

the vanes will be swung open. Levers, *B*, are fulcrumed in the upper spokes and to their outer ends the connecting rods, *A*, are attached by means of links. Loosely mounted on the main shaft is a collar to which the inner ends of the levers, *B*, are connected in such manner that they can be raised and lowered by shifting the collar on its shaft and yet are free to revolve about the collar, which is kept from turning. A rod connects the collar with a bell crank, *C*, which, in turn, is connected to a ball governor not shown in the illustration. This governor, which is of the usual centrifugal type, is geared to the power shaft of the motor and operates to automatically raise or lower the rods, *A*, thus controlling the inclination of the vanes, and regulating the speed of the motor by varying the surface area on which the current can act. In this way uniform action of the motor is secured regardless of the speed of the current. The machine may be used as well at the mouth of a harbor, for the wings are self-reversing and will adjust themselves to the ebb and flow of the tide. Mr. H. H. Granger, of Davenport, Wash., is the inventor of this improved current motor.

Brief Notes Concerning Patents.

Ever since the present sewing machine was brought to perfection, efforts have been made to devise a system whereby sewing may be carried out direct from two reels of thread, thereby dispensing with the winding of spools and threading of shuttles, but with indifferent success. The problem, however, has now been solved by Mr. Dennis Flanagan, a Lancashire mechanic, after some fourteen years' continuous experiments. The feature of this invention is the distinct simplification

of the sewing machine, there being a small number of parts. There are no vibratory or eccentric motions, every movement being positive in its action. As there are no spools to wind, the loose balance wheel is dispensed with. As a reel of cotton is regularly wound a uniform stitch is obtained, while the double take-up gives an elasticity to the tension. The machine sews perfectly on both fine and heavy materials.

The horse suffers from many ills, the direct result of his unbecoming and unnecessary haste in eating. Confronted by a generous display of oats in the feed-box, he cannot resist the inclination to bolt one mouthful, so that he may take another at the expense of his health. A style of feed-box has been recently worked out by Samuel Cunningham, chief of the Lockport, N. Y., fire department, by which this unwarranted haste on the part of the animal is checked. In this new invention the feed is delivered to the animal through a cone-shaped device with a hole in the bottom. The horse secures a mouthful of food by pushing his nose into the cone, and the oats are forced up within reach of his mouth through the hole, but the secret of the operation of the invention is that the animal cannot push his nose into the cone until he has disposed of the previous mouthful. In this manner he is compelled to eat his meal in a more deliberate and wholesome manner.

Oil for the purpose of quieting the sea has been in use for many years, but an extremely novel means of applying the oil has been recently devised by Vice-Admiral Guimares of the Brazilian navy, who has made a gun for the special function of doing this work. The gun is called a "bottle gun," and in use occupies a place on deck in the forward part of the boat. In

case of a very turbulent sea, the gun is loaded with a bottle containing sawdust which has been soaked with oil. The discharge of the weapon breaks the bottle into innumerable pieces, and the contents are scattered over the surface of the sea for some considerable distance, and the effect on the troubled water is at once noticeable. If this operation is followed at intervals of five minutes, and the missile shot ahead of the boat, a peaceful path is prepared for the craft, and if she is at anchor or lying-to, one round every twenty minutes is said to be ample. The gun is of special construction to meet the demands of the peculiar missile, and it is said that an ordinary wine bottle may be utilized to contain the charge of sawdust.

Almost anyone who thoughtfully contemplates the construction of a baseball cannot but help admire the ingenuity of the man who designed the cover. This consists of two parts, each of which is a complete geometrical design, and when applied to the exterior of the sphere, covers the same in a very thorough manner. The man who originally worked this design out died a few weeks ago. He was Elias Drake, and he lived at Middleboro, Mass., and during his lifetime he invented a number of other useful devices, and enjoyed the reputation of a rather prolific inventor. He thought out the idea of the baseball cover in 1855, and it was adopted two years later by George and Harry Wright and has been in use ever since. Mr. Drake neglected to take out a patent on this cover, for the reason that he thought it too trivial; but when the game became more popular, and the business of making the balls developed into a big industry, he regretted that he had overlooked the formality of protecting himself.

RECENTLY PATENTED INVENTIONS.

Electrical Devices.

ELECTRIC LOCK.—N. W. WEBB, New York, N. Y. The invention relates to electric door-locks connected with an electric alarm at a distant point. The object is to provide a new and improved electric lock arranged to give an alarm when tampered with by unauthorized persons before such persons can open the door sufficiently to effect an entrance into the house.

ELECTRIC BELL-RINGER.—I. W. HALL, Brownwood, Texas. In this case the invention relates to electric bell-ringers, the more particular object being to provide a simple, reliable, and efficient bell-ringer which may be operated either by electric wires from a distance or by merely pressing a push-button.

PROTECTED RAIL.—L. STEINBERGER, New York, N. Y. In the present patent Mr. Steinberger's invention has reference to railways, the more particular object in view in his improvement being the production of a protected rail which may be employed in various relations for supplying current to electric railways.

Of Interest to Farmers.

