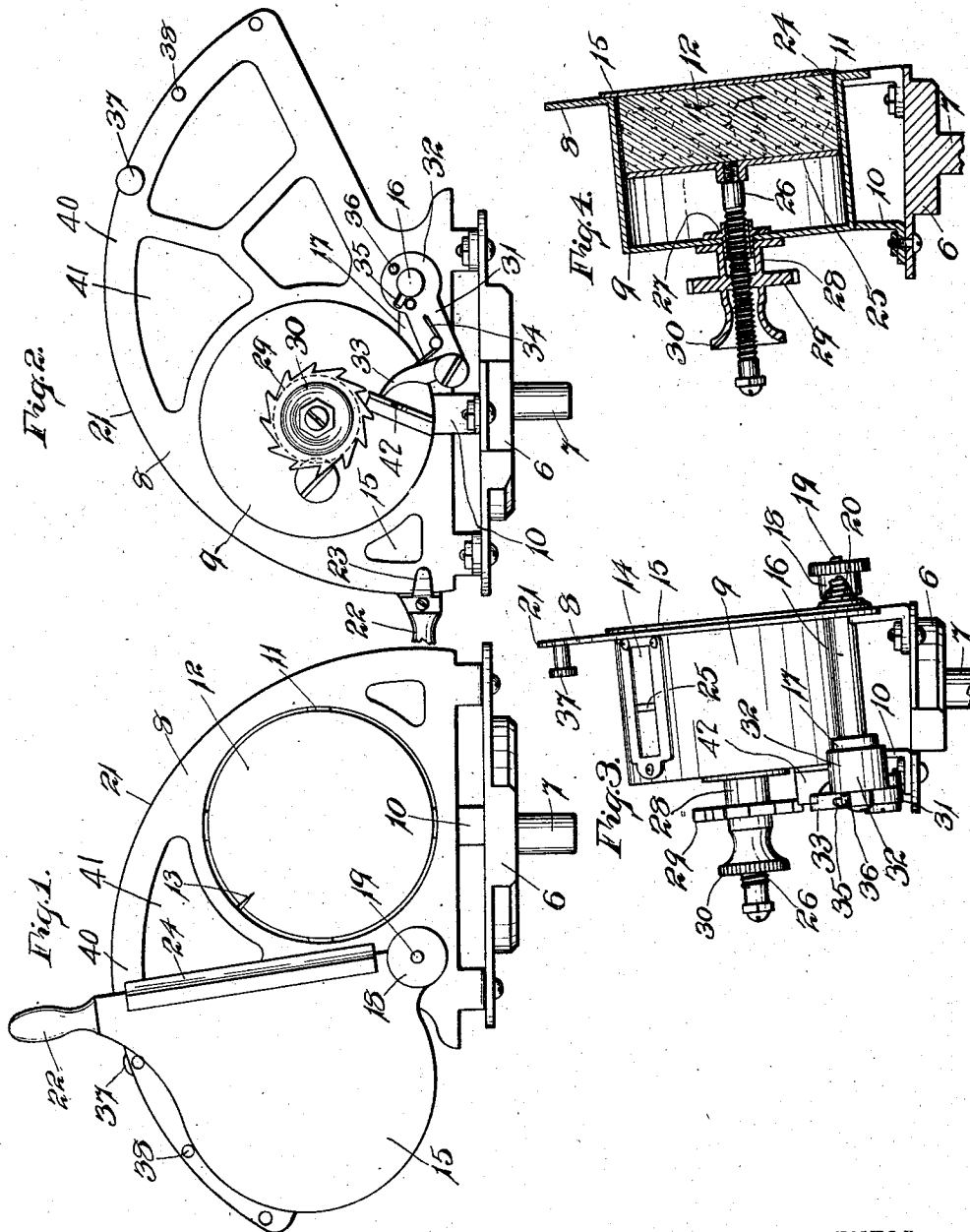


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 APPARATUS FOR SLICING SOAP.
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APPARATUS FOR SLICING SOAP.

1,049,598.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISADORE H. PLATSHEK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Apparatus for Slicing Soap, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates more especially to devices used for slicing shaving soap, and an object of the invention, among others, is to provide a device of this class in the use of which very thin slices of uniform thickness may be obtained.

