United States Patent

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[54] **TOY COOKING APPARATUS**
4 Claims, 7 Drawing Figs.

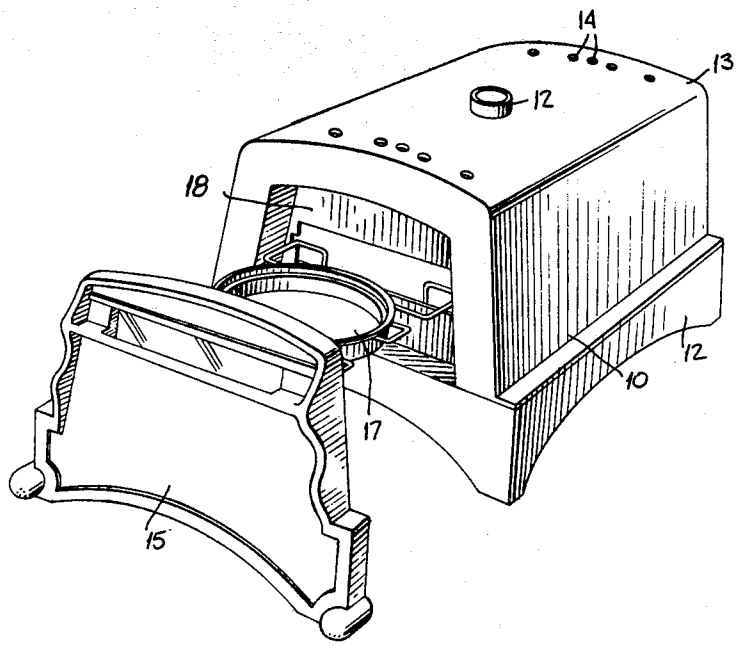
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A21b 1/22, H05b 1/00
[50] **Field of Search** 219/200,
201, 391, 392, 395, 405, 408, 411; 126/19, 21,
339, 340, 41; 312/223, 236, 317

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ABSTRACT: A toy cooking apparatus comprising a housing adapted to receive means for holding a comestible which is to be heated or cooked, a plurality of electrical heating means, at least one of the heating means positioned above the holding means and at least one of the heating means positioned below the holding means, the door of the cooking apparatus being secured to the means for holding the comestible so that the door and the means for holding the comestible move in unison.



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SHEET 1 OF 3

Fig. 1.

