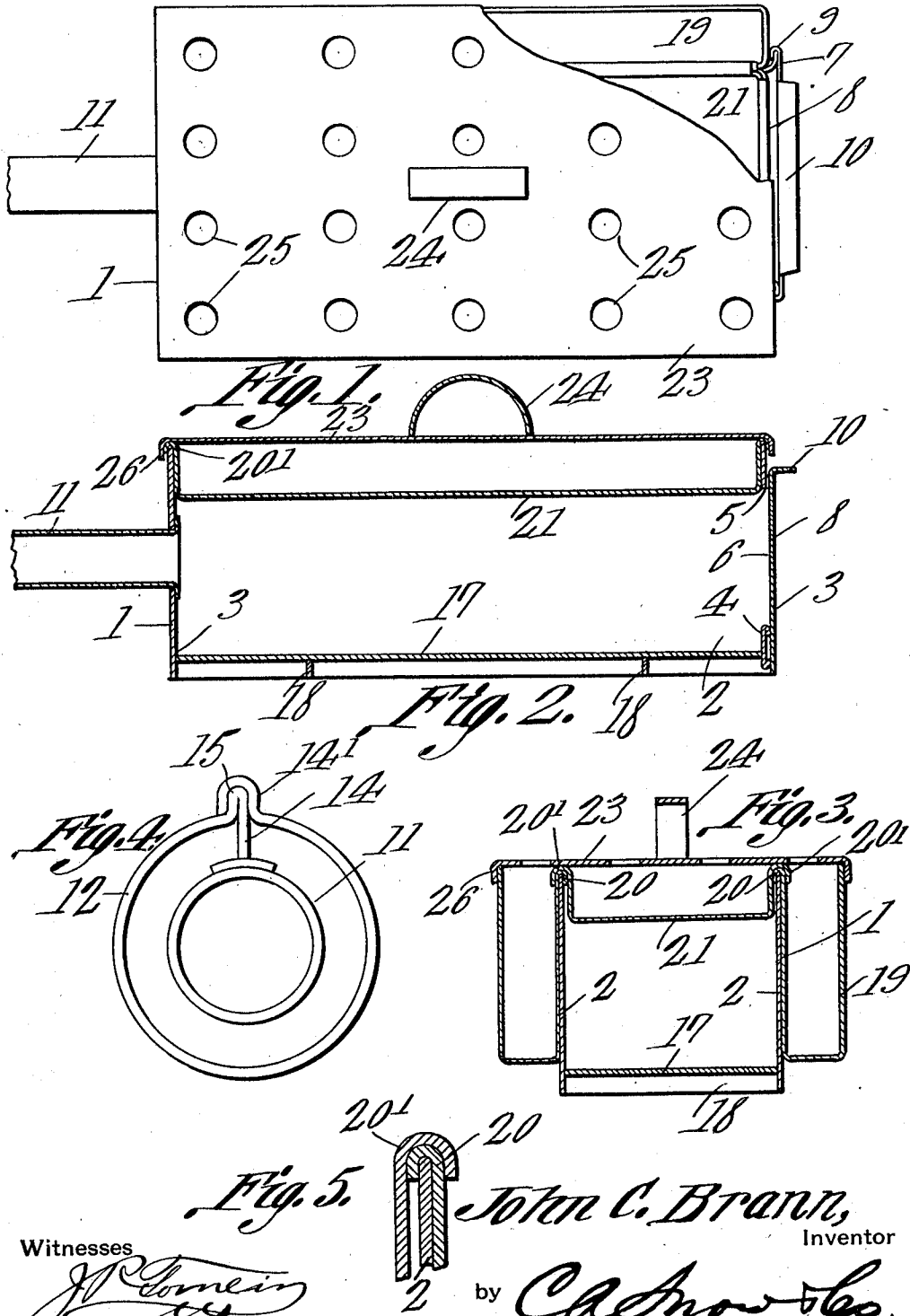


J. C. BRANN.
TOBACCO CASER.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 22, 1911.

1,004,624.

Patented Oct. 3, 1911.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. BRANN, OF HAMPTONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

TOBACCO-CASER.

1,004,624.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. BRANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hamptonville, in the county of Yadkin and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful Tobacco-Caser, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject matter of this application, is a furnace, adapted to be placed within a tobacco barn, the furnace being provided with suitable tanks, whereby the air within the tobacco barn will be moistened, so that the tobacco will case properly.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a furnace of novel and improved form, and to provide novel means for assembling tanks with the furnace, so as to effect a thorough moistening of the air within the structure in which the furnace is contained.

A further object of the invention is to provide novel means for preventing the air within the tobacco barn from being dried, by the action of the furnace.

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 invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 is a top plan, parts being broken away; Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section; Fig. 3 is a transverse section; Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the outlet pipe and its casing; and Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail from Fig. 3.

In carrying out the invention there is provided as a primary and fundamental element, a furnace, denoted generally by the numeral 1. The furnace preferably, although not necessarily, is a structure open at both the top and the bottom, and of rectangular configuration. The furnace 1 embraces side walls 2 and an end wall 3. At the open end of the furnace, the side walls are connected by a bottom bar 4, and by a top bar 5, defining between them, an opening 6, through which the fuel may be introduced into the furnace. The side walls 1 are prolonged beyond the open end of the furnace, and are flexed outwardly, to form flanges 7. A sliding door 8 is provided, for closing the opening 6, this door 8 having along its vertical

edges, guides 9, adapted to interlock with the flanges 7. At its upper edge, the door 8 is provided with an outstanding lip 10, whereby the door may be raised or lowered.

