To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS D. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Popcorn Stirring and Coating Machines, of which the following is a specification.

"My invention has relation to a machine for mechanically stirring a syrup compound or mixture with pop-corn to expedite thorough coating of the pop-corn therewith and prior to balling or rolling into cylindrical form, for packaging for sale or use; and in such connection my present invention relates particularly to the formation of the stirring and coating device and to a mechanical arrangement employed in connection therewith for raising and lowering said device to and from the syrup composition or mixture container or vessel, essential main features of my said invention; and Fig. 2, is an enlarged elevation of the stirring and coating device removed from its vertical supporting rod, showing the structural arrangement of the same.

Referring to the drawings, a, is a table having an opening for the reception and support of a flanged vessel b, for containing a syrup compound or mixture for saturating or coating pop-corn therewith.

c, is a vertical standard preferably located at one end of the table a, for example as illustrated in Fig. 1. This standard carries a bracket d, for an electric motor e, the shaft e', of which carries a pinion e", meshing with a gear wheel e". The shaft e", of this gear wheel is journaled in bearings e", of an extended portion. f, of said standard a, and is provided on the end with a miter-gear e", meshing with a complementary gear e", and splined thereto at e", and extending through the body e", of said gear e", is a vertical channel supporting shaft or rod f, having a cord or wire g, passing over a series of pulleys g", and with a weight g", on the end thereof, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 1, to raise and lower manually said shaft or rod f, carrying detachably connected therewith the stirring and coating device h. This device consists of a block-like portion at the lower corner h", forming a turning means for the solid matter mixed with the syrup compound or mixture of the vessel b, and having its rear edge beveled at h", as shown in Fig. 2, and terminating in a narrow longitudinal arm h", beveled off at the lower free end h", and from the lower corner h", 105 is formed integral therewith a right angular extension or arm h", Fig. 2, and through bearings h" and h", provided on one side of
the upper and lower arms of the said device is inserted the unchanneled portion of the said shaft or rod \( f \), which is held securely thereto by means of set screws \( f' \). The particular arrangement shown and as above described of the stirring and coating device \( b \), permits when it is manually inserted into the fluid syrup compound or mass of the container \( b \), and composed in varying proportions of sugar, molasses, butter, honey, cane juice and glucose or other equivalent materials and pop-corn of the rapid mechanical operation of the said device to turn the corn and churn the syrup compound mixture thoroughly or completely therewith so as to efficiently as well as quickly coat the corn, when by drawing on the cord or wire \( g \), the said device can be lifted free of the vessel \( b \), supported from the table \( a \), for cleaning or providing another supply of syrup compound for treating the corn for thorough coating, when it is removed onto the table \( a \), for bailing or forming into other shapes for shipment or use.

Having thus described the nature and objects of my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a machine of the character described, a positively actuated vertical shaft having a groove therein engaging the key of a part of the actuating means therefor having provision at the upper extremity for attachment of means for manual raising and lowering of said shaft and at the lower extremity provided with a mixing and stirring device, detachably connected therewith, and consisting of two arms forming the mixing element of said device unconnected with each other at one end and at the opposite end connected and formed into a curved enlargement depending from the lower of said arms and beyond the same to form the stirring element of said device, substantially as and for the purposes described.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my signature in the presence of the two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS D. PALMER.

Witnesses:

THOMAS M. SMITH,
HELEN S. HOLT.