

Feb. 23, 1926.

1,574,008

F. W. SCHWIND

ICE CHEST

Filed March 25, 1925

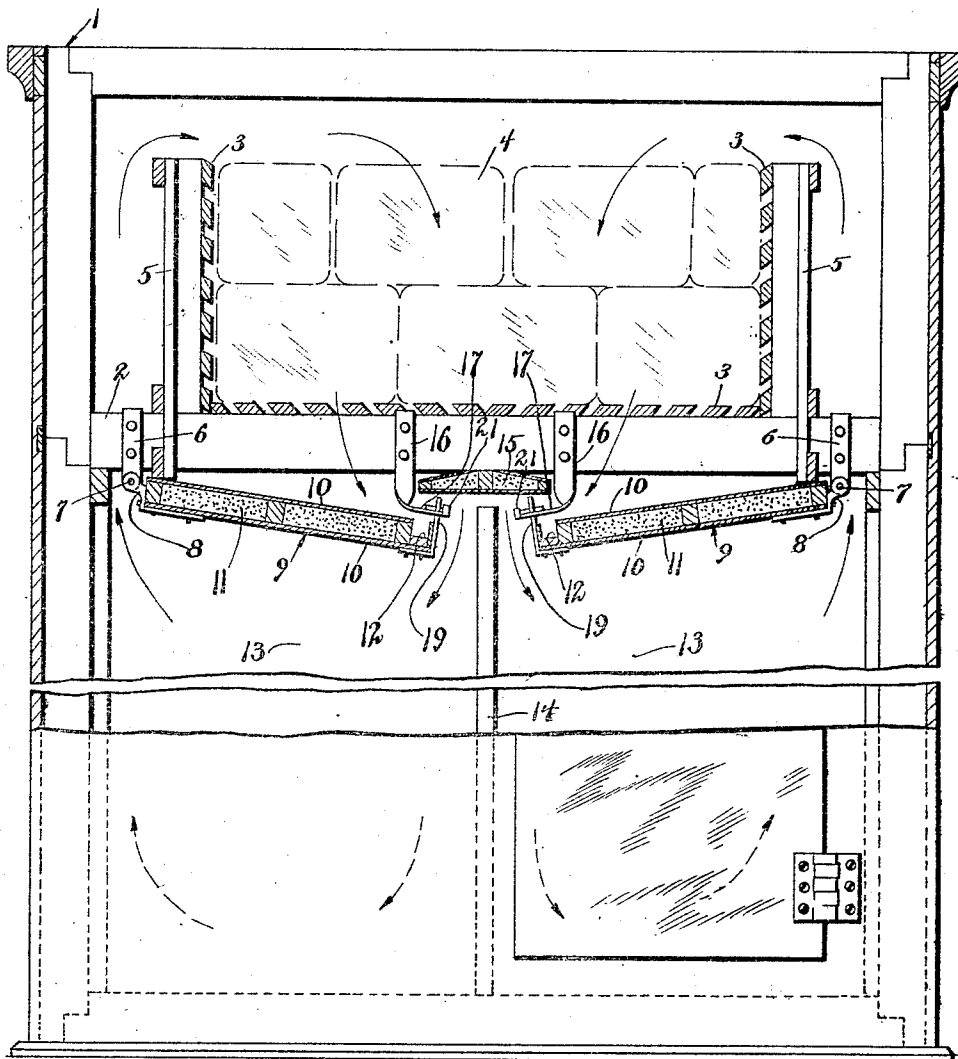


Fig. 1.

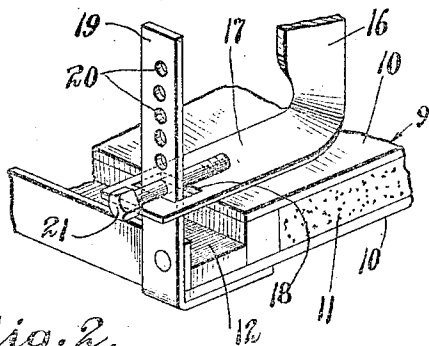


Fig. 2.

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Patented Feb. 23, 1926.

1,574,008

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK W. SCHWIND, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR TO WEBER SHOW-CASE & FIXTURE COMPANY, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE.

ICE CHEST.

Application filed March 25, 1925. Serial No. 18,165.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK W. SCHWIND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented a new and useful Ice Chest, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ice chests and is more particularly directed to a refrigerating chest or box wherein means are provided for controlling the air circulation through the ice-containing chamber so as to control the temperature within the storage space of the chest or box so that the same will properly preserve articles of food or the like.

