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Fisenko

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(54) **CAMP STOVE**

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(58) **Field of Search** **126/25 R, 9 R, 126/30, 58, 77, 201, 298, 15 R**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A portable stove and heater adapted for outdoor or camp use. The stove is comprised of at least three concentric walls affixed to a floor with vents placed in each of the walls to permit multiple pathways for transiting air to be heated prior to entering a combustion chamber.

11 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

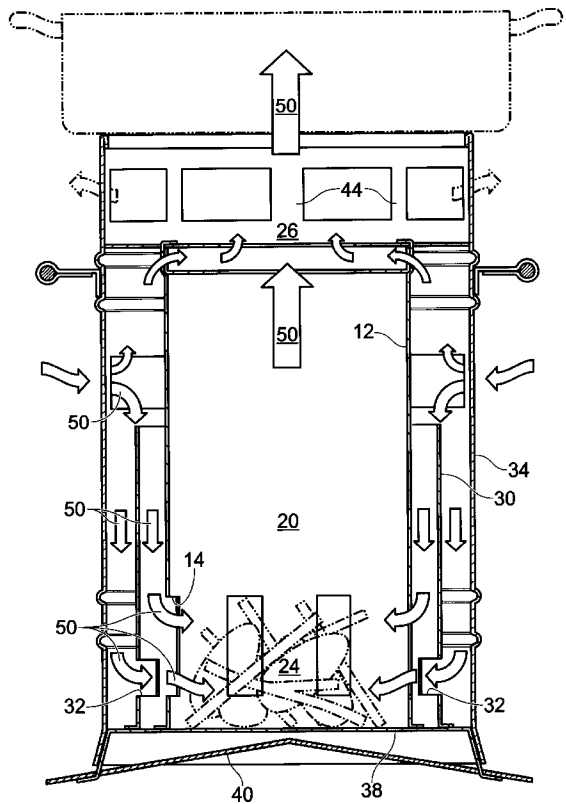
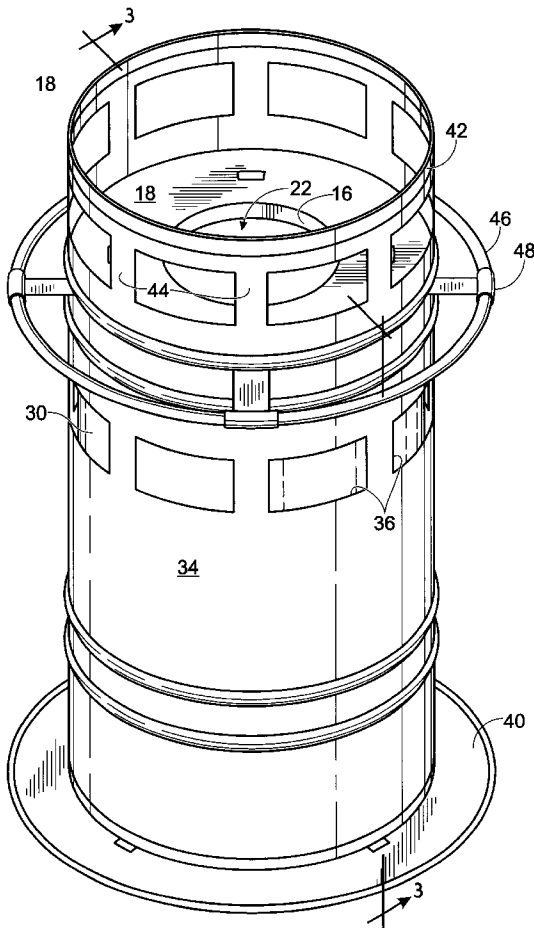
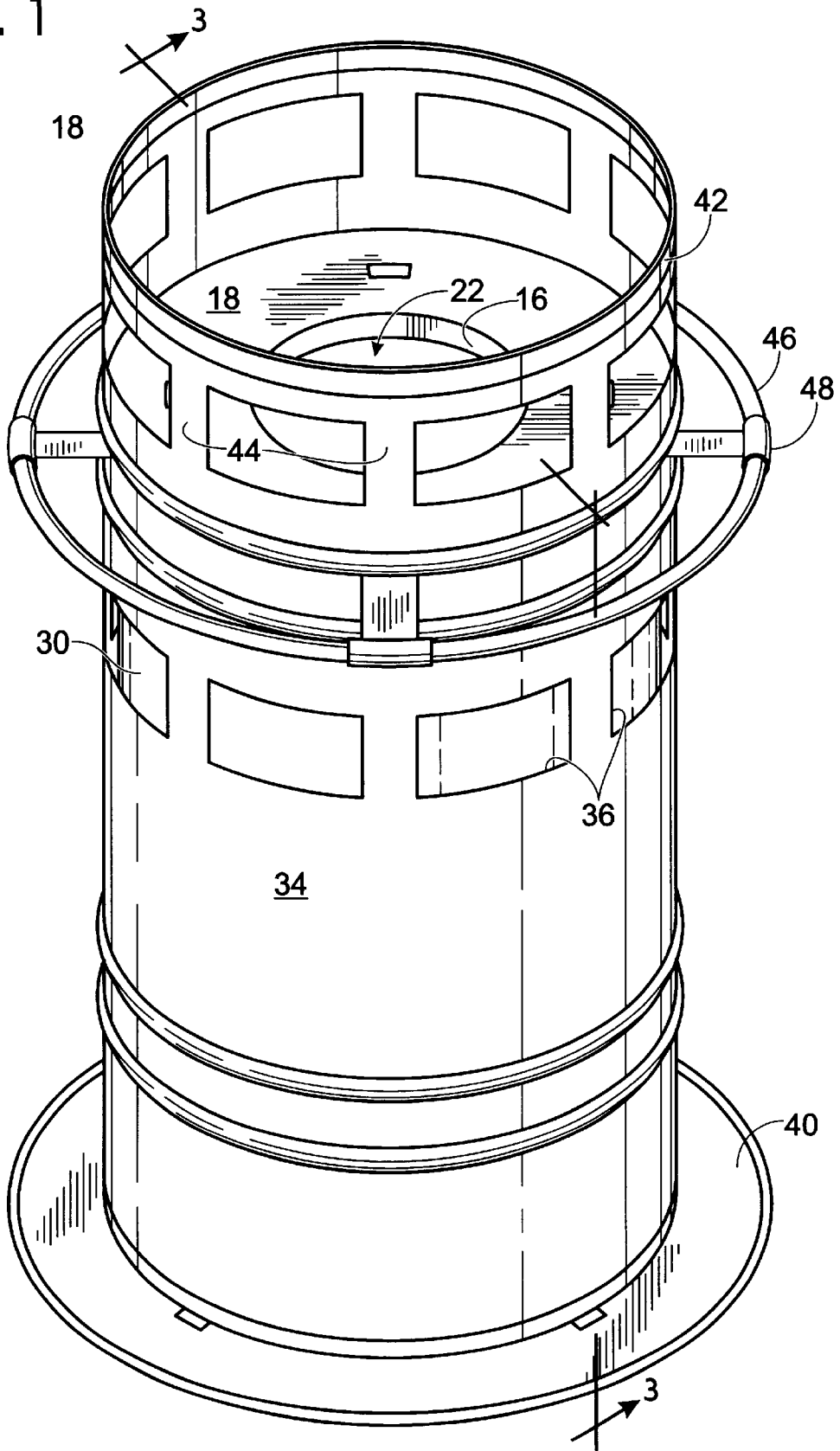


