

A. H. WEHMILLER & J. W. DAWSON.
 MECHANISM FOR CLOSING COVERS OF PASTEURIZER BASKETS.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1910.

981,961.

Patented Jan. 17, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

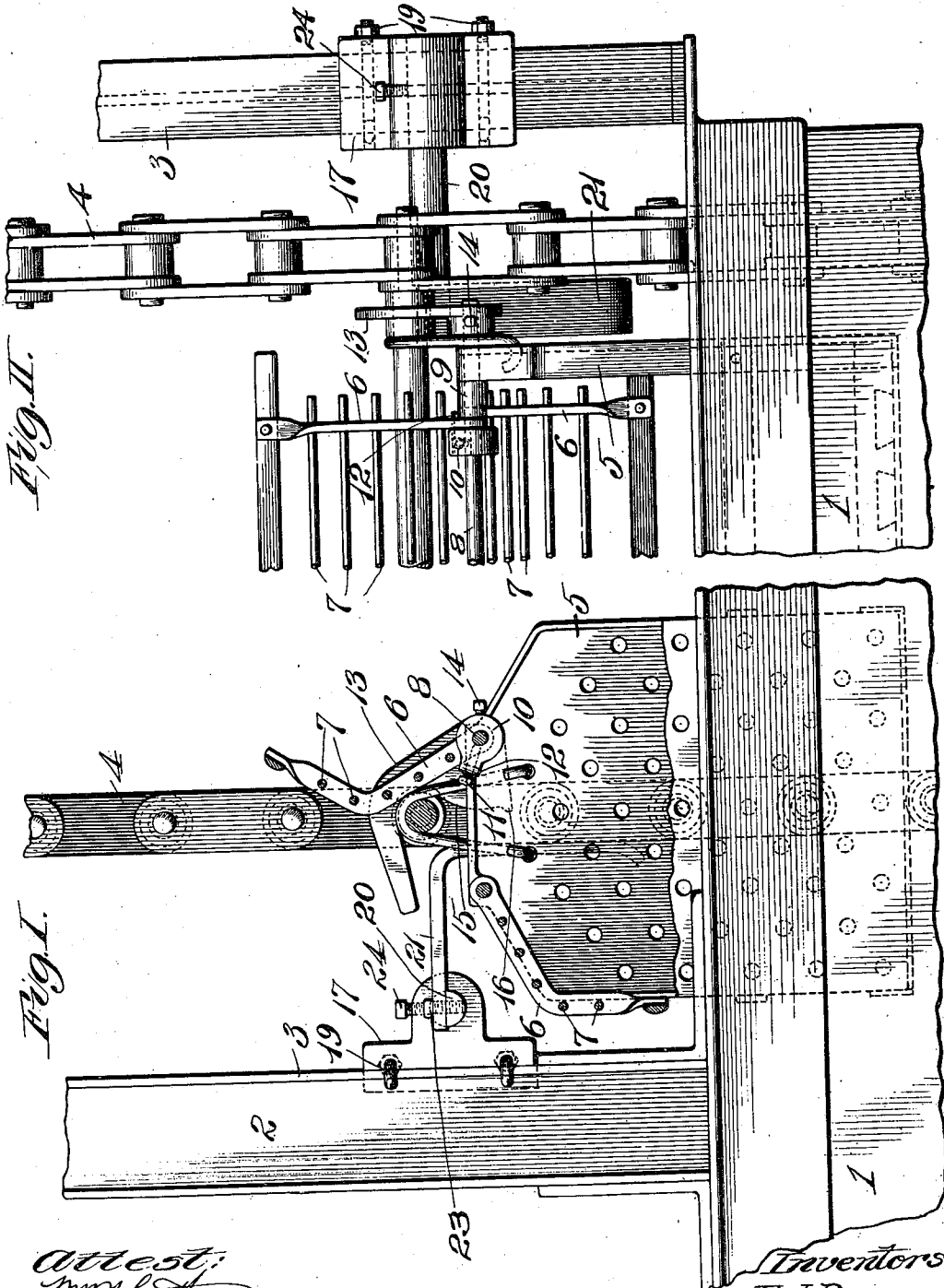


Fig. II.

