July 4, 1933. E. B. HIATT 1,916,838

BASKET TURNER

Filed Aug. 8, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

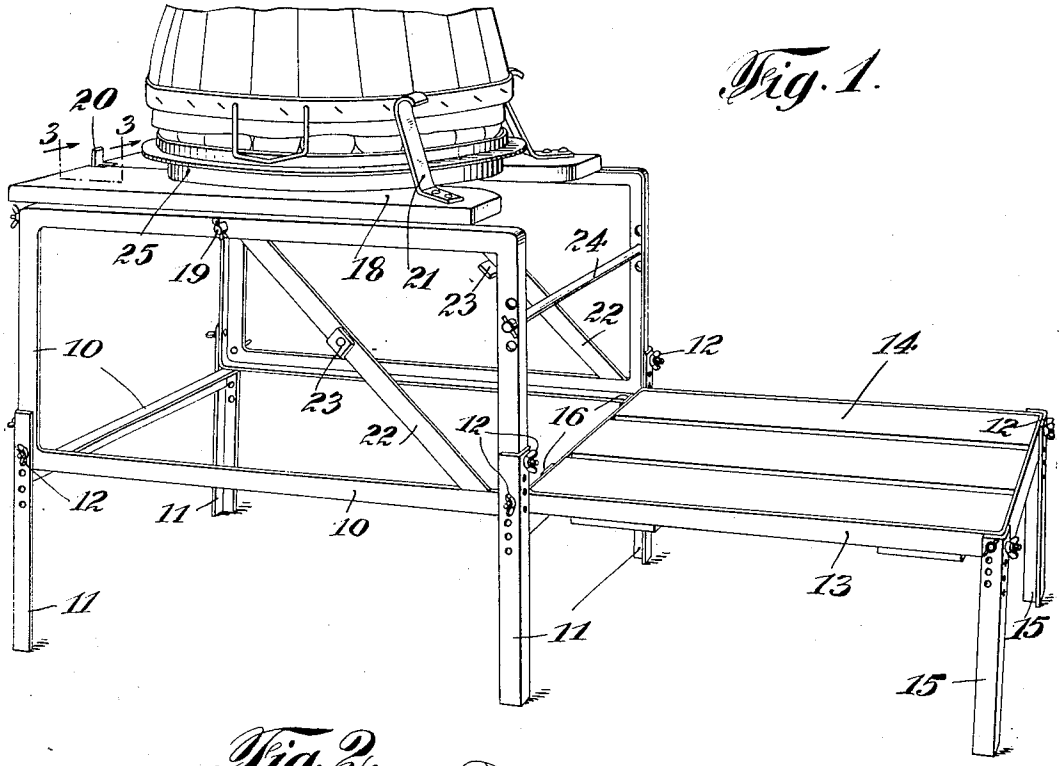


Fig. 2.