Fig. 1



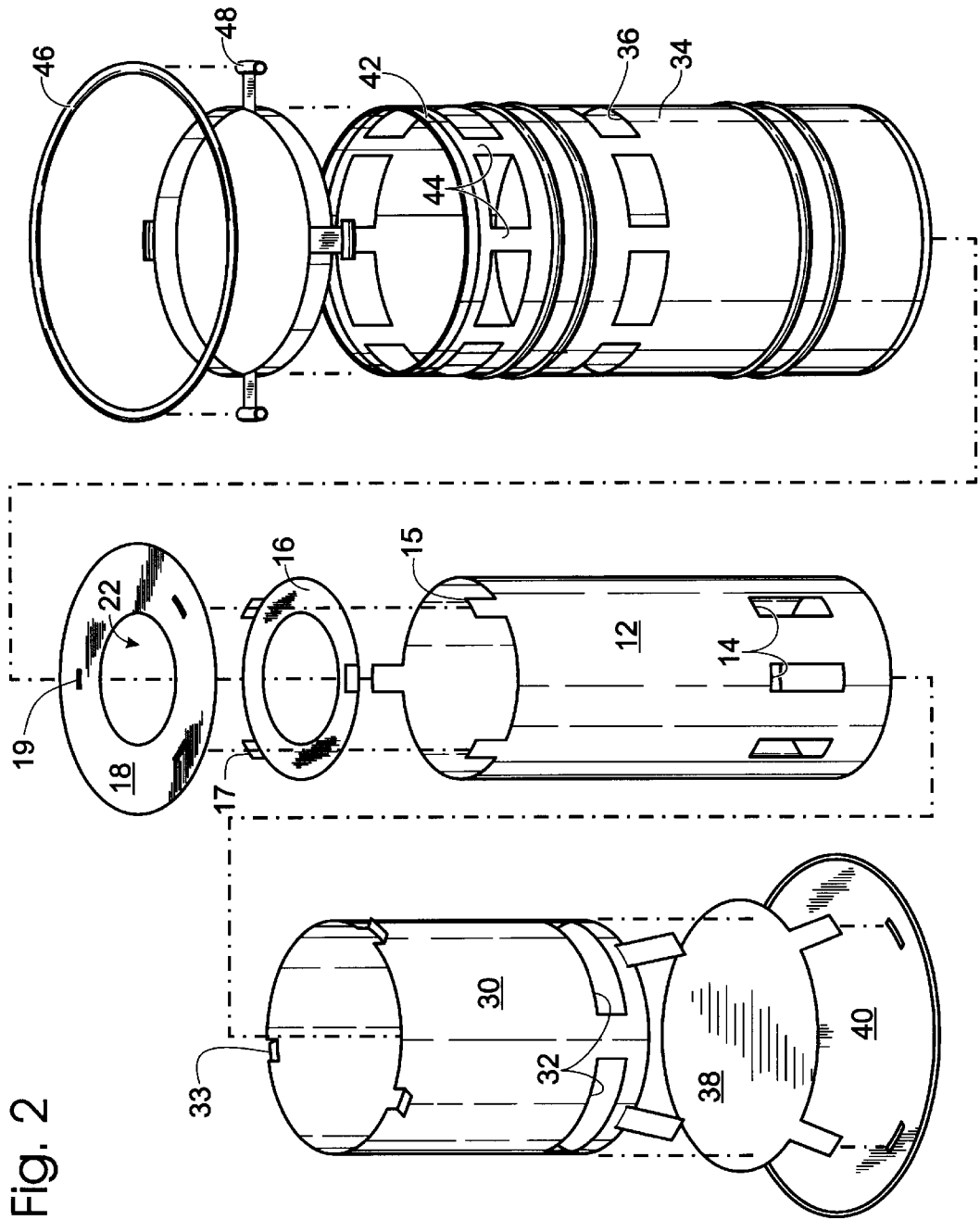
