Aug. 27, 1935. J. R. VOELLER 2,012,840

SAUSAGE COOKER

Filed April 11, 1931 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

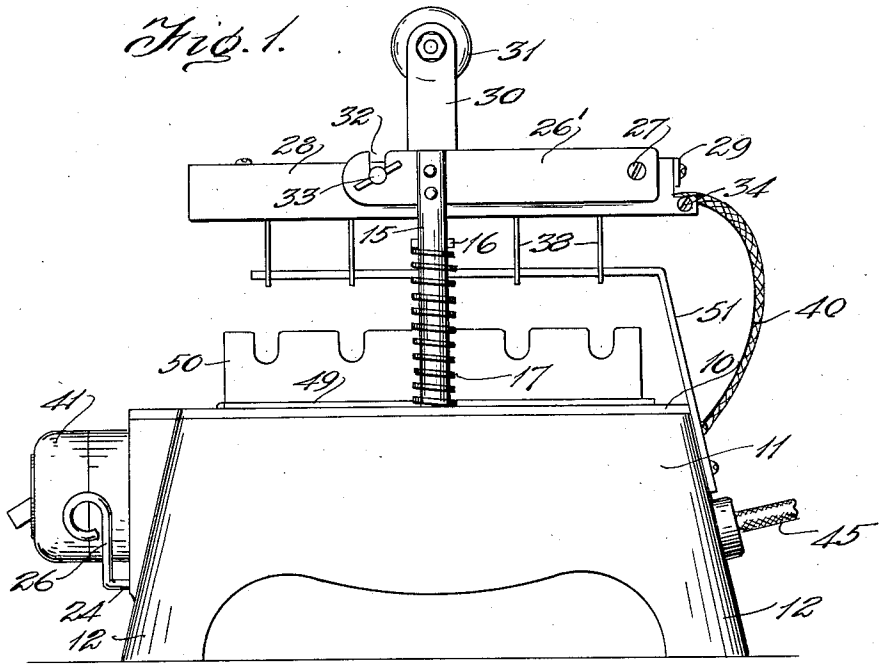
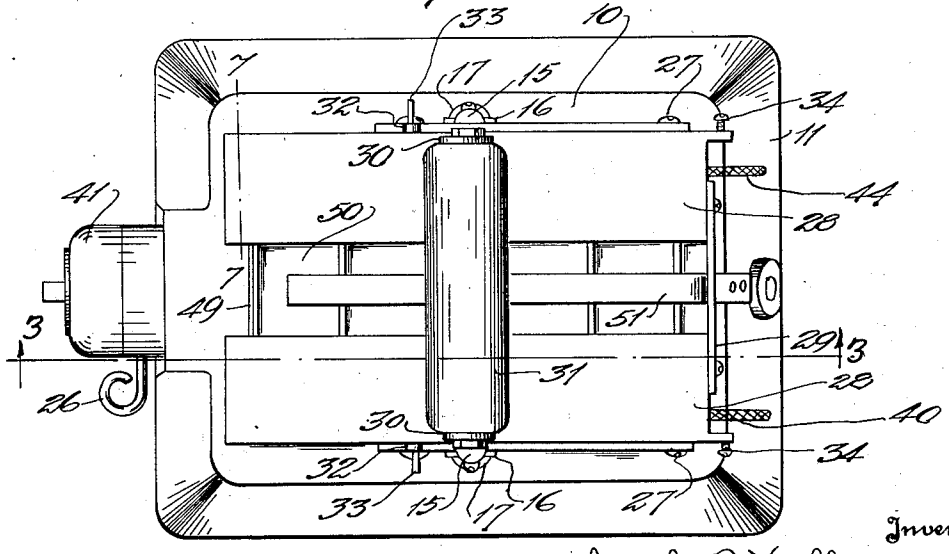


Fig. 2.



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SAUSAGE COOKER

Filed April 11, 1931 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3.

