April 22, 1941. G. LOTH 2,239,365

CRADLE BOX

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FIG. 1

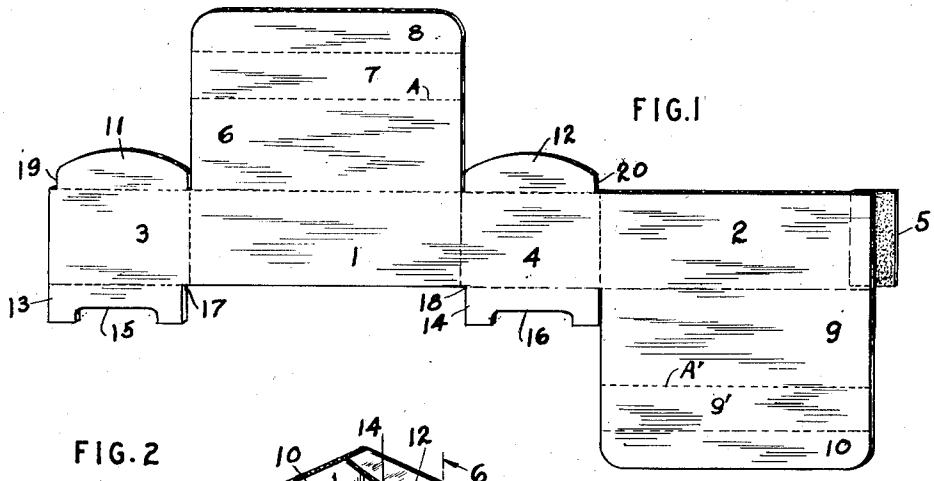


FIG. 2

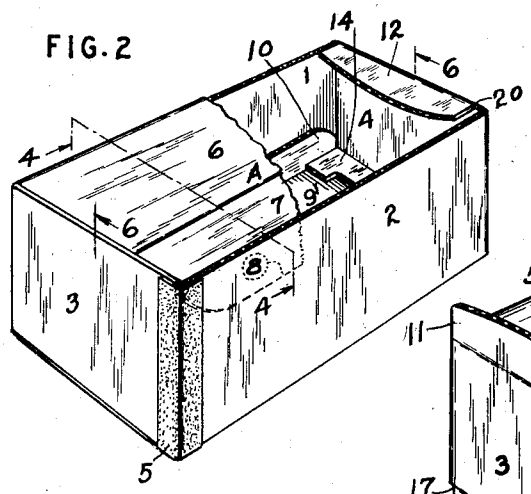


FIG. 3

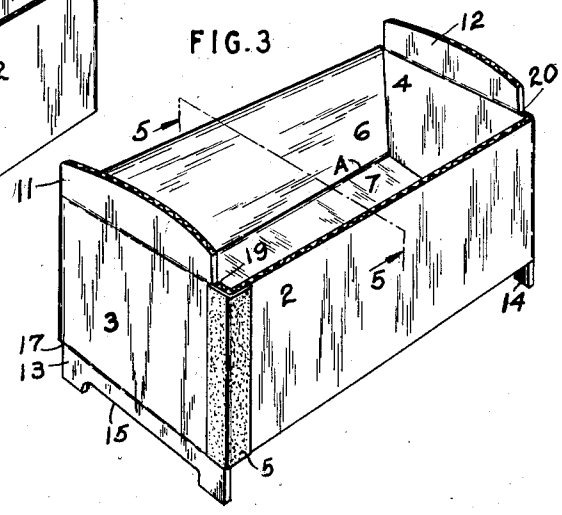


FIG. 4

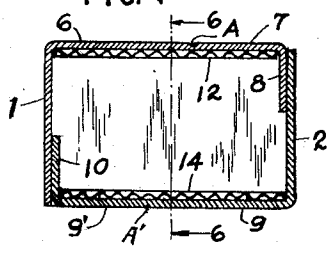


FIG. 5

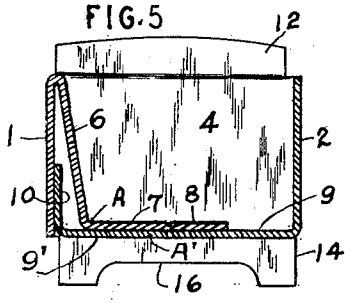
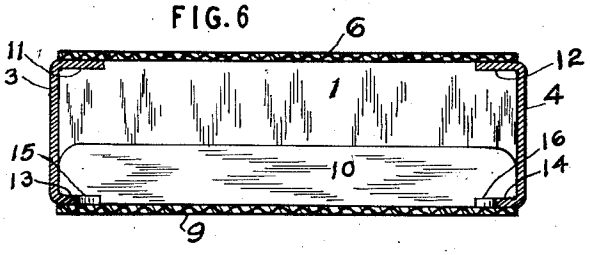