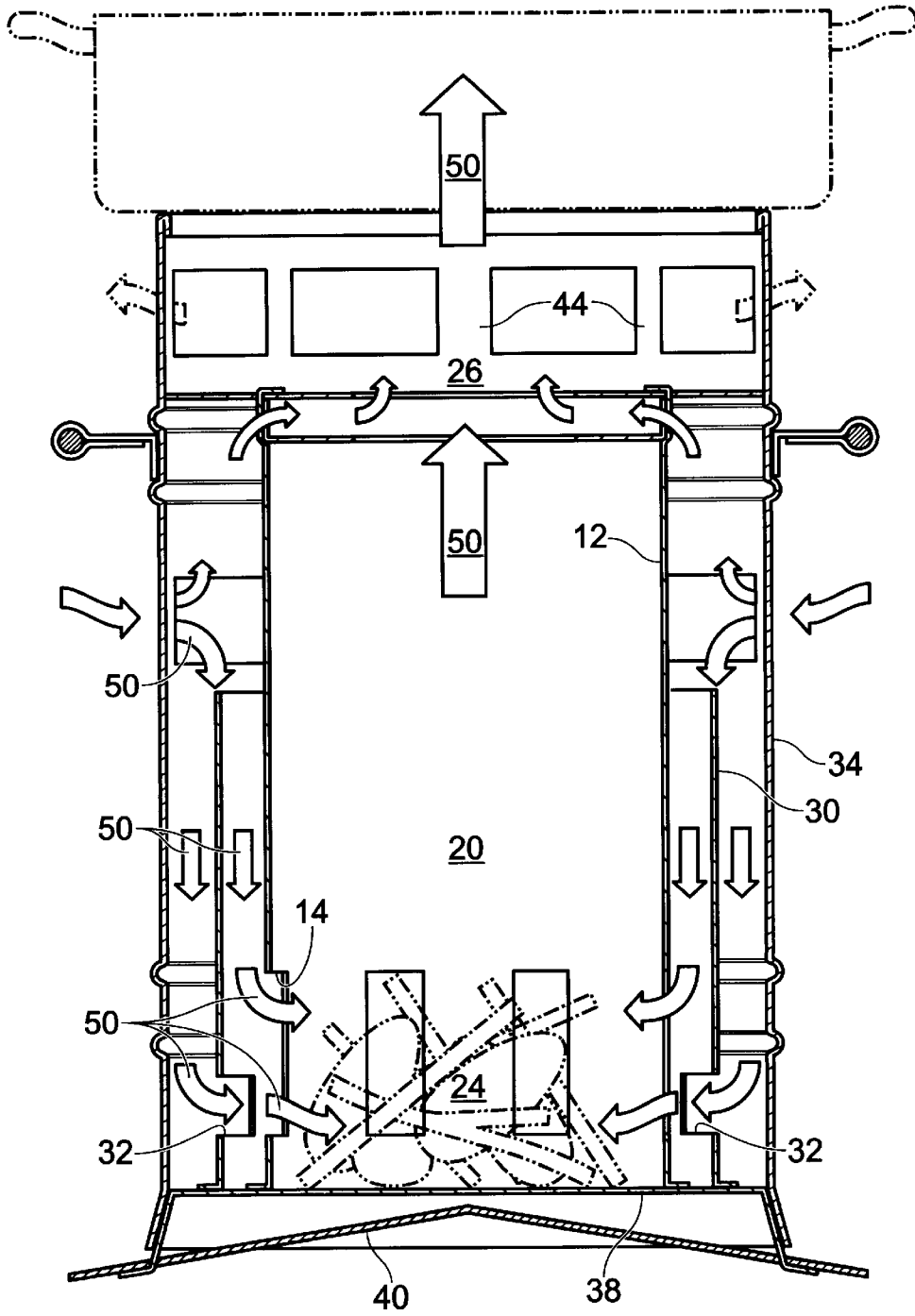
