Aug. 11, 1936. W. B. BRONANDER 2,050,268

WRAPPING MACHINE

Filed March 19, 1934 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

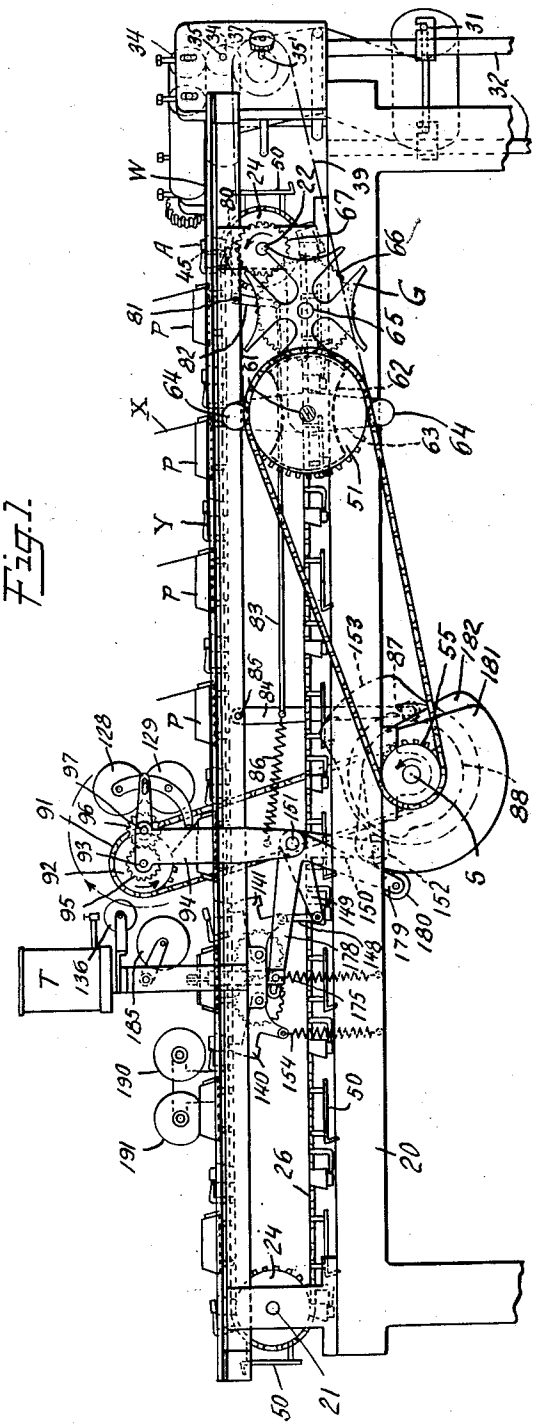


Fig. 1.

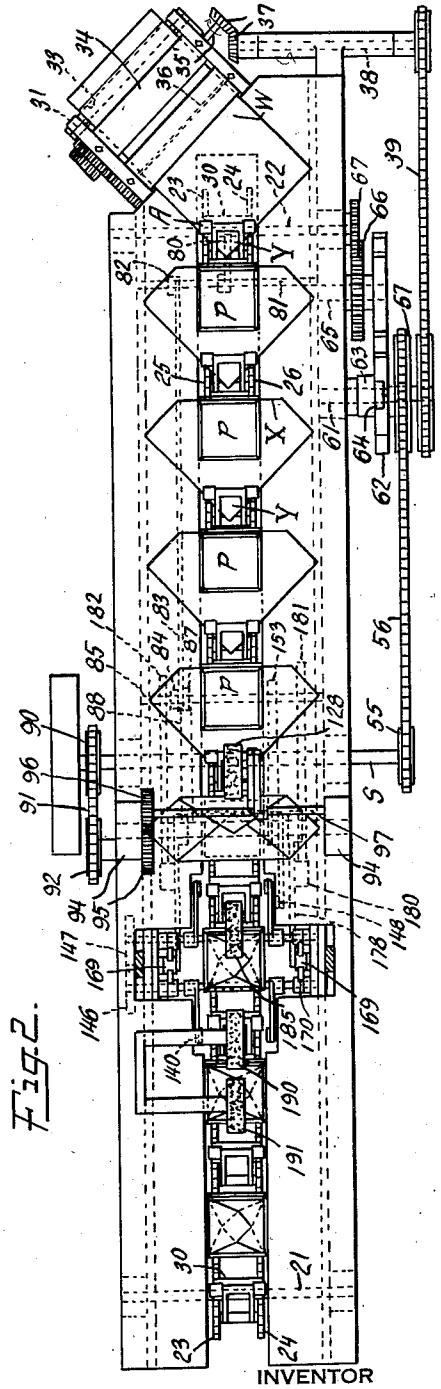


Fig. 2.