SEED-PLANTER AND FERTILIZER-DISTRIBUTER.—J. A. BOCHILLON, Pelzer, S. C. Separate hoppers are employed in this planter and distributor, each being provided with means for agitating its contents and feeding the same to discharge-orifices, the machine being supported upon a bearing-wheel from which the agitators are operated. By the means used the labor of guiding and supporting the machine vertically is reduced to a minimum.

HUSKING-MACHINE.—O. C. MOORE, Morrow, Ohio. Mr. Moore's invention relates to corn-huskers, it being more particularly directed to the feed mechanism for the snapping-rolls. To obviate the many difficulties that occur in operating husking-machines and to provide a mechanism which will allow the applying of the proper pressure to the snapping-rolls and at the same time secure automatic feed is the principal object of the inventor.

DEHORNER FOR CATTLE.—C. E. BINGNINGS, Stamford, Texas. This inventor's improvement relates to instruments for dehorning cattle. His improved dehorner admits of general use, but is of special value in removing the embryo of partially-developed horns of exceedingly young cattle. After the removal, it is impossible for a horn to grow out.

Of General Interest.

PORTABLE GARMENT-HANGER.—A. M. TAYLOR, Port Ewen, N. Y. The aim of this inventor is to provide a hanger which is simple and durable in construction, cheap to manufacture, readily set up for use and easily folded for convenient storing in a traveling-bag, valise, and the like, and arranged to conveniently support a number of articles, such as a coat, vest, overcoat, trousers, and hat.

PRICKING-PUNCH.—C. E. TRAXEL, Rome, N. Y. In the present patent the invention has reference to improvements in tools for pricking metal for the starting of drills or the like. The object in view of the inventor being the provision of a tool of this character that will be practically automatic in its operation.

VALVE.—E. F. RIDDLE, Wellsville, Ohio. This automatic gas-cut-off valve acts by gravity to close when the gas supply and pressure is shut off or fails, and when once closed the

valve stays closed until opened by hand. The object of the invention is to produce a valve quick and certain in operation, and which will not leak in either open or closed position. When open the valve does not reduce or obstruct the gas passage or pressure, and it is simple in construction and neat in appearance.

CABLE-GRIP.—A. J. NEFF, Houston, Texas. The grip is to be used in connection with cableways. The object of the improvement is to produce a grip of simple construction which will operate to grasp the moving cable firmly and which will operate automatically to apply its grasping force when a load upon the grip is applied.

WATCH-PROTECTOR.—J. MIDDLEBROOK, Barre, Vt. In this instance the invention pertains to improvements in devices designed to be placed in a person's pocket to prevent the accidental or fraudulent removal of a watch, the object being to provide a watch-protector of simple and novel construction that may be detachably secured in a pocket and that will be inexpensive.

WRIST-SUPPORTED BLOTTER.—B. MONIS, New York, N. Y. The inventor's more particular purpose in this case is to adapt the blotter for use upon the wrist of the operator, so that it may be used when desired without materially interfering with the use of the pen. The invention relates to blotters, such as used by bookkeepers and writers of various kinds.

PIPE-BAND FASTENING.—A. W. NIGHT, Ballard, Wash. The aim of the invention is to provide an absolutely secure connection with which the ends of the band may be engaged and tightened to any desired tension. To attain this a "shoe" formed of an integral metal plate with an opening therein, is employed. This plate is bent around a head on one end of the band, forming the shoe in essentially U-shaped-cross-sectional form, and the other end of the band being fitted in the shoe and having a nut thereon engaged with one end of the shoe, so that by tightening up the nut any tension may be exerted on the band.

DRYING AND ROASTING FURNACE.—C. E. BALLOW and E. STEIN, Guanacavi, Durango, Mexico. The invention resides particularly in a peculiar combination of a drying and roasting furnace, so that the two may be collectively operated, producing better results than heretofore. Its peculiar devices agitate the ore as it passes through the furnaces, these devices consisting of the combination of shelves and rollers which thoroughly work the ore and retard its downward movement sufficiently to enable the necessary drying and roasting operations.

UMBRELLA.—J. V. SYBRANDT, Springdale, Col. The invention pertains to umbrellas and similar articles, and is capable of application to canopies, tents, and the like. The chief object of the inventor is to provide means whereby an article of the class mentioned can be made of any desired form without interfering with its capacity of being folded.

Heating and Lighting.

CARBURETED-AIR MACHINE.—F. PICARD, Montreal, Canada. The invention relates to the class of carbureters in which rotating fabric is caused to be immersed in the hydrocarbon liquid such as gasoline. The patentee provides a duplicate arrangement of fabric-supporting devices of special form. A fan delivers the air against both the fabrics. The fan and the fabric supports are rotated by a small hydraulic or other motor, and a special automatic

mechanism is provided for controlling the supply of air and the motive fluid through the movements of the gasometer bell.

Household Utilities.

ATTACHMENT FOR BEDSTEADS.—H. E. HENWOOD, New York, N. Y. This improvement refers to attachments for bedsteads, and particularly to those adapted for the raising of invalids from the mattress or other supporting-surface. Its principal object is to provide such an attachment which may be applied to an ordinary bedstead without rendering it necessary to alter the bed structure itself, this application being capable of accomplishment without the use of tools.

