

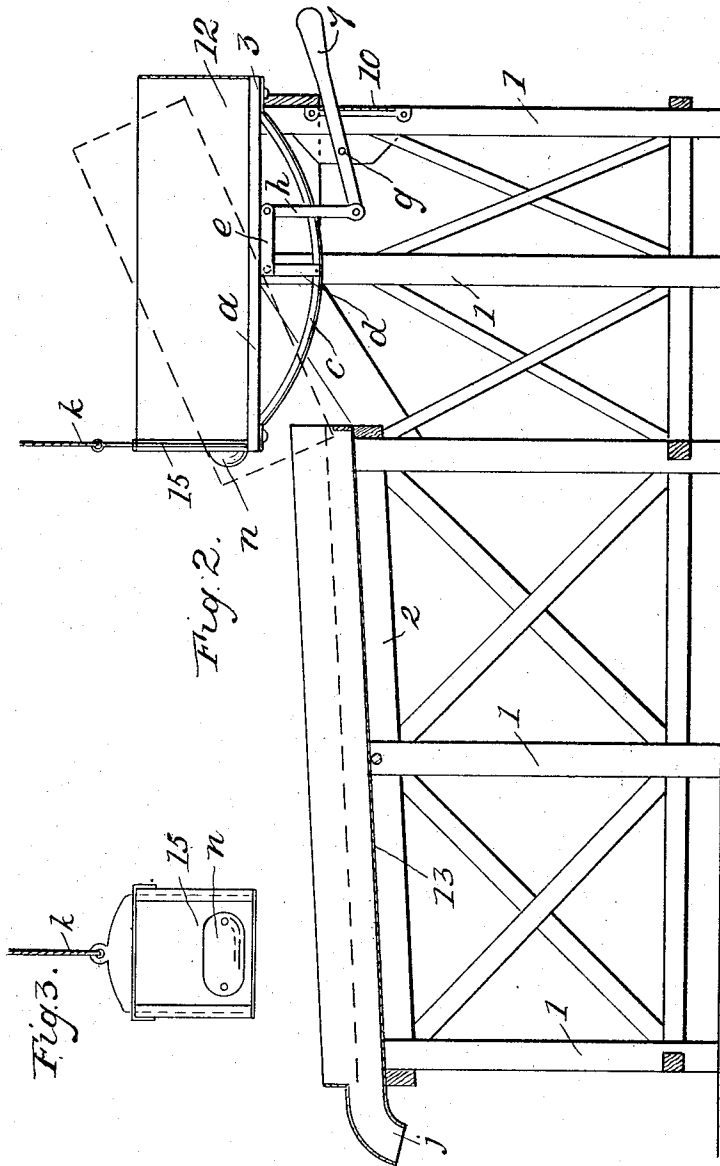


W. HEYSER.  
 APPARATUS FOR TREATING RAW OYSTERS.  
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1915. RENEWED JUNE 3, 1916.

1,200,351.

Patented Oct. 3, 1916.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses  
 Sarah C. Schotta.  
 Julia B. Robinson.

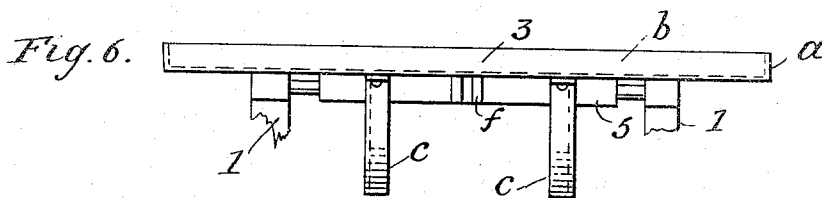
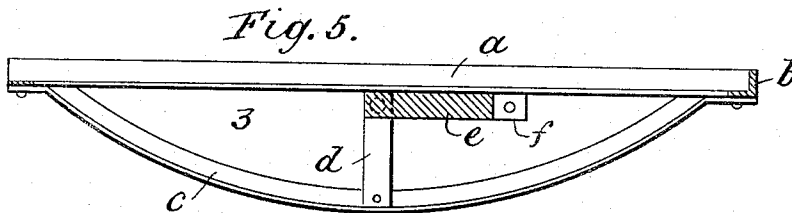
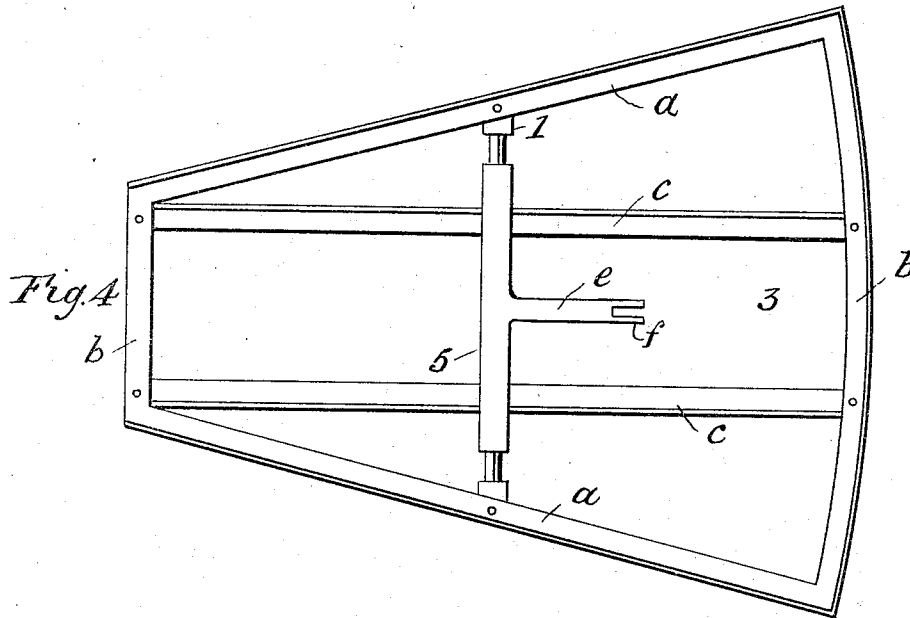
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HEYSER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