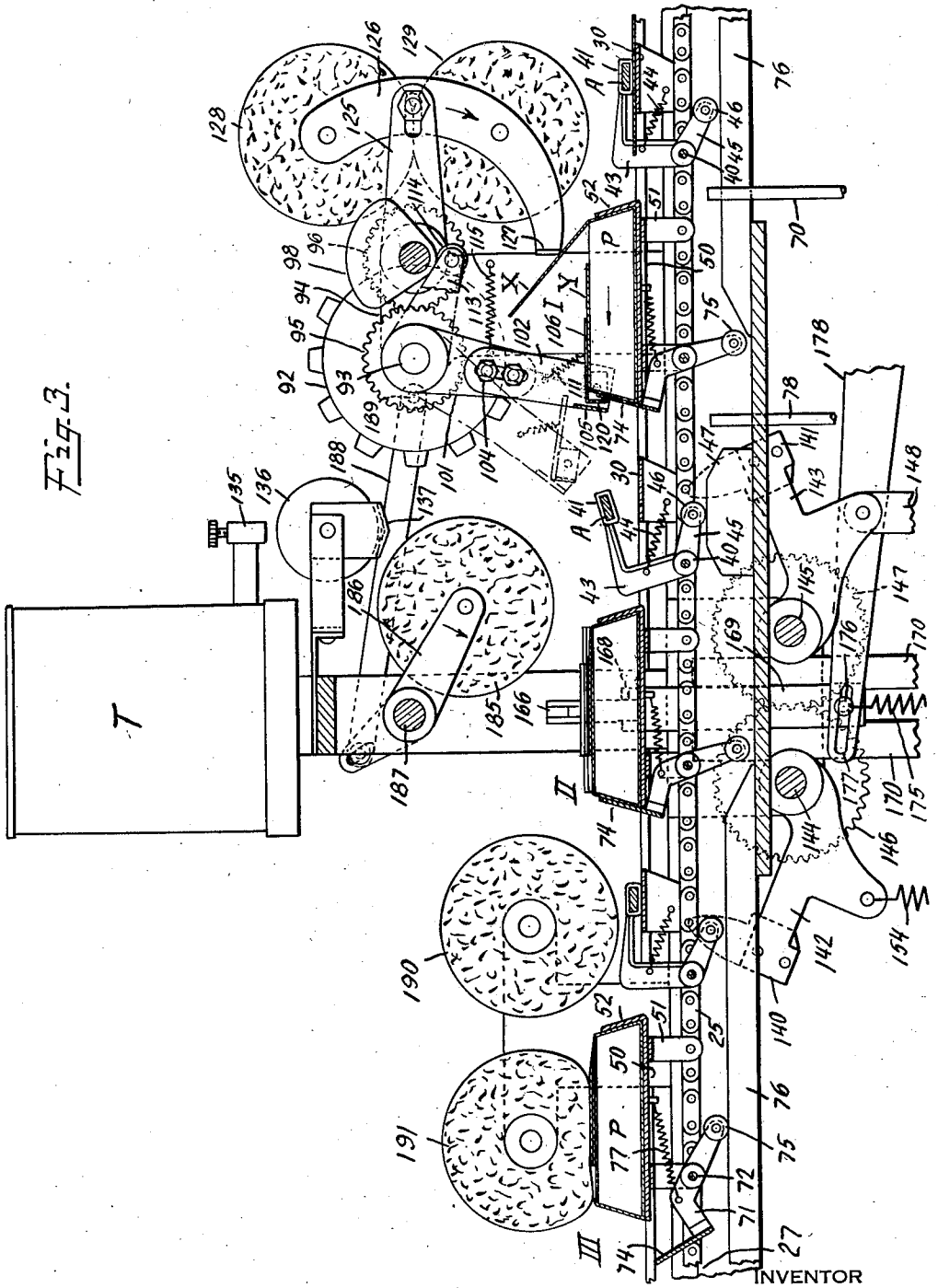
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Fig. 3.