Other objects of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of my improved slicing device. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a view in side elevation with parts broken away to show construction. Fig. 4 is a view in central vertical section through the device.

As my invention is especially applicable for use in connection with a device for slicing shaving soap I have selected such an apparatus for the purpose of disclosing my invention herein, yet it will be understood that the device is not limited to such use.

In the accompanying drawings the numeral 6 denotes a base constructed of any suitable material and provided with any desired means for attachment to a table or like support, in the form shown a stud 7 adapted to enter a socket piece being employed. A frame or guide and supporting plate 8 is rigidly secured to the base, rising from the front thereof, and a casing or holder 9 is secured to the guide and supporting plate, projecting rearward therefrom and connected if desired by means of a support 10 with the base plate. This holder is of suitable shape to receive a cake of soap, being shown herein as round, and cake supports 11 extend lengthwise of the holder on the inner wall thereof, these supports being comparatively narrow in width and arranged at suitable intervals apart. The cake of soap 12 rests against these cake supports and does not come in contact with the entire inner surface of the holder, with a result that little friction exists between the cake and inner surface of the holder and undue force is not required to move the cake within the holder, but at the same time there is sufficient friction to oppose movement of the cake

to secure the most satisfactory results in a uniform thickness of the slices of soap and in the production of said slices of a minimum thickness. A spur 13 may be employed if desired projecting from the inner surface and extending the whole length of the holder to prevent the cake from rotating, and a sight glass 14 may be located in the wall of the holder, through which the position and condition of the cake of soap therein may be determined.

A cover plate 15 is pivotally secured to the frame or guide and supporting plate 8, and is preferably held in yielding contact with said plate at at least one point. In the device shown herein a rock shaft 16 has a bearing at one end in the frame or guide and supporting plate and at the other end in a projection 17 from the holder 9. The cover plate 15 is secured to this rock shaft by which it is moved by said plate, and a cap 18 engages with the screw threaded end 19 of the rock shaft, a spring 20 being located within the cap and thrusting with one end against the cap and with the other end against the cover plate to hold it in yielding contact with the frame or guide and support plate 8. The outer edge 21 of the frame or guide and support plate 8 is formed on the arc of a circle concentric with the axis of the rock shaft 16. The cover plate is provided with a handle 22 and a guide finger 23 projecting from the handle and resting against the back of the guide and supporting plate. This finger is preferably slightly resilient so that it causes some frictional resistance to the sliding movement of the cover, and yet at the same time permits the cover to move sufficiently easy and to yield to a slight degree under pressure of the cake to secure the desired results.

A knife 24 is secured to the lower edge of the cover plate 15, this knife being of a length greater than the diameter of the opening into the holder, one side of the knife lying in the same plane as the back of the cover plate 15, so that as said plate is moved, as by means of the handle 22, the knife will brush past and in contact with the edge of the opening into the holder to cut a slice of soap from the cake within the holder, and when the cover plate is in the position opposite to that shown in Fig. 1 it acts as a cover for the holder, securely closing the same and preventing the entry of dust and other matter thereinto. In order

to obtain the best results in cutting slices of minimum thickness and in the uniformity of the slices it is important that the knife shall not be rigidly held against the edge of the opening in the holder, and that also undue force shall not be required to move the cake in the holder. To enable the best results to be attained the knife is yieldingly mounted at each end, as hereinbefore described, and to enable the second result to be obtained supports presenting little bearing surface for the cake are provided.

It is important that the feed of the cake of soap shall take place entirely after the knife has uncovered the opening into the holder, this in order that the knife shall not oppose such feed, the engagement of the pawl with the ratchet and the movement of the latter, hereinafter described, taking place after the knife has uncovered the opening. To aid in this result the supporting plate 8 is provided with an extension 40 against which the knife rests in what may be termed as feeding movement, that is, the continued movement after the opening in the holder has been uncovered, and this extension is made broad enough to enable movement of the knife for the purpose of variable feed hereinafter referred to. The extension is provided with openings 41 that act to remove any soap that may accumulate on the back of the knife, and the frictional contact of the knife with this extension serves as a means for supporting the knife in its sliding movement along the plate.

