

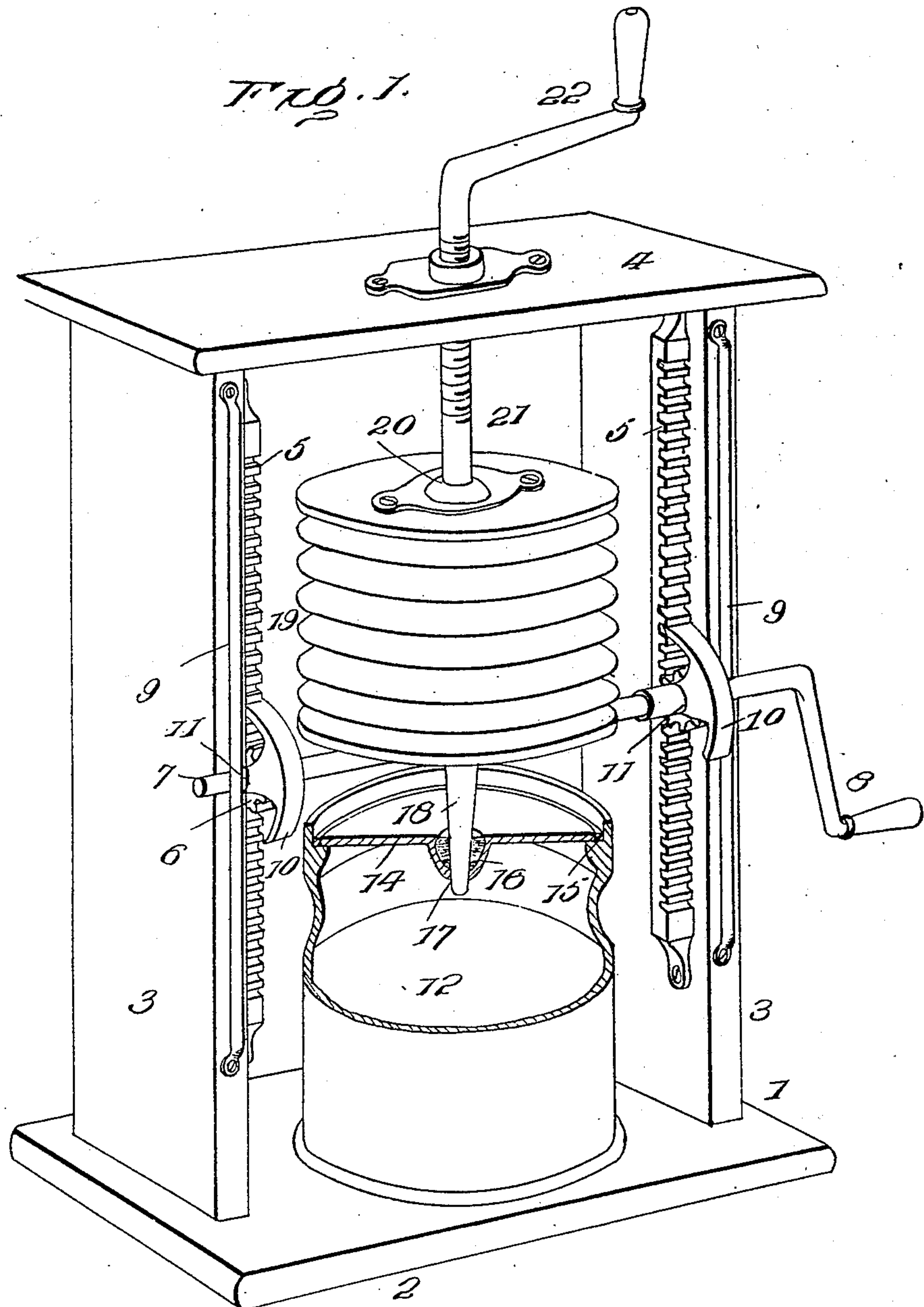
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No. 817,208.

PATENTED APR. 10, 1906.

