Mar. 20, 1923. 1,448,779.

A. C. VOWELL ET AL.

PRESS.

FILED APR. 28, 1922. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

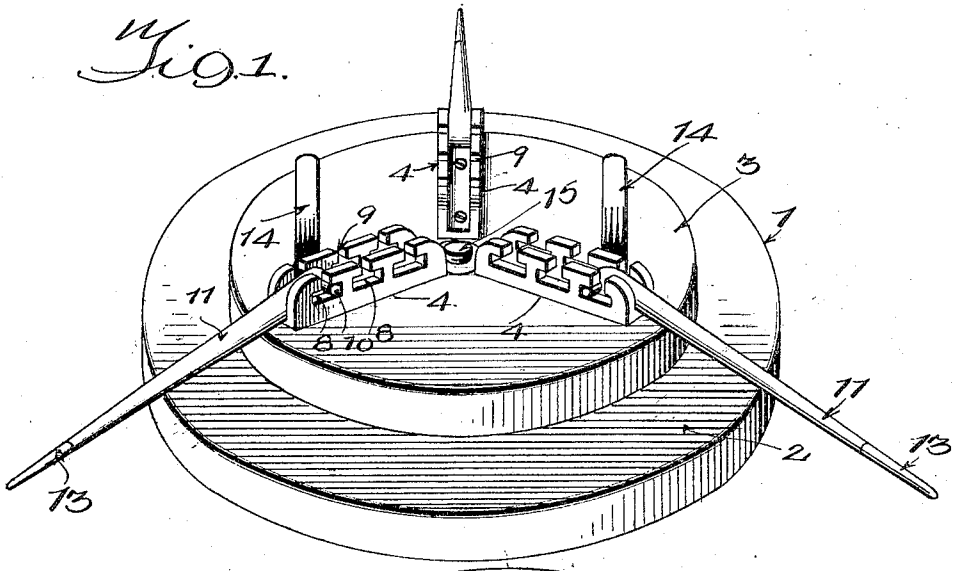
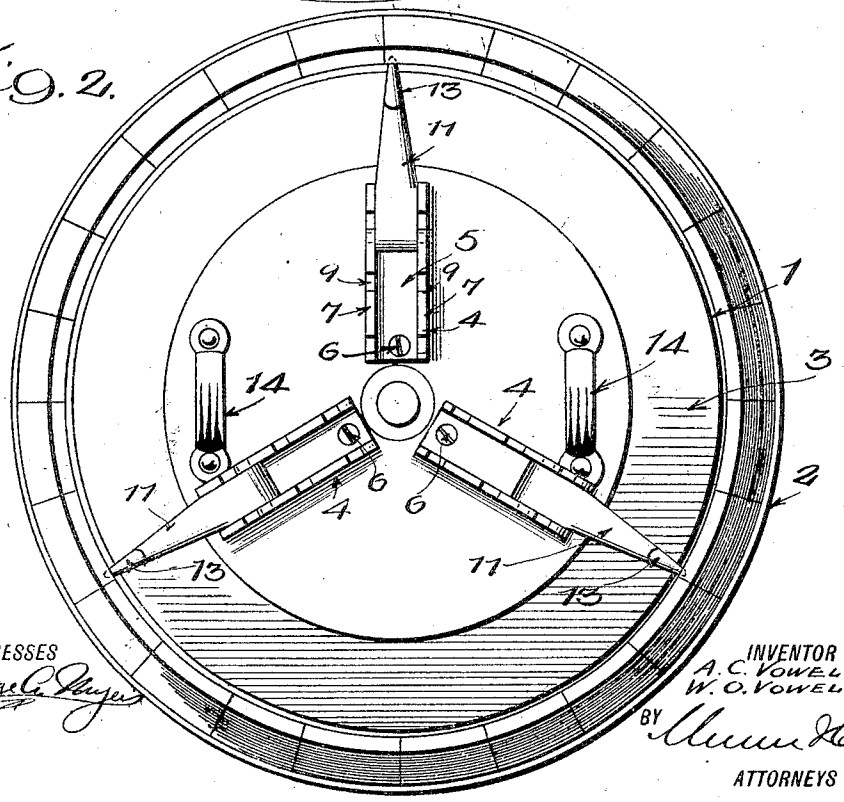



Fig. 2.




