M. BURRIS

CRATE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 28, 1921.

1,436,148.

Patented Nov. 21, 1922.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

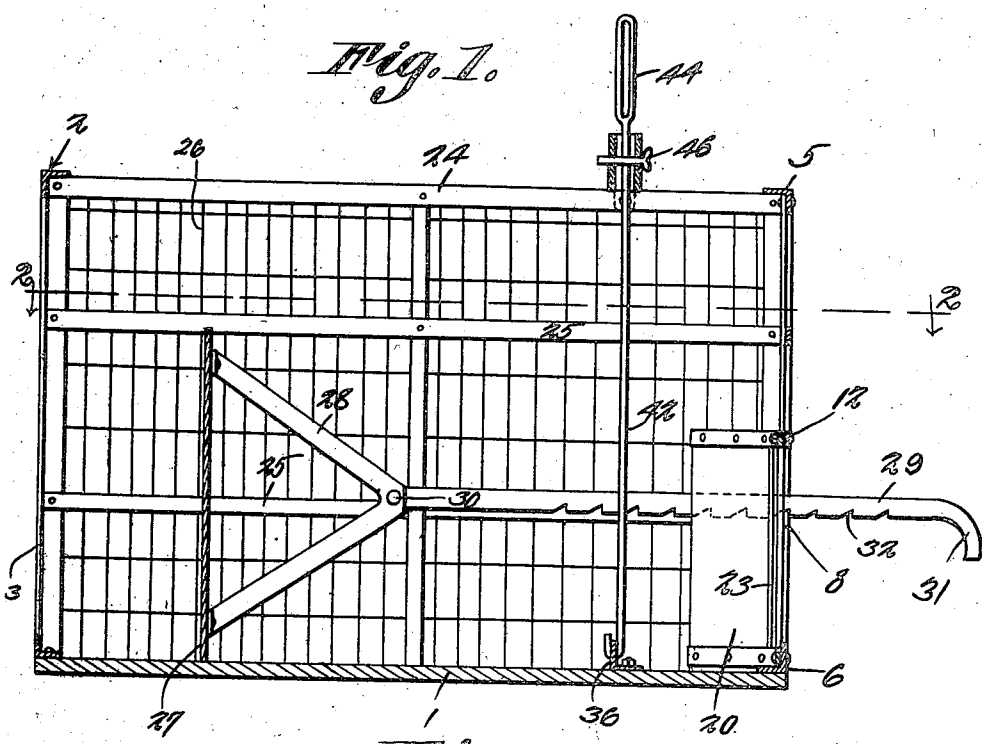
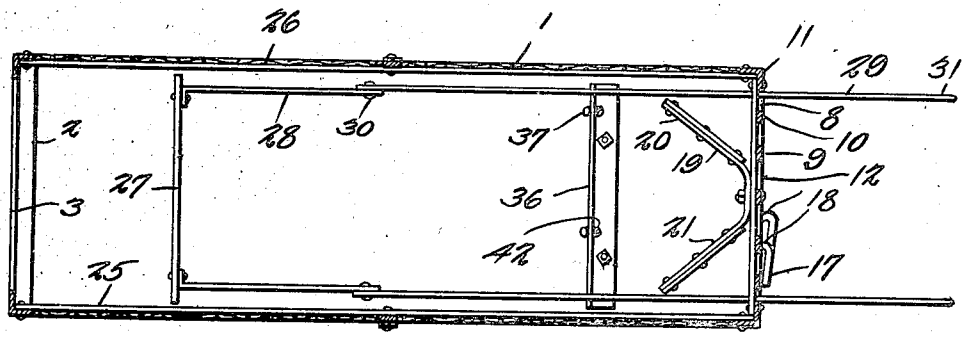


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

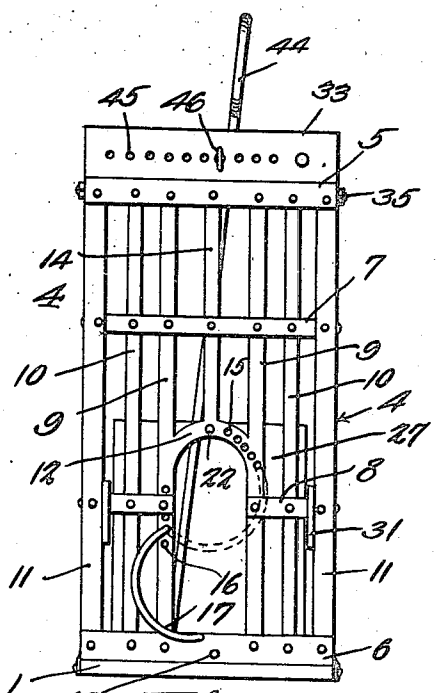


Fig. 3.