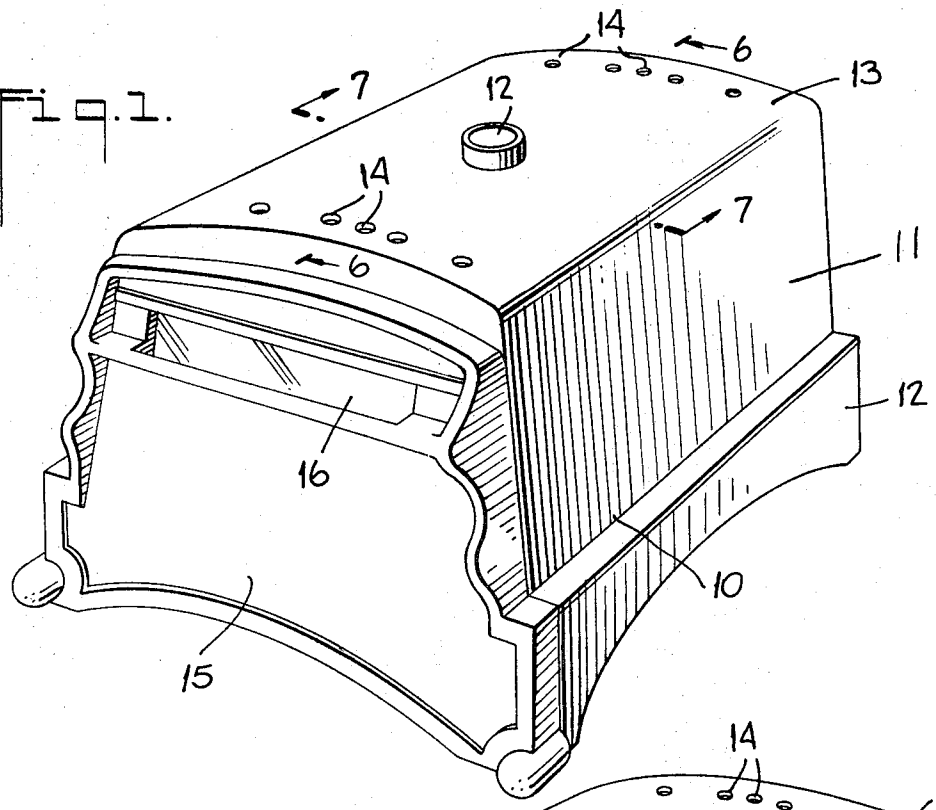
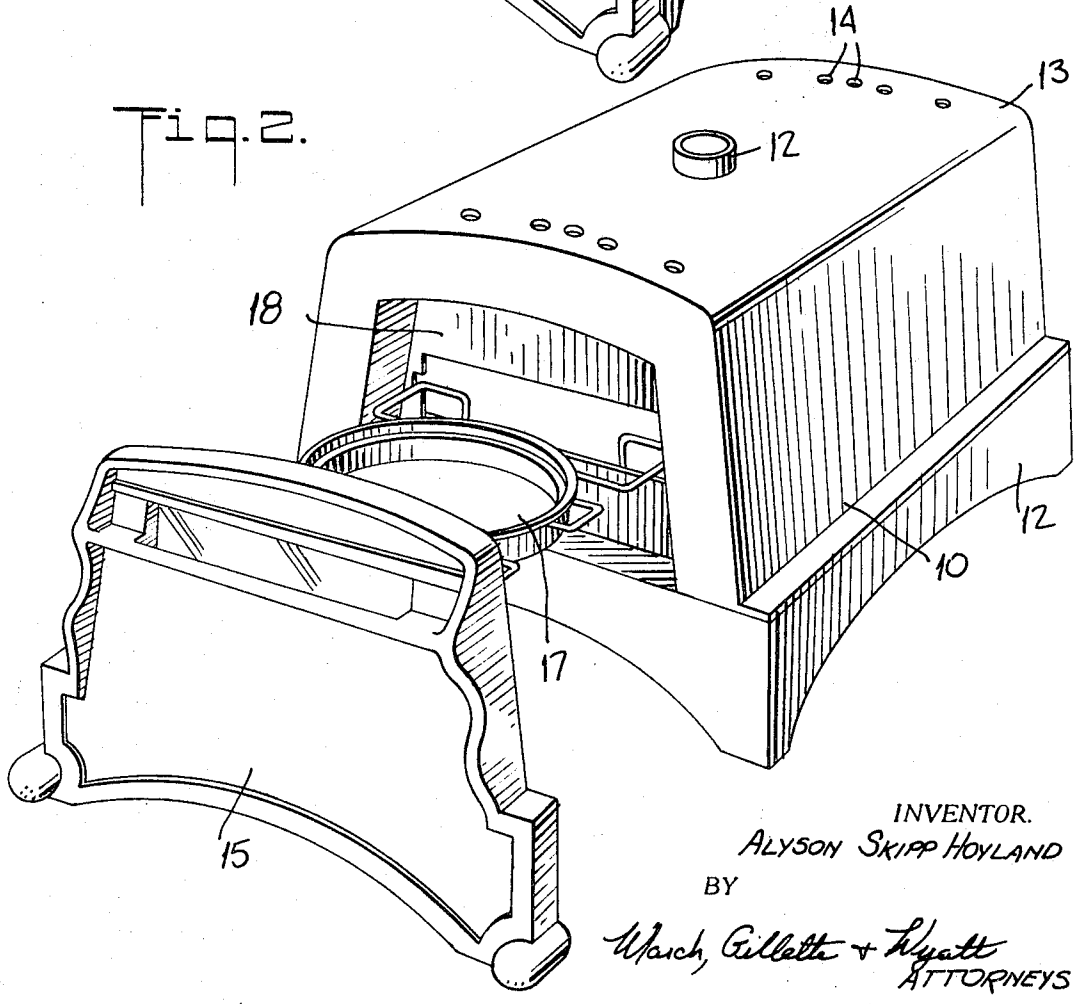