FIG. 6



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FIG. 7

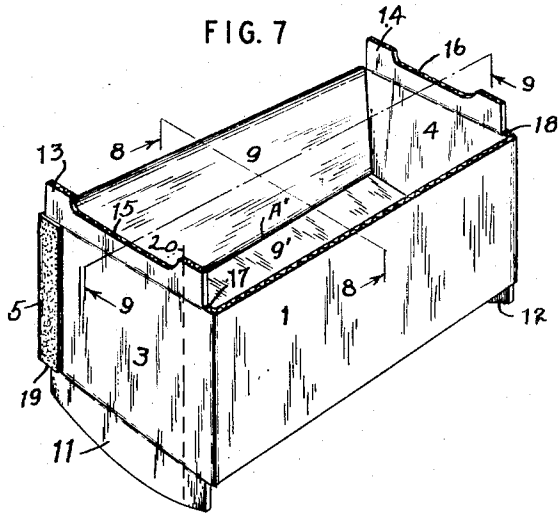


FIG. 8

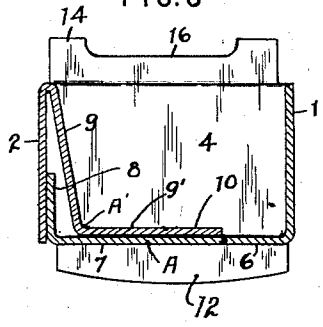
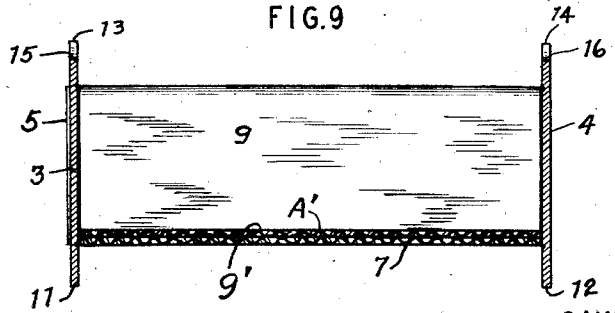


FIG. 9



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2,239,365

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,239,365

CRADLE BOX

Gaylord Loth, Sandusky, Ohio, assignor to The Hinde & Dauch Paper Company, Sandusky, Ohio, a corporation of Ohio

Application January 20, 1940, Serial No. 314,835

5 Claims. (Cl. 46—11)

The purpose of the present invention is to provide a box which can be set up as doll furniture after it has served its purpose as a container. Specifically the box in question is designed as packing box for a doll, but is so arranged that the parts can be put into altered positions after the box is opened, and can then serve either as a toy cradle with rockers, or can be inverted and have the appearance of a child's crib or bed, thus making an attractive article of furniture in which a child can either cradle and rock the doll or put it in a stationary bed.

A preferred form of the invention is described and is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, it being understood that variations thereon may be resorted to within the scope of the invention, such scope being set out in the claims hereto annexed. In the accompanying drawings, wherein the preferred form is shown set up for both its purposes.

Fig. 1 is a view of the blank, dotted lines thereon indicating creases which establish lines of fold for subsequent operations either of closing or of setting the box up as a cradle or as a bed;

Fig. 2 is a perspective of the box set up as a container, parts being broken away to show the interior construction;

Fig. 3 is a perspective of the box set up as a toy bed;

Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section on plane 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a transverse vertical section on plane 5—5 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal median vertical section on plane 6—6 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 7 is a perspective of the box set up as a cradle;

Fig. 8 is a transverse vertical section on plane 8—8 of Fig. 7; and

Fig. 9 is a longitudinal vertical section on plane 9—9 of Fig. 7.

The box comprises sides 1, 2 and ends 3, 4, all of which are most conveniently arranged in succession lengthwise of a unitary blank, Fig. 1, separated from one another and from various other panels by creases for folding lines, dotted on that figure. When closed into a four sided structure, the free ends of 2 and 3 may be connected by a tape 5 or otherwise, as customary in the trade.

The cover is foldably connected to the upper edge of the side 1, this cover being divided by a crease A into a panel 6, about as wide as the height of side 1, and a narrow panel 7 which has a tuck 8 along its outer edge. Similar panels 9 and 9', separated by crease A', and the latter having a tuck 10, are foldably connected to the opposite side 2. Each of the ends 3, 4 has opposite tabs 11, 12 and 13, 14, respectively, defined by fold lines. The tabs 13 and 14 are notched as at 15 and 16 to leave extensions in the similitude of either posts or legs, so as to give the box a realistic appearance when set up as a toy bed, Fig. 3 or toy cradle, Fig. 7; other shapes may of course be used. The tabs 11 and 12 are cut to curves so as to make cradle rockers or ornamental headboard and footboard tops, as the case may be.