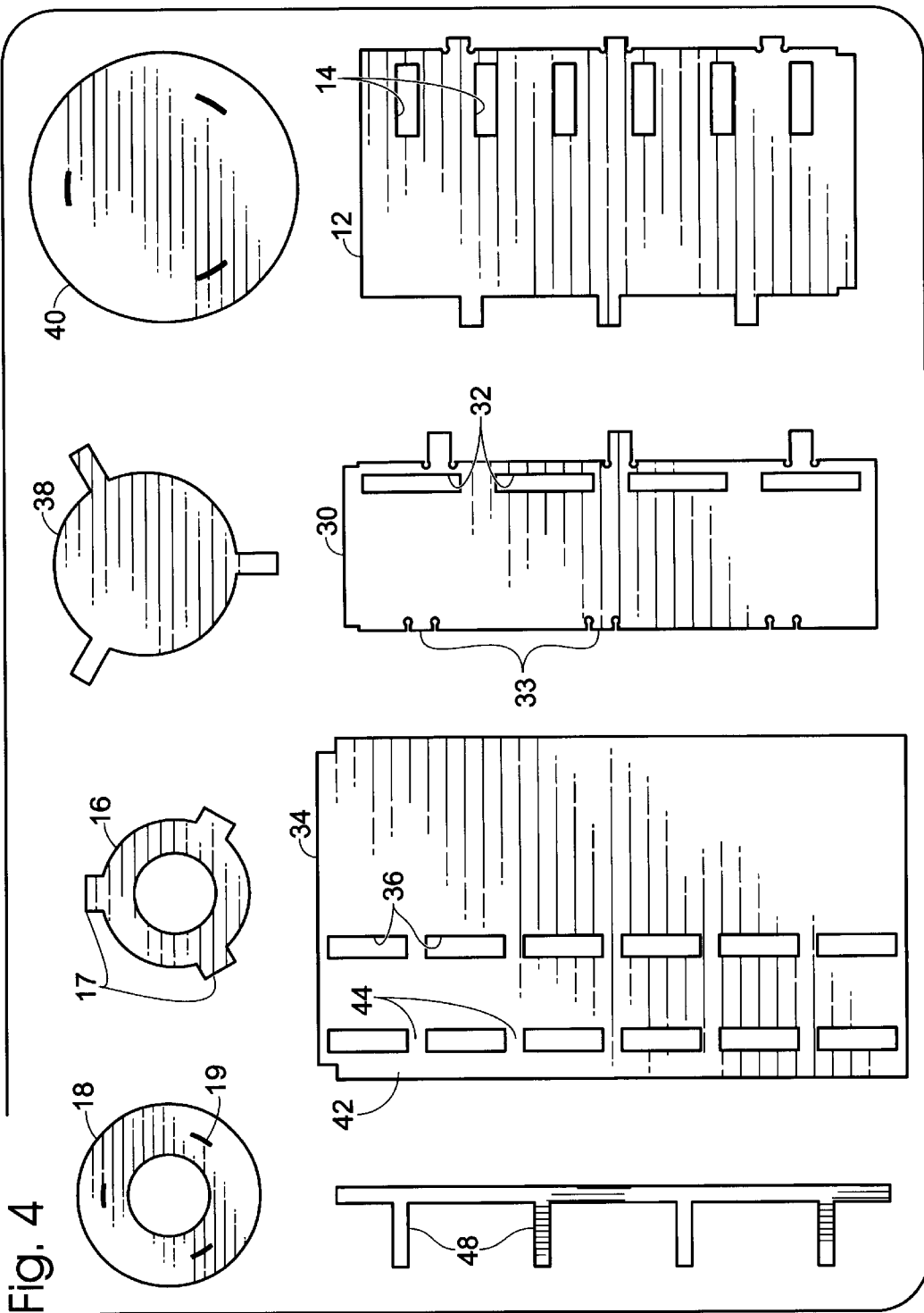


