N. BALDWIN.

COOKING UTENSIL.

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915,653.

Patented Mar. 16, 1909.

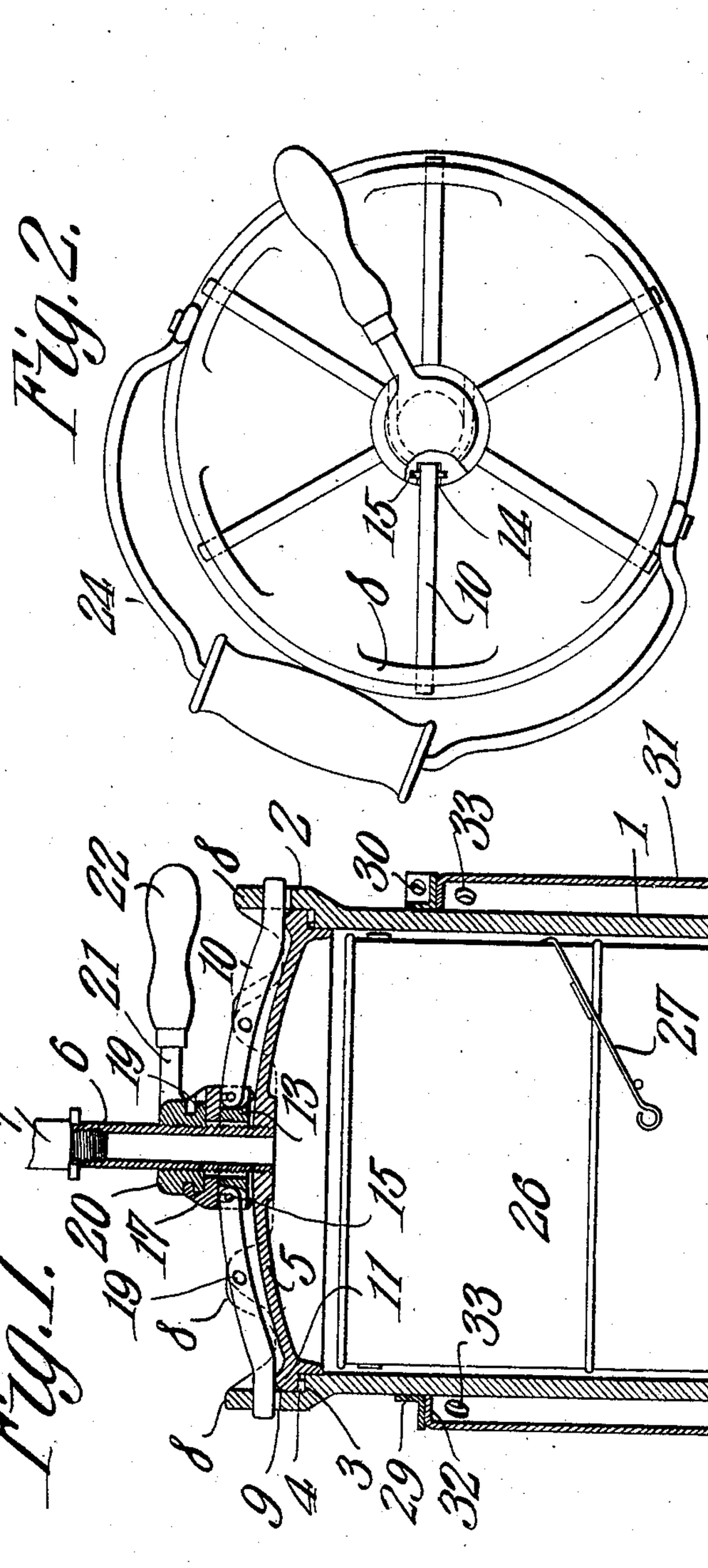

Fig. 1.

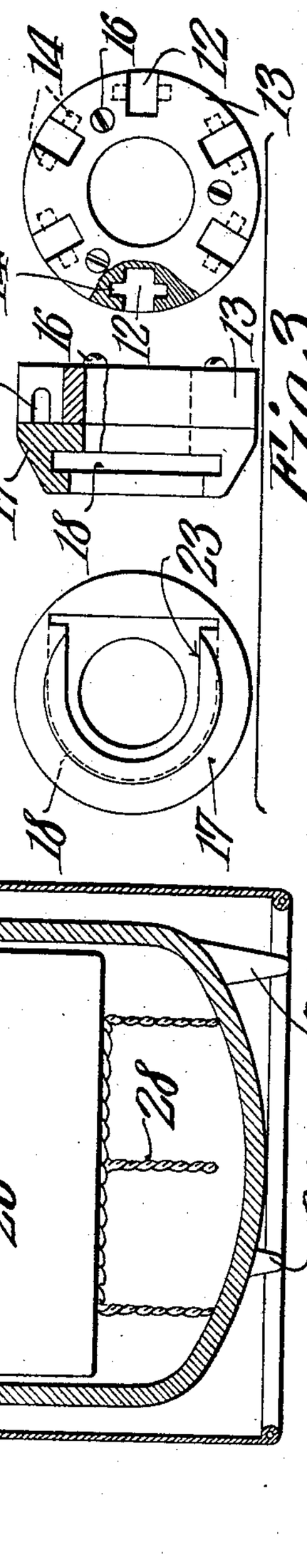

Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COOKING UTENSIL.