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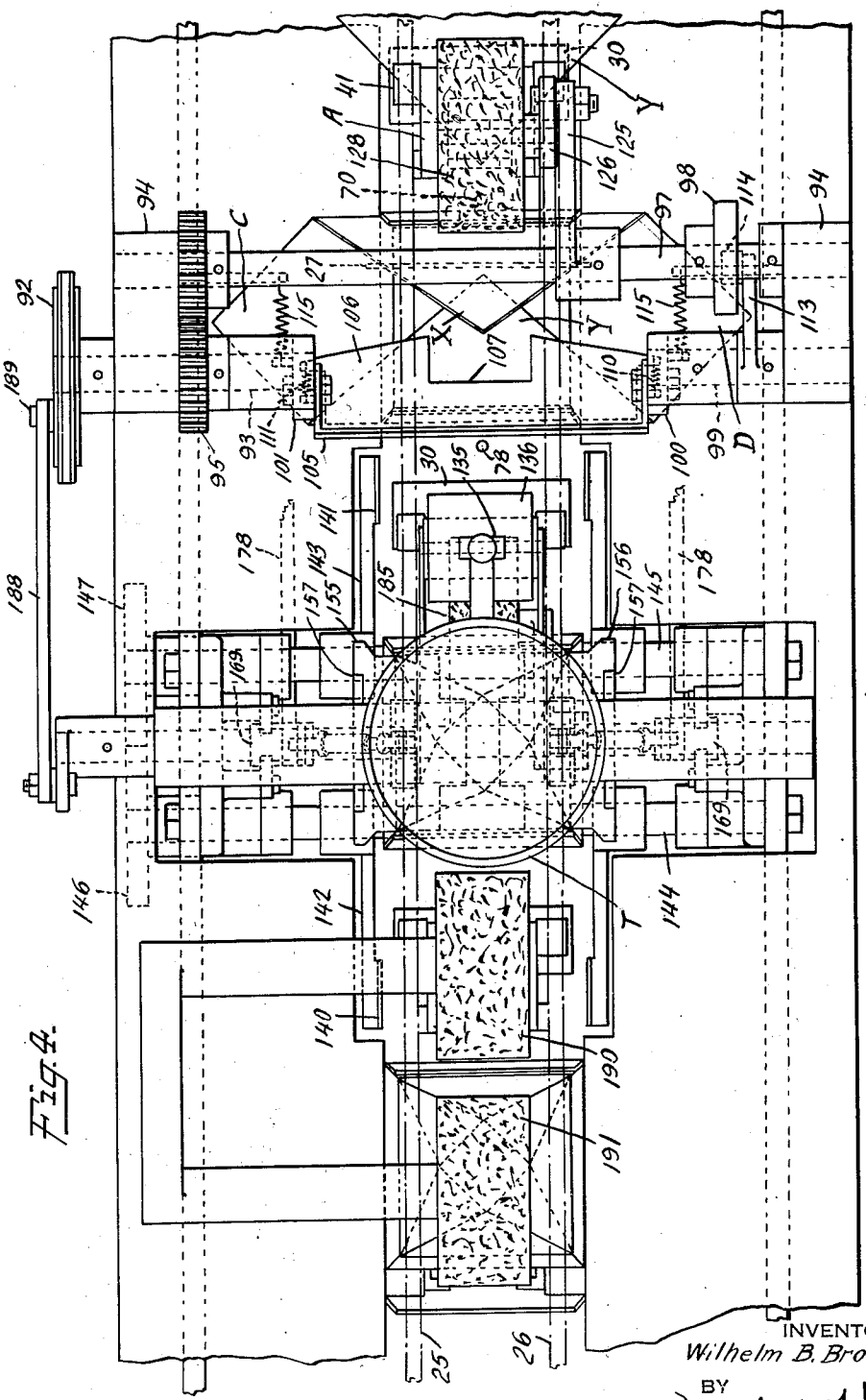


Fig. 4.

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WRAPPING MACHINE

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Fig. 5.

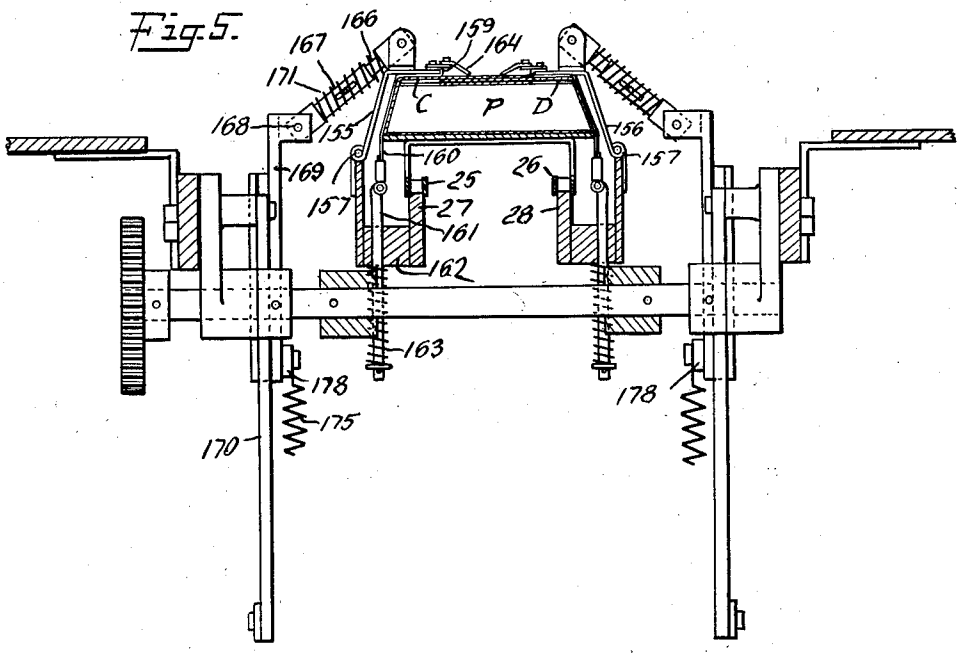
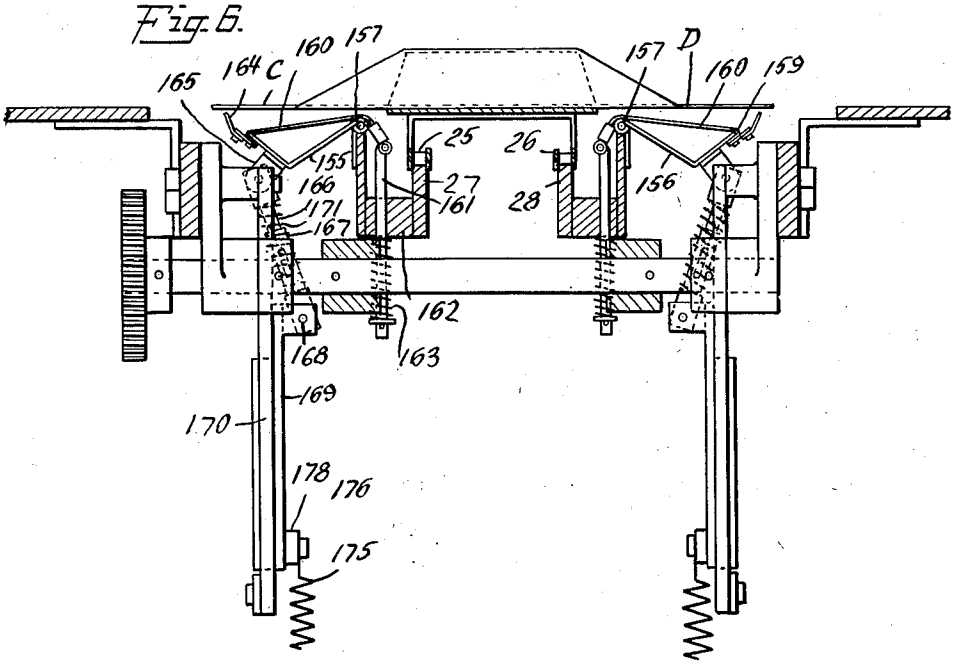