WITNESSES

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

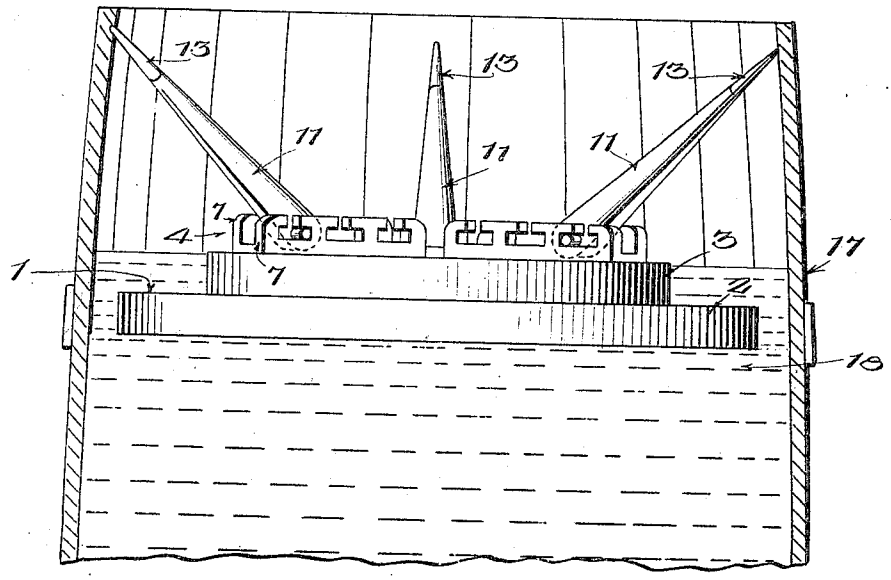



Fig. 3.

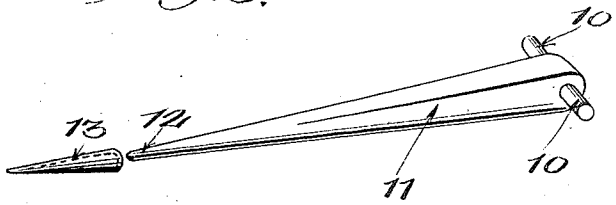



Fig. 4.

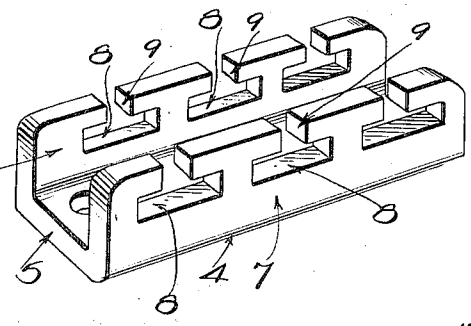



Fig. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PRESS.

Application filed April 28, 1922. Serial No. 557,065.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ASBURY C. VOWELL and WILLIAM O. VOWELL, Sr., citizens of the United States, and residents of Little Rock, in the county of Pulaski and State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Presses, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention is a press which is adapted to be placed within a container for fruit, pickles, kraut, and the like to hold the solid contents of the container below the surface of a liquid therein or to hold the contents of the container in a compact mass.

An object of our invention is to provide a press of the character described which is provided with means for engaging the wall of the container to releasably hold the press in various adjusted positions within the container.

A still further object of our invention is to provide a press of the character described in which the means for locking the press in adjusted position in a container is adjustable to render the press suitable for use in containers of different sizes.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, the novel features of the invention will be particularly outlined in the appended claims.

Our invention consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed and a practical embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a press embodying our invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the press,

Figure 3 is a vertical section through a fragmentary portion of a container in which our press is arranged, the press being shown in side elevation,

Figure 4 is a perspective showing a locking element comprised in the press and a tip therefor detached from the locking element, and

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a bracket comprised in the device.

