Sept. 28, 1954 L. WIGGINS 2,690,497

ELECTRIC HEATING ATTACHMENT FOR LUNCH BOXES

Filed Oct. 14, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

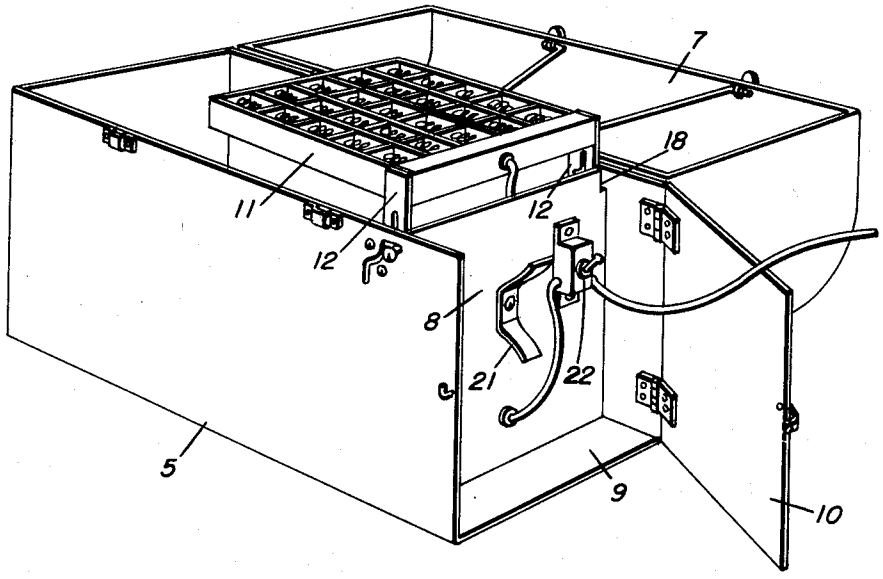
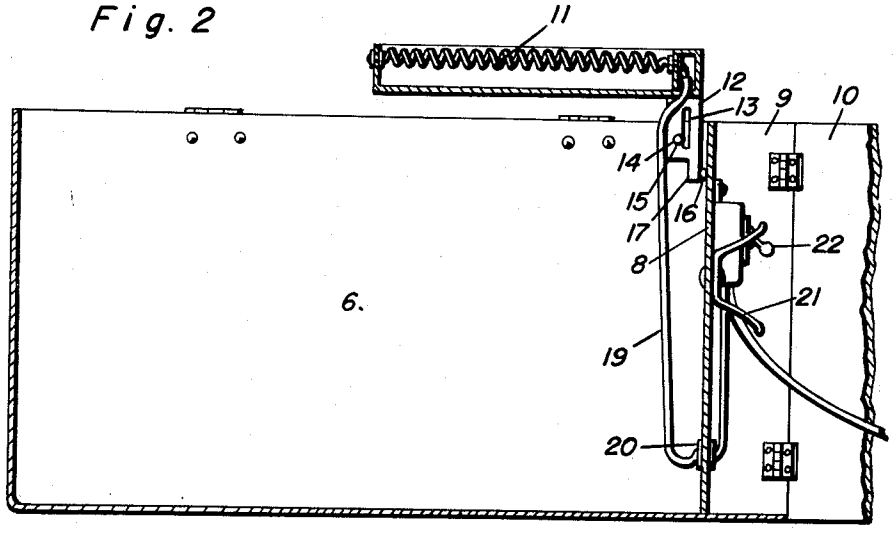


Fig. 2



Leroy Wiggins
INVENTOR.

BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson
Attorneys

Sept. 28, 1954 L. WIGGINS 2,690,497

ELECTRIC HEATING ATTACHMENT FOR LUNCH BOXES

Filed Oct. 14, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3

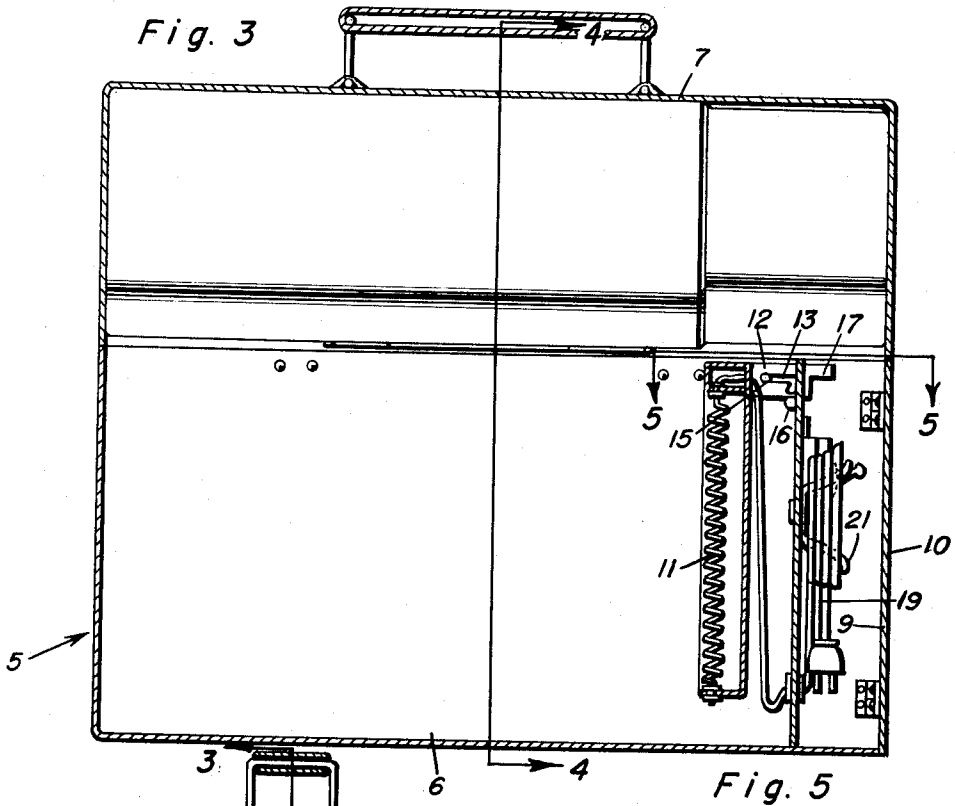


Fig. 4

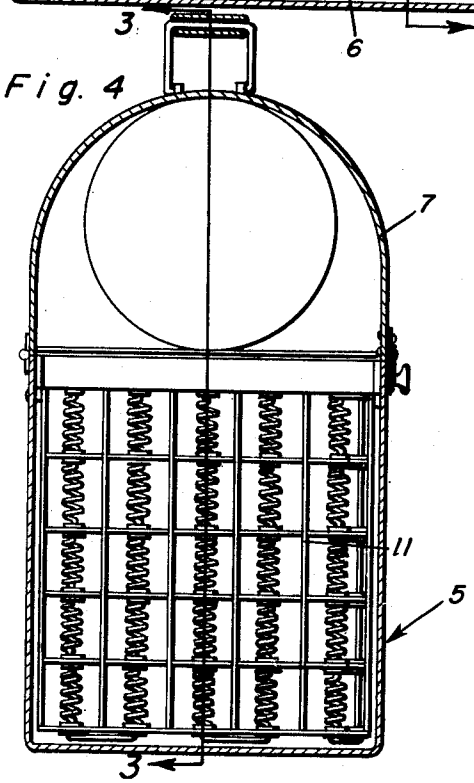
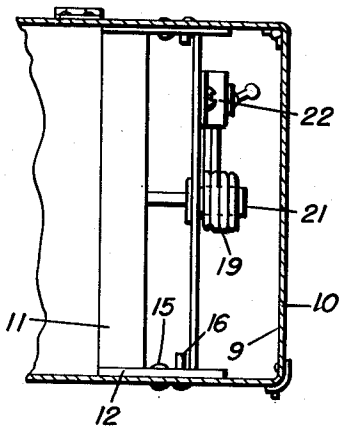


Fig. 5



Leroy Wiggins
INVENTOR.

BY Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jackson
Attorneys

Patented Sept. 28, 1954

2,690,497

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,690,497

ELECTRIC HEATING ATTACHMENT FOR LUNCH BOXES

Leroy Wiggins, Midland, Pa.

Application October 14, 1952, Serial No. 314,633

2 Claims. (Cl. 219—19)

1

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in lunch boxes and more particularly to an electric heating attachment carried by the box for cooking or heating food thereon.