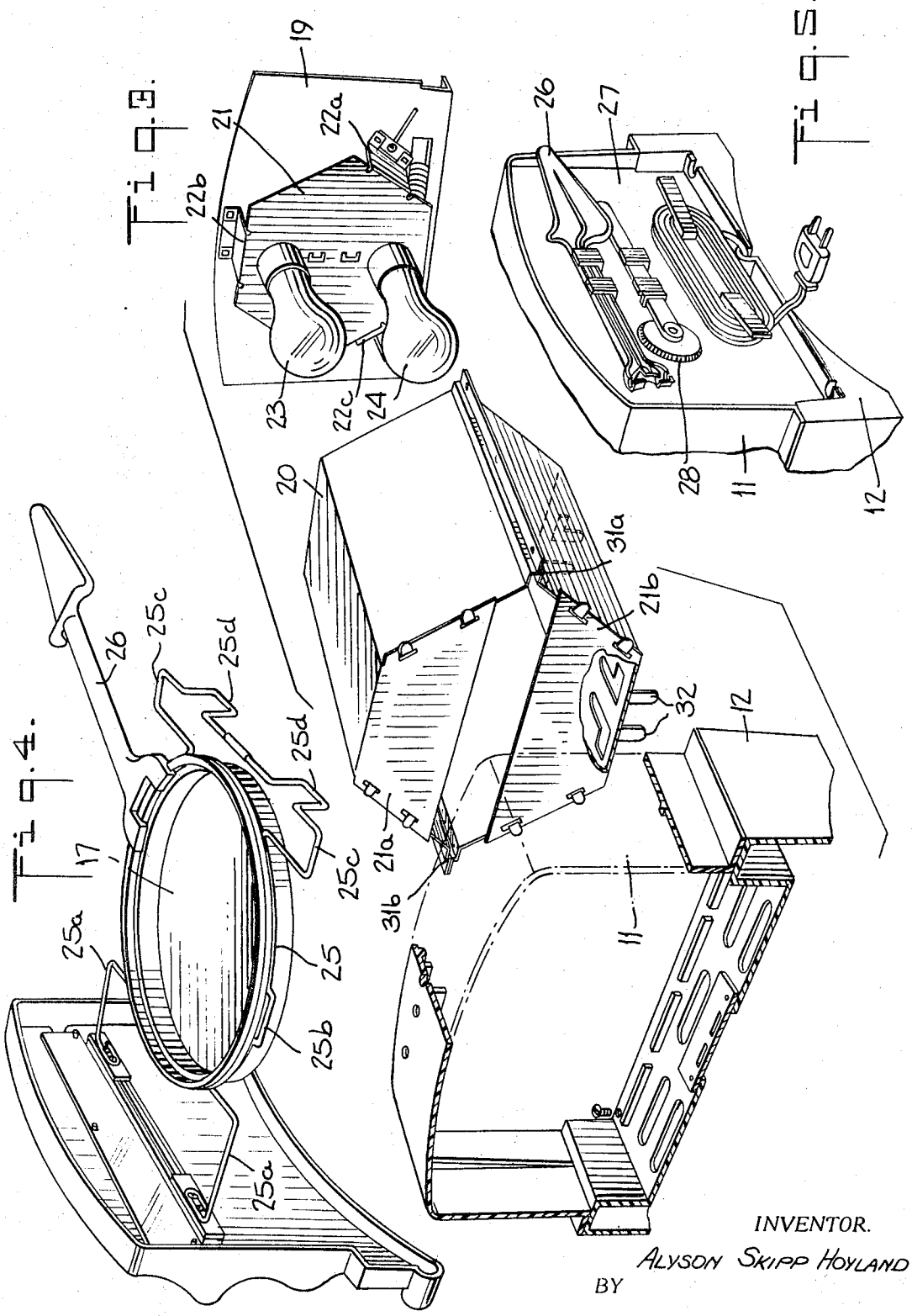
Fig. 2.



