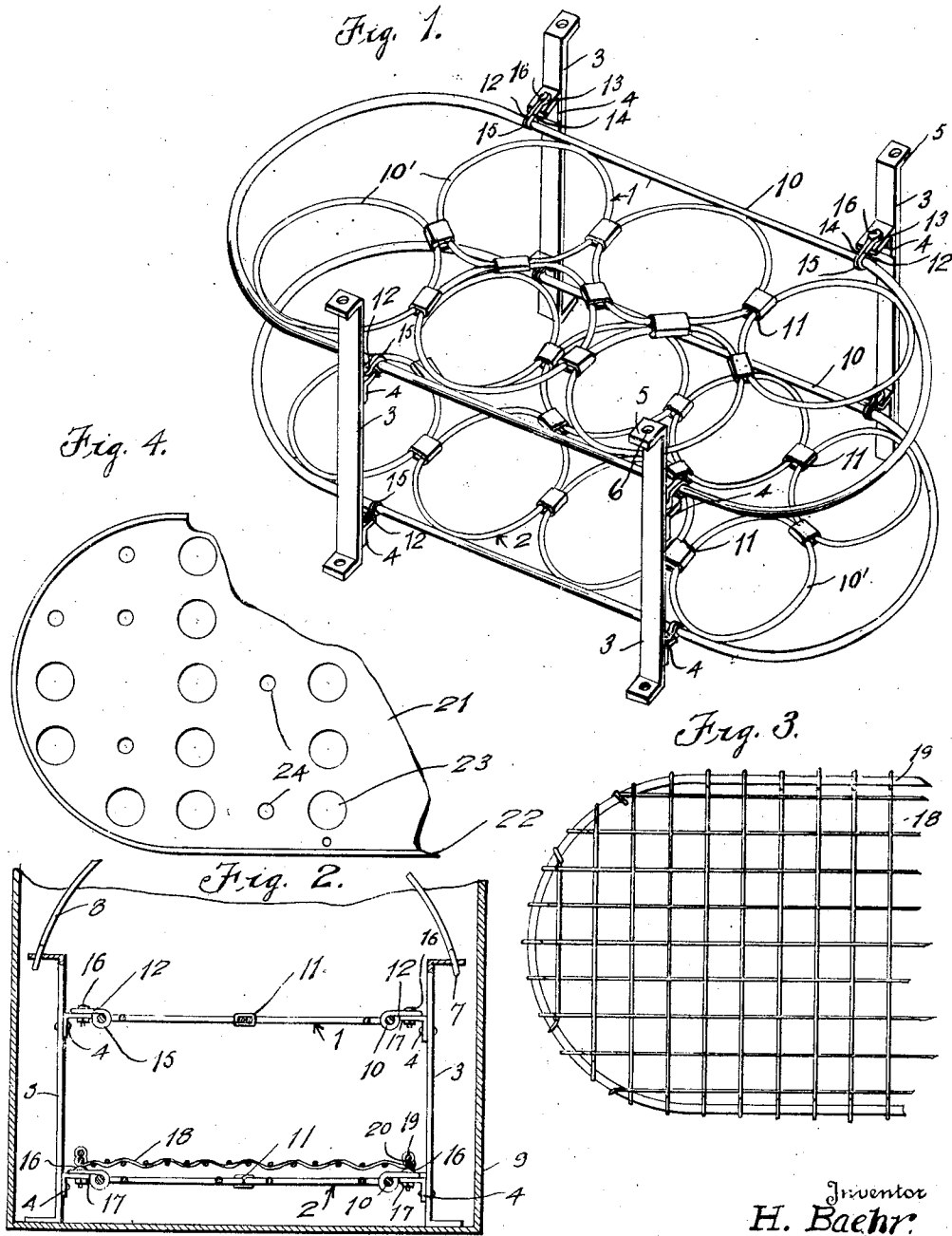


H. BAEHR.
STERILIZER RACK.
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1,344,252.

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STERILIZER-RACK.

1,344,252.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMINE BAEHR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sterilizer-Racks; 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.

The invention relates to a sterilizer rack.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of sterilizing racks, more especially that shown and described in my Patent No. 1,270,095, and to enable the horizontal tray and the upper and lower horizontal supporting plates or members to be constructed of wire without affecting the rigid attachment of the same to the vertical supporting bars of the aforesaid patent.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device adapted to facilitate canning, preserving, pasteurizing, and sterilizing of bottles, jars and the like.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and pointed out in the claim hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claim, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device.

Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse sectional view through the same.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary plan view of a wire tray embodied in the invention.

