

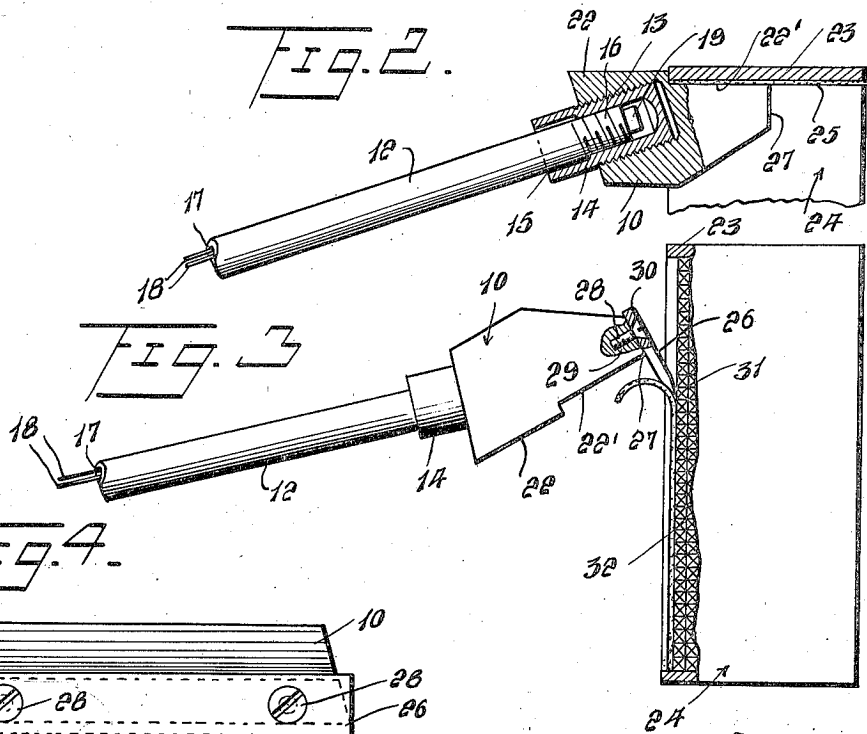
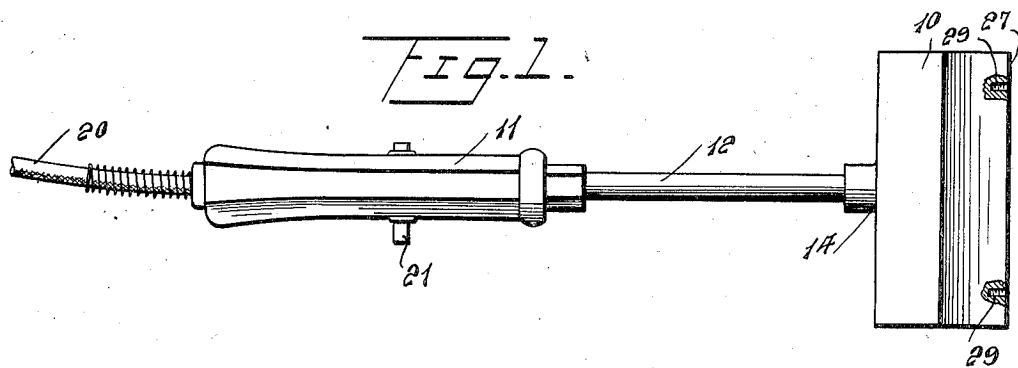
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R. LUDKE

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FOUNDATION FASTENER AND DECAPPING TOOL

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Inventor

Ray Ludke

By *N. F. Ludke*

Attorney

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## FOUNDATION FASTENER AND DECAPPING TOOL

Ray Ludke, Coplay, Pa.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 6—12)

This invention relates to improvements in tools for use in connection with honey boxes or frames.

The principal object of the invention is the provision of a tool adapted to perform the combined function of securing a wax foundation in a honey box, and also of decapping the honeycomb.

Another object of the invention is to provide a tool that can be heated so that it will melt a wax foundation and press it into engagement with a honey box.

A further object of the invention is to provide a blade that can be secured to the tool to decap the honeycomb.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the description and drawing wherein:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the tool with the head portion shown partly in section;

Figure 2 is a view partly in section and partly in elevation of a part of the tool;

Figure 3 is an elevational view similar to Figure 2 showing the blade attached and in the act of decapping, means for securing the blade being shown in section, and

Figure 4 is an end view showing the blade attached.

Referring more particularly to the drawing wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts in the different views, 10 is the head portion of the tool, 11 is the handle which is connected to the head by the stem 12. The head 10 has a recess 13 into which a plug 14 fits. The plug 14 has a recess 15 into which fits the end 16 of the stem 12.

The stem 12 is hollow as seen at 17 to accommodate the electrical wires 18 which extend from a heating element 19, mounted in the open end 16 of stem 12, through stem 12 and handle 11 and through a conduit 20 to a source of current not shown. A switch 21 of any common structure is mounted in handle 11 to make and break the contact between heating element 19 and the source of current.

The heating element 19 extends into the recess

15 in plug 14 and is adapted to heat the head portion 10.

The face portion 22 of head 10 is offset at 22', the offset portion 22' being adapted to engage against one side 23 of a honey box or frame 24 as shown in Figure 2 and being adapted to press against a wax foundation 25 to simultaneously melt the foundation 25 and press it into engagement with side 23, the heat being supplied the portion 22' by the element 19. The offset portion 22' is approximately, in width, half that of any side 23 of a honey box 24 so that the foundation 25 will be secured about midway of the box 24.

A blade 26 is adapted to be mounted against the side 27 of head 10 by means of threaded bolts 28 which engage threaded openings 29 in the side 27 to secure the blade 26 against side 27, and is provided with openings 30 to receive bolts 28.

The blade 26 is also provided with a cutting edge 31 which is heated by element 19 to facilitate the decapping of the honeycomb 32 as shown in Figure 3. It is to be understood that blade 26 is not mounted upon head 10 when the tool is used to secure the foundation 25 in the frame 24.

The right is reserved to make such changes and modifications as will not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A honeycomb tool, comprising a head portion, a handle and a stem adapted to be secured to one end of said head, said head adapted to be heated by means mounted in the stem, the face of said head portion having a shoulder facing toward the free end of the head to facilitate the positioning of said tool against a frame, and said tool being adapted to secure a foundation to the frame.

2. A honeycomb tool comprising a head, a handle secured thereto, and means to heat said head, said head being provided with an offset portion adapted to be placed against the frame to facilitate the proper positioning of foundation therein.

RAY LUDKE.