APPARATUS FOR TREATING RAW OYSTERS.

1,200,351.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 3, 1916.

Application filed July 31, 1915, Serial No. 43,038. Renewed June 8, 1916. Serial No. 102,603.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HEYSER, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Baltimore, Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Apparatus for Treating Raw Oysters, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide an apparatus whereby freshly opened oysters can be quickly cleansed and chilled preparatory to canning for shipment, as will hereinafter fully appear.

In the description of the said invention which follows, reference is made to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan or top view of the improved apparatus, and Fig. 2 a section of Fig. 1 taken on the dotted line  $x-x$ . Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6 are details of the apparatus, the last three being on an enlarged scale.

Referring now to the drawings, 1 and 2 represent, respectively, the vertical, and the horizontal parts of the frame of the apparatus, and 3, 3 tilting cradles formed preferably of the angle-iron bars  $a$  and  $b$  the latter being connected by the strengthening curved bars  $c$ .

5, 5 are transverse shafts situated below and attached to the bars  $a$  of the cradles having downward extensions  $d$  which are fastened rigidly to the curved bars  $c$ . The shafts 5 are each provided with a central horizontal branch  $e$  having a forked end  $f$ .

The ends of the cross shafts 5 are round, and rest in the vertical parts 1 of the frame, which serve as bearings for the said shaft, and so admit of the cradles being independently tilted for a purpose hereinafter described.

7, 7 are hand levers pivoted at  $g$  to the frame, having links  $h$  which are jointed to the horizontal branches  $e$  of the shafts 5, whereby the cradles can be tilted.

10, 10 are toothed plates, or racks which in connection with the hand levers 7 serve to temporarily hold the cradles in an inclined position.

12, 12 are removable pans with perforated bottoms adapted to rest on the cradles 3.

By reference to Fig. 1 of the drawings, it will be seen that the pans 12 and the cradles 3 which support them, as seen from the top are tapered and placed side by side in order that the contents of the pans in the tilting of the cradles, will be discharged to

the inclined perforated packer's pan or table 13, and traverse the same to the discharge spout  $j$  at its end.

15, 15 are gates at the discharge end of the pans 12 to retain the oysters therein until the same are sufficiently cleansed; and to admit of the dumping of the oysters from the pans, automatically as the cradles with their pans are tilted. The gates are suspended by means of cords  $k$  from some overhead holders; and to insure their closing in the righting of the cradles with their pans, the gates are weighted, one of the weights being denoted by  $n$  in Fig. 2.

Supposing the apparatus to be in use with respect to raw oysters an assistant to the packer, places the opened oysters into the pans 12, where they are cleansed and chilled after which the pans are tilted through the medium of the hand levers 7, and the gates being automatically opened in the tilting operation, the oysters pass to the packer's table and slide down its perforated bottom to the discharge spout  $j$  from which the oysters are measured and canned. The cans are then sealed for shipment.

It will be understood that with the apparatus described, large quantities of oysters can be rapidly treated at small expense; and that by having several pans each one of which can be used independently of the others, the handling of different grades of oysters is easily accomplished and without the use of the ordinary chilling tubs, and their exposure to a large volume of water which is known to have the effect of reducing their food value.

In the movement of the cradles and their pans to their original positions, the gates 15 are automatically closed, and the pans will then be in a proper condition to receive another supply of shucked oysters.

I claim as my invention:—

1. In an apparatus for the purpose described, a frame, a longitudinally tapered tilting cradle embracing a shaft the ends of which are journaled in the frame, and a hand-operated lever which is linked to the cradle, the said cradle carrying a similarly tapered and removable perforated pan having a discharge gate, combined with an inclined perforated table situated at the delivery end of the cradle to which the contents of the pan are directly delivered in the tilting of the cradle.

2. In an apparatus for the purpose de-

scribed, longitudinally tapered tilting cradles placed practically in contact and side by side, and similarly shaped removable and perforated pans having discharge gates, 5 combined with an inclined perforated table upon which the contents of the pans are delivered in the tilting of the cradles.

3. In an apparatus for the purpose described, a multiplicity of cradles placed side 10 by side and practically in contact, each cradle being longitudinally tapered and provided with devices whereby it can be independently tilted, combined with an inclined

perforated table upon which the longitudinal center lines of the cradles converge 15 and longitudinally tapered pans with perforated bottoms adapted to rest on the cradles, and means whereby each cradle with its pan can be tilted and its contents discharged to the table, independently of the 20 others.

WILLIAM HEYSER.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."