T. WIDDOP.  
PRESERVING APPARATUS.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 27, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Inventor

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Witnesses

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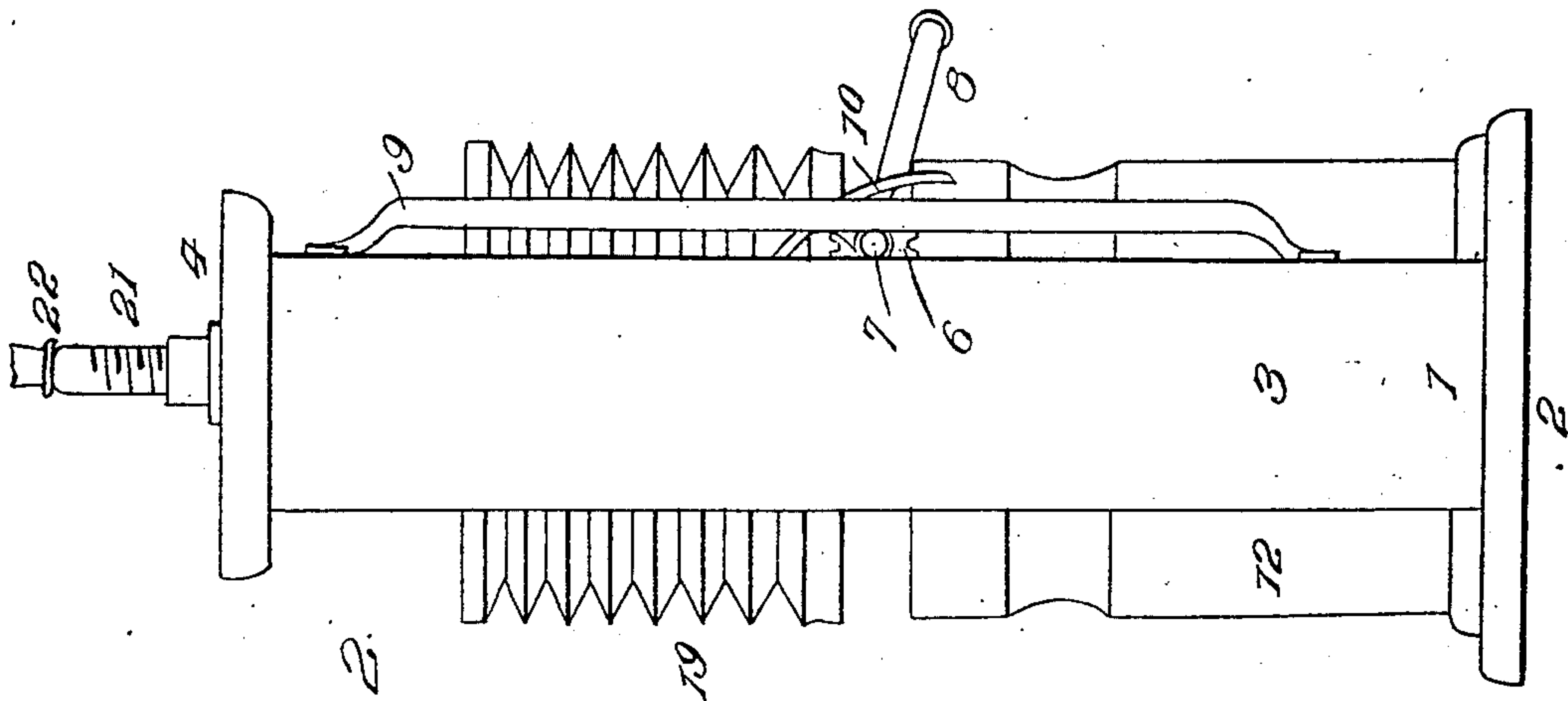


Fig. 2.