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,050,268

WRAPPING MACHINE

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Application March 19, 1934, Serial No. 716,267

16 Claims. (Cl. 93—7)

This invention relates to wrapping machines.

More particularly stated, the invention relates to a machine for wrapping relatively soft or compressible articles such as pies, cakes or the like. Unusual difficulties and problems are encountered in the wrapping of such articles due to their fragile or yielding nature. Moreover, at the present time many articles are being wrapped in relatively thin transparent paper which presents further problems in the design of a wrapping machine since such material is difficult to handle.

This invention has for its salient object to provide a simple and practical wrapping machine so designed that the wrapping mechanism will not deform or in any way injure the articles wrapped, but will securely wrap the article.

Another object of the invention is to provide a wrapping machine having the wrapping elements so arranged and controlled that the wrapper will be securely held during the folding operations and will be secured around the article without injuring or deforming the article.

Further objects of the invention will appear from the following specification taken in connection with the drawings which form a part of this application, and in which

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a machine constructed in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the machine shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation on an enlarged scale showing the portion of the machine in which the wrapper is folded and secured around the article;

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the structure shown in Fig. 3; and

Figs. 5 and 6 are sectional elevations showing the mechanism for folding the end or edge folds across the article, Fig. 6 showing the mechanism prior to its operation and Fig. 5 showing the mechanism in its final operative position.

The invention briefly described consists of a machine for wrapping soft or yieldable articles such as pies or cakes and is so designed that the folding devices are controlled in such a manner that they will accomplish their folding functions without deforming the article wrapped. A paper web is fed and cut to form wrappers of the desired size. The wrappers are held in position over shelves or trays and the articles are deposited on the wrappers and are supported by the trays. One fold is made by an upwardly extending flange formed on the tray and the opposite fold is made by folding mechanism which is limited in its folding movement by the advance or front edge of the tray. Tucks are then formed at the ends of the wrapper and thereafter the lateral extending ends are folded across the top of the article, this end folding mechanism being so timed that one fold will be made slightly in advance of the other. Suitable adhesive is applied to the folds first made to secure the final folds in position thereon. This adhesive or solvent is applied by very soft compressible members such as rolls formed of material which can be easily compressed and will not deform the article being wrapped. Rollers of sponge rubber may be used for this purpose. Furthermore, similar rollers are used to press the folds together as they pass through the machine so that they will be firmly secured together.

Further details of the invention will appear from the following description.

In the form of the invention illustrated in the drawings the machine comprises a frame **20** on which are mounted at the ends thereof a pair of spindles **21** and **22**. Each spindle has mounted thereon a pair of sprocket wheels **23** and **24** which support a pair of endless chains **25** and **26**. The upper laps of the chains are supported on a pair of rails **27** and **28**.

There are mounted at spaced intervals on the chains cross members or supporting shelves **30** which serve as supports for the advance corners of the wrappers W.

The wrappers W are, as shown in Fig. 2, substantially square in shape and may be fed to the machine in any suitable manner or placed in the position shown in Fig. 2 manually.

In the form of the invention illustrated a web of paper in the form of a supply roll is carried by a spindle **31** which is mounted on posts **32**. The web is led upwardly from the supply roll around an idler roller **33** and between a pair of feed rollers **34**. The lower roller is mounted on a shaft **35** which is driven by a gear connection from a shaft **35'**. Shaft **35'** is driven by bevel gear connection **37** from a shaft **38**, which in turn is driven from shaft **61**, hereinafter described by a sprocket and chain connection **39**. Thus the rollers will be operated continuously and the drive is so timed as to deliver and sever sheets to be gripped and fed with the conveyor. After the web has been fed through the rollers **34** it is severed by any suitable cutting mechanism such as the cutting knife **36**, suitably geared to the feed rolls **34**.

The wrappers are held on the shelves **30** by means of presser arms A which are pivoted at **40** on cross pins or rods carried by the chains **25** and **26**. The arms A have formed on their free ends presser members **41** of rubber or like material. The arms A form a part of levers **43** and are urged in a direction toward the shelves **30** by means of springs **44**. The levers **43** also have formed integral therewith arms **45** on the free ends of which are mounted rollers **46**. These rollers at certain positions in the cycle of opera-

tion of the wrapping mechanism engage a cam 47 which causes the arms A to be lifted to release the forward corner of the wrapper.

