Oct. 25, 1960 D. M. HELLER 2,957,286

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR "PLACE PACKING" PIMENTO STUFFED OLIVES AND THE LIKE

Filed Aug. 31, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

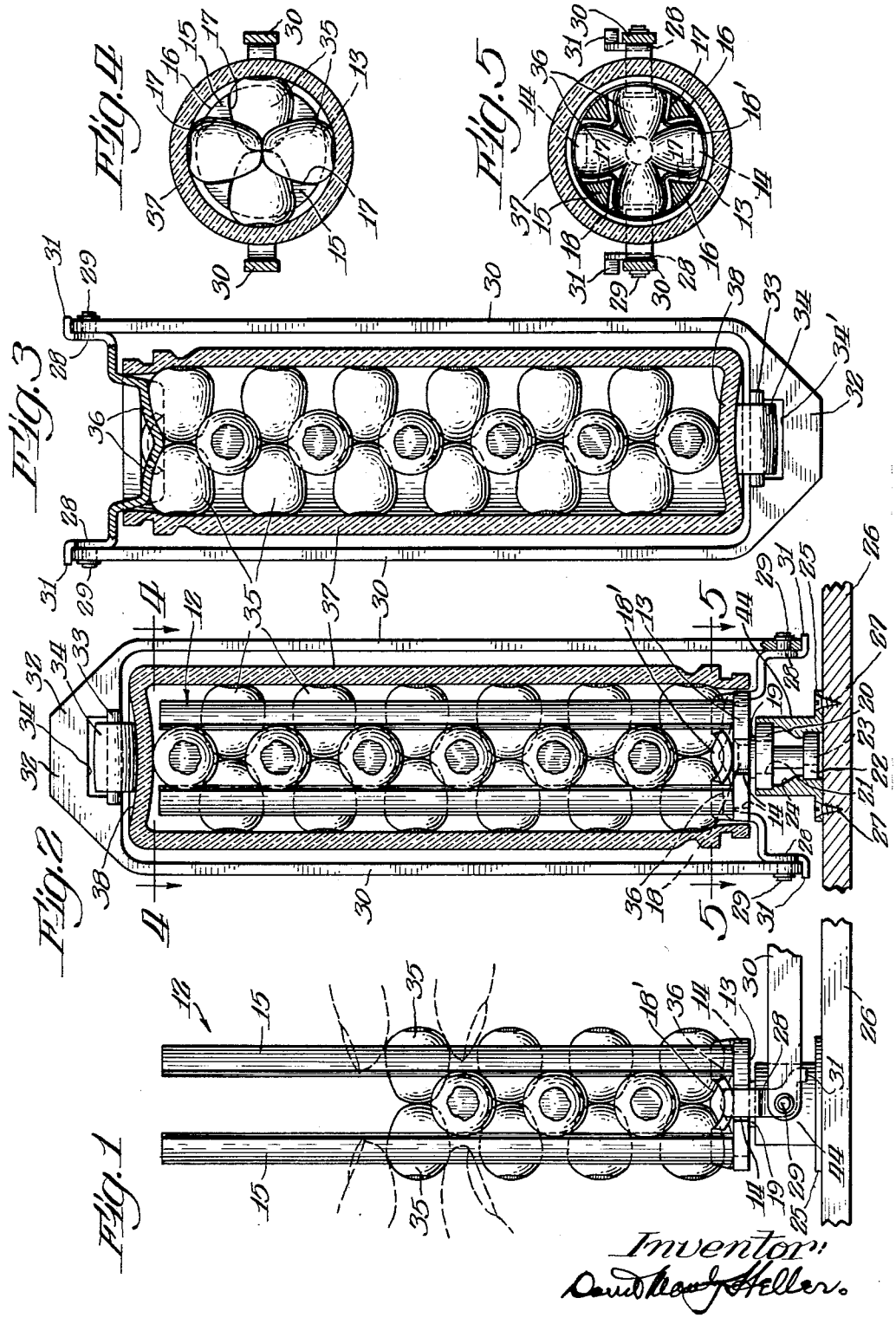


Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 3

Fig. 2