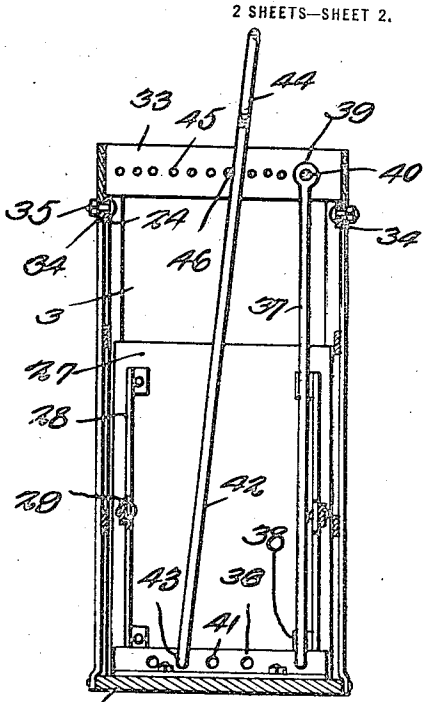


Fig. 4.

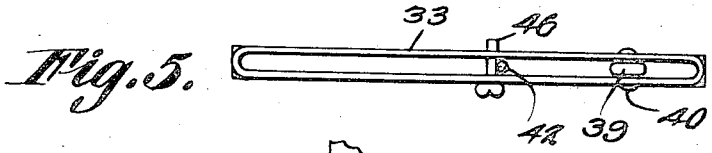


Fig. 5.

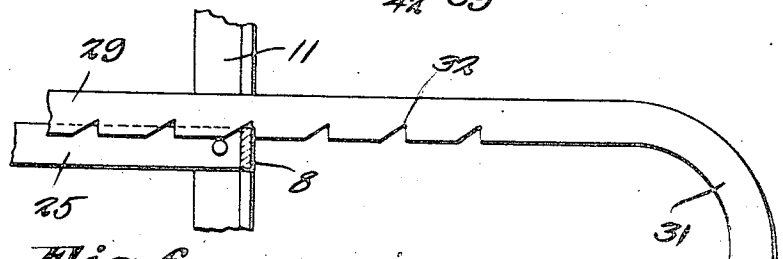


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELVIN BURRIS, OF MENDON, OHIO.

CRATE.

Application filed April 28, 1921. Serial No. 465,326.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELVIN BURRIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mendon, in the county of Mercer and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Crate, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject matter of this invention is a crate, adapted to be used for holding hogs, during the operations of ringing and castrating.

The invention aims to provide novel means whereby the hog may be held during the operations above alluded to.

It is within the province of the disclosure to improve generally and to enhance the utility of devices of that type to which the invention appertains.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that, within the scope of what is claimed, changes in the precise embodiment of the invention shown can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 shows in vertical longitudinal section, a crate constructed in accordance with the invention; Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1; Figure 3 is an end elevation of the crate; Figure 4 is a cross section of the crate; Figure 5 is a plan of the guide; and Figure 6 is a sectional detail illustrating in elevation one of the back bars which hold the closure in place.

The crate forming the subject matter of this invention includes a bottom 1 carrying an end frame or member 2 having an opening 3. At the opposite end of the bottom 1 is disposed an end member or frame 4 which, as shown in Figure 3 embodies a top bar 5, a bottom bar 6 an intermediate bar 7 and a lower bar 8, the aforesaid bars being disposed horizontally. The bars above mentioned are connected by inner vertical strips 9, intermediate vertical strips 10, and outer vertical strips 11. The inner vertical strips 9 are connected at a point between their ends by an arch or cross piece 12. A central vertical strip 14 connects the arch 12 with the top bar 5. There are openings 15 in one side portion of the arch 12, openings 16 being formed in the lower portion of one vertical strip 9, the openings 15 and 16 being disposed on opposite sides of the aperture formed by the part 12 and the lower portions of the strips 9. The numeral 17 denotes a curved latch, having inwardly extended ends 18. One of the ends 18 of the latch 17 may be seated in any of the openings 16, for adjustment, the other of the ends of the latch being adapted to be received in any of the openings 15, for adjustment.

A trough-shaped guide 19 is disposed vertically within the crate and rests on or cooperates with the bottom 1. The guide 19 is made up of upper and lower V-shaped bars 20 connected by side plates 21. The angles of the bars 21 are connected by securing elements 22 to the arch 12 and to the bottom bar 6. The inner edges of the plate 21 are spaced apart to define an opening 23 coinciding with the opening existing between the lower ends of the strips 9 below the arch 12.

