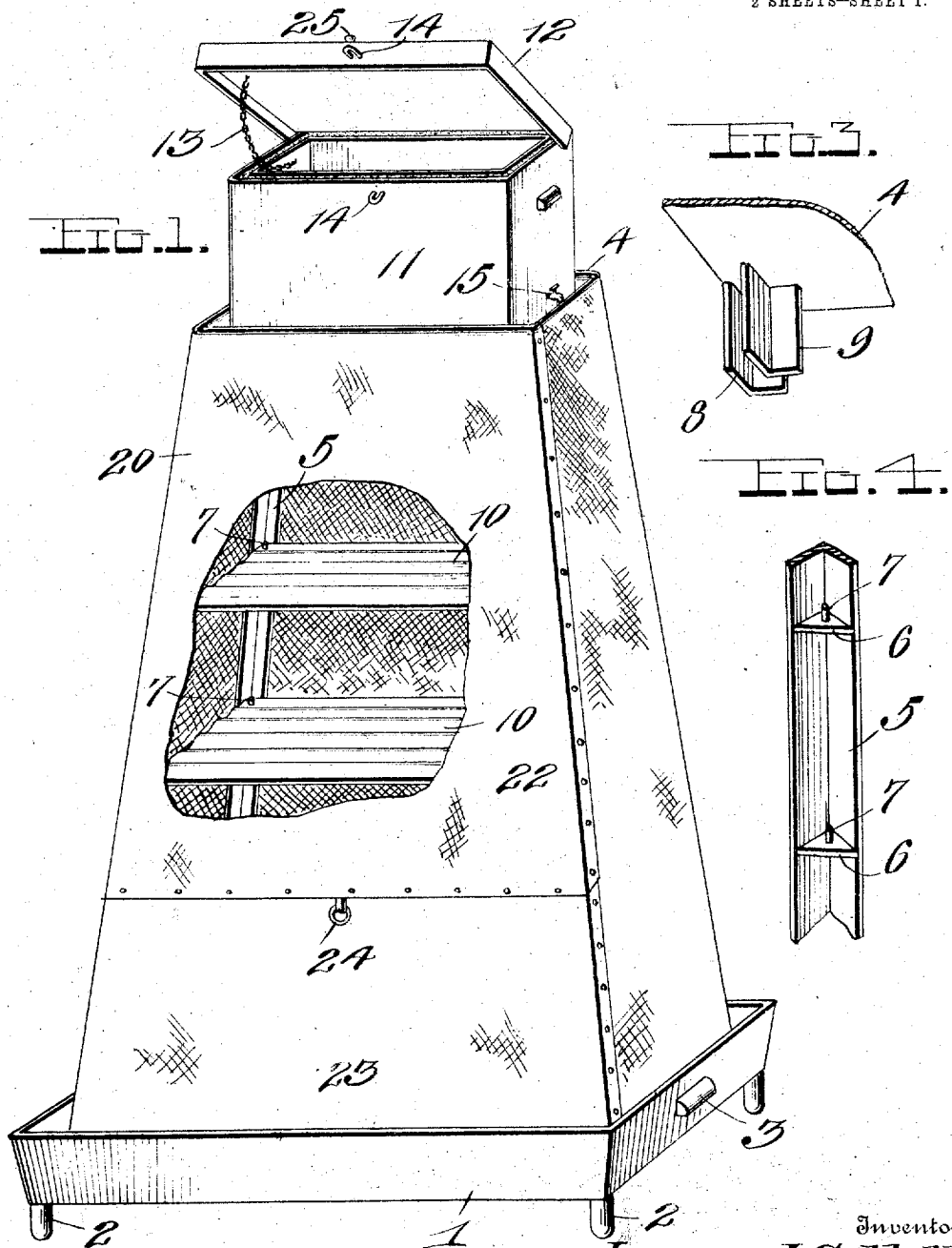


L. I. COLLETT.
EVAPORATIVE COOLER.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 19, 1910.

988,547.

Patented Apr. 4, 1911.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

Cler. L. Giesbauer
W. H. Reader.