Fig. 4 is a similar view showing a tray constructed of sheet metal.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

In the accompanying drawing, in which is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention, the device comprises in its construction a pair of spaced horizontal frames or members 1 and 2 and vertical supporting bars 3 arranged in pairs and located at opposite sides of the frames or members and provided with angle brackets 4 to which the frames or members are secured. The brack-

ets, which are riveted or otherwise secured to the inner faces of the vertical bars, are located or arranged in relative spaced relation and in spaced relation with the ends of the vertical bars or supports. The terminal portions 5 of the vertical bars or supports are bent outwardly to form laterally projecting lugs which, as in the aforesaid patent, are provided with openings 6 adapted to be engaged by hooks 7 of bails 8 to enable the device to be readily lifted from a boiler 9 or other suitable receptacle without liability of the operator's hand coming in contact with hot water or heated portions of the device.

The upper and lower frames or members 1 and 2 are constructed of stout wire. Each frame consists of a marginal wire 10 and a plurality of rings 10' located within the marginal wire and secured to the same at their outer portions by brazing, soldering or other suitable means. The rings are preferably connected at their adjacent edges by means of sleeves 11 soldered or otherwise secured to said rings. The rings of the frames or members 1 and 2 are of different diameters to adapt the frames for the reception of different size bottles, jars or other containers.

The frames or members 1 and 2 are provided at opposite sides with arms or connecting devices 12, each preferably constructed of a single piece of wire bent centrally to form a loop or eye 13 and having the side portions 14 brought together and bent to form horizontal eyes 15 which embrace the marginal wire 10 and are secured to the same. The loops of the coupling devices or arms are arranged upon the horizontally projecting portions of the angle brackets and they are secured to the same by bolts 16 equipped with nuts and passing through the loops 13 and through the said angle brackets. The terminals 17 of the wire of the coupling devices or arms 12 are preferably arranged in abutting relation with the ends of the horizontal portions of the angle brackets so as to hold the vertical bars or supports against pivotal movement on the said bolts, thereby providing a rigid connection between the supports and the spaced members. The bolts provide a detachable connection and enable the parts to be readily assembled and easily separated for packing, storing or shipment.

The wire frames or members and the connecting supports form an invertible struc-

ture to be arranged with either of the frames or members 1 and 2 at the top or bottom of the device as required, the bottles, cans or other receptacles being arranged in the
 5 openings of the upper one of the frames or members and being supported upon a tray 18 which may, as illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, be constructed of woven wire; and the said tray 18 is provided with a marginal
 10 flange formed by upper and lower marginal wires 19 and 20. The openings between the wires of the tray 18 provide passages for the steam or water in the use of the apparatus. The tray is readily removed from the
 15 space between the plates or members and is adapted to be arranged in an upright position upon the lower one of the same when the members or frames and the connecting supports are in either of their positions.
 20 In Fig. 4 of the drawing is shown a tray 21 constructed of sheet metal and provided with a marginal flange 22 and having openings 23 and perforations 24. The tray and the frame or members have rounded ends to
 25 conform to the configuration of an ordinary boiler and the device, when placed in the same, is arranged in spaced relation with the side and end walls of the boiler and also with the bottom of the latter, the lower lugs
 30 resting upon the bottom of the boiler and the projecting terminal portions of the connecting bars forming seats or legs to prevent the lower frame or member from coming in contact with the said bottom. Also
 35 the laterally projecting horizontally disposed lugs, which are adapted to be engaged by the said bail, form spacing elements to maintain the frames or members and the tray in spaced relation with the side walls

of the boiler. The frames or members and the tray may be varied in shape and may be arranged in a receptacle of any desired configuration.

The bottles, cans, or other receptacles, are placed upon the tray and are arranged in the openings of the upper frame or member so that there is no liability of the bottles, cans or jars slipping or contacting with one another when placing them in or removing them from the boiler.

What is claimed is:

An invertible device of the character described comprising a plurality of supporting bars, inwardly extended supporting brackets carried by said supporting bars at points adjacent their upper and lower ends, upper and lower horizontal frames formed of wire and each having a marginal wire, a plurality of connected bottle receiving rings positioned in and rigidly connected with the marginal wires of the frames, the rings of one frame being of greater diameter than the rings of the other frame, connecting devices carried by the brackets and engaging the marginal wires of the frames to support the frames between the supporting bars in spaced and superposed relation and a bottle supporting tray positioned between the frames and resting upon the brackets of a selected frame with the other frame positioned above the tray.

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

HERMINE BAEHR.

Witnesses:

CHARLES A. KELSO,
 SIMON SILVERBERG.