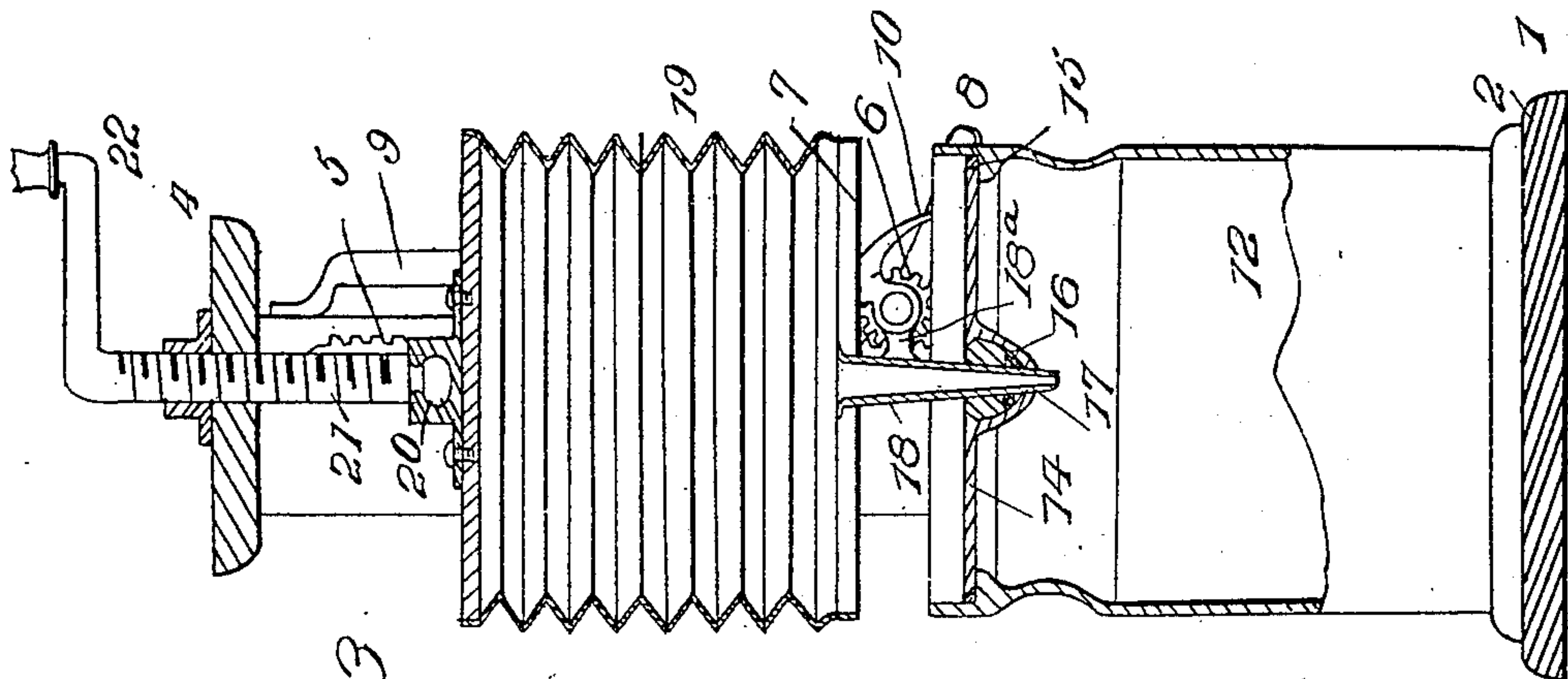


Fig. 3.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS WIDDOP, OF LONETREE, WYOMING.

## PRESERVING APPARATUS.

No. 817,208.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 10, 1906.

Application filed June 27, 1905. Serial No. 267,257.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS WIDDOP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lonetree, in the county of Uinta and State of Wyoming, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Preserving Food, of which the following is a specification.

This invention involves a novel means for preserving foods—such as fruits, eggs, meats, vegetables, or like eatables; and the invention resides mainly in the provision of special means designed to exhaust or withdraw air from receptacles, to create a vacuum therein as nearly as practicable, so as to facilitate the thorough preservation of the articles of food which may be contained by such receptacles.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the invention.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings and describing specifically the construction of the means constituting the invention, the numeral 1 indicates a support for the operating mechanism and for the receptacle which is being operated upon, said support 1 constituting, preferably, a base 2 and a frame extending vertically from the base and composed of spaced uprights 3, connected at the upper ends by a cross-bar 4. Attached in any substantial way to the inner sides of the uprights 3 of the frame of the support are rack-bars 5, which cooperate with pinions 6, carried by a shaft 7, which is vertically movable relative to the uprights 3 aforesaid. The pinions 6 are keyed or otherwise secured to the shaft 7, and said shaft has a crank-handle 8 for rotation thereof, so that when it is turned the shaft 7 will be raised or lowered according to the direction of turning said handle. The pinions 6 are held in engagement with the teeth of the rack-bars 5 by means of vertical guide-rods 9, attached to the front portions of the uprights 3, the portions of the shaft 7 being arranged in the space between the rods 9 and the uprights 3. To fix the position of the

shaft 7, said shaft has double pawls 10, pivoted between their ends thereto, as shown at 11, and when the lower ends of the pawls 10 engage the rack-bars 5, with which they are arranged to cooperate, the shaft 7 is held from downward movement, and when the upper ends of the pawls engage the rack-bars said shaft is held from upward movement.