The chains 25 and 26 also support a plurality of supporting tables 50 which are carried by arms 51 suitably secured to the chains. Each of the tables 50 has an upwardly extending inclined flange 52 at its rear edge. When a wrapper has been positioned as shown at the right hand end of Fig. 2 it will extend above the table immediately in the rear of the shelf 30 on which the wrapper is supported. An article P is then placed on the wrapper and will cause the rear corner X to extend upwardly due to the flange 52. The chains operate intermittently in a manner hereinafter described and feed the articles step by step through the wrapping mechanism.

The driving mechanism for the chains operates as follows: The main driving shaft is shown at S in Fig. 1 and is driven from any suitable source of power. This shaft has mounted thereon a sprocket wheel 55 which is connected by a chain 56 to drive a sprocket wheel 57 mounted on a shaft 61. The shaft 61 also has secured thereto a Geneva cam 62 and an arm 63 which extends on opposite sides of the spindle and has formed or secured to the ends thereof lugs or rollers 64. A Geneva wheel G is mounted on a shaft or spindle 65 and is intermittently operated by the lugs or rollers 64 in the usual well known manner. During the periods between the operation of the Geneva wheel the cam 62 engages correspondingly shaped portions of the Geneva wheel in the usual manner. The spindle 65 has mounted thereon a gear 66 which meshes with a gear 67 secured to the shaft 22.

From the foregoing description it will be clear that the rotation of the shaft S will through the driving connections described intermittently operate the shaft 22 and thus intermittently feed the chains 25 and 26 and the article supports and other devices carried thereby.

The folding and wrapping mechanism is particularly illustrated in Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6. After an article has been placed on a wrapper which is disposed above one of the supporting tables 50 the rear corner X of the wrapper will be forced upwardly by the flange 52 disposed along the rear edge of the table 50, as above described. In order to assist in forcing the rear corner upwardly a conduit 70 is disposed below the upper lap of the chains and is positioned to direct a blast of air against the end surface of the rear corner X when the article and wrapper reach the position shown in Fig. 3. The front corner Y of the wrapper which has been held by the presser arms A is released when the cam 47 engages the roller 46 which controls the arms. At this time the front corner Y is folded upwardly and across the top of the article P in the following manner: In order to facilitate reference to the showings at the three stages of the wrapping operation illustrated in Fig. 3 these stages will be referred to as I, II and III.

The folding of the front corner Y is accomplished by means of a lever 71 pivoted on a cross rod 72 carried by the chains and having a plate 74 at one end thereof and a roller 75 at the other end thereof. The spring 77 engages the lever and tends to swing the lever in a clockwise direction. During the inoperative portion of the cycle of operation of the lever 71 the roller 75 engages a cam or rail 76 which holds the lever in the position shown at III in Fig. 3. Two rails or ledges 76 are provided to hold the lever in inoperative position since this lever is operative only during a very small portion of the movement of the articles through the wrapping mechanism. An air blast conduit 78 similar to conduit 70 is positioned to direct a blast of air and force the forward corner Y of the wrapper upwardly. When the roller 75 rides down off of the rail 76 the spring 77 will swing the lever and plate 74 to the position shown at I. The forward corner Y of the wrapper will thus be folded up against the front edge of the article P. It should be noted, however, that the movement of the plate toward the article is limited by the front edge of the supporting table 50 so that the plate 74 cannot compress, deform or distort the article being wrapped. A blast of air from conduit 78 blows the end of corner Y upwardly.

The presser members 41 which initially hold the front corner Y of the wrapper against the shelf 30 are released from holding position in order to receive the wrapper in the following manner: A lever arm 80 is mounted on a shaft 81 and a lower arm 82 is also connected to the shaft 81 and is connected by a link 83 to a lever 84 mounted on a fixed pivot 85. A spring 86 urges the lever 84 in a clockwise direction and the lever has a roller 87 on its lower end which is held in engagement with a cam 88. As the cam rotates the lever and link will cause the lever arm 80 to swing in an anticlockwise direction against the tension of the spring 86 and this movement of the lever will swing the lever 43 about its pivot in an anticlockwise direction and will raise the presser members 41. This operation is so timed that the members will be raised to permit the insertion of the wrapper W.

The folding mechanism for folding the corner Y of the wrapper down against the top of the article P will now be described. The shaft S is connected by a sprocket 90 and chain 91 to drive a sprocket 92 mounted on a spindle 93. The spindle 93 is in turn mounted in brackets 94 secured to the frame of the machine. The spindle 93 has also secured thereto a gear 95 which meshes with a gear 96 carried by a shaft 97. On the shaft 97 there is mounted a cam 98. A stub shaft 99 is mounted in one of the brackets 94 parallel to the shaft 97, the shaft 99 being disposed in alinement with the shaft 93. The shafts 93 and 99 have mounted thereon downwardly extending arms 100 and 101 to which are adjustably secured extensions 102 and 103, these parts being connected by bolts 104 carried by the arms 100 and 101 and extending through slots in the arms 102 and 103. Arm 100 is fixed to shaft 99 and arm 101 is free on shaft 93. The lower ends of the arms 102 and 103 are connected by a cross strip or plate 105 and are also connected by a pivoted plate 106 which is provided with flanges at the ends pivoted to the arms 102 and 103. The plate 106 is recessed at the central portion thereof, as shown at 107, to clear the sponge rubber rollers. The plate 106 is normally urged in a counterclockwise direction about the pivoted ends thereof by a pair of springs 110 and 111 which are connected to the arms 102 and 103 and to the end portions of the plate. An arm 113 is secured to the shaft 99 and is provided with a roller 114 at the free end thereof which is held in engagement with the cam 98 by a spring 115. As the cam rotates the shaft 99 and arms 102 and 103 will be oscillated back and forth to move the arms 102 and 103 and the plate 106 carried thereby toward or away from the article disposed on the supporting table 50.