CHAIR.—J. B. LAWRENCE, New York, N. Y. In this patent the invention relates to improvements in chairs of that class adapted to be converted into a bed or couch and to be used either as a rocker or fixed chair, the object being to provide a chair of this character that may be easily and quickly adjusted as to its various positions and rigidly held as adjusted.

CLOTHES-CLOSET.—M. L. HENRIOD, Pueblo, Col. The object of the invention is to provide a closet which is adapted to be set up and attached conveniently to the wall in an apartment or living-room. A specific object is to enable closet-space to be produced in rooms not having closets under such circumstances as may arise when rooms are occupied temporarily as sleeping-rooms. It affords means for increasing the ordinary closet-space of the room when found insufficient.

AWNING.—W. H. BROWN and H. M. BRADBURY, New York, N. Y. The improvement made by these inventors relates to a ventilated awning; and the principal objects thereof are to provide means for permitting a circulation of air, and especially for allowing the air which ordinarily collects near the top of an awning and in the upper part of a room to be discharged through the awning itself.

Machines and Mechanical Devices.

CLAMP FOR PRINTING FILM FRAMES.—B. DAY, West Hoboken, N. J. Mr. Day's present invention relates to frames of the general type described in his former Patent No. 666,087. It covers a device analogous to a hinge, and suitable for use upon printing-film frames of the kind made by the inventor. The frame is of wood, and the clamp grips the frame detachably. The clamp consists of two parts, movable relatively to each other by means of a cam, so as to press firmly upon opposite edges of the frame. One of these parts has two resting places or contact faces, the other having only one. Pressure upon the frame is therefore applied at three separate points, thus insuring exactness in fit. All of the contact faces are milled with ribs parallel with the grain of the wood.

CHANGE-MACHINE.—T. I. PORTER, San Francisco, Cal. The purpose of this invention is to provide a machine adapted to any cash-drawer and from which change may be quickly and accurately made in predetermined amounts by simply pressing one or more of a series of keys, each designating a certain amount, and to provide a series of storage-chambers for the coins from which the change is to be made.

MOLDING-MACHINE.—B. F. POTTER, Ash-tabula, Ohio. Mr. Potter's invention relates to a molding-machine which is capable of molding articles of many characters and can be used with plastic materials of various kinds. It is especially applicable, however, to the

molding of hollow building-blocks of concrete and the like. One of the principal objects of the invention is to generally increase the efficiency without complicating the structure of machines of this character.

DITCHING-MACHINE.—C. P. GABLE, Ruston, La. In this case the improvement is in the nature of a ditching-machine designed to dig new ditches or clean out old ones; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts of a portable machine designed to take up the dirt and deposit it on one side or the other of the ditch.

DOUGHNUT-MACHINE.—W. W. GRAY and P. C. VAN FLEET, Riverside, Cal. This apparatus forms dough into rings to produce doughnuts. As these are ordinarily cut out from a sheet in the presence of free flour to prevent sticking, the dough between the cut rings is rolled over and again cut, resulting in a product becoming more and more tough as this operation continues. Moreover, the loose flour collects in the frying-fat and soon burns, thickening it so that it must be frequently strained, and often completely spoiled. To obviate such difficulties are the principal objects of the invention.

MIXING-MACHINE.—J. B. CROSS, Oneonta, N. Y. This invention refers to mechanical means for mixing together the ingredients used in the production of bread, cakes, or pastry-dough, and has for its object to provide novel features of construction for the mixing-machine that are very simple and inexpensive, convenient to operate, readily taken apart for cleaning, and are strong and durable.

SAFETY DEVICE FOR ELEVATORS.—C. W. HOFFMAN, New York, N. Y. The object of the invention is to provide a device for elevators arranged to insure quick application of the brake-shoes in case of accident, to prevent the cage from acquiring too much momentum by falling a great distance, and then powerfully apply the brake-shoes to hold the cage in the initial position.

YARN-PRINTING MACHINE.—W. K. HAWK, Falls of Schuylkill, Pa. The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved yarn-printing machine arranged to permit printing yarns of any desired length, and more especially such as are required in the weaving of large rugs known as "art-squares," the arrangement being such that the same printing-drum will answer in printing long or short yarn.

BUTTER CUTTER AND MEASURER.—G. ERICSON, Brooklyn, N. Y. In the present instance the invention of Mr. Ericson has reference to the provision of a novel means for cutting out from a larger mass of butter a print or regularly-formed block of butter and for the simultaneous weighing or measuring of the print or block.

SHINGLE-MACHINE.—A. Z. BODREAUX, Berwick, La. This invention relates particularly to attachments to shingle-sawing machines in which the saw rotates in a horizontal plane, the object being to provide a simple device for ejecting the splints from the machine instead of manually removing the same, as in the usual practice, thus obviating the possibility of cutting the attendant's hands or fingers by the saw.

Prime Movers and Their Accessories.

TURBINE-ENGINE.—M. D. KALBACH, Lebanon, Pa. The rotary member of the engine consists of a disk formed with two radial rows of vanes projecting from the periphery. Be-