By

Laura I. Collett,
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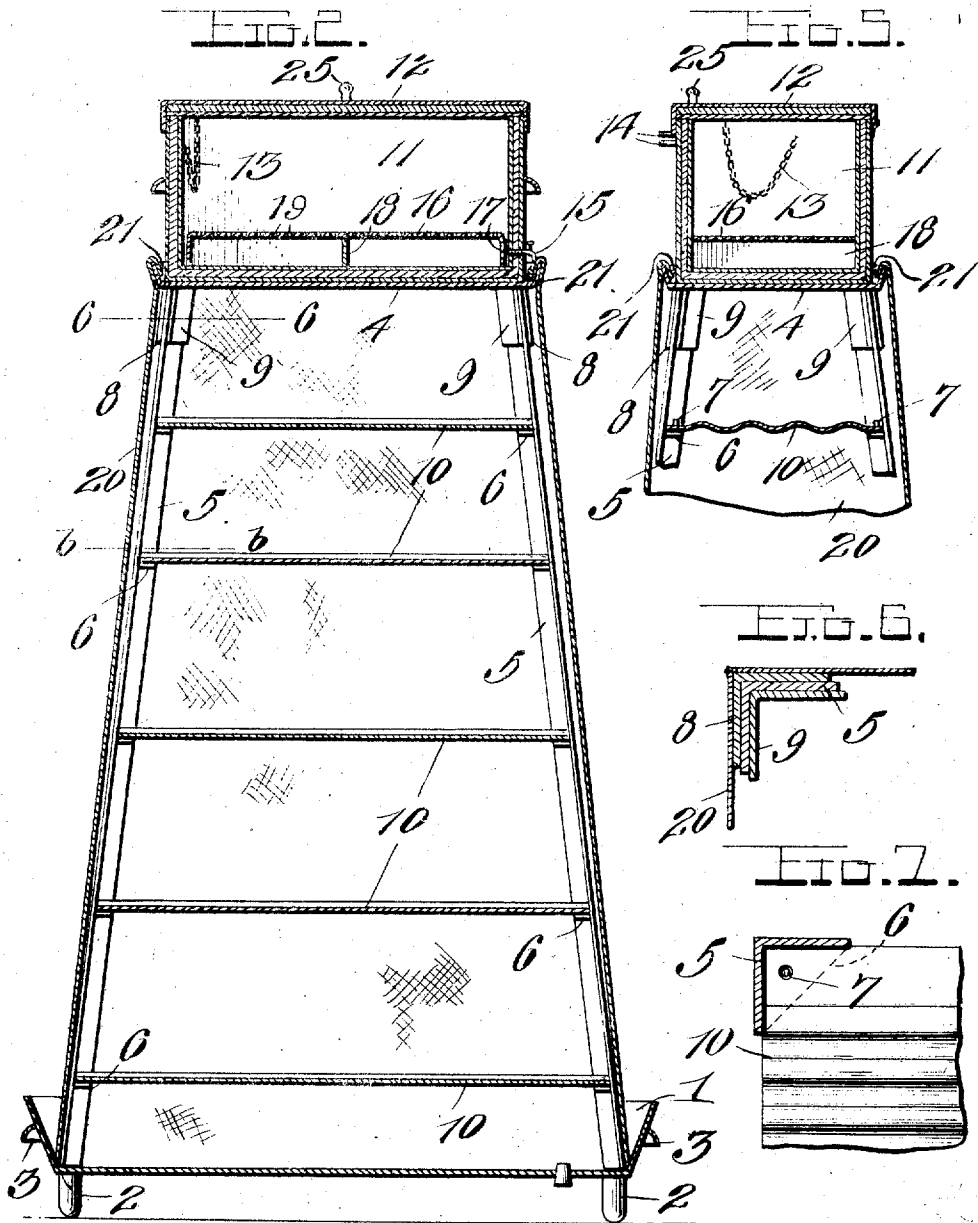
Watson E. Coleman,
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAURA IDA COLLETT, OF WALKER, MISSOURI.

EVAPORATIVE COOLER.

988,547.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 4, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAURA IDA COLLETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Walker, in the county of Vernon and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Evaporative Coolers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention is an improved milk cooler of the water evaporation capillary feed type, for utilizing the evaporation of water resulting from the melting of ice in an ice box, for keeping milk or other articles or substances cool, the object of the invention being to provide an improved device of this character which is strong and durable, may be readily kept clean, and may be readily taken apart for the purposes of repair, and renewal or other reasons, the invention consisting in the construction, combination and arrangement of devices hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a milk cooler constructed in accordance with my invention, the curtain on the front side thereof being shown partly removed. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view showing one corner of the upper tray. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing a portion of one of the legs of the frame, and Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the upper portion of the milk cooler. Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view on the plane indicated by the line 6—6 of Fig. 2. Fig. 7 is a similar view on the plane indicated by the line 7—7 of Fig. 2.

The lower tray 1 which forms the base of my improved milk cooler is provided at its corners with supporting feet 2, and is here shown as provided with handles 3 at its ends.

