

Sept. 7, 1948.

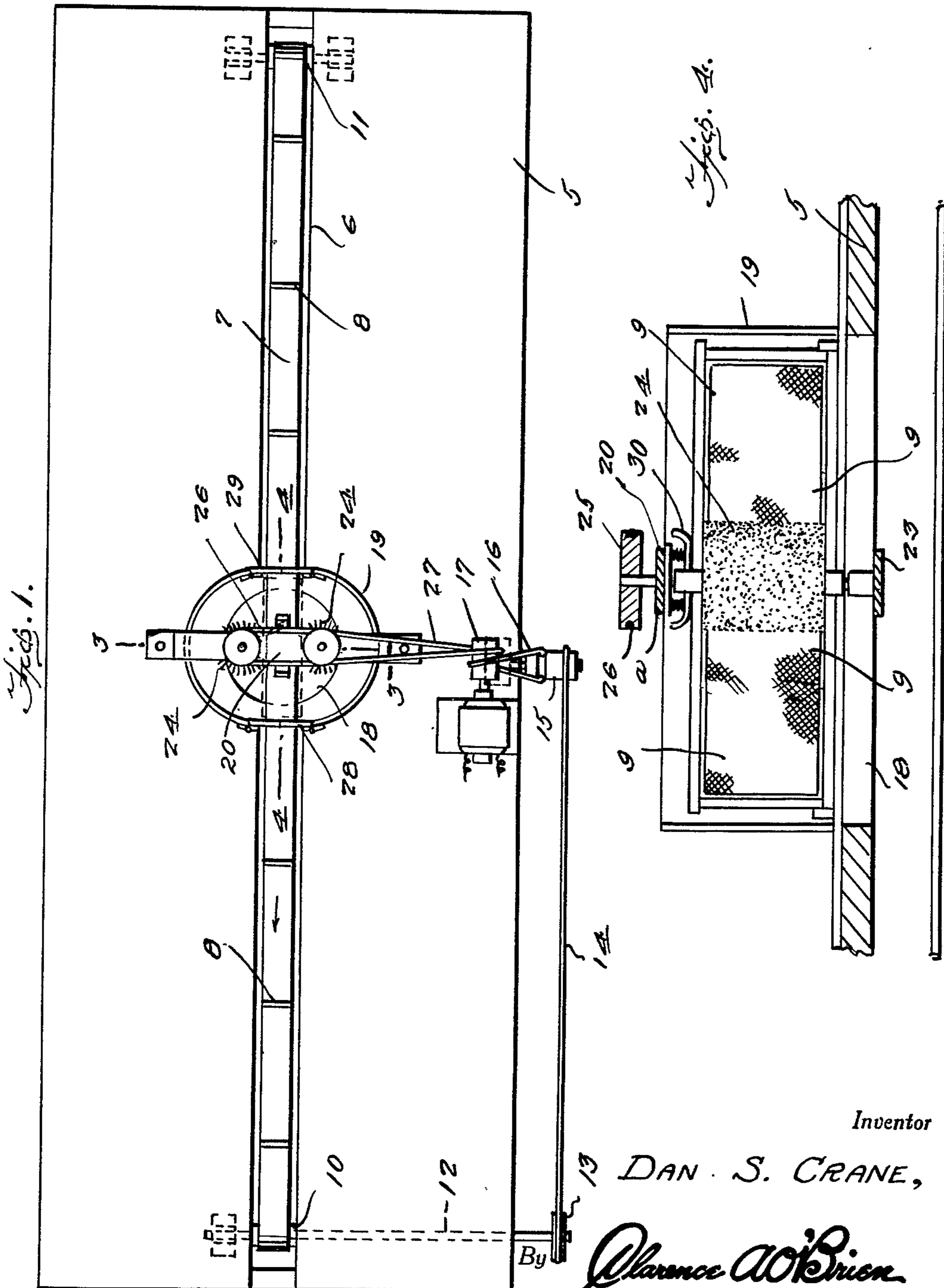
D. S. CRANE

2,448,775

HONEYCOMB UNCAPPER

Filed April 29, 1944

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

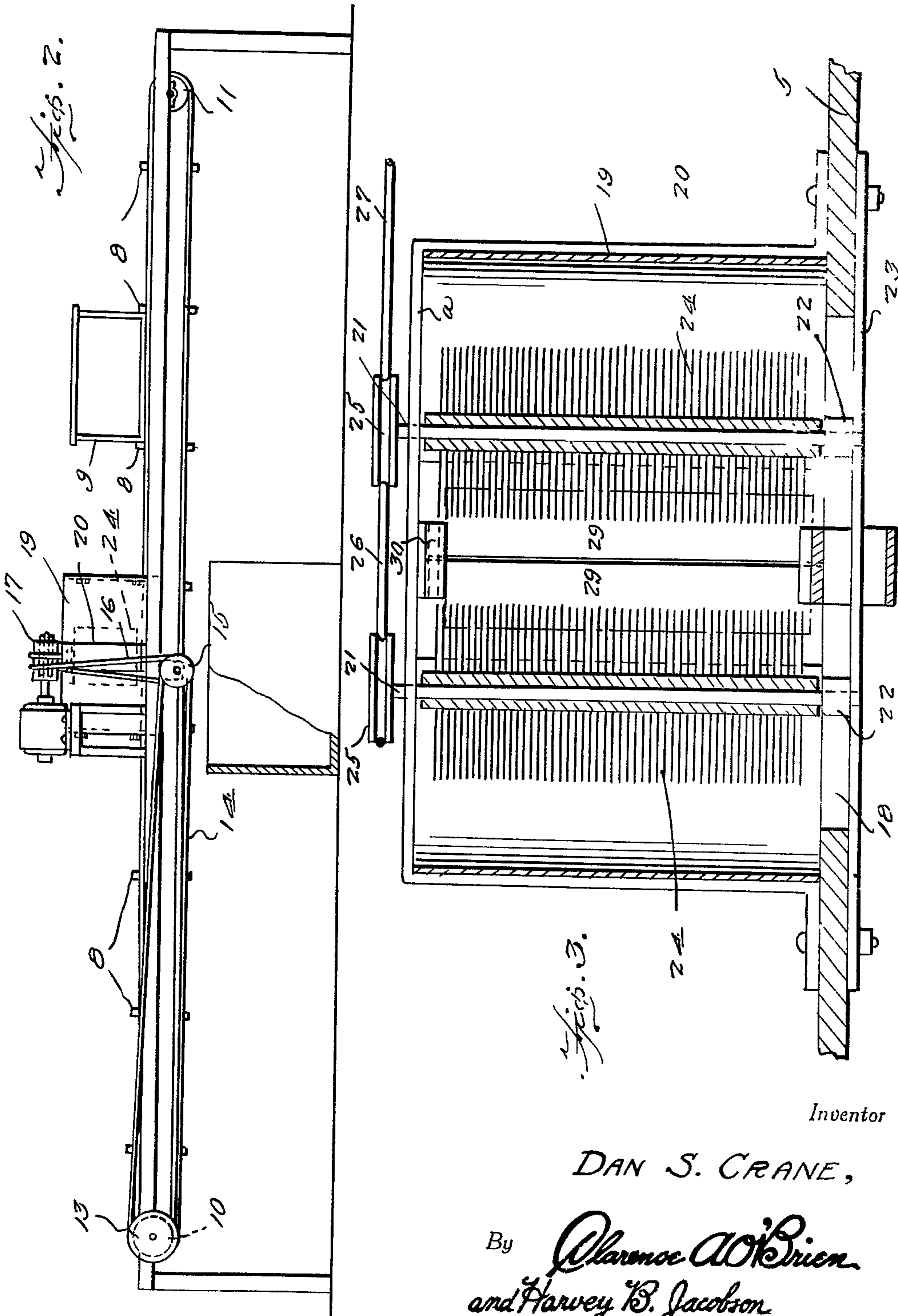


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,448,775

HONEYCOMB UNCAPPER

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Application April 29, 1944, Serial No. 533,356

2 Claims. (Cl. 6—12)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in means for removing the cappings from honeycombs preparatory to the frames of honey being placed in the usual honey extractor.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a machine which eliminates the use of knives or heat for uncapping honeycombs and provides a brushing effect for brushing away the honeycomb cap.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following description.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 represents a top plan view of the machine.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view.

Figure 3 is an enlarged transverse sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that numeral 5 denotes an elongated table having a slot way 6 extending longitudinally thereof and operative in this slotway is an endless conveyor 7 having lugs 8 thereon and between which honeycomb frames 9 (see Figure 2) can be set.

This conveyor 7 is trained over rolls 10, 11 at the opposite ends of the table 5, the roll 10 being located on a shaft 12 which at its outer end has a pulley 13 over which a belt 14 is trained, this belt also being trained over a pulley 15 which is driven by a belt 16 from a motor operated pulley 17. At intermediate portion of the table 5, the slotway 6 is enlarged to a substantially large opening 18 and rising from the table 5 at the edge portion of this opening 18 is a fence structure 19. An inverted U-shaped frame 20 helps to support this fence in place, this frame having a horizontal portion *a* vertically through which shafts 21, 21 are