Oct. 20, 1959 G. L. MORRIS 2,909,350

PALLET FOR SHIPPING SHEET MATERIAL

Filed Jan. 13, 1955

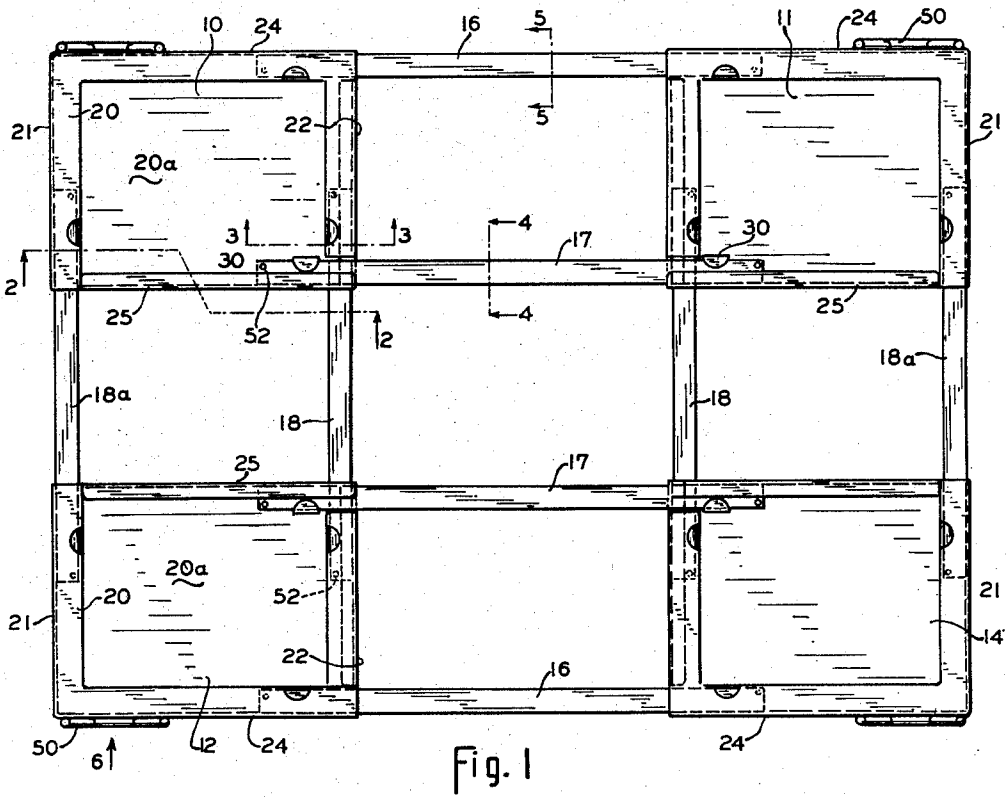


Fig. 1

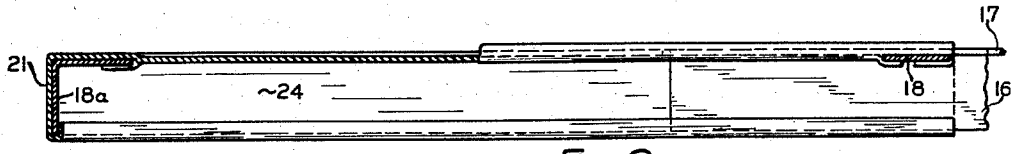


Fig. 2

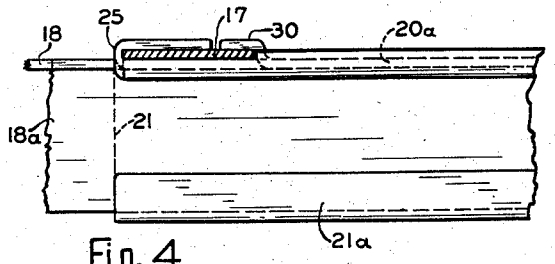


Fig. 4

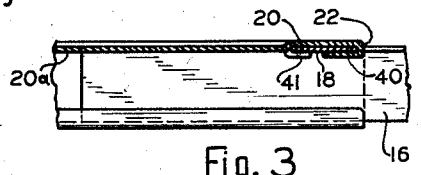


Fig. 3

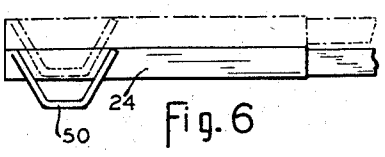


Fig. 6

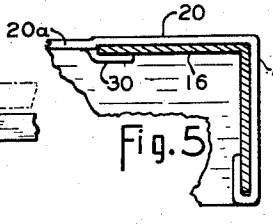


Fig. 5

INVENTOR.
GEORGE L. MORRIS.
BY Chas. T. Hawley
ATT'Y.