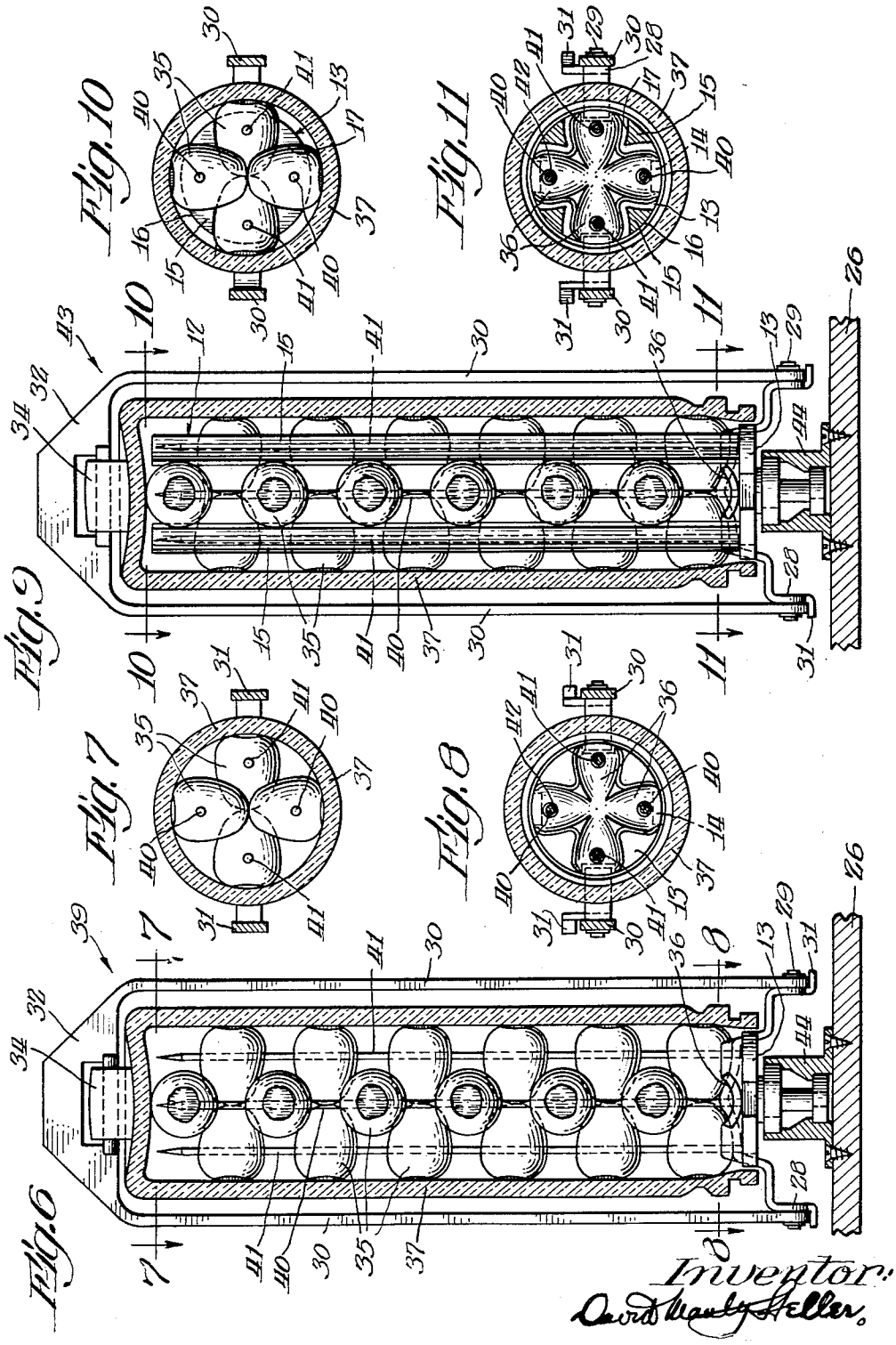
Fig. 1

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DEVICE AND METHOD FOR "PLACE PACKING" PIMENTO STUFFED OLIVES AND THE LIKE

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12 Claims. (Cl. 53—35)

My invention relates to a method and means for "place packing" pimento stuffed olives and the like.

