(No Model.)

L. E. NEARING.

STRAINER.

No. 590,902. Patented Sept. 28, 1897.

Fig. 1.

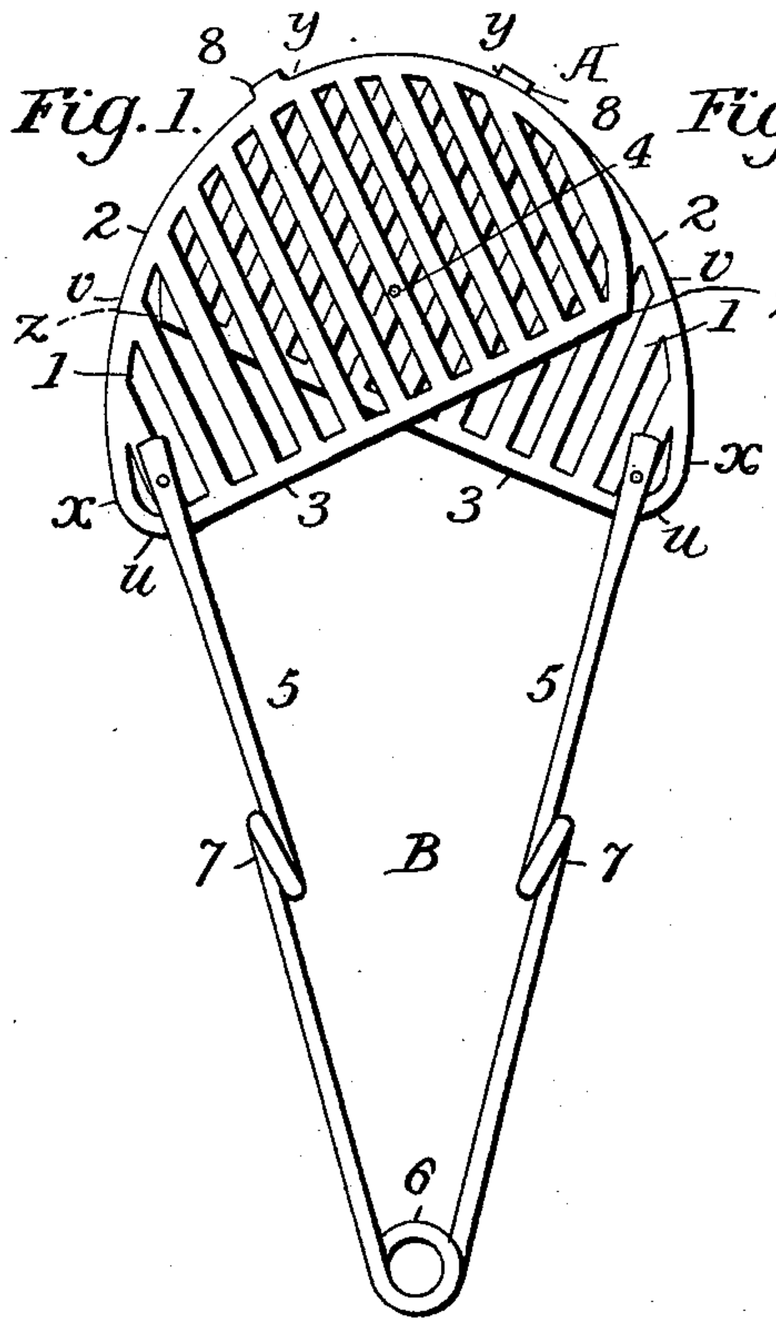


Fig. 3.

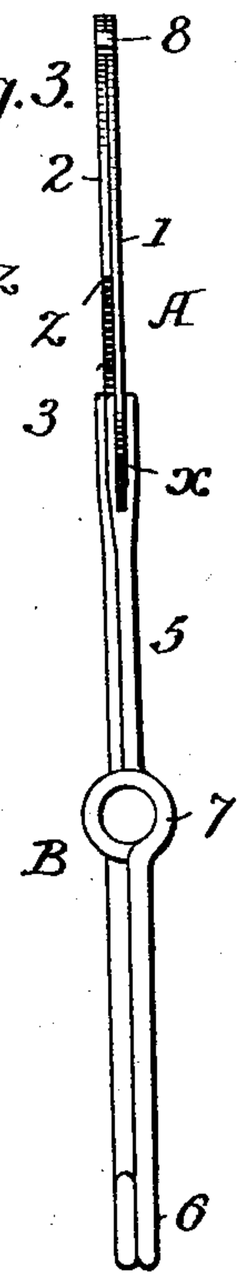


Fig. 2.

