C. J. KELLER.

BACON HANGER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 28, 1915.

1,177,188.

Patented Mar. 28, 1916.

Fig. 1.

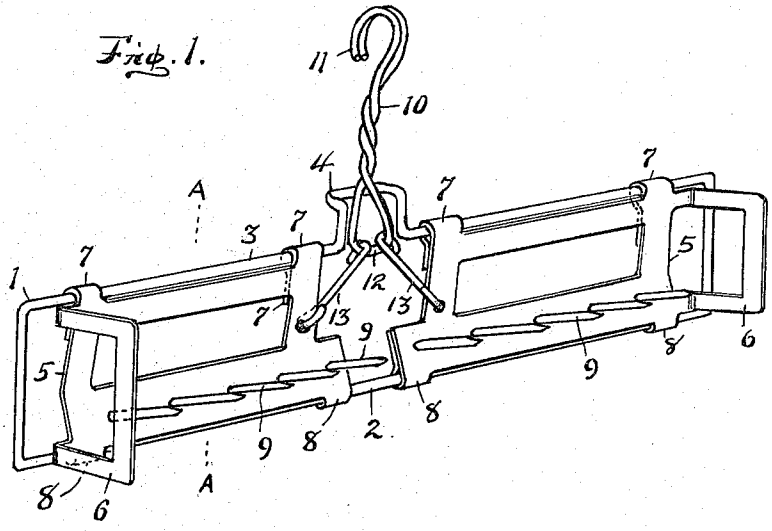
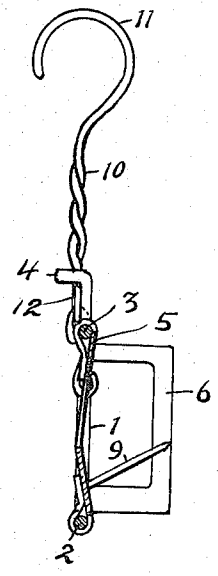


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

Mathilde Mettler.

Sophia Heine

Clement J. Keller INVENTOR.

BY H. G. Burns

ATTORNEYS.

THE COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLEMENT J. KELLER, OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA.

BACON-HANGER.

1,177,188. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 28, 1916.

Application filed October 28, 1915. Serial No. 58,412.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLEMENT J. KELLER, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Fort Wayne, in the county of Allen and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bacon-Hangers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in bacon hangers of the class used for suspending bacon during the curing process and the object thereof is to afford a device for suspending bacon while being smoked or cured which will cause the piece of bacon suspended therefrom to shrink uniformly.

It has been found that when bacon is suspended in the customary manner for a protracted period of time, such as occurs in treating bacon in the smoke-house, the pieces of bacon shrink and while held in the ordinary manner are prevented from uniformly shrinking owing to the manner of suspension. The result is that the pieces become thin in the center and tend to become irregular and abnormally thick at the edges, so that when the bacon is prepared for sale large quantities of waste occur through the process of trimming around the thick edges in order to make the piece of bacon attractive in appearance, and furthermore the thinness of the center of the piece of bacon renders the slices irregular and scant especially at the center of the slice.

The object of the invention is especially to overcome these conditions by causing the bacon to shrink uniformly and thereby avoid waste by unnecessary trimming and to preserve a uniform thickness so that the slices will be of uniform breadth.

The object of the invention is accomplished by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device ready for use; and Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the invention, the section being on the line A—A of Fig. 1.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both views and referring now to the same:

1 is a rectangular wire frame, the lower strand (2) of which is continuous from one end to the other, and the upper strand (3) of which has a backwardly bent off-set (4) made therein at its middle. Upon said frame are slidably secured two carriages (5), one upon each side of the middle of the frame. Each carriage is made of a metal plate formed with an outwardly projecting jaw (6) at its outermost end, and bent ears (7) at its uppermost edge that embrace loosely the upper strand (3) of the frame, and also similar bent ears (8) at its lowermost edge that embrace loosely the lowermost strand (2) of the frame so that the carriage may slide freely upon the frame. Each carriage has also a number of forwardly projecting prongs (9) upon which a piece of bacon may be suspended. A hanger (10) having a hook (11) at its upper end and a loop (12) at its lower end, extends upwardly through the off-set (4) in the frame and has connection at its lower looped end with each of the carriages (5) by means of corresponding links (13). The links are loosely connected in the loop of the hanger and are loosely connected respectively with the corresponding carriages. The carriages have longitudinal movement upon the frame as the hanger is moved vertically, and when the device is suspended by the hanger the carriages tend to move toward each other owing to the angularity of the links.

In using the invention a slab of bacon is pressed on to the prongs of the carriages with its edges between the jaws (6) thereof while the carriages are parted to their outermost positions on the frame, and the device with the bacon thus suspended thereon is hung in the smoke-house by the hook. Owing to the weight of the bacon hanging upon the carriages and the manner in which the carriages are connected with the hanger, the carriages are drawn toward each other guided by the frame upon which they slide, with the result that the sides of the slab of bacon become pressed toward each other as the slab tends to shrink, thus forcing into the center of the slab that material that is ordinarily restrained from moving uniformly because of the restrictions of the ordinary device upon which it is suspended.

What I claim is:—

1. In a suspending device for bacon, a horizontal frame, two sliding carriages mounted on said frame each having an outwardly projecting jaw at its outer end and also a series of forwardly projecting prongs, and a hook for suspending the device having a linked connection with each of said carriages.

2. In a suspending wire frame having a rearwardly projecting off-set in its upper

strand, two carriages slidably mounted upon the frame one upon each side of the off-set, each carriage having a series of forwardly projecting prongs and also at its outer end a forwardly projecting jaw, and a hook extending upwardly through the off-set in the frame and having linked connection with each of the carriages.

3. In a suspending device for bacon, two carriages, each having forwardly projecting prongs, a hook having linked connection with each carriage at its inner end, and means independent of the hook for holding the carriages loosely in alined relationship with each other.

4. In a suspending device for bacon, a horizontal frame, two carriages slidably mounted upon the frame, means in connection with each carriage adapted to afford support for bacon, and means connected with each carriage adapted to draw said carriages toward each other when the device is suspended.

5. In a suspending device for bacon, two carriages arranged in alinement and adapted to be moved oppositely in the same plane, means having connection with each carriage adapted to draw the same toward each other when suspended, and means in connection with each carriage for supporting bacon thereupon.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

CLEMENT J. KELLER.

Witnesses:
CHAS. W. CARREL,
MATHILDA METTLER.

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