As illustrated in the drawings, a press embodying our invention comprises a body generally indicated at 1, which body consists of a presser portion or block 2 having superimposed thereon centrally thereof a carrying portion or block 3. The presser portion or block 2 and the carrying portion or block 3 are preferably made of wood and are illustrated as being circular in conformation, the presser block being larger diametrically than the carrying block. The presser portion or block and the carrying portion or block may be formed integrally with each other or separately and secured together permanently in any suitable known manner. Moreover, these parts need not be of circular contour but obviously may be of any desirable contour to render the body suitable for use in containers of various contours in cross section without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

A plurality of radially extending brackets 4 are arranged upon the carrying portion 3 of the body in spaced apart relation, the inner ends of the brackets being spaced apart and located equidistantly of the center of the body. Each of the brackets 4 is of channel-shape and comprises a web portion 5 secured to the carrying portion by screws 6 or the like and a pair of upstanding parallel sides or arms 7, 7. Each of the brackets 4 has a plurality of pairs of aligned seats 8, 8 formed through the sides 7, 7, thereof, each seat being provided with a restricted entrance 9 leading thereto from the upper edge of the side in which formed.

Trunnions 10, 10 extending oppositely from a tapering locking member 11 are adapted to be moved through the entrance openings 9, 9 of the respective seats of each pair of seats to rest and slide a limited distance in the latter. The trunnions 10, 10 extend laterally of each locking member adjacent to the larger end of the latter which tapers toward its other end to a point, as indicated at 12. The locking member 11 may be formed of wood and a sharp pointed tip 13 of metal may be provided to fit thereon in order that the point of the locking member may not become unduly worn in service, as will be understood from the statement of operation which will hereinafter appear.

Handles 14 may be attached to the carrying portion 3 of the body.

In the drawings, the body 1 is shown as having a central opening formed therethrough. This opening is normally closed by a plug or other closure 15 and may be omitted when the body is of relatively small size diametrically.

From the foregoing description of the

various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. The body 1 is placed within a container 17 and is forced downward therein until the solid contents of the container are held below the surface of a liquid 18. The locking members 11 are then swung outward and downward until the points of the tips 13 are moved into contact with and penetrate the inner wall of the container casing. The trunnions 10, 10 of the respective locking members will then rest against the inner ends of the seats 8, 8 and the body 1 will thus be securely held against upward movement in the container until the locking members are disengaged from the inner wall of the container. This can be done by forcing the body 1 to a lower level in the container and then swinging the locking arms out of engagement with the inner wall of the container. The handles 14 may be grasped and the body 1 conveniently moved into or out of the container. The plug or closure 15 may be removed and the contents of the container may be removed as desired through the opening 15 without disturbing the adjustment of the device as a whole. Since each of the brackets is provided with a plurality of spaced apart pairs of seats 8, 8 the locking members 11 may be arranged at different distances from the center of the body and the device therefore rendered suitable for use with containers of different inner diameters. It is intended that all metallic parts of the device shall be treated or so formed as to be unaffected by the action of various kinds of fruit acids or picking liquids in containers with which the device is to be used and that such metallic parts will not corrode.

Obviously, our invention is susceptible of embodiment in forms other than that illustrated in the accompanying drawings. and we therefore consider as our own all modifications of the forms of the device described herein, which fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

We claim:—

1. A device of the character described comprising a substantially flat body adapted to enter the container and to rest upon the contents of the container, said body being formed with an opening therethrough, a removable closure for the opening, and means carried by said body for engaging the inner wall of the container to releasably hold the body against displacement relatively to the contents of the container.

2. A device of the character described comprising a presser body, a plurality of spaced apart radially extending channel-shaped brackets secured upon the upper face of said body, each of said brackets having a plurality of pairs of spaced apart seats formed through the sides thereof, each of said seats having a restricted entrance opening extending from the upper edge of the side in which formed, and a longitudinal locking member for each bracket, each locking member having lateral trunnions extending oppositely therefrom adjacent to its inner end, said trunnions being adapted to be moved through said entrances of the pairs of seats selectively to rest in the seats and thus to be pivotally and detachably supported by the bracket.

3. A device of the character described comprising a presser body, a plurality of spaced apart radially extending channel-shaped brackets secured upon the upper face of said body, each of said brackets having a plurality of pairs of spaced apart seats formed through the sides thereof, each of said seats having a restricted entrance opening extending from the upper edge of the side in which formed, a longitudinal locking member for each bracket, each locking member having lateral trunnions extending oppositely therefrom adjacent to its inner end. said trunnions being adapted to be moved through said entrances of the pairs of seats selectively to rest in the seats and to be pivotally and detachably supported by the brackets, and each of said locking members having a pointed outer end.

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