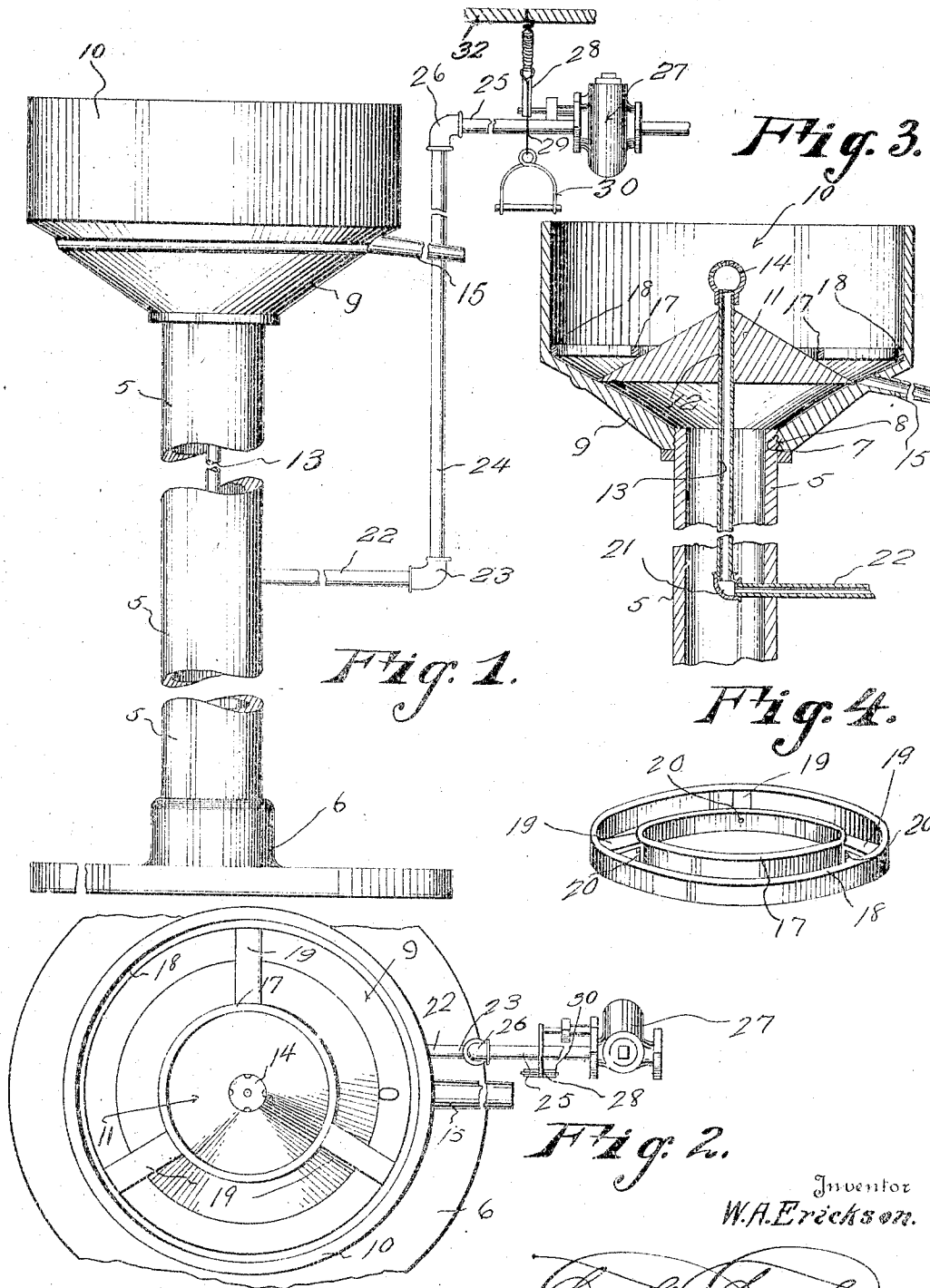


W. A. ERICKSON.
CAN WASHING APPARATUS.
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1,303,186.

Patented May 6, 1919.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. ERICKSON, OF MILACA, MINNESOTA.

CAN-WASHING APPARATUS

1,303,186.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed March 25, 1918. Serial No. 224,545.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. ERICKSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milaca, in the county of Millelacs, State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Washing Apparatus; 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.