Fig. 2

Fig. 3





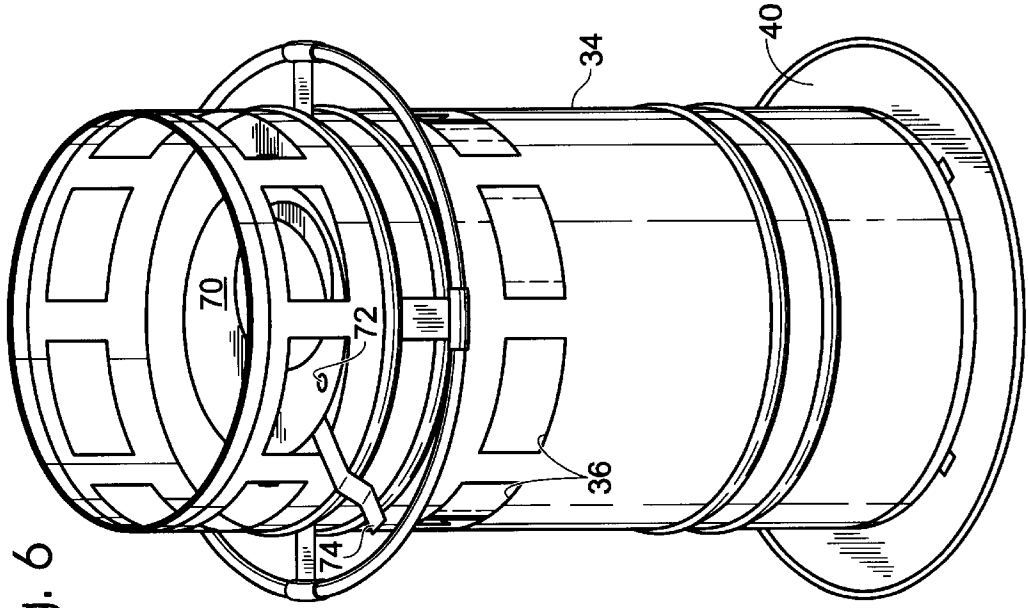


Fig. 6

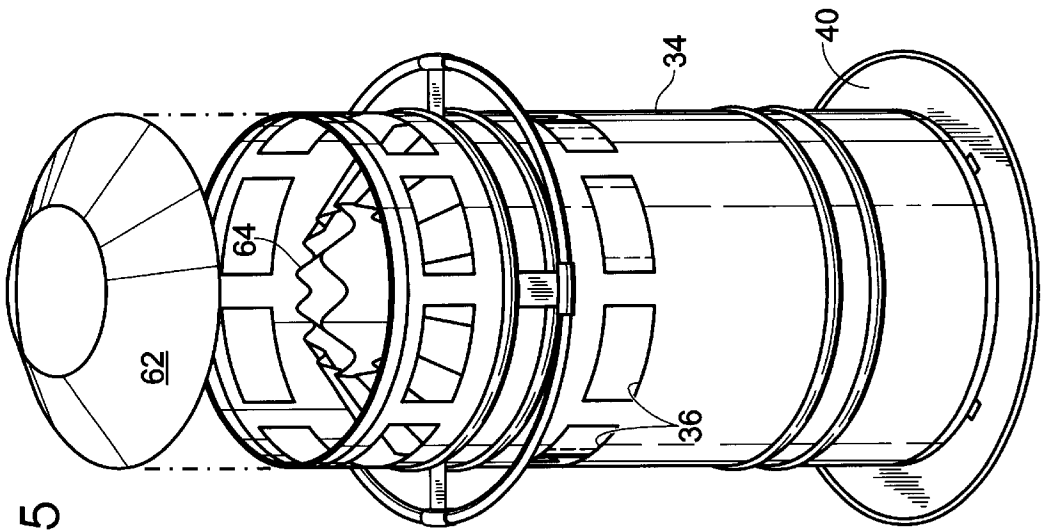


Fig. 5

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CAMP STOVE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

I. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to stove and heater devices and, more particularly, to stove and heater devices for camp use with foraged fuel.

II. Description of the Prior Art

Frequently, outdoorsmen such as fishermen and hunters spend a considerable amount of time in a particular location during cold weather. Containers for building fires for cooking food and heating the body while outdoors are well known.

Problems with prior art devices include that they are subject to blow out or sparking in windy conditions. Many have vents that permit direct air access to combustible material, allowing wind to blow directly onto flames causing sparks and burning material to be ejected creating a fire hazard. Often devices are designed such that hot or burning material may fall out of the bottom.

Other problems with prior art include the fact that the exterior of the device while in use will become hot enough to quickly ignite material on contact creating a fire hazard.

Previous designs have also required or contained cross-welded or joined members. In the heating of a cylinder, there is often thermal expansion. Prior art devices have suffered from uneven expansion of components that leads to metal fatigue and component failure, particularly at welds.

OBJECTIVES OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a stove or heater that burns foraged fuel efficiently and safely. The device is sturdy and easily constructed. The device also provides improved safety over prior art, reducing the risk of uncontrolled burning.

The construction of the device is such that all primary components may be joined on a floor, largely by the use of non-welded metal tabs. Items subjected to thermal stress expand and contract causing wear and fatigue leading to component failure. There is a useful need for a stove that is assembled in manner that permits free expansion of components under heat.

The device provides improved combustion of fuel. Warmed air burns more readily. The present device channels warmed air to both a primary burn chamber where fuel is consumed, and also provides an alternate air pathway for air to be warmed and fed into the hot gasses expelled from the burning fuel for secondary combustion.

Safety features of the device include a layout of the components that provide an inexpensive system of guard-rails for ease of handling and moving the device and to prevent inadvertent contact with hot components. The multiple walled structure of the device also permits useful radiant heat from the outer wall, without developing a dangerously hot surface.

Additional safety features and improved characteristics are in the series of offset vents that supply air to the primary and secondary burn areas. Wind is not permitted to blow directly into the burn chamber and thus excessive sparking is avoided. The bottom half of the unit is also completely enclosed so that there is no spillage of burning or hot fuel or ash.

SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

The present invention provides a compact and easily transportable camp stove and heater device. A multi-walled

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container having an elongated cylindrical body with an opening at a top end and a closed bottom portion is provided for containing fuel and a fire. The container is comprised of a series of nested wall, including an outer wall, a middle wall and an inner wall. The walls have a series of vents to provide air to the burn chamber located within the inner wall.