The base 2 of the support 1 is adapted to receive a jar or receptacle thereon in the operation of withdrawing the air therefrom, and said jar or receptacle is indicated at 12 and is adapted to rest upon circular blocks, one or more of which may be removed, according to the size of the receptacle, in operating upon different-sized jars. The jar 12 will be provided with a cover or top 14, which after the jar has been filled will be sealed at its edge portions thereto, as shown at 15, in any suitable way. The cover or top 14 of the receptacle will have a central depression 16, centrally apertured, as shown at 17, the aperture 17 being adapted to receive the lower end of an exhaust-tube 18, which is vertically movable above the receptacle. The exhaust-tube 18 is connected with suitable air suction or exhaust means, and in the drawings this means is illustrated as a bellows 19, from the lower end of which the tube 18 extends. The upper end of the bellows 19 has swivel connection, preferably, as indicated at 20, with a vertical screw 21, mounted in the cross-bar 4 of the frame of the support 1. A handle 22 at the upper end of the screw admits of rotation thereof, so as to raise and lower the upper end of the bellows in an obvious manner. The shaft 7 is so connected with the tube 18 by means of a bearing member 18<sup>a</sup> or in any similar way that as this shaft is rotated to be raised or lowered corresponding movement will be imparted to said tube 18 in the actual operation of the invention.

In practical use a jar or receptacle having been filled and placed beneath the bellows 19 and tube 18 previously adjusted so as to occupy a position at the upper portion of the frame of the support 1, and the shaft 7 is turned, so as to be lowered, causing the exhaust-tube 18 to enter the aperture 17 in the top of the cover 14 of the receptacle. The upper ends of the pawls 10 are now engaged with the rack-bars 5, so as to prevent upward movement of the tube 18, and the recess or central depression 16 in the top or cover of the receptacle filled with a lower strata of cotton or similar material, this cot-



ton being covered by sealing-wax or cement of a suitable character. The handle 22 is now rotated, so as to pull upwardly upon the upper end of the bellows 19, thereby creating  
5 a suction which exhausts the air from the receptacle 12 in an obvious manner, and this having been done the pawls 10 are disengaged at their upper ends from the rack-bars 5, and the shaft 7 is rotated, so as to raise the tube  
10 18, the fingers of the operator being at the same time pressed upon the sealing-wax or cement in the recess or depression 16, so that the material will be forced over the aperture 17 as the tube 18 is withdrawn, preventing  
15 the air from passing into the receptacle in an obvious manner. When the tube 18 is raised, the lower ends of the pawls 10 are engaged with the rack-bars 5 to hold said tube elevated.

20 Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In means of the character described, the combination of a support, a movable exhaust-tube arranged in said support, a shaft oper-  
25 ably connected with the tube for raising and lowering the same, air-suction means connected with the tube, and means for locking the tube to prevent movement thereof while exhausting therethrough.

30 2. In means of the character described, the combination of a support, a vertically-movable exhaust-tube arranged in said support, a shaft operably connected with the tube to raise and lower the same, rack-and-pinion de-  
35 vices coacting with the shaft, and air-suction means connected with the tube.

40 3. In means of the character described, the combination of a support embodying a supporting-frame, rack-bars mounted in said frame, a shaft, pinions carried by the shaft

and engaging the rack-bars, means for turning the shaft, an exhaust-tube operably connected with the shaft for actuation thereby, and air-suction means connected with said tube.

45 4. In means of the character described, the combination of a support embodying a supporting-frame, rack-bars mounted in said frame, a shaft, pinions carried by the shaft and engaging the rack-bars, means for turn-  
50 ing the shaft, an exhaust-tube operably connected with the shaft for actuation thereby, bellows connected with the exhaust-tube to create a suction therethrough, and a screw  
55 mounted in the frame of the support for actuating the bellows.

5. In means of the character described, the combination of a support embodying a supporting-frame, rack-bars mounted in said frame, a shaft, pinions carried by the shaft  
60 and engaging the rack-bars, means for turning the shaft, an exhaust-tube operably connected with the shaft for actuation thereby, bellows connected with the exhaust-tube to create a suction, therethrough, a screw mount-  
65 ed in the frame of the support for actuating the bellows, guide-bars mounted upon the frame of the support to hold the shaft afore-said in proper relative position with regard to the rack-bars, and pawls pivotally mount-  
70 ed upon the shaft and coacting with the rack-bars to hold the shaft at a predetermined adjustment.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS WIDDOP. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

A. M. PETERSON,  
J. P. GUILD.