At the position shown at I the arms 102 and 103 are disposed at their extreme movement in an anti-clockwise direction and it will be noted that the plate 106 is pressing down on the upper surface of the corner Y of the wrapper. The plate 106 is swung down against the tension of the springs 110 and 111 by engagement of a flange 120 which extends along the rear edge of the plate with the plate 74 and, as above stated, the movement of the plate 74 toward the wrapped article is limited by the rear or advance edge of the table 50. When the cam 98 rotates in a clockwise direction the arm 113 and arms 102 and 103 will be swung in a clockwise direction, thus moving the arms and the plate 106 carried thereby to an elevated position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3 out of the path of movement of the article shown at I.

After the corner Y has been folded down against the article the opposite corner X is folded over the corner Y in the following manner: The shaft 97 has mounted thereon an arm 125 on the outer end of which is adjustably mounted by a slotted connection an arcuate or crescent shaped plate 126. This plate has formed on its lower end a flange or cross strip 127. On the plate 126 are mounted a pair of rollers 128 and 129 which are of soft yieldable material such as sponge rubber. In the cycle of operation of the folding mechanism after the corner Y has been folded down, as shown at I in Fig. 3, the rotation of the arm 125 will bring into operation the plate 126, rollers 128 and 129 and the cross strip or flange 127. The flange 127 will engage and fold the corner X which has been blown upwardly by the blast of the conduit 70. The further rotation of the arm 125 will cause the rollers 129 and 128 to engage the upper surface of the front corner X and fold this corner down against the folded corner Y.

These rollers have a further function of applying adhesive substance or a solvent to the upper surfaces of the folded corners X and Y. This adhesive is contained in a tank T and drips through an outlet nozzle 135 on a roller 136 disposed in the path of movement of the rollers 128 and 129 as they are rotated with the arm 125 about the axis of the shaft 97. The path of movement of these rollers is indicated by the dotted line in Fig. 1. A pan 137 is disposed below the roller 136 to catch any excess liquid.

After the adhesive has been applied to the upper surfaces of the corners or flaps X and Y the conveyor moves to the next step or, namely, from the position at I to the position at II. In this position the ends of the wrapper are tucked and the other two corners disposed at the lateral ends of the wrapper or at the sides of the conveyor are folded across the corners or portions of the wrapper already folded and are secured thereto. These edge or side corners are indicated in Fig. 4 as C and D.

The tuckers are similar in construction to tucking mechanism commonly used in this art and have not been illustrated in detail. As shown in Figs. 1 and 3, a pair of tuckers 140 and 141 are disposed at each side edge of the conveyor, these members being carried by arms 142 and 143 mounted on spindles 144 and 145. The spindles are geared together by intermeshing gears 146 and 147. The arm 143 has connected thereto a link 148 which in turn is connected to a bell crank lever comprising a pair of arms 149 and 150, the lever being mounted on a pivot 151. The arm 150 carries a roller 152 which is actuated by a cam 153, the cam being so designed as to move the tuckers into operative position when the article and wrapper have moved to the position II from the position I. The tuckers are returned to their inoperative position by means of a spring 154 which is connected to one end of the frame and at the other end to one of the arms 142. A further description of the tucking mechanism is deemed unnecessary as no novelty per se is claimed therein.

The mechanism for folding the ends C and D is illustrated in detail in Figs. 5 and 6 and will now be described. As shown in the figures mentioned a pair of brackets 155 and 156 are mounted on fixed pivots 157. These brackets are angular in shape and each bracket has secured thereto at 159 one edge of a canvas web 160. The other edge of this web extends over the pivot 157 and is connected to a rod 161 which extends downwardly through a frame member 162 and has mounted on the portion thereof below the frame member a spring 163 which tends to stretch the canvas web over the pivot 157. Each bracket also has an extension 164 beyond the outer edge thereof. Each of the brackets 155 and 156 has secured thereto and extending downwardly therefrom viewing Fig. 6 pivot lugs 165 to which is pivoted a rod 166. The rod 166 telescopes in a tube 167, the other end of which is pivoted at 168 to a vertical post 169 slidably mounted in guides 170. A spring 171 surrounds each pair of telescoping members 166 and 167 and tends to force these members apart. Each of the vertical posts 169 has connected thereto a spring 175 which tends to pull the post downwardly. Each of the posts 169 is provided with a pin 176 which is disposed in a slot 177 formed in one end of an arm 178 mounted on the pivot 151 and each arm 178 forms one arm of the bell crank lever, the other arm being indicated as 179. The arms 179 carry rollers 180 which engage respectively one of a pair of cams 181 and 182. One of these cams, namely, 182 is disposed slightly in advance of the other cam in the cycle of operation of the machine so that one of the ends C or D will be folded prior to the folding of the other end.