The nested walls are concentric. Each wall is affixed to a floor. The floor is to both contain and define the lower boundary of the burn chamber and provide an air chamber between the floor and a base plate that extends beyond the floor and the outer diameter of the outer wall to improve stability.

The inner wall is capped with an inner cap. The inner cap is generally ring shaped with a central opening. The inner cap defines the upper boundary of the burn chamber. The central opening of the inner cap provides access to the burn chamber for the insertion of fuel and removal of waste and ash.

An outer cap caps the device displaced above the inner cap. The outer cap is also generally ring shaped with a central opening. In the preferred embodiment the outer cap is placed above the inner cap so as to permit airflow, but placed below the upper edge of the outer wall so that the outer wall extends above the outer cap forming a raised lip.

The vents of the device are located so as to provide a more efficient stove with improved safety characteristics. The vents on the outer wall are located medially, with a distance of the outer wall both above and below the outer wall vents.

The middle wall vents may be located at any point. In the preferred embodiment the middle wall vents are in the form of horizontal slots located in the lower portion of the middle wall.

The inner wall vents are located proximate the base plate. In the preferred embodiment they are vertical slots placed equidistant around the circumference of the inner wall extending upward.

The vents of each of each of the three walls comprise an approximately equal area to permit clear airflow. This preferred area is the approximate area of the inner cap central opening. The cross sectional area available for airflow between the inner cap and the outer cap is also of this same approximate area.

Assembly is principally through the use of non-welded tabs. The majority of the components are held in place by the use of receiver slots and metal tabs permitting expansion of contraction of the elements when under thermal stress.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A better understanding of the present invention will be had upon reference to the following detailed description, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the camp stove according to the invention;

FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view;

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view showing the camp stove of FIG. 1 taken along lines 3—3;

FIG. 4 is a layout of the raw components of the invention, pre-assembly;

FIG. 5 is an alternate embodiment of the invention with the frusto conical outer cap and undulating inner cap; and

FIG. 6 is an alternate embodiment of the invention with a damper.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The preferred embodiment of the invention comprises an inner wall **12**, a middle wall **30** and an outer wall **34**, a base **40**, a floor **38**, an inner cap **16** and an outer cap **18**. These elements may be cut or stamped from stainless steel or any suitable material able to withstand the heat of regular operation. The form of the raw components pre-assembly and prior to shaping is depicted in FIG. 4.

Disposed along the lower portion of the inner wall **12** are a series of inner wall vents **14** extending vertically from the portion of the wall affixed to the floor **38**. The inner wall **14** is capped with an inner cap **16**. The inner cap **16** is generally ring shaped with a central opening **22**. In the preferred embodiment the central opening **22** is approximately one half the diameter of the inner wall **14**. The outer diameter of the inner cap **16** ring is slightly greater than the diameter of the inner wall **14**. The inner cap **16** defines the upper boundary of the burn chamber **20**. The central opening of the inner cap **16** provides access to the burn chamber **20** for the insertion of fuel and removal of waste and ash.

A generally ring shaped outer cap **18** caps the device displaced above the inner cap **16**. Preferably, the spacing between the outer cap **18** and the inner cap **16** is maintained by a series of inner cap tabs **17** folded upward which support the outer cap. The outer cap **18** retains the inner cap **16** by receiving a series of inner wall tabs **15** disposed along the upper edge of the inner wall **12** which are inserted through a series of slots **19** in the outer cap **18** and then folded to hold the outer cap **18** in place. An exploded view of the assembly is depicted in FIG. 2. The outer cap **18** diameter is such that it resides within the outer wall **34** and is disposed below the upper portion of the outer wall **34** below the upper rail posts **44**.

The outer wall **34** has disposed medially a series of vents **36**. In the preferred embodiment the outer wall **34** extending above the outer cap **18** is cut so as to form posts **44** and an upper rail **42**. The upper rail **42** provides a support for cookware and operates as both a protective rail and a handle.

Disposed around the outer wall **34** are a series of outer rail posts **48** on which is mounted an outer rail **46** providing both a secondary protective rail and another handle.