An important object of the invention is to provide a foldable heating unit for storing in a convenient position in the box and equipped with novel swingable supporting means to hold the heating unit at the top of the box, when in use.

Another object is to provide a compartment in one end of the box for storing the electric extension cord for the heater.

A further object is to provide a device of this character of simple and practical construction, which is efficient and reliable in operation, relatively inexpensive to manufacture and otherwise well adapted for the purpose for which the same is intended.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to the like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the lunch box open and with the heating unit raised in position for use.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view showing the heating unit stored in the box.

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on a line 4—4 of Figure 3 and

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on a line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, wherein for the purpose of illustration I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 5 designates a lunch box constructed with a main compartment 6 and a hinged lid 7. A partition 8 is positioned transversely in the compartment 6 adjacent one end of the box to form a second compartment 9 at said end and said end of the box is constructed with a hinged door 10 to afford access to the compartment from the end of the box.

An electric heating unit of a conventional type is designated at 11 and is provided at one end with a pair of brackets or legs 12 which extend downwardly from the unit at its side edges and are formed with vertical slots 13, each having a lateral slot 14 at the lower end thereof. A pair of pins 15 project inwardly from the front and

2

rear walls of the box in main compartment 6 to enter the slots 13 for swingably connecting the heating unit to the pins for raising the same from a vertical position in compartment 6, as shown in Figure 3, into a horizontal position at the top of the box, as shown in Figure 2.

In its raised position the pins 15 slide toward the lower ends of the vertical slots 13 and enter the lateral slots 14 to support the heating unit in its raised position and stop pins 16 also project into compartment 6 behind the legs 12 for engagement by a tongue 17 extending downwardly at the rear edge of the legs to prevent the heating unit from tilting or swinging downwardly. The upper front and rear edges of partition 8 are formed with notches 18 to accommodate the legs during raising and lowering of the heating unit.

The heating unit is provided with an extension cord 19 which passes through an opening 20 in the lower portion of the partition and a cord holder 21 is attached to the partition in compartment 9 for winding the cord thereon. A switch 22 for the cord is also attached to the partition in compartment 9.

In the operation of the device, the heating unit 11 is suspended in a lowered vertical position by the legs 12 on pins 15 in compartment 6 adjacent partition 8 and the lid 7 may then be closed for carrying the box in the usual manner. The food in compartment 6 may be warmed when the heating unit is in its lowered position by opening door 10 and plugging in the extension cord 19 to a house circuit.

When it is desired to heat or cook food on top of the heating unit, the lid 7 is opened and the heating unit raised on pins 15 into a horizontal position and the pins locked in the lateral slots 14 by engaging the tongues 17 at the lower ends of the legs with the stop pins 16.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. In a heating attachment for a lunch box, an electric heating unit, a pair of legs rigidly carried by and extending downwardly from the unit at one end of the latter and having vertical slots

therein, a pair of pins on a pair of opposed walls of the box and slidably engaged in said slots and pivotally supporting the unit in a perpendicular position internally of the box, said unit being swingable vertically on said pins from a perpendicular position into and out of a horizontal position at the top of the box, lateral slots leading from the lower portion of said vertical slots and adapted to receive said pins, and stop means carried by the box and engageable by the legs to lock the pins in said lateral slots and to hold the unit in a raised horizontal position.

2. In a lunch box, a vertical transverse partition in the box and forming a main compartment and a secondary compartment therein, an electric heating unit, a pair of legs rigidly carried by and extending downwardly from the unit at one end of the latter, means internally of the main compartment pivotally engaging the legs to support the unit in a vertically swingable perpendicular position therein, means carried by the box lockably engaging the legs to hold the unit in a raised horizontal position at the top of the box, a switch for the unit internally of the secondary compartment and a door at one end of the box affording access to said secondary compartment.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
2,003,714	Johnson	June 4, 1935
2,274,285	Walker	Feb. 24, 1942
2,295,221	King	Sept. 8, 1942
2,458,837	Dougherty	Jan. 11, 1949
2,478,529	Farr et al.	Aug. 9, 1949
2,512,712	Brody	June 27, 1950
2,513,218	Tornispeed	June 27, 1950
2,577,870	Aston	Dec. 11, 1951
2,601,546	Miller	June 24, 1952
2,611,851	Lott	Sept. 23, 1952