journaled, the lower ends of these shafts being disposed through bearings 22 located on a bridge member 23 bridging the opening 18. Rotary brushes 24 are carried by the shafts 21 and the shafts 21 are equipped with pulleys 25 which are driven by a belt 26, 27, the latter being trained over the motor operated pulley 17.

The fence 19 is provided with entrance and exit doors 28, 29, these doors being free to swing to

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permit ingress and egress of the honeycomb frames 9.

Mounted at the underside of the portion *a* of the frame 20 is a spring projected shoe 30 having curved end portions, this shoe serving to hold the frame snugly in place as it is acted upon by the brushes 24.

It can be seen, that the brushes act on both sides of the frame, brushing away the sealing or capping material and due to the fact that the brushes are traveling at a high rate of speed, the capping material will, by centrifugal force, be thrown off and against the inside of the fence 19. This material descends the fence wall and passes through the opening 18 into a suitable receptacle under the opening 18.

While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A honeycomb uncapping device including an elongated rigid table, a channel extending throughout the length thereof, a conveyor belt operating within the channel, said channel being enlarged centrally, an enclosure encompassing said enlargement, a decapping means within the enclosure comprising a pair of spaced vertically disposed brushes between which said honeycombs may be continually passed on said conveyor.

2. A honeycomb uncapping device including an elongated rigid table, a channel extending throughout the length thereof, a conveyor belt operating within the channel, said channel being enlarged centrally, an enclosure encompassing said enlargement, and a decapping means within the enclosure.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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