No. 722,853. PATENTED MAR. 17, 1903.

F. KLAUS.

PRESS FOR CANS.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 19, 1901.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

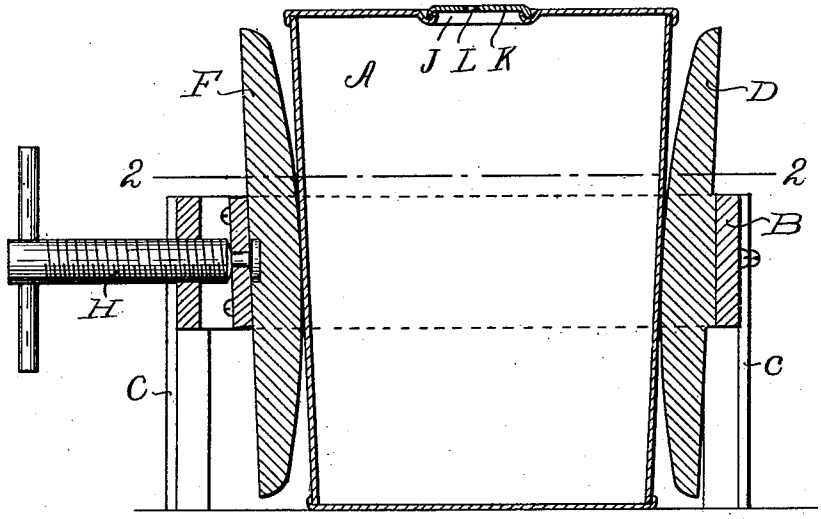
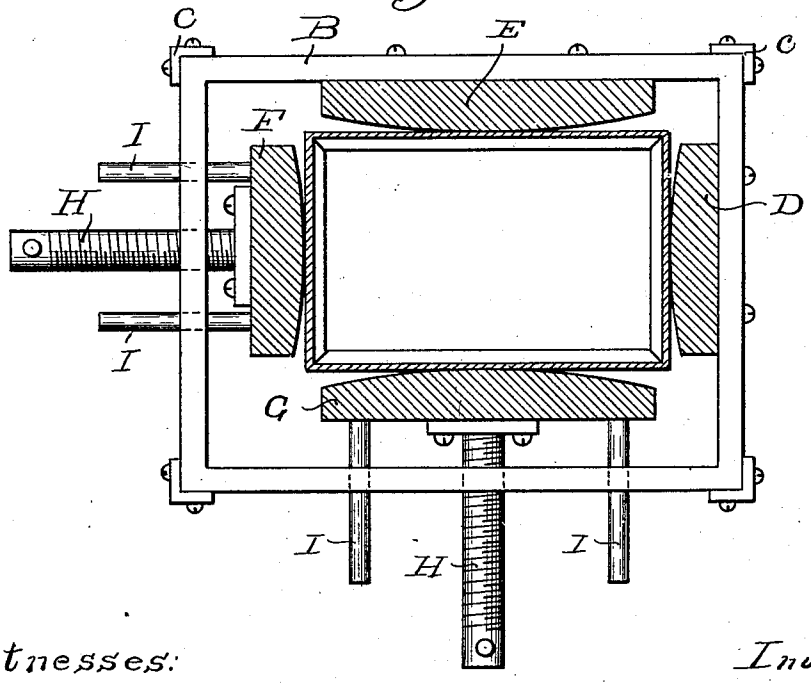



Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED KLAUS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## PRESS FOR CANS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 722,853, dated March 17, 1903.

Application filed April 19, 1901. Serial No. 56,532. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRED KLAUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Presses for Cans; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to a novel press for cans adapted to be used in forcing the air out of a can in the process of preserving corned beef and the like, the object being to provide a simple portable press for this purpose; and it consists in the features of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a vertical central section of a press made in accordance with my invention, showing a can in position to be operated upon. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on line 2 2, Fig. 1.

In said drawings, A represents a tapered rectangular can, such as is commonly used in which to preserve corned beef.

My press consists of the rectangular frame B, adapted to be supported about the middle of the height of said can on the legs C. Said frame carries the blocks D and E on its inner surface, which are rectangular in shape and nearly as large as the side of the can they are adapted to operate upon. Two similar blocks F and G are adjustably mounted on said frame B, being adapted to be adjusted by means of the screws H, which are mounted in the side members of said frame. Pins I are rigidly mounted on said members F and G, adapted to slide freely through holes in said frame B, and are designed to hold said members F and G in their proper relative positions. Said blocks D, E, F, and G are convex on their sides, which are adapted to operate on said can and are adapted to force the sides of said can inwardly, and thus make the internal volume of said can smaller.

In using my device the can is first filled with the beef through the opening J in its top, after which the cover K is soldered in place, a small hole L being left in said cover. The can is then immersed in boiling water until the contents are fully cooked, during which process the pressure generated within the can forces the sides of same out beyond their normal position. It is then removed and placed in the press. The screws H are then operated, and the sides of the can are pressed inwardly, thus forcing the sides of said can back to or beyond their normal position against the pressure within same, and thus expelling any air which may remain in said can, the squeezing process being continued until juice or water is forced out through said hole L. Said hole is then closed by means of a drop of solder before the can is removed from said press.

I claim as my invention—

In a device of the character described, the combination with a rectangular frame, of a pair of rectangular blocks rigidly secured to one of the sides and ends respectively of the frame, a pair of adjustable rectangular blocks mounted at the other side and end of the frame, screws mounted in the frame and having their inner ends in engagement with the said adjustable blocks, and a pair of horizontally-disposed pins rigidly secured to each of the said adjustable blocks, and slidably mounted in openings in the adjacent side and end respectively of the frame, said blocks having convexed inner faces, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

FRED KLAUS.

Witnesses:
E. F. WILSON,
JOHN SNOWHOOK.