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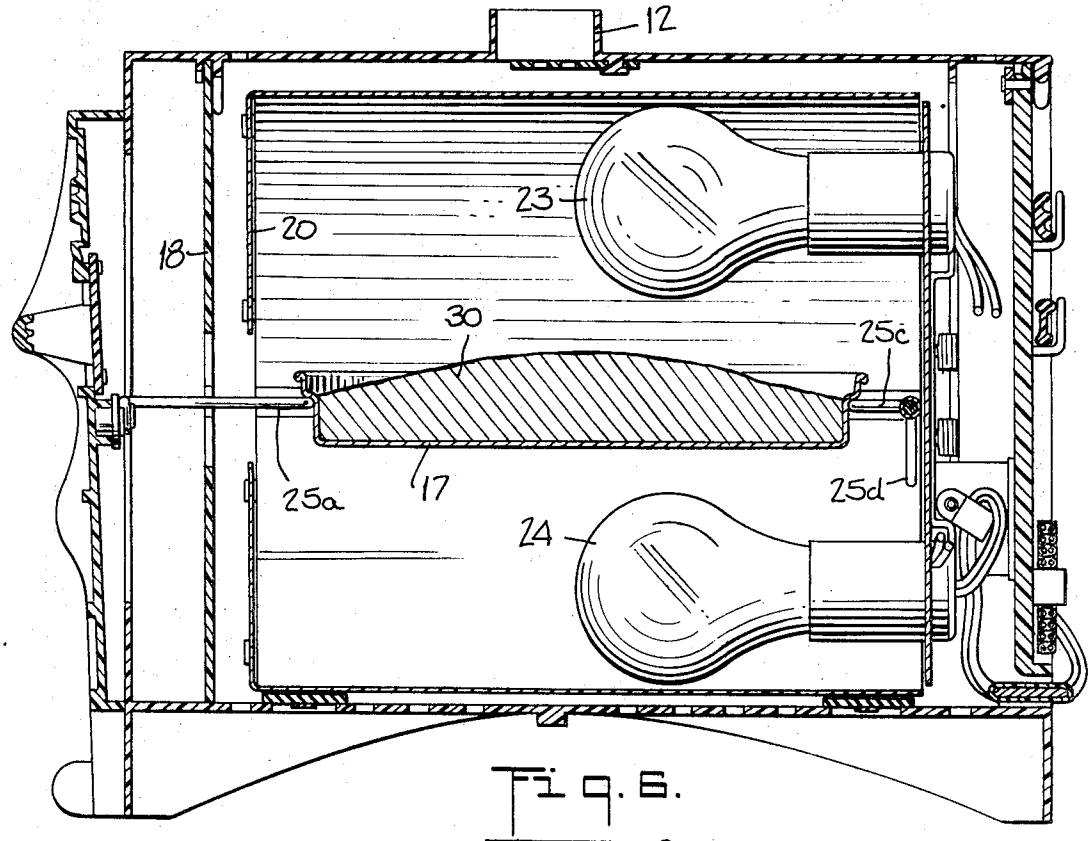


Fig. 6.