Fig. I.

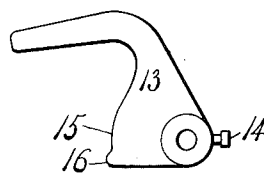
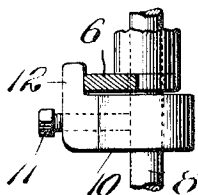
Attest:
Wm. A. Fort
 W. A. Cook

Inventors:
 A. H. WEHMILLER & J. W. DAWSON.
 by *V. J. Knight* atty.

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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.



Inventors:
A. H. WEHMILLER.
J. W. DAWSON.

by E. J. Kinahan atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED H. WEHMLER AND JOSEPH W. DAWSON, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNORS
TO BARRY-WEHMLER MACHINERY COMPANY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, A COR-
PORATION.

MECHANISM FOR CLOSING COVERS OF PASTEURIZER-BASKETS.

981,961.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 17, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALFRED H. WEHMLER and JOSEPH W. DAWSON, citizens of the United States, residing in the city of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mechanisms for Closing Covers of Pasteurizer-Baskets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

Our invention relates to a mechanism for automatically closing the covers of baskets used in pasteurizers in which bottles of beer are subjected to a pasteurizing treatment.

The invention is in the nature of an improvement upon that class of pasteurizers of which an example is to be found in Letters Patent of the United States No. 755,108, issued March 22, 1904, and in which there is employed a bottle carrier having baskets provided with covers hinged to the baskets and adapted to be opened to permit access into the baskets and closed to prevent escape of contents from the basket. In the use of a pasteurizer containing carrier baskets of the description referred to, it is essential that the covers of the baskets be closed before the baskets pass through the pasteurizer after bottles have been placed therein in order that fragments of the bottles, which are frequently broken, may not be permitted to escape from the baskets by floating in the water in the pasteurizer. It not infrequently happens that in the use of the pasteurizers the workmen engaged in filling the baskets neglect to close the covers after the baskets have been filled and our invention has for its object the production of means whereby the covers are automatically moved to closed positions with the result of avoiding any possibility of fragments of broken bottles becoming discharged from the baskets.

Figure I is a side elevation of a portion of a pasteurizer including fragments of the tank, the carrier and our door closing means. Fig. II is a front elevation of the parts shown in Fig. I. Fig. III is a top or plan view of the parts shown in Fig. I. Fig. IV is a view partly in plan and partly in horizontal section of a fragment of the rock shaft by which a cover of each carrier basket is supported, a fragment of one of the end members of the cover and the dog carried by

the rock shaft and adapted to actuate the cover. Fig. V is a detail view of the trip lever.

In the accompanying drawings: 1 designates the tank of the pasteurizer and 2 is an upright or post surmounting said tank. This upright is preferably of I-beam shape or of any other suitable shape that will provide side flanges 3 which receive parts to be hereinafter mentioned.

4 designates one of the endless chains of a carrier that supports baskets 5, the baskets being preferably provided with hanger stirrups that are mounted on cross rods of the carrier as in the construction illustrated in the patent hereinbefore mentioned. The top of the carrier basket is at least in part closed by a cover that preferably consists of end bars 6 and cross rods 7. This cover, as shown in the drawings, is composed of two sections loosely mounted upon a rock shaft 8 that extends through the end bars of the cover sections and is journaled in the end walls of the carrier basket so that it may rotate freely in said end walls when it is actuated through means to be hereinafter set forth. The cover end bars 6 are spaced apart from the end walls of the basket by distance sleeves 9. A sectional cover for a basket is unimportant in so far as our present invention is concerned, and therefore, when the word cover is hereinafter used, it is to be understood as referring to one section of the cover shown that has means associated with it for mechanical operation of it.

