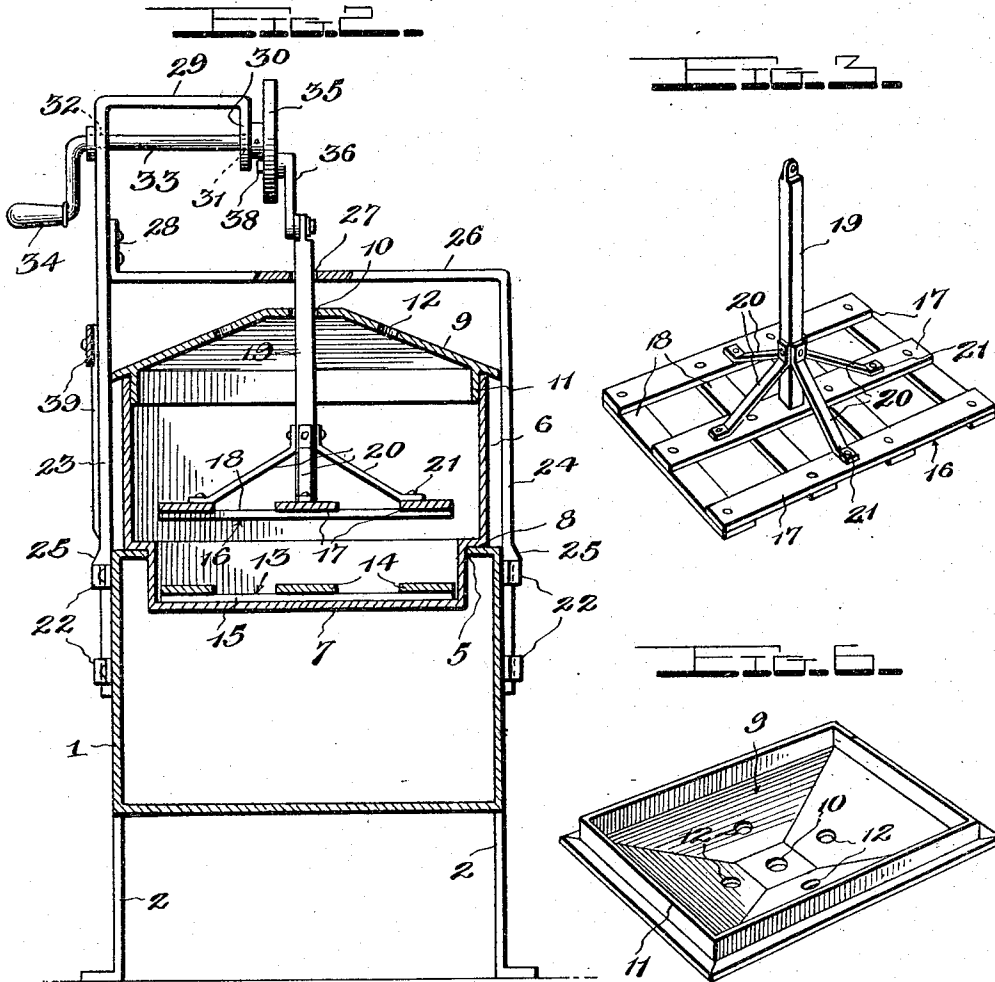


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 CONVERTIBLE WASHING MACHINE AND CANNER.
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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SCOTT WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cooper, in the county of Delta and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Convertible Washing-Machines and Canners; and I do 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 a convertible washing machine and canner.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient apparatus of this character which is readily convertible from a washing machine to a canning machine and vice versa, and which is constructed so as to be easily operated and to effect a great economy in time and in the consumption of fuel.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 represents a side elevation of an apparatus constructed in accordance with this invention; Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section thereof taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the reciprocating plunger or clothes pounder; Fig. 4 is a similar view of a canning basket; Fig. 5 is a similar view of a supplemental bottom employed in connection with this apparatus; Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the top of the boiler shown taken from the inside.

In the embodiment illustrated, the improved machine constituting this invention is employed in connection with a substantially rectangular heater 1 shown mounted on suitable legs 2 having the usual fire and ash doors 3 and 4. This heater has an opening 5 in its top to receive a boiler 6 which has its bottom 7 shaped to conform to the shape of the opening and to fit therein having offset shoulders 8 in the side walls thereof spaced from said bottom which are designed to rest on the upper face or top of the stove or heater as is shown clearly in

Fig. 2 so that the bottom of the boiler will extend some distance into the stove to bring it in close proximity to the heating medium. This boiler 6 may be of any suitable configuration but is here shown rectangular in horizontal section and is provided with a detachable substantially dome-shaped top or cover 9. This top 9 has an opening 10 at its summit or apex through which a plunger to be described is designed to operate. A flange 11 depends from the inner face of the cover at points spaced from its edge and is designed to fit within the upper end of the boiler as shown clearly in Fig. 2 to provide for its water tight connection therewith, the opposite side edges of the top being in vertical alinement with the sides of the heater when the parts are assembled for a purpose to be described. This top is also provided with a plurality of steam outlet openings 12 any desired number of which may be employed, four being here shown. A supplemental or false bottom 13 is shown in detail in Fig. 5 and is shaped to fit the boiler 6 being preferably composed of crossed slats 14 and 15 and which is designed to prevent the clothes from coming in contact with the bottom proper of the boiler to prevent scorching.