The art of "place packing" has been practised for many years and it is an operation that is entirely manual. To all persons familiar with the packing in bottles of articles such as those above mentioned, it is a well known fact that such articles must be assorted and packed or arranged with a great deal of care, so that those which are at the outside of the bottle and are exposed to view through transparent walls of the bottle will present an attractive appearance, and so that there will be as little waste space as possible left within the bottle after it has been filled. In the process of packing as hitherto carried out long-jawed pincers have usually been employed by means of which the articles, after being assorted or in the process of assortment, are placed in the desired arrangement first at the bottom of the bottle and then are built up to the top of the bottle successively. This old process has been very slow and has required skilled labor chiefly because of the difficulty of properly arranging the articles at the bottom of the bottle by use of the pincers, and on account of the difficulty of removing any such article, which after having been placed in position is not found to be of the proper size to fit or make up a layer.

In the finished product after the completion of the operation the olives are to assume the position indicated in position three, where the pimento portion is exposed and is in contact with the interior perimetral surface of the wall of the container.

An important object of my invention is to provide a method of first arranging a multiplicity of pimento stuffed olives in "place packing" formation adapted to fit within the confines of a transparent bottle or jar used for that purpose, and secondly for introducing said formation into said jar, bottle or container.

A further object of my invention is to provide a method of the aforementioned character wherein pimento stuffed olives are placed or arranged in "place packing" formation and are subsequently introduced into the interior confines of a transparent container, and subsequently are stripped maintaining said formation in order to confine said formation in "place packing" relationship within said container.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device or means for "place packing" pimento stuffed olives in "place packing" confinement within the interior of a transparent container, including means for gauging and guiding said pimento stuffed olives in "place packing" relationship and in alternate layers, and means for stripping the said "place packing" formation into a transparent jar, bottle or container.

A still further object of my invention is to provide means of the aforementioned character for arranging a multiplicity of pimento stuffed olives in "place packing" formation on spear means, and stripper means for stripping said formation into the interior confines of a jar or container retaining said pimento stuffed olives in "placing packing" formation or arrangement.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a device of the aforementioned character including means for gauging a multiplicity of pimento stuffed olives and their arrangement in "placed packing" formation, and spearing or lancing means disposed intermediately said gauging and guiding means in order to retain firmly said "place packing" formation, and subsequently after introducing said "place packing" formation into the interior confines of the said jar or container, providing additional means for stripping said formation into said container.

A further object of my invention is to provide, in addition to the foregoing, bail means articulately secured to said stripper means which will maintain a jar and the "place packing" stripper means in firm assemblage, preparatory to stripping the same in order to obtain the foregoing result, namely, a container having a multiplicity of layers of pimento stuffed olives, exposed in neat formation peripherally and interiorly of said container.

A still further object of my invention is to provide rotatable means to permit rotation radially of said "place packing" device in order to facilitate the "place packing" arrangement.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a simple method and device for "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, and the like, within a transparent container in a regularly exposed arrangement, within a minimum of time, eliminating the skill at present required by operators using long pincers for the purpose, and increasing production to a great extent, hence reducing the cost of "place packing" operations.

Other objects, advantages and ancillary features inherent in my invention will become apparent from the ensuing description, further elucidated in the drawings in which elemental structures are designated by like numerals in all views, and in which;

Fig. 1 represents a front elevational view of a preferred form of my invention.

Fig. 2 represents a view similar to Figure 1 showing the olives arranged in "place packing" formation and introduced into an inverted transparent container with the bail means securing the stripper means in firm assemblage with said transparent container preparatory to removal. After the assemblage is inverted as indicated in Figure 3, the bail is released and removed from the container, simultaneously removing the stripper as well. The bail and stripper are then removed from the container and the container is in position for brining, which is a preservative used, and the jar is subsequently capped to maintain the same in hermetically sealed relationship for protection of the edibles confined therein.

Fig. 4 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on the lines 4—4 of Figure 2.

Fig. 5 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on the lines 5—5 of Figure 2.

Fig. 6 shows a slightly modified form of my invention wherein the retaining and guiding means are in the form of lances or spears, and the olives are speared thereupon in "place packing" formation, subsequently being stripped into the jar or transparent container as in the previously described operation, thus confining the resultant formation within the confines of said transparent container in "place packing" relationship.

Fig. 7 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Fig. 8 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on line 8—8 of Figure 6.

Fig. 9 shows another slightly modified form of my invention, and is comprised of a composite of the guiding means illustrated in Figures 1 to 5, and the lancing or spearing means indicated in Figures 6 to 8, so that in this instance the olives are held firmly in place on the

lances or spears provided, and are gauged and guided in proper relationship by means of the gauging and guiding means indicated in Figure 1.