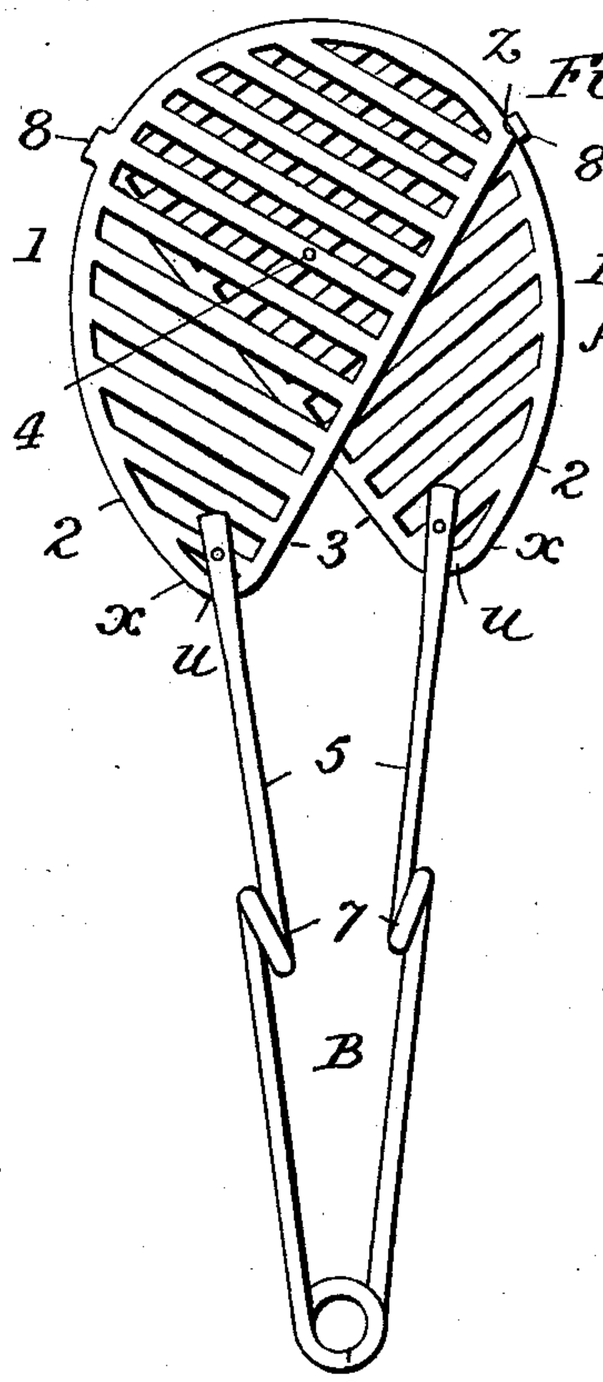
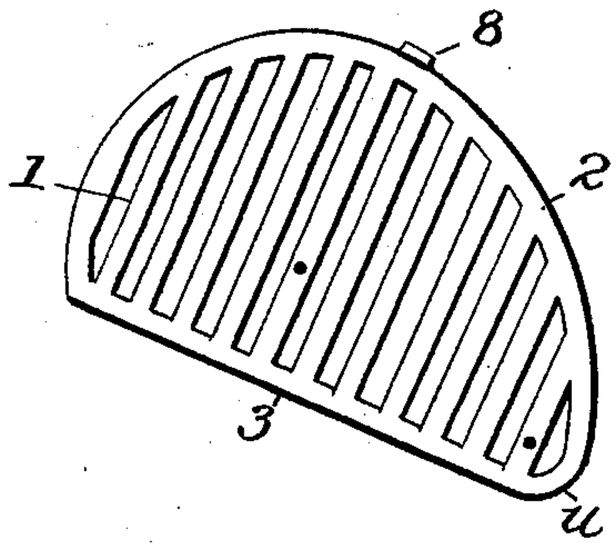


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
J. L. Hinkel
Jamed. Stevens

Inventor
Louis E. Nearing
by Allen Freeman
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS E. NEARING, OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO MAX SCHWEIZER, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

STRAINER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,902, dated September 28, 1897.