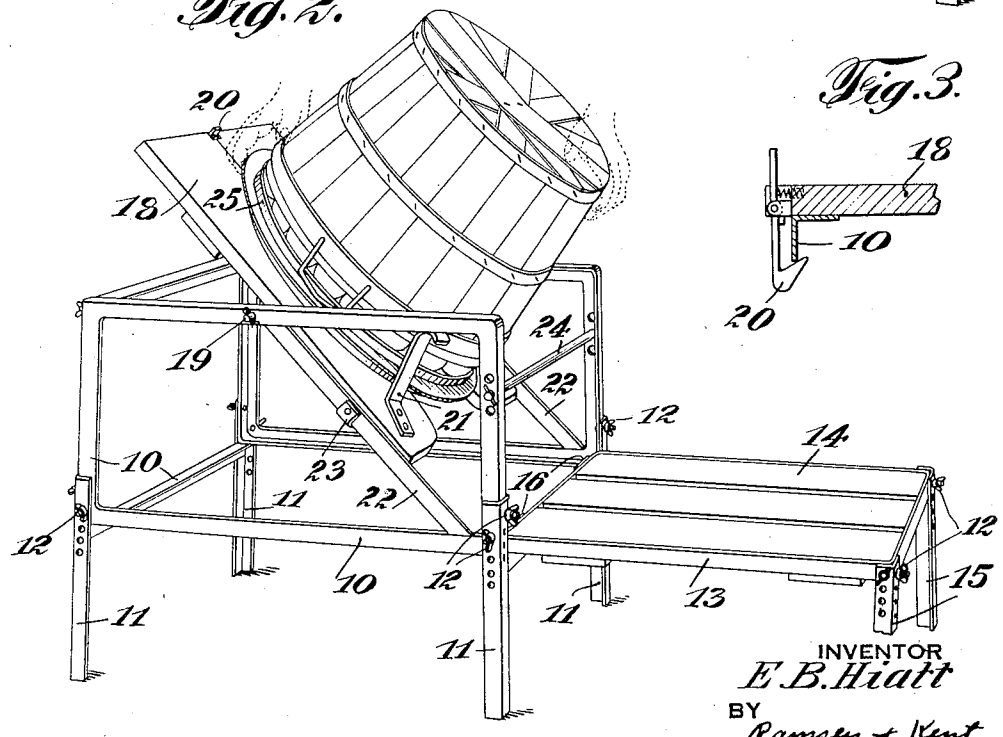


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR
E. B. Hiatt
BY
Ramsey & Kent
his ATTORNEYS

July 4, 1933. E. B. HIATT 1,916,838

BASKET TURNER

Filed Aug. 8, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 4.

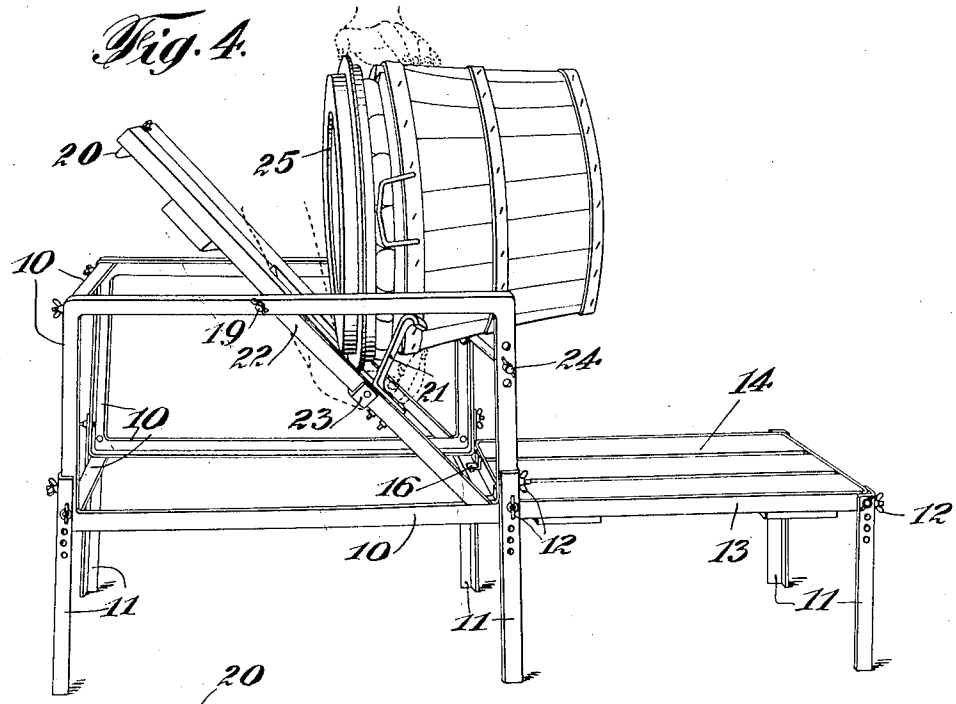


Fig. 5.

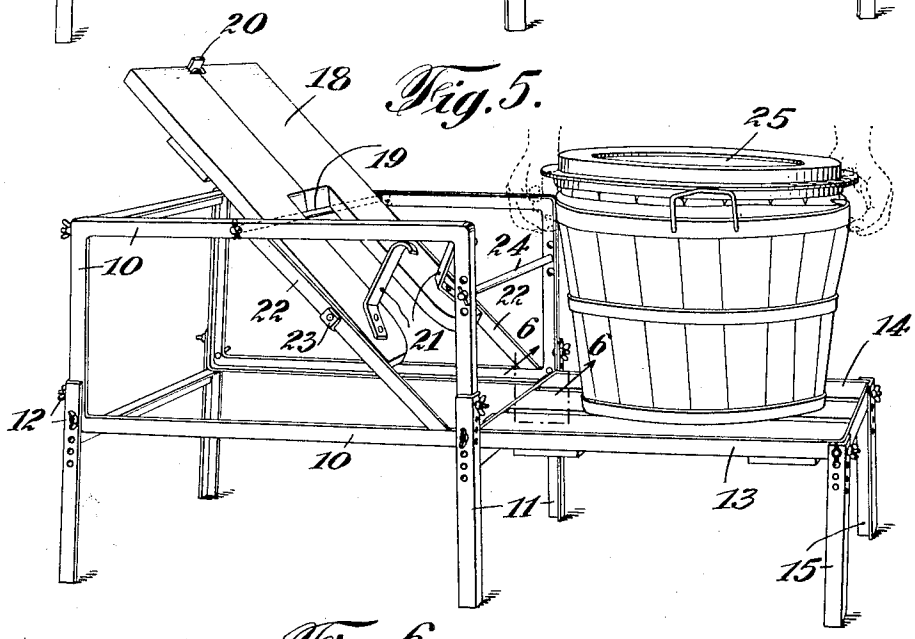
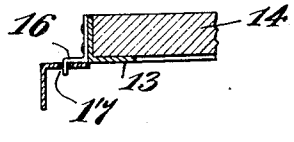