Extended through the end wall 3 of the furnace, is a pipe 11, this pipe in operation, being ordinarily extended through the side wall of the tobacco barn. The pipe, between the furnace and the wall of the tobacco barn, is surrounded by a casing, denoted generally by the numeral 12. This casing 12 is preferably a one-piece structure, fashioned from a sheet of metal, one edge of which is rectangularly disposed, to form a flange 14, adapted, at its free edge, to rest upon the pipe 11. The flange 14, adjacent the periphery of the casing 12 is back-bent upon itself, to form a rib 15, and upon the free edge of the strip of material from which the casing 12 is fashioned, there is a hook-shaped flange 14', adapted to lock over the rib 15. The construction, obviously, is such that the casing 12 may readily be placed about the pipe 11, and, with equal facility, be removed therefrom.

The furnace is ordinarily employed in a tobacco barn having an earth floor. Under such circumstances, no bottom for the furnace is required. However, when the furnace is employed in a structure having a wooden floor, the furnace may be equipped with a bottom 17, supported upon suitable trestles 18, or in any other desired manner.

The invention further includes a pair of side tanks 19, the side tanks extending the full length of the furnace 1. These side tanks 19 may be attached to the furnace in any desired manner, depending upon the taste of the manufacturer. Preferably, however, side tanks 19 are equipped at their upper edges, with hook-shaped flanges 20, adapted to engage over the upper edges of the side walls 2 of the furnace 1.

The invention further includes a pan 21, fitting closely within the upper open portion of the furnace 1. This pan 21, about its entire periphery, is equipped with hook-shaped flanges 20, adapted to interlock over the flanges 20 of the side tanks.

The invention further includes a cover 23, provided with a suitable handle 24, and having perforations 25. Around its periphery, the cover 23 is equipped with a depending lip 26, adapted to inclose the furnace 1 and side tanks 19.

The operation of the device is as follows:

The side tanks 19 and the pan 21 are partially filled with water, and a fire is built in the furnace 1, the products of combustion passing outwardly through the pipe 11, to the exterior of the tobacco barn. Owing to the fact that the pipe 11 is surrounded by the casing 12, the air in the tobacco barn will be prevented, to a large extent, from being dried out, through coming into a direct contact with the heated pipe 11. If desired, obviously, the casing 12 may be extended through the side wall of the tobacco barn, so that the air on the outside of the tobacco barn may circulate within the casing 12, and about the pipe 11. The moisture generated in the side tanks 19, and in the pan 21, serves to maintain the air within the tobacco barn in a relatively moist condition. It is to be noted that the relatively large areas, defined by the side walls 2 of the furnace, are housed in by the side tanks 19, so that these side walls 2 cannot serve to heat the air within the tobacco barn, the side walls affording relatively large heating areas, whereby the temperature of the water within the side tanks 19 may be raised.

A tobacco barn equipped with the device herein disclosed, will be at all times in a sufficiently moist condition, so that the tobacco will case properly, it being unnecessary to wait for a moist day, for the manipulation of the tobacco within the barn.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. A structure for moistening the air within a tobacco barn, the structure comprising a box-like furnace, the entire lower end of which is disposed in a common plane; an open top pan adapted to cover the entire top of the furnace; and open top side tanks covering the sides of the furnace completely; the construction being such that when the lower end of the furnace is placed upon the floor of the tobacco barn, the ends only of the furnace will be effective to heat the air of the barn, thereby procuring a maximum dispersion of moisture, with a minimum drying out of the air within the barn.

2. A device of the class described comprising a box-like furnace, the entire lower end of which is disposed in a common plane; an open top pan adapted to cover the entire top of the furnace; and open top side tanks covering the sides of the furnace completely, the pan and the tanks having their tops dis-

posed in flush relation; a perforated cover adapted to serve as a closure for the tanks and for the pan; a pipe projecting from one end of the furnace; and a removable casing inclosing the pipe and spaced therefrom.

3. In a device of the class described, a furnace; side tanks located along the sides of the furnace; and a pan adapted to fit in the top of the furnace; the pan and the tanks having hook-shaped elements adapted to engage with each other, one of which, is adapted to engage over the other, the last named element being adapted to engage over the edge of the furnace.

4. In a device of the class described, a furnace; side tanks, located along the sides of the furnace, and having hook-shaped elements adapted to engage over the side walls of the furnace, and a pan, adapted to fit within the top of the furnace, and having hook-shaped elements, adapted to engage over the hook-shaped elements of the side tanks, whereby the pan will constitute a means for holding the side tanks in place upon the furnace.

5. In a device of the class described, a furnace; side tanks, located along the sides of the furnace, and having hook-shaped elements adapted to engage over the side walls of the furnace, and a pan, adapted to fit within the top of the furnace, and having hook-shaped elements, adapted to engage over the hook-shaped elements of the side tanks, whereby the pan will constitute a means for holding the side tanks in place upon the furnace; and a perforated cover, adapted to extend over the top of the furnace, and over the pan and the tanks.

6. A device of the class described comprising a furnace; a pipe horizontally projecting from one end wall of the furnace; and a one-piece casing surrounding the pipe, the casing having a depending flange adapted to rest upon the pipe, the free end of the casing being extended, in tubular form, around the pipe, the free edge of the casing being interlocked, removably, with the flange.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN C. BRANN.

Witnesses:

SANTFORD MARTIN,
O. O. TESLER.