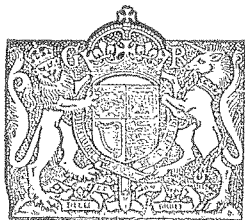


PATENT SPECIFICATION



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436,088

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Slicing Machines

We, BERKEL & PARNALL'S SLICING MACHINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED, of Aden Road, Ponders End, Middlesex, England, a British Company, do hereby declare the nature of this invention, which has been communicated to us by Maatschappij van Berkel's Patent N.V., of 33, Boezemsingel, Rotterdam, Holland, a body corporate organised under the laws of Holland, to be as follows:—

This invention relates to slicing machines of the type having an abutment (usually a plate-like member, sometimes termed a first-slice device) located behind and parallel to the slicing plane of the knife, feed-mechanism for advancing step-by-step the substance to be sliced, and slice-thickness-regulating means operatively associated with both the abutment and the feed-mechanism.

Usually, such an abutment is supported by one or two guide rods slidably mounted in one or two guide holes or bushes in the machine frame, which has to be constructed to provide for the guidance of the abutment.

In accordance with the present invention, a slicing machine of the type stated has one or more abutment-supporting pivotal arms adapted to move the abutment to-and-from the slicing plane and to maintain it parallel to said plane.

As the mounting or mountings for the pivotal arm or arms may conveniently be attachments on the machine frame, there is no necessity to alter the construction of the frame to provide for the guidance of the abutment.

The pivotal arm, or one of the pivotal arms, may have a lever for imparting to it the requisite pivotal movement, which lever is operatively connected to the slice-thickness-regulating means; the arrangement being such that, whenever said means is manipulated to vary the extent of the feed-movements imparted by the feed-mechanism, the abutment is adjusted into a position wherein it is located a corresponding extent from the slicing plane.

The abutment may be supported by the pivotal arm or arms in such a manner as

to be easily removable therefrom for cleaning, inspection or other purpose. 55

In one construction, the feed-mechanism is of the kind including a lengthwise adjustable bar or slide adapted to actuate a feed-screw (for example, through the intermediary of a pawl-and-ratchet) said bar being adjustable by means of a turnable hand-member. The abutment consists of a plate at or near opposite ends of the bottom of the rear face of which are provided two rigid pillars, which extend rearwards and downwards from the plate. The pillars have pivotal connections with two parallel arms, which have the same length and are pivotally mounted on brackets secured to the machine frame. Accordingly, the plate has a parallel-motion support whereby it is maintained parallel to the slicing plane no matter how far it may be adjusted therefrom by pivotal movement of the arms. 75

One of the two pivotal arms (for example, the one further from the knife) has an extended pivot-shaft to which is secured a lever-arm extending across the lower side of the machine frame and having a pin-and-slot connection at its end with the bar of the feed-mechanism. Thus, adjustment of the said bar is accompanied by corresponding adjustment of the abutment plate; so that, whenever the feed-mechanism is set for a given slice-thickness, the abutment is set to the extent of the slice-thickness beyond the slicing plane. When a piece of substance is being placed on the machine for slicing thereby, the leading face of the substance is placed flat against the abutment, and so the first slice has the same thickness and uniformity as the succeeding slices. 95

A readily detachable pin-and-socket connection may be provided between the abutment and each pivotal arm. Each connection consists of a pin extending from the end of the respective arm and a socket formed in each pillar provided on the back of the abutment. The arrangement is such that, in order to remove the abutment plate, it is simply necessary to raise it clear of the pins. 105

[Price 1/-]

price 4s 6d