United States Patent Office

2,909,350

Patented Oct. 20, 1959

2,909,350

PALLET FOR SHIPPING SHEET MATERIAL

George L. Morris, Winchendon, Mass., assignor of one-half to Millard R. Hurst, Hamilton, Ohio

Application January 13, 1955, Serial No. 481,660

1 Claim. (Cl. 248—120)

This invention relates to pallets on which paper or other similar sheet material may be transported in flat condition.

The usual shipping units or packages of such flat sheet material are of substantial thickness and of very considerable weight, and it is customary to provide a strong and rigid support or pallet to underlie and support the paper sheets. The surface area of this pallet is preferably substantially the same as the sheets to be transported and should not be substantially larger than the sheets. Also, the different shipping units vary greatly in width and length.

Pallets as heretofore used have commonly been of wood and of fixed size, and they have been found too heavy and bulky to warrant return shipment of the pallet. Consequently, the shipping pallet has been included as part of the cost of each shipment and has substantially increased the cost of the unit of paper.

It is the general object of my invention to provide a pallet which may be conveniently manufactured of sheet metal and which will be light in weight and well adapted to be telescoped for return shipment.

My invention further relates to arrangements and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

A preferred form of the invention is shown in the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my improved pallet;

Fig. 2 is a partial sectional front elevation, taken along the line **2—2** in Fig. 1 and on an enlarged scale;

Fig. 3 is a detail sectional elevation, taken along the line **3—3** in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation, partly in section, taken along the line **4—4** in Fig. 1 and further enlarged;

Fig. 5 is a detail section on the line **5—5** in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 6 is a partial front elevation, looking in the direction of the arrow **6** in Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings, my improved pallet comprises four sheet-metal corner sections or units **10**, **11**, **12** and **14**, together with telescoping longitudinal connecting bars **16** and **17**, and telescoping transverse connecting bars **18** and **18***a*.

The corner units **10** and **14** are duplicates, and the corner units **11** and **12** are also duplicates. All four units are identical, except that the two sets of units are right-hand and left-hand respectively.

Referring particularly to the corner unit **10**, this unit **10** is preferably formed from a single piece of relatively heavy sheet steel or other sheet metal, with a rectangular flat body portion **20** and with end flanges **21** and **22** and side flanges **24** and **25**. The center part **20***a* (Fig. 5) of the body portion **20** may be slightly depressed for stiffness.

The cross members **16** are also of sheet metal and are preferably of the angular section shown in Fig. 5, and the end portions **24** of the corner units are recurved at their extreme bottom edges as indicated at **21***a* in Fig. 5. They are also provided with offset ears **30** which act as guides for the members **16** and which prevent displacement thereof. The ears are struck out of the body portion **20**.

The connecting members **17** and **18** (Figs. 2 and 3) are preferably flat strips or bars of sheet metal and slide in runways in the corner pieces formed by bending an edge portion down and under as indicated at **40** in Fig. 3 and by providing offset ears **41** as previously described.

At the inside angles of the corner pieces, provision is made to slidably receive the adjacent ends of the two parts **17** and **18**. The bars **17** commonly slide above the bars **18**, as shown in Fig. 4.

It is desirable to provide each pallet with feet to support it in a sufficiently raised position to admit the arms of a fork lift. Such feet may take the form shown in Fig. 6, with each foot comprising a loop **50** of heavy rod formed in a wide **V** shape and welded to the side edge portion **24** of each corner section as **10**. The wide **V** shape permits perfect nesting.

Stops **52** (Fig. 1) limit separation of the corner units.

Having thus described my invention and the advantages thereof, I do not wish to be limited to the details herein disclosed, but what I claim is:

A metal shipping pallet comprising four rectangular and open rigid corner frame units, each of substantial area and each having two spaced side-supporting members and two spaced end-supporting members, a pair of spaced rigid longitudinal cross-bars mounted between each pair of units and in spaced and telescoping relation thereto, and a pair of spaced rigid transverse cross-bars mounted between each pair of corner units and in telescoping relation therewith.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

172,511	Simpson	Jan. 18, 1876
2,405,535	Weiss	Aug. 6, 1946
2,664,258	Lanier	Dec. 29, 1953
2,739,776	Terando	Mar. 27, 1956
2,781,184	Averill	Feb. 12, 1957