The upper portion of the end frame 2 is connected with the top bar 5 by top rails 24. Intermediate rails 25 connect the side portions of the end frame 2 with the outer vertical strips 11 of the end frame 4. The crate may be closed in by netting 26 if desired.

The invention comprises a barrier, located within the crate. The barrier embodies a plate 27 from which V-shaped brackets 28 project. Latch bars 29 are provided, the inner ends of the latch bars being pivoted at 30 to the brackets 28. The latch bars 29 project through the end frame 4 of the crate and are located adjacent to the outer strips 11, the latch bars having handles 31 at their outer ends, and being provided in their lower edges with notches or seats 32 adapted to engage with the lower bar 8 of the end frame 4.

A loop-shaped guide 33 is supported on the top rails 24 and have depending ends 34 connected by securing elements 35 to the top rails. An anchor 36, which may be an angle bar, is secured to the bottom 1 of the crate. A vertical keeper 37 is provided, and is equipped at its lower end with a hook 38 engaged with the vertical flange of the anchor 36. At its upper end, the keeper 37 is supplied with an eye 39 attached by a securing element 40 to the guide 33, the keeper passing upwardly within the guide. Openings 41 are fashioned in the vertical upstanding flange of the anchor 36. The nu-

meral 42 denotes a grip in the form of a bar, supplied at its lower end with a hook 43 adapted to be mounted for adjustment in any of the openings 41. The grip 42 swings within the guide 33 and is provided at its upper end with a handle 44. Openings 45 are made in the guide 33 and into any of the openings 45, a pin or retainer 46 may be inserted, for the purpose of holding the grip 42 against swinging movement.

In practical operation, when it is desired to ring a hog, the plate 27 is swung on its pivotal mounting 30 until the plate lies flat on the bottom 1. Then, the hog may be driven into the crate, through the opening 3 in the end frame 2. The plate 27 then is swung up into the vertical position shown in Figure 1. Latch bars 29 and the plate 27 are drawn forwardly, by the handles 31, the plate 27 crowding the animal forwardly until his snout protrudes through the end frame 4 beneath the arch 12. The appropriate ones of the seats 32 in the latch bars 29 are engaged with the bar 8, to prevent the hog from backing out. The latch 17 is swung upwardly, from the position of Figure 3, to a position beneath the lower jaw of the animal, the free end element 18 of the latch being engaged in one of the openings 15 in the arch 12. The animal, thus, is held securely in the crate, the snout of the animal projecting outwardly through the end frame 4, under which circumstances, the ringing operation may be proceeded with.

In case the animal is to be castrated, the operation above described is proceeded with, aside from the fact that the rump, rather than the head of the animal, extends through the end frame 4, beneath the arch 12. When the animal is to be cut, the latch 17 is not used.

The grip 42 cooperates with the keeper 37, to engage the neck of the animal, whilst the ringing operation is being carried out. The function of the trough-shaped guide 19 is to direct either the head or the rump of the animal through the end member or frame 4, beneath the arch 12, when the animal is thrust toward the end frame 4 by the action of the barrier plate 27. The grip 42 may be held against swinging away from the keeper 37, by the pin 46, and it is possible to mount the lower hook of the grip 42 in any of the openings 41, for adjustment.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A ringing and castrating crate having an entrance opening in one end, and provided with an end wall having a reduced aperture; a latch bar slidable in the end wall and having means for engaging the end wall; and a barrier disposed upright in the crate, the barrier being pivoted to the latch bar, whereby the barrier may be laid flat on the bottom of the crate, to permit the entrance of an animal into the crate.

2. A device of the class described constructed as set forth in claim 1 and further characterized by the provision of an upright trough-shaped guide located adjacent to the end wall and having an opening coinciding with the aperture in the end wall.

3. A crate for ringing and castrating animals comprising an end wall including a cross piece; a latch pivoted to the end wall and cooperating with the cross piece; a keeper in the crate; a swinging grip in the crate and cooperating with the keeper; a barrier in the crate; and means for holding the barrier in adjusted positions, the barrier being pivoted to said means whereby the barrier may be laid flat on the bottom of the crate.

4. A crate of the class described having an entrance opening in one wall and a reduced aperture in the opposed wall, a bar slidable in said apertured wall and having means to engage said wall, a barrier in said crate mounted to swing vertically into upright position and to lie flat against the bottom thereof, and a connection between said bar and barrier whereby the latter is actuated and held in operative position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MELVIN BURRIS.

Witnesses:
LABAN HAYS,
DOW MCGILHARY.