A clothes pounder or plunger 16 is shown in detail in Fig. 3 and in section in Fig. 2 and which is shaped to correspond to the shape of the interior of the boiler, being of less size than said boiler to provide for the passage around it of the wash water. This plunger may be of any suitable construction but is shown composed of longitudinal and transverse slats 17 and 18 respectively which are secured together at intervals and carried by a plunger rod 19 between which and the plunger are mounted braces 20, four being here shown constructed in the form of bars having lateral feet 21 at their opposite ends secured respectively to the longitudinal slats 17 and to the plunger rod 19. This plunger rod 19 extends through the opening 10 in the top of the boiler and is designed to be operated by a mechanism to be described.

The heater 1 is provided on its opposite sides with sockets in the form of vertically alined keepers 22, two being shown on each side and which are designed to receive and support a substantially inverted U-shaped frame, the arms of which are in the form of standards 23 and 24. These standards are

each provided with a lateral shoulder or lug 25 positioned to engage the upper edge of the top keeper 22 to form a stop for limiting the insertion of the standards, said lugs being so positioned that the ends of the standards will pass through the lower keeper before the stop 25 thereof is engaged with the upper keeper as is clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The arm or standard 24 of the inverted U-shaped frame is shorter than the standard 23 and is provided at its upper end with a laterally extending arm 26 which extends across the apparatus above the top of the boiler and is apertured immediately of its ends as shown at 27 for the passage therethrough of the plunger rod 19. The free end of this arm 26 is provided with a laterally extending foot 28 which is secured to the standard 23 by riveting or otherwise and forms the cross bar of the frame. This arm or cross bar 26 in addition to connecting and bracing the standards 23 and 24, forms a guide for the plunger rod 19.

The standard 23 has an extension 23' projecting some distance above the arm 26 and has a laterally extending arm 29 at its upper end preferably formed by bending said extension at right angles, the arm 26 being also formed in the same manner. A finger 30 depends from the free end of the arm 29 and is provided with a bearing 31 which aligns with a bearing 32 formed in the extension 23'.

A crank shaft 33 is rotatably mounted in the bearings 31 and 32 and is provided at its outer end with a handle 34 having a crank disk 35 secured to its inner end. A pitman 36 is detachably engaged at one end with the crank disk 35 and at its other end is detachably connected with the upper end of the plunger rod 19 by which the plunger 16 is reciprocated vertically on the turning of the crank shaft.

The crank disk 35 is provided with a plurality of openings 37 spaced varying distances from the center of the disk and which are designed to receive a wrist pin 38 which connects the pitman with the disk to provide for the varying of the stroke of the plunger when desired, it being obvious that the farther away from the center of the disk the wrist pin is mounted, the greater will be the extent of the stroke of the plunger.

The standard 23 is preferably braced by bars 39 which are connected at one end to said standard and diverge therefrom and are connected at their other ends to the side of the heater 1.

In the operation of this machine, the false bottom 13 is first placed in the boiler 6 and the boiler having first been filled or it may be filled afterward with the washing water is placed in the opening 5 of the heater. The plunger 16 is then disposed in the boiler and

the top 9 placed thereover with the rod 19 of said plunger passing through the opening 10 in the top of the boiler. The supporting means for the operating apparatus of the boiler is then placed in position by passing the plunger rod 19 through the opening 27 in the cross arm or bar 26 and connecting it with pitman 36 and then inserting the free ends of the arms 23 and 24 in the keepers 22 on opposite sides of the heater. The device is then ready for operation and the plunger is reciprocated by turning the crank shaft 33 in the manner described. From the above description it will be obvious that the inverted U-shaped frame in addition to forming a support for the plunger operating mechanism, also operates as a retaining device for preventing the boiler 6 from tipping or being moved sidewise, the side walls of the boiler being positioned in close proximity to the standards 23 and 24, which latter, when the parts are assembled, are disposed at points midway the length of the boiler, and the opposed side edges of the boiler top are shown engaging said standards.

In Fig. 4 a canning basket 40 is shown which is preferably rectangular in form to adapt it to conform with the shape of the boiler in connection with which it is used and which is provided in its bottom with apertures 41 to permit the water in the boiler to pass readily therethrough to surround the cans not shown which are designed to be placed within this basket. Bail-shaped handles 42 and 43 are secured to opposite ends of the basket for lifting it into and out of the boiler. These handles are preferably provided with aligned eyes 44 to receive a lifter not shown. When it is desired to use this machine for canning purposes, the plunger 16 is removed and the basket 40 substituted, it being of course understood that the cans to be heated have first been placed within the basket. The top 9 is then placed on the boiler and the canning operation proceeds.

From the above description, it will be obvious that this improved apparatus may be readily converted from a washing machine into a canning machine and vice versa and will operate equally well for either purpose.

I claim:

In an apparatus of the class described, a substantially rectangular support having a boiler receiving opening in its top, and sockets on its opposite sides, a boiler positioned on said support over said opening with its side walls in a plane parallel with and adjacent the plane of the side walls of the support, a top on said boiler having a central aperture, a plunger in said boiler having a rod extending through the aperture in said top, a combined boiler retaining device and plunger operating mechanism support comprising a substantially inverted

U-shaped frame having its ends engaged with said sockets and its arms engaging the opposed side edges of said boiler top, the cross bar of said frame extending transversely across the boiler above the top thereof and having an aperture alined with the aperture in said boiler top and through which the plunger rod is adapted to extend, an upwardly projecting vertical extension on one arm of said frame provided with a lateral arm having a depending finger, alined bearings in said extension and finger, a crank shaft mounted in said bearings, and a pitman connected with said crank shaft and detachably engaged with said plunger rod. 15

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN SCOTT ^{his} X WILLIAMS.
mark

Witnesses:

J. W. MAYNARD,
A. O. GRIGSBY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."