Fig. 6.



INVENTOR
E. B. Hiatt
BY
Ramsey & Kent
his ATTORNEYS

Patented July 4, 1933 1,916,838

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ENOS B. HIATT, OF DENVER, COLORADO, ASSIGNOR TO OVENDA CORPORATION, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS

BASKET TURNER

Application filed August 8, 1930. Serial No. 473,834.

This invention relates broadly to basket turners, especially adapted to invert fruit baskets, although the device may be used to advantage on most containers which have been packed in an inverted position.

In the present art it is customary to pack the fruit in an inverted metallic shell on a plate or ring packing lid, with a supporting liner within the shell. When completely filled the shell form is removed and the filling liner maintains correct shape, while a wooden basket is inverted over the liner and fruit. It is then necessary to turn the container right side up in order to apply the permanent basket lid and pad to complete the package.

The present invention is accordingly directed to the provision of a method and apparatus which will allow a workman to quickly and easily invert a filled container without damaging its contents.

It was formerly necessary for the packer to lift the combined basket and contents, to turn it manually and at the same time endeavor to keep the ring packing lid in place.

The present invention, taking advantage of the weight of the container, relieves the workman of unnecessary effort, expedites and facilitates production and greatly removes the hazard of damaging packed goods because of spilling or jarring.

The operation of the device will be better understood, in conjunction with the following description by referring to the accompanying drawings of which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the apparatus showing the top locked horizontally, and a basket in position to be inverted.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the top in tilted position, and the container partly inverted.

Fig. 3 is a detail section of the release-catch taken along line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the container in half inverted position.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the apparatus showing the container in the final position.

Fig. 6 is a detail section taken along line 6—6 of Fig. 5, showing means for detachably connecting the stand and the bench.

The drawings illustrate a preferred embodiment of the present invention in which a metallic bench frame 10 is supported by legs 11 adjustably held by wing nuts 12. A stand frame 13, having a top 14 and legs 15, is detachably connected to the lower part of frame 10 by means of brackets 16 engaging in slots 17 of the bench frame. A working top 18, pivotally mounted to the upper part of the frame by means of rod 19 is locked in normal horizontal position by a spring catch 20.

The top is centrally cut longitudinally to form a slot, bevelled at its inner and upper end to easily permit the insertion of the arm of the operator. At one end of the working top, opposite the spring catch and on either side of the slot are rigidly fastened two brackets 21, shaped and mounted at an angle to conform substantially to the inverted container.

A structural member 22 mounted diagonally on either side of the frame at a predetermined angle serves both as a reinforcing brace and as a support for the stop 23. A pivot rod 24, extending horizontally across one end of the main frame 10, is arranged to be of adjustable height and acts as a fulcrum or pivot for the container during the inversion operation.

In the operation of the device, the working top 18 is locked in horizontal position by means of spring catch 20 and the normal act of packaging is completed to the point shown in Fig. 1. The hands of the operator are placed on the container to guide its movements, and the spring catch is released, causing the working top to rotate about rod 19, until the stops 23 are reached where the oscillation action of the working top is arrested, as shown in Fig. 2. With the hands arranged as indicated in dotted lines on Fig. 2, the container is allowed to rotate about the ends of brackets 21, until it rests on the pivot rod 24 as indicated in Fig. 4. The hands are then shifted and one arm inserted in the slot 19 provided for it in the working top 18, to permit the basket to be placed on the top 14

of the stand frame 13. The ring packing lid 25 (which does not form part of the invention) during part of this operation has been held in place by the weight of the container. As this weight is removed from the lid in the action of rotation, said lid is held in place to prevent spilling of the contents. With the hands thus stationed as indicated in Fig. 4, the container is permitted to rotate about pivot rod 24 until it settles onto the top 14 of the stand in the position shown in Fig. 5. The ring packing lid may now be removed and a permanent cover and pad attached.