Fig. 10 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on lines 10—10 of Figure 9; and

Fig. 11 is a transverse cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on line 11—11 of Figure 9.

Referring to the various views, and with specific reference to Figures 1 to 5, it will be noted that my invention is, generally, designated 12, and consists of a base element 13, on which are mounted the gauging and guiding means 15. Said means 15 are arranged so that the outer surfaces thereof 16, are arranged to form sections of a circle, or to permit a circle to be circumscribed thereabout and are substantially in triangular cross-section as seen in Figure 4. The arcuate portions 17 forming the gauging and guiding means 15, which are preferably compatible with the curvature and size of olives 35 to be packed therein.

The operator uses two fingers, preferably, the thumb and forefinger of each hand simultaneously placing two olives at a time on the stripper plate 18 forming the first row of olives. The stripper plate 18' is provided with concavities 36. The base 13 is provided with slotted portions 14, which are spaced 90 degrees apart so as to facilitate the gauging location of the stripper plate 18' which is provided with depending lugs or ears 28 to which are secured a pair of pintles 29 for articulately securing the bail 30. The reason therefor will become apparent as the description proceeds further.

The bail 30 is provided with a suitable handle 32 to which is secured an axle 33 by cinching or other means, and upon which, is mounted rotatably a soft rubber roller 34 adapted to rotate freely within the recess 34'. The base 13 is fixedly mounted on a stud 18 having a shoulder 19, and a reduced portion 21 which is secured to a ball bearing 20, and another reduced portion 23 secured to a ball bearing 22.

A bearing support 44 is provided having a recess 24 in which bearings 20 and 22 are mounted, forming a thrust bearing so as to confine the base 13 rotatably in order to facilitate the placing of alternate layers of olives 35, permitting at least a 90° rotation so that the operator will always work from the same position without it being required that the operator orient his or her hands 90 degrees.

The bearing support 44 is provided with a flange 25 secured to a suitable bench 26 by means of wood screws 27 or any other suitable fastenings may be employed. The pintles 29 are secured to the extension of the stripper plate and form an articulate hinge for the bail 30. The ears 28 will act as stops for the extensions 31 on the bail 30, and will arrest the same when in a substantially horizontal position so that the bail is available for ready grasping. The stripper means is provided with a multiplicity of cavities 36 of partial olive shape or configuration, so as to facilitate the placing of the initial layer in the "place packing" formation.

After the olives 35 have been placed in the gauging means up to the top thereof, an inverted container 37 preferably of glass or other transparent material having a dished out bottom portion 38 is brought over the "place packing" olive formation and the bail secured thereover thus permitting the stripper and container 37 to be removed in assemblage. The assemblage is then inverted as indicated in Figure 3, and the bail is unlocked from its assembled position by means of the handle 32, the stripper then being removed thus leaving the olives in "place packing" formation as indicated. The stripper and assembled bail are then replaced to straddle the gauging means preparatory to repeating the assembly cycle.

In a modified form illustrated in Figures 6, 7 and 8, I have replaced the guiding and gauging means 15, by lancing or spearing means 40, and with this particular arrangement the olives are speared so as to hold them more firmly against possible distortion or displacement after once being arranged in "place packing" relationship. The operation is the same except that each olive 35 is, or two olives at a time are, speared onto oppositely disposed lances 41. This modification is generally designated 39, and the method of "place packing" is followed the same as in the previous instance by introducing the assemblage into a jar and securing the bail thereover, and then removing, by unlocking the bail, and removing the stripper means from the lances leaving the "place packing" assemblage of olives confined within the jar. The stripper is then replaced over the lances 40 by the holes 42 which fit thereover.

Figs. 9, 10 and 11 represent another slight modification of my invention, generally, designated 43 in which the composite or combined means utilized in Figures 1 to 8 is employed namely, a number of spears or lances 40 are intermediately disposed between the guiding and gauging means 15, and the clover shaped stripper means is provided with suitable clearance openings 42, for allowing the stripper plate to be moved in and out of engagement therewith when transferring into a container the olives which are disposed in "place packing" arrangement.