This invention is an improvement in washing machines and has particular reference to an apparatus for cleaning milk and cream cans and the like.

Briefly stated, use is made of a standard carrying a receptacle having a base upon which is detachably mounted a can support and through which is extended a pipe having a nozzle for injecting steam or other fluid into the can.

An object of the invention is to so construct the base of the receptacle as to provide an improved mounting for the fluid inlet pipe and the can support whereby the fluid will be thoroughly injected into the can to cleanse the same.

Another object is to provide a novel support for the cans to be cleaned so that the same may be spaced from the bottom of the receptacle in such manner as to permit of a proper drainage of the sediment and water of condensation in the cans.

A further object is to provide an apparatus of this character which is simple in construction, easy to manufacture and effective in carrying out the purpose for which it is designed.

The inventive idea involved is capable of receiving a variety of mechanical expressions one of which, for the purpose of illustrating the invention, is shown in the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary vertical longitudinal section.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the can support.

The invention is illustrated in what is now believed to be its preferred form which comprises a hollow standard 5 secured to a base 6 which is adapted to be secured to any desired support. The upper end of the

standard 5 is screw threaded as indicated at 7 to engage in the screw threaded opening 8 formed centrally in the hopper bottom 9 of the receptacle 10. Disposed centrally within the receptacle 10 and engaging the bottom 9 intermediate its upper and lower edges is a conical shaped member 11 having a central opening 12 therein through which extends one end of a steam or other fluid pipe 13. The upper end of the pipe is projected above the smaller upper end of the member 11 and is screw threaded to receive thereon a nozzle 14 through which the steam or other fluid is sprayed into the can to be cleaned in a manner which will presently appear. The bottom 9 of the receptacle 10 is provided at a point above the lower edge of the member 11 with a drain spout 15 through which the sediment washed from the can and water of condensation passes.

A can supporting grid 16 is provided in connection with the invention and preferably comprises inner and outer concentric rings 17 and 18, respectively, connected by the angle braces and supports 19 which are secured to the rings by rivets 20 or other suitable fasteners. This grid is adapted to be detachably mounted in the receptacle 10 with the inner ring member 17 in engagement with the sides of the cone bottom 11 intermediate the upper and lower ends thereof so that when the open end of a can is rested upon the braces 19 the nozzle 14 will extend a considerable distance into the interior of the can. Through the medium of this construction, it will be apparent that the can will be supported entirely in spaced relation with respect to the receptacle so that the sediment within the can will have sufficient opportunity to drip therefrom onto the bottoms 9 and the member 11 and thence outwardly through the spout 15.

The pipe 13 is preferably extended interiorly of the standard 5 to a point intermediate the lower and upper ends thereof and the lower end of said pipe has connected thereto an elbow 21 in which is mounted one end of another pipe 22 that extends through the standard 5 and which has its other end connected to another elbow 23 in which is secured the lower end of still another pipe 24 preferably disposed in a vertical position and through which the steam or other fluid passes into the pipe 13 from the source of supply. The upper end of the pipe 24 is connected to another pipe 25 by an elbow

26. The latter pipe leads to the source of supply and has a cut off valve 27 provided with a lever 28 to which is connected a flexible element 29 carrying a handle 30 at one end which is adapted to be pulled in order to open the valve 27 and allow the steam or other fluid under pressure to pass into the pipe 24 and from thence to the nozzle 11. In order to return the valve 27 to closing position, after the handle 30 is released, there is connected to the lever 28 one end of a retractile spring 31 the other end of which is attached to a suitable support 32. It will be understood, of course, that the particular form of valve 27 and its operating mechanism is optional and that other forms, such as the ordinary globe valve, can be employed.

What is claimed is:—

20 An apparatus of the character described

comprising a tubular standard, a receptacle having a hopper bottom detachably connected to the upper end of the standard, a spout leading from the hopper bottom at one side thereof, a conical-shaped member removably supported upon the bottom below the spout and having a central opening, a pipe disposed vertically in the standard and passed through the center opening in the member for the removal of the latter therefrom, a nozzle detachably connected with the pipe above the member, and a detachable can supporting grid resting upon the member and the hopper bottom.

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

WILLIAM A. ERICKSON.

Witnesses:

M. C. WARNER,
Geo. J. AUSMAN.