F. H. BAUER.

ICE BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 8, 1916.

1,193,347.

Patented Aug. 1, 1916.

FIG. 1.

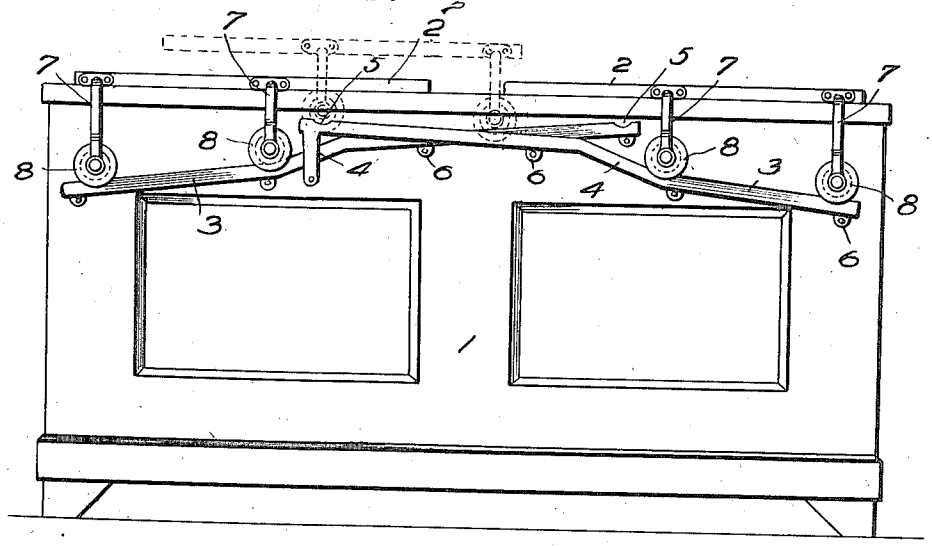


FIG. 2.

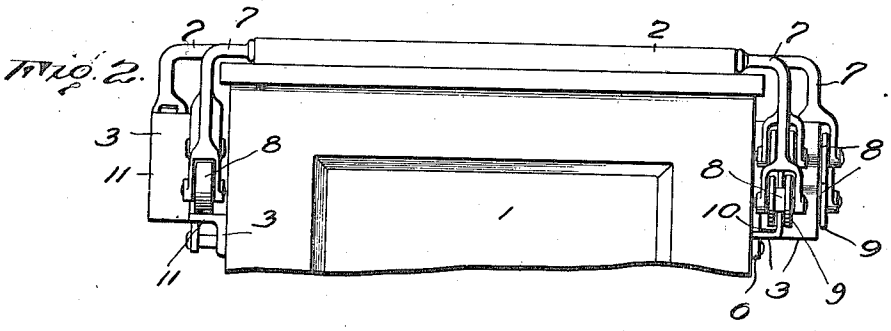
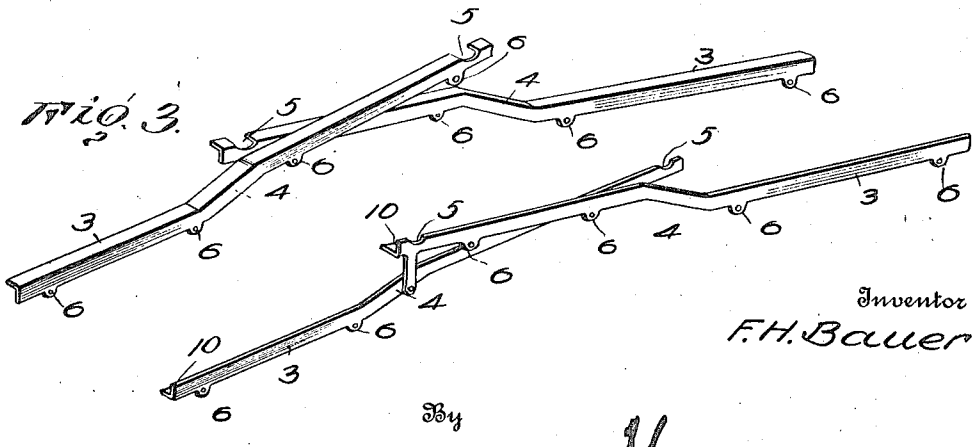


FIG. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ICE-BOX.

1,193,347. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 1, 1916.

Application filed March 8, 1916. Serial No. 82,971.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK H. BAUER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Worth, in the county of Tarrant and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ice-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ice boxes and has special reference to lids or covers for the same, the object of the invention being to provide simple and efficient means whereby access may be readily had to the interior of the ice box when necessary and the cover will be positively returned to closed position when access is not desired.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings and will be hereinafter fully described, the novel features being subsequently pointed out in the claims following the description.