In the storage of meat, it is particularly necessary to maintain a substantially uniform temperature in the refrigerant or cold storage chamber in which the meats are stored. Particularly is this true of the air circulation which is permitted within such a storage box. If this circulation is too fast the temperature is reduced too much and the meat becomes dry and in this way its value is impaired. If the air circulation is too slow the meat sweats, which likewise impairs its value so that to properly preserve or store the meat, it is necessary that the circulation within the storage box or space be closely regulated. In ice chests, as commonly designed, in which the air circulation is maintained by means of a plurality of baffle plates, no means are provided for controlling the air circulation and while the air circulation may be proper when the temperature outside of the box is of a certain degree, the changes of this temperature which occur between the seasons of the year and from day to day, make it exceedingly desirable that some means should be provided within such an ice chest for controlling the circulation so that the air circulation is neither too fast nor too slow and so that the meat is neither caused to sweat nor is dried.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide an ice chest in which means are provided for controlling the air circulation.

Another object of this invention is to provide a means for adjusting the baffle plates within an ice chest employing baffles for air circulation which may be properly adjusted to obtain the correct air circulation within the storage chamber.

Another object of this invention is to provide air circulation baffle plates within an ice chest that may be easily cleaned.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment thereof, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings:

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of an ice chest embodying this invention, illustrating the same as partially broken away to illustrate the adjustable baffle plates to which this invention is directed.

Fig. 2 is a fragmental perspective view of a baffle plate as embodied in this invention, illustrating a preferred form of adjustment means as connected thereto.

In the preferred embodiment of this invention illustrated in the drawings, 1 generally indicates an ice chest of any suitable type or construction as is well understood in the art to which this invention is directed, within which chest a plurality of cross beams 2 are mounted to support a grate 3 upon which ice 4 is positioned or within which grate 3 cold storage pipes, not shown, are coiled or otherwise positioned. The sides of the grate 3 are provided with solid walls, generally indicated at 5 so as to direct the air circulation up over the top of the grate 3 to reach the ice 4.

Secured to the cross beams 2 are brackets 6 adapted to support pins 7 which pins 7 form the pivots for the members 8 so as to form a hinge to support adjustable baffle plates 9. The baffle plates 9 are constructed of outer slabs of material 10 between which an insulating material 11, such as cork, is positioned. Along the lower or inner edge of the plates 9 are troughs 12 which are adapted to receive the water which drips through the grate 3 either from the melting of the ice 4 or from the melting of the frost which forms upon the outer surface of refrigerating pipes. A space is left between the inner ends of the baffle plates 9 for the air circulation which is down from the ice 4, as indicated by the arrows in Fig. 1, around the lower edge of the storage chamber 13 within the chest and upward along the said walls of the chest 1 and around over the top of the grate 3 as hereinbefore described.

It may be desirable to divide the chest 1

by means of a central partition such as illustrated at 14 for the storage of different articles of food, or different kinds of meat. A central deflecting member 15 is secured to the cross beams 2 to direct the water derived from the melted ice 4 upon the baffle plates 9 and hence into the troughs 12 where all of the water is collected and led out of the chest 1 through a hose or similar connection, not shown.

Means are provided for adjustably supporting the inner ends of the baffle plates 9, which means preferably comprise a plurality of supporting arms 16 which extend downwardly from the beams 2 and are bent so as to form inwardly extending portions 17 in which inwardly extending portions slots 18 are formed through which slots 18 arms 19 project. The arms 19 are provided with a plurality of bores or holes 20 any one of which is adapted to receive a pin or bolt 21 so that by merely removing the bolts 21 the position of the baffle plates 9 may be adjusted so as to allow more or less ease of air circulation as the conditions may require.

It will be obvious from the foregoing that I have provided a simple and efficient means for regulating the air circulation within an

ice chest or storage box which is of simple construction and ease of operation.

Having fully described a preferred embodiment of this invention, it is to be understood that it is not intended that the same should be limited to the exact construction herein set forth, but that the invention is of the scope set forth in the appended claim.

I claim:

A storage chest comprising an ice receiving chamber having slotted sides and a slotted bottom, a plurality of normally inclined insulated air circulating plates hingedly supported at their outer edges and means at their inner adjacent edges for adjusting the inclination of the said plates, said means including a plurality of arms, a plurality of perforations formed in the said arms, a plurality of curved supporting arms having slots formed therein through which the first said arms are adapted to fit, and means adapted to be simultaneously positioned in the said perforations for securing the first of said arms to the said supporting arms in predetermined and adjusted positions.

Signed at Los Angeles, California, this 17th day of March 1925.

FRANK W. SCHWIND.