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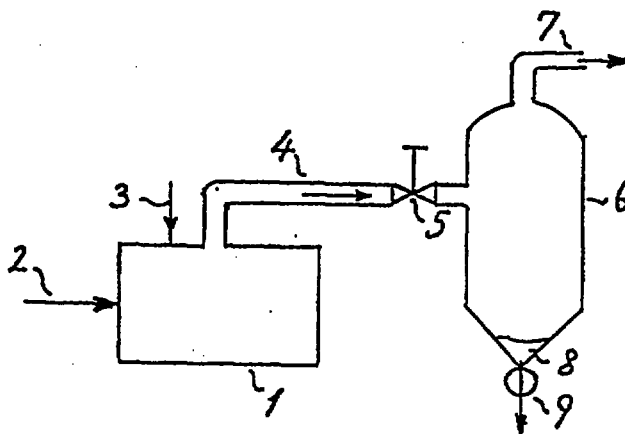
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(54) Title: A METHOD OF IMPARTING AN ULTRA-SHORT, MOMENTANEOUS HEAT TREATMENT TO A LIQUID



(57) Abstract

In a method of providing a brief heat treatment to a liquid by mixing steam therein followed by flash cooling at reduced pressure, very short and easily adjustable holding time at elevated temperature is obtained by adjustable increase of the amount of steam injected into the liquid to amounts exceeding those which condense by contacting the liquid. The method is efficient for heat treatment, such as sterilization, of heat sensitive materials including food products of high viscosity.