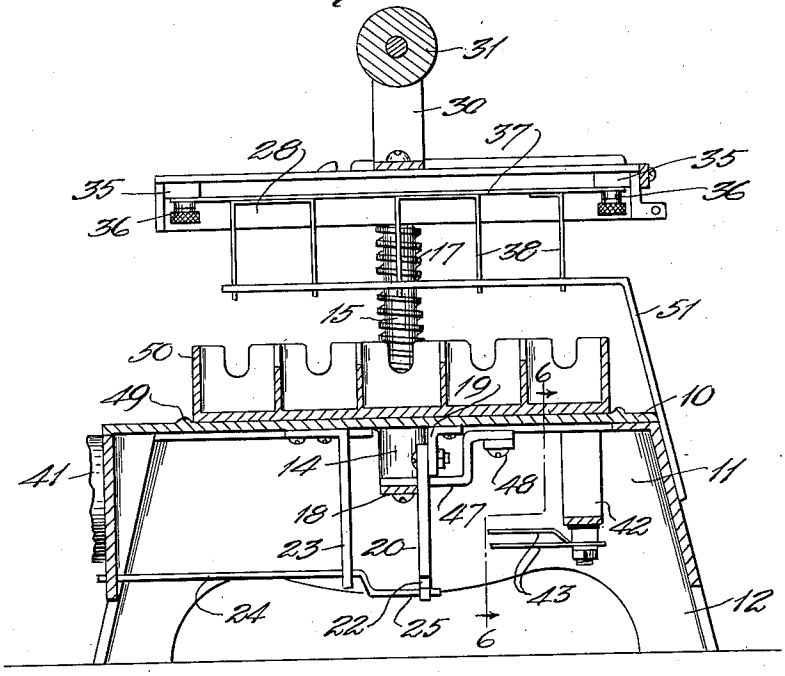
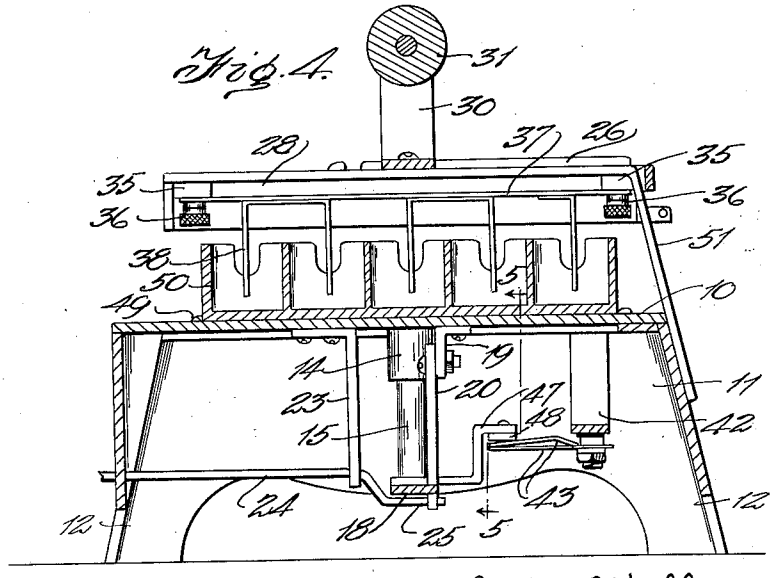


Fig. 4.



Jacob R. Voeller Inventor

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SAUSAGE COOKER

Filed April 11, 1931 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 5.

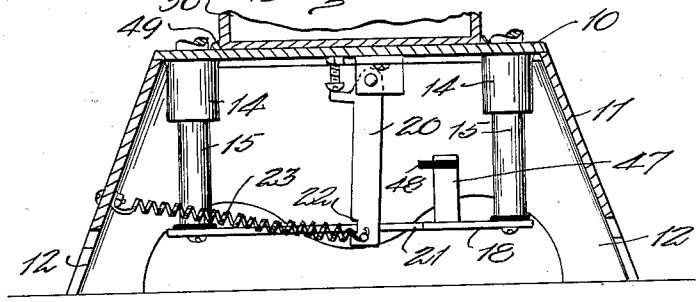


Fig. 6.