No. 915,653. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 16, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL BALDWIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Heber city, in the county of Wasatch and State of Utah, have invented a new and useful Cooking Utensil, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cooking utensils.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient device of this character which, in operation, may readily be hermetically sealed in order to raise the temperature of the steam above that of boiling water in an open vessel, whereby the cooking of the food subjected to the action of the steam will be materially accelerated; in which the pressure of steam may be regulated and automatically controlled, and which may be employed with any one of the various classes of stoves now in general use.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of a cooking utensil, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a view in vertical section through a utensil constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the utensil. Fig. 3 is a collective detail view, partly in section, of a portion of the cover locking mechanism.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a vessel constructed of iron or other suitable material, and having its upper edge provided with an upstanding flange 2, that is offset from the inner wall of the vessel to provide a seat 3 upon which is disposed a packing ring 4 of any suitable material, such as lead. This packing is engaged by the under edge of the peripheral portion of the cover 5 from the center of which extends upward a hollow post or tube 6 that is connected with the cover or lid in any preferred manner, preferably by a threaded connection, as shown in Fig. 1, the threaded portion of the post being slightly larger in diameter than the remaining portion, for a purpose that will hereinafter appear. The lower end of the post is open, so as to be in communication with the interior of the vessel, while the upper end of the post is provided with a safety valve 7 of any preferred construction, and which may be adjusted to maintain any desired pressure within the vessel.

The flange 2 is provided with a plurality of spaced upstanding lugs 8, of which any number may be employed, six being shown in the present instance, and each of these lugs is provided with an orifice 9. The orifices 9 are engaged by the outer ends of a series of levers 10, which, as shown in Fig. 1, are curved to conform to the upper surface of the cover and bear at their outer end portions upon an upstanding bead 11 formed on the upper side of the cover adjacent to its periphery, the bead being preferably curved in cross section in order to reduce friction between it and the portions of the levers that coact therewith. The inner ends of the levers fit in radially disposed seats 12 formed in a disk 13 that is loosely mounted upon the post, the opposed walls of the seats being provided with recesses 14 that are disposed in alinement and are engaged by pins 15 carried by the inner ends of the levers, and by this arrangement the levers will be pivotally connected with the disk, and, in order to prevent disconnection of the levers from the disk, there is secured to the disk, as by screws 16 extending from the under side thereof, a second disk 17 that constitutes the female locking member of the cover, and is freely slidable upon the post, the orifices through the two disks, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, being of greater diameter than the threaded portion of the post. The member 17 is provided with an approximately semicircular groove 18 that is engaged by a flange 19 carried by the male locking member, the said member comprising a nut 20 that engages the threads of the post and is provided with an extension 21 with which is connected a handle 22. As shown in Fig. 3, one wall of the groove 18 is cut away at 23, the object of this arrangement being to permit of ready detachment of the male locking member therefrom when desired, and this is effected by removing the safety valve, turning the handle 22 until the nut 20 is free from engagement with the threads of the post, then bodily lifting the cover and male locking member free of the post, and then laterally withdrawing the male member.

As will be seen by reference to Fig. 1, when the handle 22 is turned about the post as a

pivot, the male member 20 will bear upon the female member 21 and thus force the levers downward and outward, and, as they impinge against the bead 11 and the upper walls of the orifices 9 of the lugs 8, the cover will be forced against the gasket and thereby effect hermetic sealing of the parts.

In order to facilitate handling the utensil, there is a bail 24 provided, which has its terminals pivotally connected with two of the lugs 8 and is furnished with an insulated handle 25.

To provide for cooking two or more kinds of food at one operation, I employ a pair of auxiliary receptacles 26 designed to seat one above the other within the vessel 1 and having bails or handles 27 which fold downward, the lower vessel being adapted to rest upon a wire or other suitable metallic frame or support 28, whereby a space is maintained in the bottom of the vessel for a supply of water. Under ordinary conditions, only a single auxiliary vessel or food container will be disposed within the vessel 1.

Encircling the vessel is a clamping ring 29 having its ends united by a clamping bolt 30 by which the ring is clamped in place upon the vessel. The ring is adjustable vertically of the vessel and constitutes a bearing or stop by which the entrance of the vessel downward in the lid hole of the stove may be limited, when the utensil is employed with an ordinary coal or wood cooking stove.

When the utensil is employed with a gas or gasolene stove, a sheet metal drum or casing 31 is utilized, which is provided at its upper end with an inturned flange 32, which engages with the underside of the ring 29. The drum is provided adjacent to its upper end with a plurality of escape openings 33, and is of larger diameter than the vessel to provide a chamber around the latter for the reception of the heat and flames from the gas or gasolene which escapes through the openings 33.

The bottom of the vessel is provided with the usual legs 34 by which it is supported upon the top of an ordinary stove.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that the utensil is comparatively simple and, in practice, will efficiently perform its functions, and in a safe and reliable manner.

I claim:—

The combination with a vessel provided with orificed lugs, of a cover, a post rigid therewith, a perforated disk mounted upon the post, and being provided with radial slots having their opposed walls provided with seats, a plurality of levers, having their inner ends seated in the slots, and provided with pins to engage the seats, a female locking member secured to the disk, and holding the levers in position; said female member having a semi-circular groove, which member also receives the post, and a male locking member having a threaded engagement with the post, and operating to force the disk downward to secure locking of the cover, said male member having a flange which slidably engages the groove of the female member.

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

NATHANIEL BALDWIN.

Witnesses:

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D. H. ROBERTS.