From the description in the preceding paragraph it will be understood that each post 169 is operated by a bell crank lever and cam, the cams being mounted out of phase with each other in order to properly time the folding of the ends C and D.

Figs. 5 and 6 illustrate the operation of the folding mechanism just described and from these figures it will be seen that when the posts 169 are raised by the operation of their respective bell crank levers the canvas webs 160 will be folded around the side edges and a portion of the top of the article being wrapped. The slight spring tension on the canvas webs maintains them taut and the telescoping action of the parts 166 and 167 causes the web to be folded tight around the article regardless of the size thereof. Furthermore, no undue pressure will be placed on the article being wrapped and thus there will be no tendency to deform or mutilate the article.

After the ends or corners C and D have been folded across the top of the article the wrapper will be pressed downwardly by a roller 185 which is preferably formed of soft yieldable material such as sponge rubber and is carried by a lever 186 mounted on a pivot 187 and connected by a link 188 to a pin 189 eccentrically mounted on the sprocket wheel 92. During the operation of the

roller 185 on the folded wrapper the conveyor will move with the wrapped article from the position shown at II to the left viewing Fig. 3, thus maintaining the pressure on the wrapper during this feeding movement of the conveyor. When the article and wrapper leave the position shown in II the plate 74 will be depressed by engagement of the roller 46 with the cam 76. The wrapped article will then pass successively beneath a pair of presser rolls 190 and 191 by which the folded portions of the wrapper will be held against the article thus holding the folds until they have been secured and sealed.

The operation of the folding and wrapping mechanism may be summarized as follows: The web of material is fed through the feed rolls at the end of the machine, this feed being located at an angle to the direction of movement of the conveyor. As each length of web sufficient for a wrapper has been fed by the feed rolls the web is severed and at this point in the cycle of operation of the machine one of the arms or holding members 41 will be held in raised position by the operation of the lever arms 80, 82 which is operated by the cam 88. The holding members 41 then clamp down on the advance corner Y of the wrapper W and hold the wrapper as one of the supporting tables 50 moves upwardly beneath the wrapper. An article P is then placed on the table and the front corner X will be folded upwardly by the flange 52 on the table 50. This is assisted by the air blast from the conduit 70.

At this stage in the operation the plate 74 will swing upwardly under the action of the spring 77, the movement of the plate being limited by the edge of the table 50. This will cause the front corner Y to be folded upwardly and this corner is then folded downwardly against the top of the article by the action of the plate 106 which is swung into position from the dotted to the full line position shown in Fig. 3 by the movement of the arms 102 and 103 under the action of the cam 98 and lever arm 113.

Thereafter the rotation of the arm 125 in a clockwise direction causes the flange 127 to bend the corner X as shown at I in Fig. 3 whereupon it is engaged and folded downwardly by the adhesive applying rollers 129 and 128.

The article and wrapper then move from position I to position II in which latter position the tuckers 140 and 141 come into action and these are succeeded in the folding operation by the folding mechanism shown in Figs. 5 and 6 which move from the position shown in Fig. 6 to the position shown in Fig. 5 and fold the end or edge corners C and D across the corners X and Y which have been already folded. The wrapper is then held in folded position by the action of roller 185 and thereafter passes successively beneath the rollers 190 and 191 which hold the folded portions of the wrapper until they have been secured and sealed by the adhesive.

From the foregoing description it will be clear that a simple, practical and efficient machine has been designed for wrapping fragile or soft articles such as pastry or cake and that the mechanism described will operate to effectively wrap the article.

Although one specific embodiment of the invention has been particularly shown and described it will be understood that the invention is capable of modification and that changes in the construction and in the arrangement of the various cooperating parts may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention, as expressed in the following claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, means for feeding a web of paper at an oblique angle to the path of movement of the conveyor, means operating at right angles to the direction of paper feed for cutting the web into predetermined lengths of wrapper, means on the conveyor for engaging and holding the advance corners of the severed wrappers as the conveyor travels, means for imparting intermittent movement to the conveyor, means for folding the wrapper around an article on the conveyor and means for securing the folded wrapper.

2. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, means for feeding a web of paper at an oblique angle to the path of movement of the conveyor, means operating at right angles to the direction of paper feed for cutting the web into predetermined lengths of wrapper, means on the conveyor for engaging and holding the advance corners of the severed wrappers as the conveyor travels, means for imparting intermittent movement to the conveyor, means operable successively at different positions of the conveyor and article for folding the wrapper around an article on the conveyor and means for securing the folded wrapper.

3. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, means for feeding a web of paper at an oblique angle to the path of movement of the conveyor, means operating at right angles to the direction of paper feed for cutting the web into predetermined lengths of wrapper, means on the conveyor for engaging and holding the advance corners of the severed wrappers as the conveyor travels, means for imparting intermittent movement to the conveyor, means on the conveyor for supporting the articles during the wrapping operations, means for folding the wrapper around an article on the conveyor and means for securing the folded wrapper.

4. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of tables carried by the conveyor for supporting articles to be wrapped, each table having a flange along one edge thereof, means for feeding a wrapper above said table with one portion extending over the flange, means on the conveyor for holding the wrapper in position over each table, said flange acting to bend said extending portion upwardly as the article is placed on the wrapper and table, and means for folding and means for securing the wrappers around the article on said tables.

5. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of tables carried by the conveyor for supporting articles to be wrapped, each table having a flange along one edge thereof, means for feeding a wrapper above said table with one corner extending over the flange, means on the conveyor for holding the wrapper in position over each table, said flange acting to bend said corner upwardly as the article is placed on the wrapper and table, and means operable successively on the corners of the wrappers for folding and means for securing the wrappers around the article on said tables.

6. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor, means for folding front and rear portions of a wrapper over articles on said supporting members, yieldable, resilient means disposed above the conveyor for applying adhesive to the folded portions of the wrapper as the article and wrapper are fed therebeneath, and means for

folding the side portions of the wrapper over the folded portions.

7. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor, means for folding front and rear portions of a wrapper over articles on said supporting members, yieldable, resilient means for applying adhesive to the wrapper, said means including a roller mounted to move in an arc above the conveyor and articles thereon and engageable with the upper surfaces of the folded portions of the wrapper, means for folding the side portions of the wrapper over the folded portions, and soft, yieldable members engageable with the wrapped articles as the conveyor and articles are fed to hold the wrapper tight against the articles to accomplish the sealing thereof.

8. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor, means for folding front and rear portions of a wrapper over articles on said supporting members, yieldable, resilient means of sponge rubber or like material for applying adhesive to the wrapper, said means including a roller mounted to move in an arc above the conveyor and articles thereon and engageable with the upper surfaces of the folded portions of the wrapper, means for folding the side portions of the wrapper over the folded portions, and soft, yieldable members of sponge rubber or like material engageable with the wrapped articles as the conveyor and article are fed to hold the wrapper tight against the articles to accomplish the sealing thereof.

9. In a wrapping machine, an article support, folding mechanism comprising pivoted brackets at opposite edges of the article, flexible members on the brackets, yielding means for maintaining the flexible members taut, and means including resilient means for moving the brackets and flexible members over the edges and top of the article and article support.

10. In a wrapping machine, a movable article support, means on one edge of the support for folding a portion of a wrapper upwardly, means movable toward and away from the opposite edge of the support for folding an opposite portion of the wrapper upwardly, means engageable with said last named means for folding the portion engaged thereby downwardly against the top of the article, and means for folding the opposite portion of the wrapper down against the folded portion.

11. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor, means for folding front and rear portions of a wrapper over articles on said supporting members, yieldable, resilient means for applying adhesive to the wrapper, said means including a roller mounted to move in an arc above the conveyor and articles thereon, in the direction of movement of the conveyor, and engageable with the upper surfaces of the folded portions of the wrapper, means for folding the side portions of the wrapper over the folded portions, and soft, yieldable members engageable with the wrapped articles as the conveyor and articles are fed to hold the wrapper tight against the articles to accomplish the sealing thereof.

12. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor, means for folding front and rear portions of a wrapper over articles on said supporting members, yieldable, resilient means for applying adhesive to the wrapper, said means including a pair of rotatable cushioning rollers movable in an arc into and out of engagement with the folded portions of the wrapper, means for folding the side portions of the wrapper over the folded portions, and soft, yieldable members engageable with the wrapped articles as the conveyor and articles are fed to hold the wrapper tight against the articles to accomplish the sealing thereof.

13. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor, means for folding front and rear portions of a wrapper over articles on said supporting members, yieldable, resilient means of sponge rubber or like material for applying adhesive to the wrapper, said yieldable means being mounted above the conveyor and movable into and out of engagement with the folded portions of the wrapper, means for folding the side portions of the wrapper over the folded portions, and soft, yieldable members of sponge rubber or like material engageable with the wrapped articles as the conveyor and article are fed to hold the wrapper tight against the articles to accomplish the sealing thereof.

14. In a wrapping machine, an article support, folding mechanism comprising pivoted brackets at opposite edges of the article, said brackets having angularly disposed surfaces arranged to extend over the sides and upper surfaces of the article and wrapper, flexible members on the brackets extending over said angularly disposed surfaces, yielding means for maintaining the flexible members taut, and means including resilient means for moving the brackets and flexible members over the edges and top of the article and article support.

15. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, a plurality of supporting members carried by the conveyor for supporting wrappers and articles during the wrapping operation, means for folding the front and rear portions of the wrapper over the articles on the supporting members, pivoted folding members located at the sides of the conveyor and normally disposed below the level of the supporting members, flexible, resiliently stretched members carried by said folding members for engaging and resiliently pressing the wrapper against the ends and top of the articles and folded portions of the wrapper, and means including resiliently actuated means for swinging said folding members upwardly and inwardly toward each other to fold the wrapper against the sides and top of the article and folded portions of the wrapper.

16. In a wrapping machine, a conveyor, an article support carried thereby, means on one edge of the support for folding a portion of the wrapper upwardly, means carried by the conveyor and movable toward and away from the opposite edge of said support for folding an opposite portion of the wrapper upwardly, subsequently acting means for folding said last named portion downwardly against the top of the article, and elastic cushioning members for folding said portions across the top of the article.

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