In the annexed drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of an ice box provided with my improvements; Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same; Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the tracks.

The ice box 1 may be of any ordinary construction and the lids or covers 2 will be of proper dimensions to extend over and fully cover the openings to the ice or provision chambers. To the sides of the ice box, below the upper edge of the same, I secure tracks 3 which are disposed in pairs and have their inner ends extended past each other, as shown clearly in Figs. 1 and 3. The tracks are inclined downward from their inner ends to their outer ends and in their intermediate portions are provided with more sharply inclined sections 4, as shown. Notches or recesses 5 are also provided in the upper surfaces of the tracks at the inner ends thereof, and these notches or recesses constitute stops whereby the opening movement of the lids or covers is limited and by which the cover may be held in the open position. The tracks will preferably be constructed of angle iron secured to the sides of the ice box by screws or similar devices inserted through lugs or ears 6 depending from the tracks. To the side edges of the covers or lids 2, I secure brackets 7 which extend laterally over and beyond the sides of the ice box and are then turned downwardly, as shown. The downturned extremities of these brackets are forked, as shown, and in the said forked extremities are mounted rollers 8. The rollers carried by the brackets on one side of the lid are grooved or flanged, as shown at 9 in Fig. 2, while the rollers on the other side are provided with smooth peripheries. The flanged or grooved rollers engage upstanding flanges 10 on the adjacent tracks, and this arrangement will prevent sidewise movement of the covers. The smooth-faced rollers run upon the smooth tracks, as shown at 11, and these smooth tracks may be broader than the flanged tracks so that the covers and brackets may readily accommodate any incidental variation in the width of the doors or the ice box. The smooth-faced rollers and tracks, however, are particularly advantageous in maintaining the operative engagement of the parts notwithstanding the constant swelling and shrinking of the ice box or covers under varying atmospheric conditions.

By referring to Fig. 1, particularly, it will be noted that the brackets 7 are secured to the covers at the outer end of the same and near the center thereof but between the center and the inner end. This disposition of the brackets with the rollers carried by them, will cause the weight of the cover to be transmitted to the rollers in such a manner that when released the rollers will gravitate to the lower ends of the tracks and thereby bring the covers against the top of the ice box, and also will permit the inner end of the raised cover to extend over the seated cover, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. It will also be noted that this arrangement of the brackets will permit either cover to be moved inwardly or opened to its full extent without coming into contact with the brackets or rollers on the other cover.

It is thought the operation of the device will be readily understood. The covers will rest flat upon the top of the ice box over the openings through the same and will thereby seat or close without the provision of any rabbets or shoulders or cleats which tend to collect dirt and thereby render the ice box unsanitary. When it is desired to place articles in the ice box or to remove articles therefrom, the cover is merely pushed inwardly and the rollers will thereupon ride upward on the tracks engaged by them and, when the cover reaches the inner limit of its movement, the inner rollers will seat in the recesses or notches 5 and will be thereby held against further travel. When it is desired to close the ice box, it is necessary

merely to apply sufficient force to the cover to unseat the roller, whereupon the weight of the cover will cause the rollers to gravitate to the lower end of the track and firmly seat the cover upon the lid. The sections 4 of the track are so disposed that the initial opening movement of the lid is upward to clear the seated lid and, consequently, there is no interference between the lids.

My device is exceedingly simple in the construction and arrangement of its parts and may be applied to any ice box or refrigerator at a slight cost.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. The combination with an ice box, of a pair of covers therefor, tracks disposed on the sides of the ice box and inclined from their inner to their outer ends and having their inner ends extended past each other, and traveling members secured to the covers at the outer ends of the same and between the centers thereof and the inner ends of the same to engage the tracks and permit either cover to be moved to a position over the other cover.

2. The combination with an ice box, of a pair of covers therefor, tracks upon the sides of the ice box having their inner ends extended past each other and inclined downwardly from their inner to their outer ends, stops at the inner ends of the tracks, brackets secured to the side edges of the covers and extending laterally therefrom and turned downwardly beyond the sides of the ice box, said brackets being located at the outer ends of the covers and between the inner ends and the centers of the same, and rollers carried by the lower extremities of said brackets and engaging the tracks, the rollers and brackets on one cover being out of longitudinal alinement with the rollers and brackets on the other cover.

3. The combination with an ice box, of inclined tracks secured to the sides of the same and having their inner upper ends extended past each other, the tracks on one side of the ice box having upstanding flanges and the tracks at the other side of the ice box having smooth upper surfaces, covers for the ice box, and traveling members carried by said covers and adapted to ride upon said tracks, the traveling members at one side being constructed to engage the flanges of the tracks on that side and the traveling members on the other side being smooth-faced to engage the smooth-face track.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FREDERICK H. BAUER. [L. S.]