The middle wall **30** has a series of middle wall vents **32** to permit cross flow of air. The upper portion of the middle wall **30** extends to a height approximately equal to the outer wall vents **36**. The upper edge of the middle wall may have a series of tabs **33** in place to provide spacing between the inner wall **12** and the middle wall **30**.

The inner wall **12** and middle wall **30** rest on the floor **38** and are held in place by a series of tabs as is the floor **38**, which is suspended above and held to the base **40** by tabs being inserted into to slots on the base **40**.

The base **40** extends beyond the diameter of the outer wall and is preferably slightly conical permitting the outer parameter to rest on the ground or substrate improving stability. The conical shaping also elevates the burn chamber **20** above any substrate on which the device is placed, providing additional airspace to prevent excessive heat transfer to the substrate.

Alternate embodiments include the use of a damper **70** as depicted in FIG. 6. The damper **70** may be placed over the central opening **22** of the outer cap **18**. Such a damper **70** may consist of an offset hole in a circular piece of metal with a pivot pin **72** and a handle **74** to swivel the damper **70** permitting the central opening **22** of the outer cap **18** to be selectively occluded limiting air flow **50** and reducing the

burn rate. Alternate damper systems, including the placement of gates over the outer wall vents may also be used (not shown).

In another alternate embodiment depicted in FIG. 5, the inner cap **64** is formed so as to be folded along the central opening of the inner cap **64** to increase the boundary layer area of air entering the secondary burn zone. Other disclosed modifications include a frusto-conical outer cap **62**.

OPERATION

In operation, fuel is added to the burn chamber **20** through the outer cap **18** central opening **22** and the inner cap **16** central opening. The fuel is lighted in any number of conventional ways, though lighting is facilitated if the stove is inverted during initial ignition.

Once ignited, additional fuel may be added while the stove is in use.

Airflow is indicated generally at **50**. For primary combustion air flow **50** is from the outer wall vents **36** down both sides of the middle wall **30** with the outer air pathway transiting through the middle wall vents **32** then through the inner wall vents **14**. The three walls heat air, the middle wall **30** acting as both a heat shield to prevent excessive heating of the outer wall **34** and as a radiant fin to heat the air passing by both sides toward the inner wall vents **14**. Heated air increases the efficiency of the combustion process and the multiple walled structure of the invention facilitates heating the air by providing increased air contact with the walls of the stove, which become heated when in use.

An alternate air pathway **50** is provided to permit the combustion of unburned gasses produced by the burning fuel. Air is permitted to enter through the outer wall vents **36** and travel upward through the space defined by the inner wall **12** and the outer wall **30** and then exit the space defined by the outer cap **18** and the inner cap **16** to provide additional oxygen to burn any unconsumed gasses exiting the burn chamber **20**.

While the invention has been illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and the foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only the preferred and select alternate embodiments have been shown and described fully and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the invention are desired to be protected.

I claim:

1. A stove comprising:

An inner wall,
an outer wall, and

an at least one middle wall, each nested and affixed concentrically to a floor,

each of said walls with an at least one or more vents,

said inner wall capped with an inner cap,

said inner cap being generally ring shaped with an inner cap central opening,

said outer wall capped with an outer cap, said outer cap placed above said inner cap,

said outer cap being generally ring shaped with an outer cap central opening.

2. The stove of claim 1 wherein said outer wall vents are medially displaced.

3. The stove of claim 1 wherein said inner wall vents are of a generally vertical orientation displaced along the bottom of said inner wall and extending upward.

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- 4. The stove of claim 1 wherein assembly is accomplished principally through the use of folded tabs inserted into slots.
- 5. The stove of claim 1 wherein said floor is disposed above and affixed to a base.
- 6. The stove of claim 5 where in said base is slightly conical.
- 7. The stove of claim 1 further comprising a flue to selectively occlude airflow.
- 8. The stove of claim 1 wherein said inner cap is folded to form an undulating boundary layer along the inner cap central opening.

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- 9. The stove of claim 1 further comprising an at least one or more outer rail posts affixed to said outer wall, said outer rail posts retaining an outer rail.
- 10. The stove of claim 1 further comprising an at least one or more upper rail posts disposed along said outer wall and affixed to said upper rail posts an upper rail.
- 11. The stove of claim 10 wherein said upper rail posts and said upper rail are formed from and integral to said outer wall.

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