

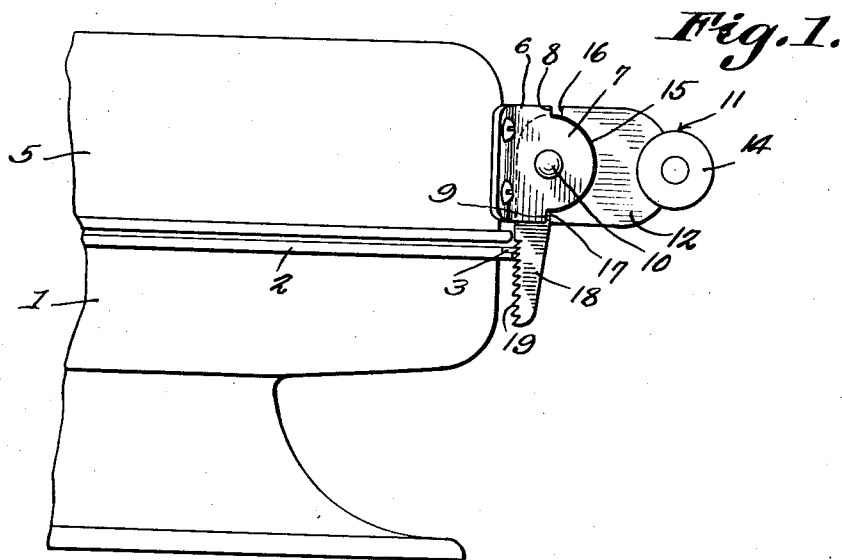
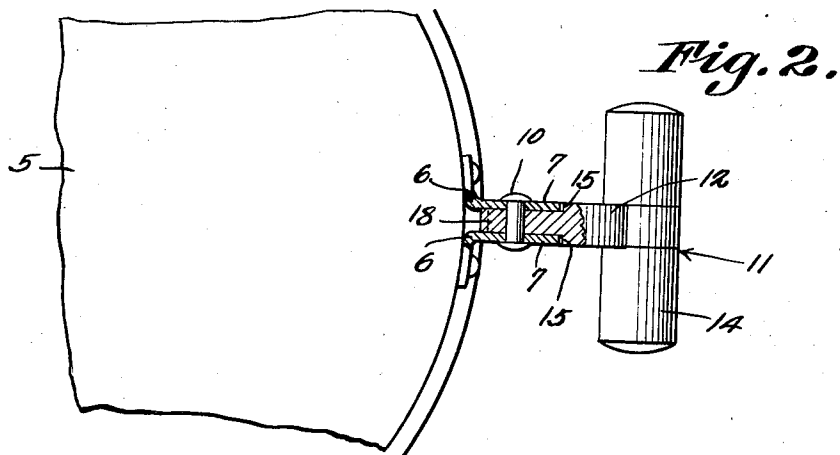
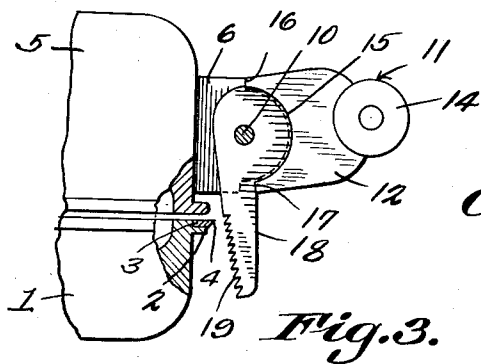
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C. C. LEAVITT

2,211,900

PRESSURE CONTROL FOR WAFFLE IRONS

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Charles C. Leavitt  
INVENTOR.

BY *Chas. Knowlton*

ATTORNEYS.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## PRESSURE CONTROL FOR WAFFLE IRONS

Charles Carroll Leavitt, Carmel, Calif.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 53—10)

This invention aims to provide a simple structure, incorporated in the handle on the cap of a waffle iron, whereby when the cap has been raised by the expanding action of the waffle that is being cooked, the cap will be held in its uppermost position, it being possible to set the cap free, for ready removal, by a simple operation of the handle, in lifting the cap, and there being no necessity for performing an additional operation to set free the means whereby the cap is held elevated.

It is within the province of the disclosure to improve generally and to enhance the utility of devices of that type to which the present invention appertains.

With the above 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 drawing:

Fig. 1 shows in elevation, a waffle iron equipped with the device constructed in accordance with the invention, parts being broken away;

Fig. 2 is a top plan wherein parts are broken away and shown in section;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section, the ratchet being released from the pawl.

The numeral 1 marks the base of a waffle iron, having an outstanding circumferential bead 2. A pawl 3 is fixed to the bead 2, and has a sharpened outer edge 4.

The cap of the waffle iron is marked by the numeral 5. Outstanding brackets 6 are secured to the cap 5 and have outwardly extended, semi-circular tongues 7, defining upper shoulders 8 and lower shoulders 9 in the brackets. In the tongues 7, a pivot element 10 is mounted.

The numeral 11 designates a T-shaped handle, including a shank 12 and a grip 14 secured intermediate its ends to the outer end of the shank. In its sides, the shank 12 of the handle 11 is provided with semi-circular recesses 15, receiving the tongues 7 of the brackets 6. The recesses 15 define, in the shank 12 of the handle 11, upper shoulders 16, and lower shoulders 17. Formed integrally with the inner end of the shank 12 of the handle 11 is a thinned, depending ratchet arm 18, received between the brackets 6, the pivot element 10 passing through the upper part of the

ratchet arm 18, to afford a pivotal mounting whereby the handle 11 may have limited vertical swinging movement. On its inner edge, the ratchet arm 18 is supplied with teeth 19, adapted to cooperate with the pawl 3 on the base 1 of the waffle iron.

In practical operation, the weight of the handle 11 causes the teeth 19 of the ratchet arm 18 to engage the pawl 3 on the base 1 of the waffle iron, as depicted in Fig. 1. The cooking of the waffle causes the cap 5 to rise, and the teeth 19 of the ratchet arm 18 engage, one after another, with the pawl 3 on the base 1. When the cap 5 reaches its uppermost position, the cooking of the waffle proceeds, and the cap does not exert an undesirable downward pressure on the waffle.

Attention is directed to the fact that the ratchet arm 18 need receive no attention from an operator. When the cap 5 is lifted by means of the handle 11, the ratchet arm 18 is disengaged automatically from the pawl 3, the handle 11 swinging upwardly on the pivot element 10, until the shoulders 16 of the handle come into contact with the shoulders 8 on the brackets 6.

The device is simple in construction, but will be found thoroughly advantageous for the ends in view.

It will be understood, without specific delineation, that at a point diametrically opposite from that indicated by the location of the brackets 6 in Fig. 2, there is the conventional hinge connection between the base 1 and the lid 5; or the handle structure and associated parts may be there duplicated.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A waffle iron comprising a base, a cap superposed on the base, a handle, means for mounting the handle for vertical swinging movement on the cap, and a depending ratchet arm carried by the handle and cooperating with the base to support the cap in successively raised positions during the cooking of a waffle, the handle constituting a counterweight, maintaining the arm releasably engaged with the base, and the handle constituting means for releasing the arm from the base, when the cap is raised through the instrumentality of the handle.

2. A waffle iron constructed as set forth in claim 1, and wherein said means and the handle are provided with interengaging elements which cooperate to limit the upward swinging movement of the handle, when the cap is raised through the instrumentality of the handle.

CHARLES CARROLL LEAVITT.