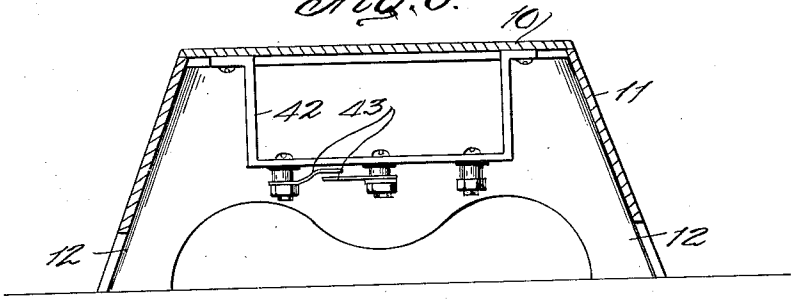


Fig. 8.

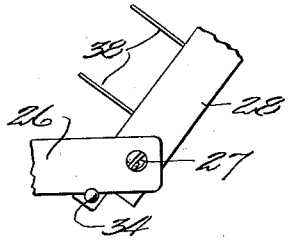


Fig. 7.

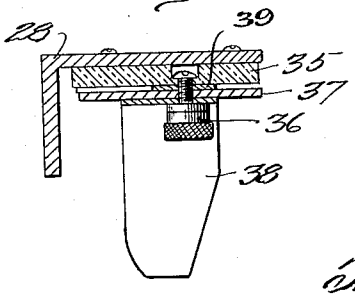
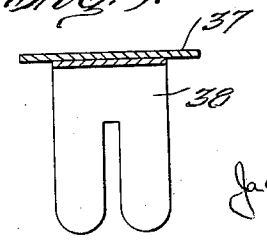


Fig. 9.



Jacob R. Voeller Inventor

By

Patented Aug. 27, 1935

2,012,840

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,012,840

SAUSAGE COOKER

Jacob R. Voeller, Kansas City, Kans., assignor, by mesne assignments, to Alvin J. Swanson, Jamestown, N. Y.

Application April 11, 1931, Serial No. 529,433

16 Claims. (Cl. 219—19)

This invention relates to electrical cookers and has special reference to a cooker for sausages of the smoked type such as are known as "Frankfurters" the device being preferably termed a Frankfurter cooker.

One important object of the invention is to provide an improved general construction of cooker of this class.

A second important object of the invention is to provide a novel construction of such a cooker wherein electric current will be caused to flow through the article being cooked, the latter acting as a resistance and being heated and cooked by the current.

A third important object of the invention is to provide a novel arrangement of electrodes or terminals for such a cooker.

A fourth important object of the invention is to provide a novel supporting arrangement for the electrodes or terminals whereby free access may be had to the latter for cleaning and removal.

A fifth important object of the invention is to provide a novel cooker having electrodes or terminals and so arranged that the terminals may be moved between position to engage an article to be cooked and position free therefrom.

A sixth important object of the invention is to provide circuit closing means arranged to effect closing of a circuit only upon the terminals being in article engaging position.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in general of certain novel details of construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, like characters of reference indicate like parts in the several views, and:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the cooker with the top raised.

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2 with the top raised.

Figure 4 is a similar section with the top down.

Figure 5 is a detail section on the line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a detail section on the line 6—6 of Figure 3.

Figure 7 is a detail section on the line 7—7 of Figure 2.

Figure 8 is a detail of a part of the pivoted terminal frame showing the pivot arrangement.

Figure 9 is a section transverse a modified form of terminal strip.