Application filed March 13, 1897. Serial No. 627,328. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS E. NEARING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wallingford, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Strainers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in strainers adapted more especially for use in mixing drinks concocted of thick portions of solids, such as ice, fruit, eggs, &c., and liquids, so as to separate the thick portions from the liquids after mixing; and it has for its object to provide a simple and effective strainer and one which may be easily adjusted to conform to glasses or vessels of different sizes.

With this object in view the invention consists in the novel features of construction and arrangement hereinafter more particularly pointed out.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification and in which like letters and numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figures 1 and 2 are plan views of the strainer in different positions. Fig. 3 is a side elevation thereof, and Fig. 4 is a detail view of one of the strainer-sections.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, A designates the strainer, preferably formed of sheet metal, but which may be formed of any other suitable material or combination of materials. The strainer is formed of two or more pivotally-connected flat perforated sections 1, each of which in general outline is substantially semiheart-shaped and has a curved edge 2 and a straight edge 3. The curved edge of each of the strainer-sections conforms to arcs of two or more circles, and, as shown, the edge of each section between the points $x\ y$ conforms to the arc of a circle of one diameter, and between the points $y\ z$ it conforms to the arc of a circle of less diameter. These strainer-sections partially overlie each other with their opposing faces in close contact, and said sections are eccentrically pivoted at 4, to which point the curved edges of the sections between the points $y\ z$ and the edge of the strainer between the points $y\ y$ are always concentric. A portion of the edges of the strainer-sections between the points $y\ z$ always coincide, but normally the greater portion of said edges lie in the plane of the body of the opposing section, in which position they are held by some suitable means. This means, as shown, consists of a handle B, formed with two arms 5, normally held separated by a spring, and one of which arms is pivotally connected to each strainer-section, near the juncture of the straight and curved edges thereof, at the point u. The handle B may be formed in any desired manner, but preferably it is formed of a continuous piece of wire bent in its center to form a spring 6, from which the opposite ends are extended to form the arms 5. About centrally the length of each of these arms the wire is coiled to form bearings 7 for the fingers to enable the operator to more readily press the arms together.

In order to prevent too great a separating of the arms, the strainer is provided with a suitable stop, as shown. Each strainer-section is provided at its curved edge with a lug 8, adapted to make contact when the arms 5 have reached the limit of their separation.

Normally the strainer is held extended by reason of the spring-arms 5 holding the ends to which they are connected widely separated. When, however, it is desired to reduce the diameter of the strainer to fit a small glass, the arms 5 are pressed together, causing the points $u\ u$ and the curved edges of the strainer-sections between the points $x\ y$ to approach each other, which has the effect of gradually reducing the diameter of the strainer between the points $v\ v$. The edge of the strainer between these points, however, always conforms substantially to a semicircle no matter to what position the sections are moved. After the strainer has been contracted and inserted into a glass the arms 5 are released, and the spring immediately separates the arms and moves the strainer-sections until their edges conform to the inner surface of the glass.

Without limiting myself to the precise construction of the parts shown and described, what I claim is—

1. A strainer comprising perforated pivoted

sections each having a curved edge and means for normally spreading the sections and permitting their movement relative to each other to contract the strainer, substantially as described.

2. A strainer comprising perforated pivotally-connected sections each having an edge which conforms to arcs of two or more circles of different diameters and means for moving the sections relative to each other, substantially as described.

3. A strainer comprising perforated pivotally-connected sections each having a curved edge, the said sections being movable relative to each other, a spring for spreading the strainer, and a stop for limiting the spreading of the strainer, substantially as described.

4. A strainer comprising perforated eccentrically-pivoted sections each having a curved edge and spring-actuated arms pivotally connected to the sections, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

L. E. NEARING.

Witnesses:
EDWIN E. SHERWOOD,
BENJAMIN F. PIKE.