From what has been said and described, it will be understood that bottles, jars or containers having various forms other than true cylindrical form, may be "place packed" by the use of the improved device and method disclosed. It will also be understood to those familiar with the art, that other modifications may be made within the scope of my invention as herein set forth and claimed.

Having thus described and revealed my invention, what I claim as novel and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device for use in connection with "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, comprising a base rotatably mounted, a plurality of olive gauging guides secured to said base, and olive stripper means releasably secured to said base and straddling said olive gauging guides.

2. A device for use in connection with "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, comprising a base rotatably mounted, a plurality of olive spearing means secured to said base, and olive stripper means releasably secured to said base and provided with perforate means to fit slidably on said olive spearing means.

3. A device for use in connection with "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, comprising a base rotatably mounted, a plurality of olive gauging guides secured to said base, a plurality of olive spearing means secured to said base and each disposed intermediately and adjacent pairs of said olive gauging guides, olive stripper means releasably secured to said base and straddling said olive gauging guides, and provided with perforate means to fit slidably on said olive spearing means.

4. A device for use in connection with "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, comprising a base rotatably mounted, a plurality of olive gauging guides secured to said base, olive stripper means releasably secured to said base and straddling said olive gauging guides, and bail means articulately secured to said olive stripper means adapted to be clamped releasably over the bottom of said container to facilitate stripping said olives into said container.

5. A device for use in connection with "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, comprising a base rotatably mounted, a plurality of olive spearing means secured to said base, olive stripper means releasably secured to said base and provided with perforate means to fit slidably on said olive spearing means, and bail means articulately secured to said olive stripper means adapted to be clamped releasably over the bottom of said container to facilitate stripping said olives into said container.

6. A device for use in connection with "place packing" pimento stuffed olives, comprising a base rotatably mounted, a plurality of olive gauging guides secured to said base, a plurality of olive spearing means secured to said base and each disposed intermediately and adjacent

pairs of said olive gauging guides, olive stripper means releasably secured to said base and straddling said olive gauging guides and provided with perforate means to fit slidably on said olive spearing means, and bail means articulately secured to said olive stripper means adapted to be clamped releasably over the bottom of said container to facilitate stripping said olives into said container.

7. A method for use in "place packing" pimento stuffed olives in a container consisting of a plurality of rows in orderly "two on two" arrangement in superimposition having the pimento portions thereof exposed outwardly and in intimate contact with the walls of said container, said method comprising the following steps: (1) arranging a multiplicity of said olives in "place packing" formation on temporary retaining means positioned intermediately the peripheral confines of said arrangement and its longitudinal axis and provided with stripping means leaving the peripheral surface of said arrangement entirely exposed, (2) introducing said formation into said container, and (3) stripping said formation from said temporary retaining means maintaining the orderly "two on two" arrangement of said olives resulting in a snugly packed container immobilizing said olives against disorderliness.

8. A method as set forth in claim 7 further characterized in that said temporary retaining means consists of spearing means.

9. A method as set forth in claim 7 further characterized in that said temporary retaining means consists of gauging and guiding means.

10. A method for use in "place packing" pimento stuffed olives in a container having a reduced neck portion and consisting of a plurality of rows in orderly "two on two" arrangement in superimposition having the pimento portions thereof exposed outwardly and in intimate contact with the walls of said container, said method comprising the following steps: (1) arranging a multiplicity of said olives in "place packing" formation on temporary retaining means positioned intermediately the peripheral confines of said arrangement and its longitudinal axis leaving the peripheral surface of said arrangement entirely exposed, (2) introducing said formation into said container, and (3) stripping said formation from said temporary retaining means maintaining the orderly "two on two" arrangement of said olives without disturbance resulting in a snugly packed container occuping the entire volumetric inner confines of said container below said reduced neck portion of said container thus immobilizing said olives against disorderliness.

11. A method as set forth in claim 10 further characterized in that individual horizontal rows of said olives have the inner ends of said olives in intimate contact.

12. A method for use in "place packing" pimento stuffed olives in a container in an orderly "two on two" arrangement substantially as described comprising the following steps: (1) arranging a multiplicity of said olives on temporary retaining means and in "place packing" formation consisting of a plurality of horizontal rows of "two on two," (2) introducing said formation into said container, and (3) withdrawing said temporary retaining means without disturbiing said "two on two" arrangement.

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