A follower 25 is located within the holder and has a screw threaded shaft 26 secured thereto and projecting through a hole in an unthreaded hub 27 in the rear wall of the holder. A feed sleeve 28 is mounted upon the hub at the rear of the holder and a ratchet 29 is secured to this sleeve, the outer end of which may be knurled to provide a knob 30 by means of which the sleeve may be manually turned if desired. A hub 32 of a pawl supporting arm 31 is mounted to rotate upon the shaft 16, a pawl 33 being secured to the end of the arm in position to engage the teeth of the ratchet wheel 29, a spring 34 being employed if desired to hold the pawl in engagement with the ratchet. A guard plate 42 projecting from the rear wall of the holder serves to locate the pawl to cause it to properly engage with the teeth of the ratchet wheel. Shoulders are formed upon the hub 32 of the pawl supporting arm, between which shoulders an actuating pin 35 plays. This pin is secured to the shaft 16 and when it comes in contact with the shoulders causes the pawl supporting arm 31 to be rocked in unison with the shaft. In the form of construction herein shown these shoulders are formed as by means of pins 36, 35 projecting from the hub 32. In order to

provide for a variable feed for the cake of soap a gage pin 37 is secured within any one of the openings 38 in the guide plate, the handle 22 by contact with the pin 37 limiting the degree of movement of the guide plate, and therefore of the rock shaft 16, and consequently the position of the pin fixes the amount of throw of the pawl supporting arm 31, which determines the number of teeth on the ratchet over which the pawl will pass during each movement of the cover plate 15 to cut off a slice from a cake of soap, and consequently the thickness of the slice to be cut from said cake. As an example, with the pin in the position shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings the handle passing from the pin to the position shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings will cause the pawl to pass over but one tooth on the ratchet, and therefore feed the ratchet a one tooth space, whereas if the pin be set in the hole 38 nearest the edge, or the second hole from that in which it is shown, the handle in passing from the position shown in Fig. 2 to said pin will cause the pawl 33 to pass over three teeth of the ratchet, and on the return movement the ratchet will be fed a three tooth space.

It will be noted that the movement of the cover plate sufficiently to cause the knife to completely uncover the opening into the holder rocks the shaft 16 to a greater degree than would be required to move the pawl sufficiently to engage the succeeding teeth, and for this reason the movement of the pin 35 between the shoulders 36 is provided to permit this movement of the rock shaft independently of the pawl.

While I have shown and described herein a preferred construction of device for carrying out the objects herein sought to be attained, this construction may be departed from to a greater or lesser extent without departing from the spirit and intent of the invention, which I do not therefore limit to its embodiment in a device constructed in exact accordance with that illustrated and described herein.

I claim—

1. A holder, a guide, a cover plate pivotally mounted at one side of the opening into the holder, a knife secured to the edge of the cover plate, a resilient guide finger carried by the cover plate to frictionally engage the edge of said guide to permit yielding movement of the knife in the direction of feed of a cake of soap in the holder, a follower located within the holder for feeding action, and means for actuating the follower.

2. A holder, a guide, a cover plate pivotally mounted at one side of the opening into the holder, means for exerting a yielding pressure upon the cover plate in the direction opposed to the feed of a cake of soap within the holder, a knife secured to the

edge of the cover plate, a guide finger carried by the cover plate to frictionally engage the edge of said guide, a follower located within the holder for feeding action, and means for actuating the follower.

3. A holder, a guide, a cover plate pivotally mounted at one side of the opening into the holder, means for exerting a yielding pressure upon the cover plate at the pivot in the direction opposed to the feed of a cake of soap within the holder, a knife secured to the edge of the cover plate, a resilient guide finger carried by the cover plate to frictionally engage the edge of said guide to permit yielding movement of the knife in the direction of feed of a cake of soap in the holder, a follower located within the holder for feeding action, and means for actuating the follower.

4. In a soap slicing machine, a holder arranged to receive a cake closely fitting its inner wall, supporting strips extending

lengthwise of the holder on its inner surface and arranged to provide a bearing surface of little area on all sides of the holder for the cake of soap, a follower located in the holder for feeding action, and means for operating the follower.

5. A holder, a knife pivotally mounted with respect to the holder, a supporting plate along which the knife brushes, said supporting plate having openings, means for operating the knife, means for holding the knife yieldingly against the supporting plate, a follower located with the holder, and means for operating the follower.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ISADORE H. PLATSHEK.

Witnesses:

JOHN MURTAGH,
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."