In the embodiment of the invention here shown there is provided a hollow base or body having a top 10 from which depend outwardly flaring skirts 11 provided with supporting legs 12 at each corner of the body. The body is, in plan, substantially rectangular and is somewhat longer than wide so that it may be said to have ends and sides. Depending beneath the top at about the center of each of the sides is a guide lug 14 through which slides a vertical post 15 having a pin 16 extending therethrough near its top. A spring 17 coils around each post and bears at its upper end against the pin 16 and at its lower end against the top 10 so that the posts are constantly urged to move upwardly. The lower ends of these posts are tied together by a cross bar 18. Depending from the top is a bracket 19 to which is pivoted the upper end of a swinging latch arm 20 having its lower end working in a notch 21 formed in one side of the cross bar 18, the latch arm being provided with a notch 22 in which engages the side edge portion of the notch 21 as shown in Figure 5. A tension spring 23 has one end attached to the lower part of the latch arm 20 and its other end attached to the skirt 11 at one side of the body, this spring serving to urge the latch arm to latching position. Depending from the top 10 is a bearing bracket 23 and a crank shaft 24 is journalled in the lower end of this bracket and in one of the end skirts 11. On the inner end of this shaft is formed a crank 25 which engages the latch arm 20 to move the latter to latch releasing position upon rotation of the shaft in the proper direction. An operating arm 26 projects radially from the outer end of this shaft so that the user may rock the shaft and release the latch.

Firmly fixed to the top of each post 15 is a head bracket 26' in the form of a horizontal bar which projects a considerable distance to the rear of the post and a somewhat less distance forwardly thereof. At the rear of each head bracket 26' is a pivot screw 27 whereon is mounted one of the side members 28 of a head frame, the two side members being connected at their rear ends by a tie bar 29 and each having a central upstanding handle bracket 30. A handle 31 extends between and is carried by these handle brackets. The forward end of each bracket is provided with an upwardly opening slot 32 and a clamping screw 33 normally passes through each slot and into the adjacent side member 29 so that, when the screws are screwed up the head frame cannot pivot on the screws 27 but when the screws are loosened the head frame can be tilted upwardly and backwardly. Each side 29 projects rear-

wardly of its pivot and carries a stop screw or lug 34 which engages beneath the respective bracket 28 upon the head frame being tilted to the limit of its movement and thus stops further tilting movement rearwardly.

The frame sides 23 are L-shaped in cross section having one vertical leg and one horizontal leg and to the under side of the horizontal leg of each head frame side at each end thereof is fixed an insulating block 35 carrying a clamping screw 36 for removably clamping the terminal or electrode frames in position. Each terminal frame consists of a flat metallic strip 37 from which depend the spaced knife edged terminals 38 or electrodes which may be of somewhat triangular form as shown in Figure 7 or bifurcated as shown in Figure 9, the latter being used for quick cooking as giving more contact area while not slitting the sausage too much in any one place, a strip of skin being left between the two slits formed by the bifurcated terminal. A contact strip 39 is carried by each of the blocks 35 at the pivot end of the head frame and from one of these contact strips runs a wire 40 which leads to a manually controlled switch 41 mounted on the skirt 11 at the front of the machine. A switch bracket 42 is mounted on the under side of the top 10 adjacent its rear end and carried by this bracket but insulated therefrom is a pair of spring contact fingers 43 one of which is connected to the remaining strip 39 by a wire 44. The other finger 43 is connected to one wire of the two wire connecting cable 45 while the other wire of this cable is connected to a binding pivot 46 from which a wire extends to the switch 41. Carried by the bar 18 is a bracket 47 the end of which supports an insulating block 48 overlying the free ends of the fingers 43 so that contact is established between these fingers when the head is in depressed position.

On top of the top 10 are ribs 49 arranged in rectangular form to support a cooker pan or tray 50 in proper position to receive the terminals in the ends of the oblong compartments formed therein to keep the sausages from touching each other. This pan is made of porcelain or the like. An arm 51 is attached to the rear skirt and extends over the cooker pan so as to detach the sausages from the terminals when the head is raised by the springs.

