and the upper end of the wire forming the other pintle is wrapped around said end at the base of the loop to connect the two pintles at their upper ends and hingedly connect the two blades. The loop 5 forms a handle by means of which the device may be manipulated and the upper ends of the blades may, if desired, be rolled or turned at 6 to stiffen said ends.

In starting a fire the device is inserted in the fire pot by thrusting the same endwise downward therein with the blades lying close to the wall of the fire pot, the thin lower edges of the blades or plates offering little resistance to such insertion, and when the lower ends of the blades engage the grates the blades are then forced inward toward the axis of the fire pot, said blades turning upon their pintles with their outer edges engaging the wall of the fire pot and thus an opening or flue of triangular shape is formed between the wall of the fire pot and the blades by the pushing of the coal inward. The position of the blades when so pushed inward is such that they are held from again straightening out against the wall of the fire pot by the pressure of the coal against them adjacent to the wall of the fire pot, where the fire pot is formed as shown, with a contracted lower end, the lower outer angles of the blades may be cut away forming curved edges 7 to conform to the curve of the wall of the fire pot and if found desirable the blades may be curved transversely as shown in Fig. 4 so that they will conform to the curve of the wall of a circular fire pot and lie closely against said wall.

After the device has been inserted in the fire pot as described the kindling may then be placed within the flue thus formed and after a suitable bed of live coals has been formed within the flue the blades may be lifted out vertically by means of the handle 5 so that the live coals will come in contact with the coal within the fire pot and set fire to the same, or the device may be taken out after the placing of the kindling therein and before the same is lighted.

I claim as my invention:

1. A device of the character described comprising plates each having a straight longitudinal edge, and means pivotally con-

necting said edges whereby said connected plates are insertable in a fire pot adjacent to the wall thereof and turnable inwardly away from said wall at their connected edges
5 with their outer edges in contact with said wall.

2. A device of the character described comprising a pair of oppositely extending plates formed straight throughout the length
10 of their adjacent edges, and means connecting said edges to turn in either direction and permit said plates to be folded, one upon the other.

3. A device of the character described
15 comprising plates each formed with a straight longitudinal edge and a thin opposite edge and lower end to facilitate their insertion between the coal and wall of a fire pot, and means pivotally connecting said
20 straight longitudinal edges.

4. A device of the character described comprising a pair of oppositely extending plates each having a straight longitudinal edge and each curved transversely in cross

section to conform to the curve of the wall of
25 a fire pot, and means forming a pivotal connection between said straight edges of said plates.

5. A device of the character described comprising blades having thin side and
30 lower edges with the side edges formed to conform to the shape of the wall of a fire pot, and having folded stiffening upper edges, and a hinge connection between the adjacent edges of said blades.

6. A device of the character described comprising like blades formed of sheet metal
35 having eyes on adjacent edges, and a wire folded upon itself to form parallel pintles engaging said eyes and bent into a loop at
40 the upper ends of the pintles to form a handle.

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

CHARLES E. BEEHLER.

Witnesses:

O. L. DAVIS,

ROY H. McLEAN.