The upper tray 4 is supported on the upper ends of inclined, upwardly converging legs 5, each of which is made of sheet metal and is substantially L-shaped in cross section. Each leg is provided on its inner side at suitable distances apart with supporting brackets 6 which are also made of sheet metal, preferably copper or galvanized iron, and are provided on their upper sides with studs 7. It will be understood that these brackets serve to strengthen the construction of the legs 5. The lower ends of the legs 5

are disposed in the corners of the lower tray 1. The upper tray 4 bears on the upper ends of the said legs and is provided on its under side at its corners with outer and inner posts 8, 9 which are L-shaped cross sectionally and appropriately spaced apart so as to receive the upper ends of the legs 5 between them, and to bear respectively on the outer and inner sides of the legs. Hence the lower tray 1, the upper tray 4 and the legs 5, form a supporting frame. In connection with this frame, I employ a number of supporting shelves 10 which are here shown as made of corrugated sheet metal. They may be made of any suitable material, galvanized iron being well adapted for this purpose. These shelves 10 vary in size, and are supported by disposing their corners on the brackets 6 within the angles of the legs 5, the said shelves being provided near their corners with openings for the reception of the studs 7, so that the shelves serve to secure the legs in position, and are at the same time enabled to be readily removed when this is desired.

The upper tray 4 supports a suitable vessel which is here shown as an ice box or ice chest 11, provided with a hinged lid 12, a chain 13 to support the lid, in opened position, and staples 14 on the lid and front side of the chest in connection with which a suitable lock may be employed if desired to lock the lid in closed position. The ice chest is formed with outer and inner walls and suitable non-conducting material packed between them. At one end of the chest is a faucet 15 which permits the discharge of water from the chest resulting from the melting of ice therein. The ice chest is here shown as provided with a sheet metal false bottom 16 to support the ice and with downturned supporting end flanges 17, and a medially disposed supporting wall 18. Openings 19 are indicated in the false bottom for the passage of water therefrom and also for the insertion of the fingers there-through to facilitate the removal of the false bottom, when this is desired.

Curtains 20 which cover the frame and bear on the outer sides of the legs 5 have their upper ends doubled over the walls of the upper tray 4 and attached thereto by any suitable means such for instance as eyes in the curtains and hooks 21 on the inner sides of the walls of the said tray. The upper portions of the curtains extend downwardly

into the tray and become saturated with the water therein. The curtains are fastened at the two front corners of the frame by means of suitable clasps and are sewed together at the two back corners of the frame. They may be attached, however, to the frame by any suitable means, or in any suitable manner and I do not desire to limit myself in this particular. The front curtain comprises an upper section 22, and a lower section 23. The upper section, the lower portion of which overhangs the upper portion of the lower section, is provided at its lower edge with a ring or other suitable attaching device 24, which when the upper section of the front curtain is raised, may be engaged with a knob 25 on the lid of the ice chest so as to support the said upper section in raised position. The lower section may be lowered from its upper side, and by thus making the front curtain in sections, any one of the compartments formed in the supporting frame between the shelves 10 may be reached without the necessity of uncovering all of the said compartments, and admitting warm air thereto.

In the operation of my invention, the milk or other articles to be kept cool, is placed on the various shelves and the curtains are closed. The ice in melting in the ice chest causes the upper tray 4 to become filled with water the flow of which into the tray 4 is controlled by the faucet 15 and keeps the curtains saturated, and hence causes an evaporation which is utilized for keeping the milk or other articles cool. If no ice is used in the ice chest, the latter may be supplied with water. Any suitable vessel or means may be employed in lieu of the ice chest for providing the upper overflow tray with water. Such water as does not evaporate during its

passage down through the curtains flows into the receiving or bottom tray 1, and may be removed therefrom from time to time.

While I have shown herein the preferred embodiment of my invention, I would have it understood that modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. In apparatus of the class described, in combination with a receiving tray, legs supported thereon, and composed of L-shaped bars provided on their inner sides in their angles with brackets, said brackets having upwardly extending studs, shelves supported on the said brackets and having openings engaged by said studs, said shelves being removable, and an overflow tray supported on the upper ends of the legs.

2. Apparatus of the class described comprising a receiving tray, supporting legs having their lower ends disposed in said tray, shelves connecting and supported by the said supporting legs, an overflow tray secured on the upper ends of said supporting legs, a vessel in said tray to supply the same with water, curtains on the outer side of the supporting legs and extending from the overflow tray to the receiving tray, one of said curtains being composed of sections, any one of which may be opened independently of the others, one of said sections and the said vessel having coacting means to secure said sections in raised position.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LAURA IDA COLLETT.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. BUCK,
ROY K. PALMER