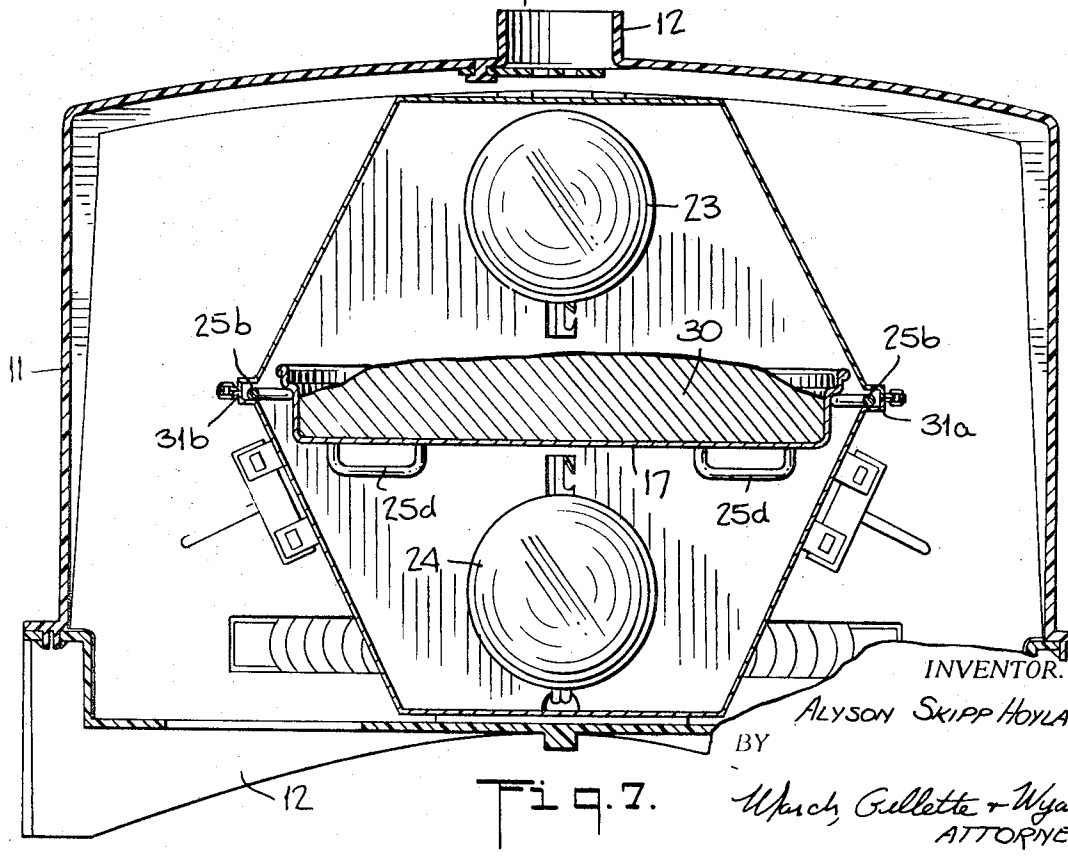


Fig. 7.

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TOY COOKING APPARATUS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Children often desire to cook food for themselves. Parents are reluctant, however, to permit children to use the kitchen stove due to the danger of accidents and injury to the child.

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a toy oven which enables children to cook or heat food without contacting an open flame, or other heating means. Another object is to provide a toy oven which substantially eliminates the possibility of burns due to contacting heated portions of the apparatus. These and other objects of the present invention will be apparent from the following description.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The toy oven of the present invention comprises a housing having a heat reflective inner liner within the housing. The inner liner contains a plurality of slots adapted to receive projections extending from means for holding a comestible which is to be cooked or heated. The oven door is attached to the projections so that sliding the door forward or backward causes the means for holding the comestible to move in unison with the door. At least two electrical heating means are provided: one mounted above and one mounted below the means for holding the comestible.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIGS. 1 and 2 are perspective views of the toy oven of the invention; in FIG. 2 the door has been pulled open thereby pulling the tray out along with the door.

FIG. 3 is an exploded view showing a portion of the cabinet, the heat reflective inner liner, the back of the inner liner with heating elements located thereon, and the attachment of the inner liner to the back of the cabinet.

FIG. 4 shows the tray attached to the inside of the door and the handle for lifting the tray from its support.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the back of the housing.

FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view taken along line 6–6 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken along line 7–7 of FIG. 1.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring to FIG. 1 of the drawings, the housing 10 comprises an upper shell 11 mounted on a base 12. Upper shell 11 has a large vent 12 in the center of the roof 13 and a plurality of smaller vents 14 along the front and rear edges of the roof. The cabinet has a door 15 abutting its front end with a transparent section 16 in the upper portion of the door.

Referring to FIG. 2, door 15 has been opened thereby drawing tray 17 forward with it. Tray 17 slides forward and backward through a slot provided in guard panel 18 mounted within the front portion of housing 10. Guard panel 18 prevents a person operating the toy oven from contacting the inner liners or the heating elements themselves.

Referring to FIG. 3, the back 19 of housing 10, inner liners 20 and a portion of upper shell 11 and base 12 are shown in exploded view. Inner liner 20 is a substantially hexagonal shaped unit having back panel 21 and a front panel formed of an upper panel 21*a* and a lower panel 21*b*. An opening is provided between panels 21*a* and 21*b* to permit passage of tray 17. A U-shaped slot is provided in each sidewall of inner liner 20 at the place where the sidewall is closest to the sides of the housing. Prongs 32 at the bottom of inner liner 20 attach the inner liner 20 to housing 10. Attached to the back 19 of housing 10 is the back panel 21 of inner liner 20. Back panel 21 is attached to back 19 of the housing 10 by brackets 22*a*, 22*b* and 22*c*. Mounted on back section 21 are upper light bulb 23 and lower light bulb 24. Bulbs 23 and 24 are so positioned that tray 17 slides between upper bulb 23 and lower bulb 24.