Operators of this device in a short while become so proficient in its manipulation that the process of inverting can be performed without hesitation even for shifting of the hands, and in actual practice the output per packer is greatly increased.

Having described my invention what I claim is:—

1. A container inverting device comprising a main frame, a rotatable working top having an arm slot cut therein, means for normally supporting said top in horizontal position, brackets rigidly fastened to said top to support a container when said top is rotated, and a horizontal rod carried by said frame and positioned to act as a pivot for said container during the inverting operation.

2. A container inverting device comprising a main frame, a normally horizontal top pivotally mounted on said main frame, a stop to limit the rotation of said top to an inclined position, means to prevent a container on said top from sliding therefrom when said top is inclined, and fulcrum means to support a container when said container is being inverted from said inclined top.

3. A container inverting device comprising a main frame, demountable supports for said main frame, a top mounted on said main frame and normally supported in horizontal position, means to permit said top to assume an inclined position, inclined members on said main frame, stops on said inclined members to support said top when in inclined position, a stand adjacent said main frame, and fulcrum means adjacent one end of said stand to support a container which is being inverted from said inclined top to said stand.

4. A device for supporting and facilitating the inversion of unwieldy articles comprising: an article support pivoted on a substantially horizontal axis; means operable to normally hold said support in a substantially horizontal position, said means also permitting the support to be tilted on its axis to an inclined position to thereby initiate the inversion of the article; means to arrest the movement of the support and hold it in an inclined position; means carried by the support to prevent the article from sliding out of desired position as the support is tilted; and a fulcrum positioned to be engaged by the side of the article to aid an operator in manually completing the inversion of the article by tilting it about the fulcrum.

5. A device for supporting and facilitating the inversion of unwieldy articles comprising: an article support pivoted on a substantially horizontal axis; stop means projecting upwardly from said support to engage the article and prevent it from sliding in at least one direction on the support, said stop means projecting a lesser height than the article; the pivot for said support being positioned to cause the support with the article thereon to tend to tilt in the direction of said stop means; and means operable to normally hold said support in a horizontal position but being movable to inoperative position to release the support and permit it to tilt and thereby initiate the inversion of the article; said upwardly projecting stop means having a portion on which an operator may manually tilt the article in completing the inversion.

6. A device for supporting and facilitating the inversion of unwieldy articles comprising: an article support pivoted on a substantially horizontal axis; means operable to normally hold said support in a substantially horizontal position, said means also permitting the support to be tilted on its axis to an inclined position to thereby initiate the inversion of the article; means to arrest the movement of the support and hold it in an inclined position; means projecting upwardly from the support to prevent the article from sliding out of desired position thereon as the support is tilted, said projecting means extending to a lesser height than the article and having a portion on which an operator may manually tilt the article in completing the inversion; and the support providing a space through which the operator may insert his hand to grasp a lower corner of the article adjacent its contact with the support.

7. A device for supporting and facilitating the inversion of unwieldy articles comprising: a frame; a top pivoted to said frame on a substantially horizontal axis; means operable to normally hold said top in a substantially horizontal position, said means also permitting the top to be tilted on its axis to an inclined position to thereby initiate the inversion of the article; means to arrest the movement of the top and hold it in an inclined position; abutment means projecting upwardly from the top to prevent the article from sliding out of desired position as the top is tilted; and a cross piece carried by the frame and positioned to be engaged by the side of the article to aid an operator in manually completing the inversion of the article by tilting it on the cross piece.

8. A device for supporting and facilitating the inversion of unwieldy articles comprising: a main frame; a top pivoted to said

frame on a substantially horizontal axis; means operable to normally hold said top in a substantially horizontal position, said means also permitting the top to be tilted on its axis to an inclined position to thereby initiate the inversion of the article; means to arrest the movement of the top and hold it in an inclined position; a cross piece carried by the frame and positioned to be engaged by the side of the article to aid an operator in manually completing the inversion of the article by tilting it on the cross piece; said top providing a space through which the operator may insert his hand to grasp a lower corner of the article adjacent its contact with said top; and a low stand adjacent the frame to receive the article upon completion of the inversion.

ENOS B. HIATT.

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION.

Patent No. 1,916,838. July 4, 1933.

ENOS B. HIATT.

It is hereby certified that the name of the assignee in the above numbered patent was erroneously described and specified as "Ovenda Corporation" whereas said name should have been described and specified as "Orenda Corporation", as shown by the records of assignments in this office; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 29th day of August, A. D. 1933.

M. J. Moore.

(Seal) Acting Commissioner of Patents.