10 designates a dog fixed to the rock shaft 8 adjacent to one of the cover end bars by suitable means, such as a set screw 11. This dog is provided with a laterally projecting lip 12, see Fig. IV, that occupies a position back of the adjacent cover end bar 6 and is adapted to operate against said end bar for the purpose of swinging the basket cover to a closed position when the rock shaft 8 is rotated by the means to be next described.

13 designates a trip lever that is fixed to the rock shaft 8 by suitable means, such as a set screw 14. This trip lever is located at one of the outer ends of the rock shaft 8 and preferably exteriorly of the carrier basket 5. The trip lever 13 is preferably of curved shape, as seen in Fig. I, in order that it may extend through the carrier chain

4 above the basket to so position its free end as to cause it to strike against a member to be hereinafter mentioned, and which is supported by the upright 2. The trip lever 5 is provided at its lower side with a rearwardly projecting extension 15 which is provided at its lower end with a toe or stop 16 that is adapted to come into contact with one of the pivot members in the carrier 10 chain when the trip lever is tripped to close the basket cover, thereby limiting the degree of movement of said trip lever.

17 designates a bracket seated against the upright 2. This bracket is vertically adjustable upon said upright in order that its elevation may be altered and it is preferably provided at one side with a hook 18 that engages one of the flanges 3 of the upright and the bracket contains hook bolts 19, the 20 hooks of which are adapted to engage the other of said flanges, whereby the bracket may be securely held to the upright at any desired location.

20 is an arm mounted in the bracket 17 and extending inwardly toward the path of travel of the carrier baskets 5.

21 is a trip arm that is supported by the arm 20 and is adjustable transversely of said arm 20, the trip arm being provided 30 with a slot 22 that receives a set screw 23 seated in the arm 20. The trip arm 21 is preferably of L-shape and it extends into the path of travel of the free end of the trip lever 13 in order that it will be engaged by said 35 trip lever and the trip arm is adjustably mounted upon the arm 20 in order that it may be shifted laterally relative to the path of travel of the free end of the trip arm, thereby providing for only the proper degree of engagement between said members. 40 The supporting arm 20 is adjustably mounted in the bracket 17 in order that it may be turned to lower or elevate the trip arm 21 supported thereby to provide for 45 further adjustment of the trip arm relative to the path of travel of the trip lever, and said supporting arm is normally held in a fixed position by suitable means, such as a set screw 24.

50 In the practical use of a pasteurizer equipped with our door closing cover, the carrier of the pasteurizer operates in the

usual manner and as each basket of the carrier moves into proximity with the trip arm 21, the trip lever 13 carried by the 55 basket engages said trip arm with the result of causing the trip lever to be moved upwardly and forwardly relative to the trip arm and impart rotation to the rock shaft 8. The rock shaft in its rotation, carries 60 with it the dog 10 and the lip 12 of said dog, and said lip by engaging the adjacent end bar loosely mounted upon the rock shaft, acts to move said cover in a forward or outward direction in order that it will 65 fall to a closed position over the open upper end of the basket.

We claim:

1. In a pasteurizer, the combination of a pasteurizing tank, bottle receptacles provided with covers, a carrier for moving said 70 receptacles into the pasteurizing tank, and means for automatically closing said covers before the entry of said receptacles within said tank. 75

2. The combination in a pasteurizer, of a carrier comprising a receptacle provided with a cover, a rock shaft associated with said receptacle and by which said cover is 80 loosely supported, a member carried by said rock shaft arranged to engage said cover, a trip lever carried by said rock shaft, and an adjustably supported trip arm arranged in the path of movement of said lever and by 85 which the lever is moved to rotate said shaft and close said cover, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination in a pasteurizer, of a carrier comprising a receptacle provided with a cover, a rock shaft associated with 90 said receptacle and by which said cover is loosely supported, a dog fixed to said rock shaft arranged to engage said cover, a trip lever fixed to said rock shaft, and a trip arm arranged in the path of movement of said 95 lever and by which the lever is moved to cause it to rotate said shaft to close said cover, substantially as set forth.

ALFRED H. WEHMILLER.
JOSEPH W. DAWSON.

In presence of—
HOWARD G. COOK,
EDNA B. LINN.