FIG. 4 is a view of the inside of door 15 showing the frame 25 supporting tray 17 and attachment of tray 17 to door 15. Tray 17 is supported on circular frame 25 having a plurality of outwardly extending U-shaped projections at 25*a*, 25*b*, and 25*c* on each side of the frame. The forward leg of each front projection 25*a* is attached by any suitable means, such as screws to the inside of door 15. The connecting portion of projections 25*a*,and 25*b* and 25*c* are in alignment. These aligned portions form runners which engage slots in the inner liner 20. The rearmost legs of projection 25*c* are joined and each of these legs has a downwardly projecting portion 25*d* which prevents frame 25 from being withdrawn completely out of the inner liner 20. Tray lifter 26 provides means for lifting tray 17 a from frame 25.

FIG. 5 shows the rear surface 27 of the housing. The rear surface is recessed so as to provide nonprotruding bracket storage means for tray lifter 26, cutter 28 and electric cord 29. FIG. 6 is a lengthwise cross-sectional view of the interior of the oven. Comestible 30 is shown on tray 17. Bulbs 23 and 24 provide heat to cook or heat the comestible.

FIG. 7 is a frontal cross-sectional view of the interior of the oven. The edges of inner liner 20 closest to the sides of the housing form U-shaped slots 31*a* and 31*b* within which the aligned connecting portions of projections 25*a*, 25*b* and 25*c* slide.

The provision of heating elements above and below tray 17 insures rapid and uniform heating and cooking. The downwardly projecting members 25*d* of frame 25 engage the lower front panel 21*b* and prevent complete withdrawal of frame 25 from the inner liner. This eliminates danger of dropping the comestible as the tray when partly or fully withdrawn, is always maintained in a horizontal position by its attachment to door 15 and that portion of the runner which remains in slot 31. Guard panel 18 provides an additional safety feature by preventing the operator from inserting his hand or fingers inside inner liner 20.

While the toy oven has been described using ordinary light bulbs as heating means, other heating means may be used, such as, for example, infra red heat, micro wave heat, etc. Moreover, the energy source may be provided by batteries as well as electrical outlets. The toy oven may be constructed of any suitable material, such as, for example, metal, plastic, ceramic, etc.

EXAMPLE

The operation of the toy cutting tool will now be described. With electric cord 29 plugged into an electrical outlet thereby lighting bulbs 23 and 24 and heating the space within inner liner 20, door 15 is then pulled open and a portion of pizza is placed on tray 17. Door 15 is then closed. When the pizza is cooked, which may be determined by observation through the transparent section 16 of door 15, or by passage of a suitable length of time, the door is opened and tray 17 withdrawn therewith. Lower front panel 21*b* of inner liner 20 engages downwardly projecting members 25*d* of frame 25 thereby preventing complete withdrawal of frame 25 from the oven. Tray 17 containing cooked pizza 30 is then lifted from frame 25 by means of tray lifter 26.

It is to be understood that while the invention has been described in detail, variations and modifications may be made with departing from the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A toy oven including a housing forming a heating cabinet with a movable door, a tray attached to said door and slidable in and out of said cabinet, said housing having supporting means therein for slidably receiving said tray therein, said tray having stop means preventing said tray from being completely withdrawn from said cabinet, said tray being supported between said door and said housing when said door is in the open position, and heating means in said housing for heating a comestible on said tray.

2. The toy oven of claim 1 wherein said housing has an inner liner with U-shaped slots forming said supporting means for slidably receiving said tray.

3. The toy oven of claim 2 wherein said heating means comprises a pair of light bulbs on said housing disposed on opposite sides of said tray.

4. The toy oven of claim 3 wherein said housing has a guard panel adjacent said door, said guard panel having a slot through which said tray is slidable, and wherein said inner liner has front panel adjacent said guard panel, said front panel forming said stop means preventing said tray from being completely withdrawn from said cabinet.