To use as a container, the tabs 13 and 14 are inturned as shown in Fig. 2, the panel 9 is brought under as a bottom and the tuck 10 inserted inside the side wall 1 and between ends 3 and 4, through the clearance which is left by cutting short the tabs 13 and 14 at 17 and 18 where they join the ends 3 and 4 respectively, such clearance being just sufficient for the thickness of the material of the tuck 10 and thus giving a snug binding fit when the container is closed. When closed, the tabs 11 and 12 of the ends are likewise inturned to underlie the cover 6—7. These tabs are likewise cut off slightly along one edge as at 19 and 20, to give a snug binding fit to the tuck 8. The above description will be reversed if the box is to be set up with panel 6 as the bottom.

To set the container up as a toy bed, the tabs 11, 13 and 12, 14 of the ends 3 and 4 are raised into extension with those ends, and the lid 6 is turned down and in against side 1. Since the box, for the sake of having the corners square, is preferably made with the corrugations running up and down, any tendency of the tabs to fall can be corrected by placing a piece of wire 20 or a pin through one of the corrugation channels.

To set up as a cradle the box is inverted, panel 6—7 left closed as a bottom, panel 9 turned down inward against side 2 as in Fig. 8. The tabs 11 and 12 stand down and thus form rockers, while the tabs 13 and 14 stand up as head and foot ornaments for the cradle. In this way the box resembles either a child's crib or cradle, as the case may be, and can be used as a piece of doll furniture. The lid 6—7 can also be closed with the end tabs 11, 12 and 13, 14 up, thus giving the appearance of an adult's bed rather than a child's bed or crib.

From the foregoing it will be observed that I have invented a multiple purpose container

which may be kept and used as toy furniture after it has served its purpose as a container. Surface ornamentation, or ornamental edge shapes which do not interfere with mechanical functions, can be used as may be desired to add to the attractive appearance. The invention having been described and illustrated in a preferred embodiment, it is noted that it is susceptible of modifications within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A blank adapted to be made into a container, said blank comprising four panels successively foldably connected in longitudinal extension adapted to form two ends and two sides, a bottom foldably connected to an edge of a side, a top foldably connected to the opposite edge of the other side, and a fold line in said top parallel to the connecting edge laterally spaced therefrom a distance equal to the width of said side, ornamental tabs foldably connected to the top of each end and to the bottom of each end, respectively.

2. A container comprising in combination two sides, two ends, lids connected to said sides, and tabs on said ends, said tabs being adapted to be folded under said lids as inner folding members or to be turned into the planes of their respective ends, and thereby form bottom supports and top ornamental extensions for said ends above the level of the sides of the box, one of said lids being divided lengthwise into panels adapted selectively either to extend across the box top and thereby act as a lid or to be dropped into the box against one side and the bottom.

3. A container comprising in combination two sides, two ends, lids connected each to an edge of one of said sides, a top and a bottom tab connected to each of said ends and adapted to be placed in prolongation thereof, said bottom tabs having curved edges adapted to act as rockers when in such prolonged position.

4. A container comprising in combination two sides, two ends, lids connected each to an edge of one of said sides, tabs connected to the top and bottom respectively of each of said ends and adapted to be placed in prolongation thereof, the edge of each of said bottom tabs being convex whereby when said container rests thereon they form rockers and when said container is inverted from the cradle position they simulate the tops of the ends of a bedstead, the edges of said top tabs being shaped to include projections at their extremities, which projections constitute ornaments simulating upstanding posts when the container rests on its rockers and constituting feet when the container is inverted from the cradle position, said container being made of corrugated board with corrugations running vertically in said end portions and continuously through each said end portion and its tabs, thereby providing continuous channels through said ends and their respective tabs for reception of a rigid retaining element.

5. A container comprising in combination two sides, two ends, a lid connected to an edge of one of said sides; said lid including a panel as wide as the approximate height of said side and foldable inward against it and another panel equal to the difference between the width of said first-named panel and the container width, and a tuck on the outer edge of said second-named panel, whereby said lid may be selectively closed across the top of said container or folded inside against one side and the bottom thereof; and tabs on the upper and lower edges of each end, adapted to be set out in extension above and below their respective ends when said lid is folded inwardly.

GAYLORD LOTH.