In use the latch is released and the head allowed to rise. The cooker pan is withdrawn and sausages are placed in its compartments after which it is replaced. The head is now pushed down so that the terminal knives cut into the sausage and this, the manual switch having been turned on, closes circuits through the sausages which are heated and cooked by the passage of the current. When cooked the head is again unlatched, the pan is removed and the cooked sausages served.

There has thus been provided a simple and efficient device of the kind described and for the purpose specified.

It is obvious that minor changes may be made in the form and construction of the device without departing from the principles involved. It is therefore desired to include, as the invention, all forms which properly come within the scope claimed.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage, means to support the terminals and to move them into and out of sausage penetrating position, means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position, and an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position.

2. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced electric circuit terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends and thereby forming cooking electrodes, means to support the sausage, means to support the terminals and to move them into and out of sausage penetrating position, springs urging said terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding said terminals in sausage engaging position.

3. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced electric circuit terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends and thereby forming cooking electrodes, means to support the sausage, means to support the terminals and to move them into and out of sausage penetrating position, means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position, springs urging said terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding said terminals in sausage engaging position.

4. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage, means to support the terminals and to move them into and out of sausage penetrating position, an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position, springs urging said terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding said terminals in sausage engaging position.

5. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage, means to support the terminals and to move them into and out of sausage penetrating position, means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position, an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position, springs urging said terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding said terminals in sausage engaging position.

6. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced electric circuit terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends and thereby forming cooking electrodes, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, vertically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, and means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position.

7. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, ver-

tically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, and an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position.

8. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, vertically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position, and an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position.

9. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, vertically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, springs urging said brackets upwardly to move the terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding the brackets down against the action of said springs.

10. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, vertically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position, springs urging said brackets upwardly to move the terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding the brackets down against the action of said springs.

11. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, vertically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position, springs urging said brackets upwardly to move the terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding the brackets down against the action of said springs.

12. In a sausage cooker, a pair of spaced terminals adapted to penetrate a sausage adjacent its ends, means to support the sausage below said terminals, a head supporting said terminals, vertically moving head brackets pivoted to the head at one end of the latter whereby the latter may swing upwardly from normal position for access to the terminals, the movement of said brackets causing movement of the terminals into and out of sausage engaging position, means to detach the sausages from the terminals upon movement of said terminals out of sausage penetrating position, an electric circuit for said terminals including a switch open when the terminals are out of sausage penetrating position and closed when said terminals are in sausage penetrating position, springs urging said brackets upwardly to move the terminals out of sausage engaging position, and a manually releasable latch holding the brackets down against the action of said springs.

13. In a device of the character described, a support including a fixed member and a movable member, spaced electrodes associated with said support, impaling knife-like means on the electrodes to pierce the article to be cooked when the movable member is actuated with relation to the fixed member, and means for closing a circuit to the electrodes for passing a current through the article impaled by said impaling means.

14. In a device of the character described, a base member, a cover member hinged on the base member and adapted to close onto the base member, a spring for normally retaining the cover member in open position, electrodes associated with said members for impaling an article to be cooked when the cover member is closed on the base member, a circuit supplying the electrodes, means for closing the circuit incidental to closing of the cover member, a latch for retaining the cover member in closed position on the base member against tension of the spring, and means for releasing the latch.

15. In a device of the character described, a base member, a movable upper member, a pan on the base member for retaining an article to be cooked, spaced electrodes associated with the upper member, elements carried by the electrodes for projection into the pan when the upper member is moved toward the base member, and a circuit for supplying a heating current to the electrodes for passage through the article in the pan.

16. In a device of the character described, a support including a fixed member, a movable member arranged for movement between an article-engaging position and an article-disengaging position, spaced electrodes carried by said support, at least one of said electrodes being movable with respect to the fixed member, impaling means on said electrodes arranged to pierce an article upon movement of said movable member to article-engaging position, and an electrical circuit to the electrode for passing a current through an article impaled by said impaling means.

JACOB R. VOELLER.