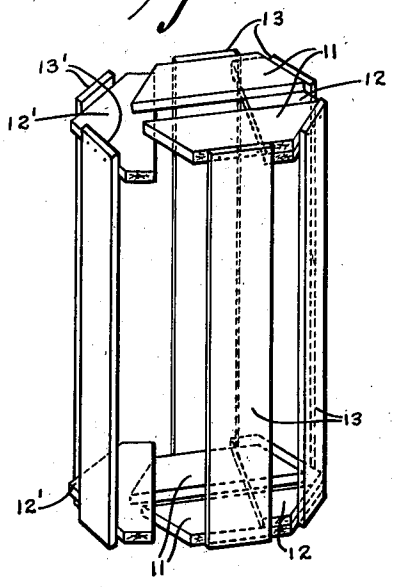
March 3, 1942. E. R. WILSON 2,275,332

INSULATOR PACKING CRATE

Filed May 10, 1939

Fig. 1



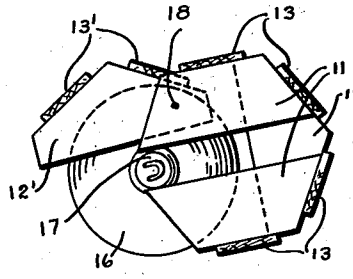


Fig. 2

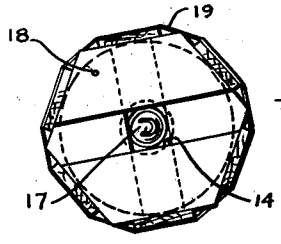


Fig. 3

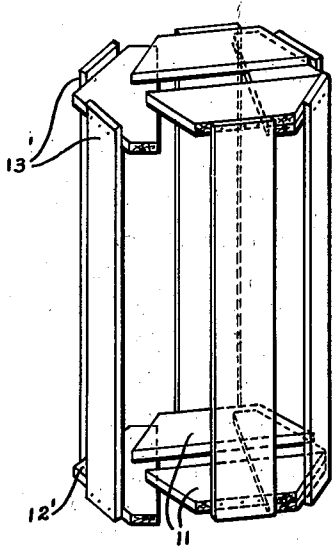


Fig. 4

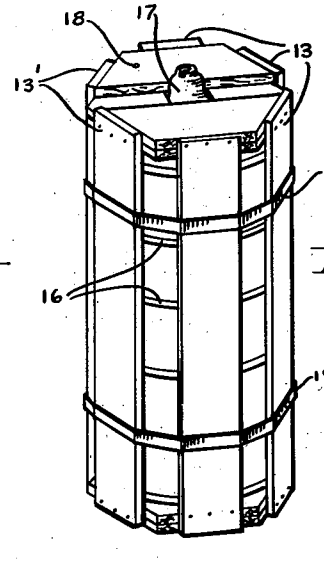


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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INSULATOR PACKING CRATE

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Application May 10, 1939, Serial No. 272,917

2 Claims. (Cl. 217—52)

My invention relates to improvements in boxes, crates or cases designed for use in the protection of suspension insulators, not only during shipment thereof but also until such insulators have been suspended from the tower of a system of power distribution of which they are to form a part.

It has been common practice in the past to place a string of suspension insulators wholly within a crate, resembling somewhat those illustrated in the accompanying drawing, placing the string under tension by adding hard wood cross slats to the ends of the crate and wiring the ends of the insulator string to such slats, the crates themselves after being closed being thoroughly nailed together. With such a structure and method of packing or crating, considerable labor and material are required to prepare the insulator string for shipment. When the insulator string is delivered to location for use, considerable labor is again required for unpacking, and this must be done to make the insulator string available for suspension from the tower. The insulator string is accordingly unprotected while being raised and attached to the tower.

An object of the present invention is a new and improved form of crate which requires a minimum of material and labor in its construction and which facilitates the packing and unpacking of a string of insulators with greater ease than structures of the past have permitted.

A further object of the present invention is the protection of an insulator string from the time it leaves the location of assembly until it has been installed for use.

The invention embodies a crate so constructed that an assembled string of insulators can be placed therein with the head of the uppermost insulator of the string protruding therefrom available for attachment to a tower fixture, thereby enabling the string of crated insulators to be raised and suspended from a tower prior to the removal of the crate.

The invention also embodies a crate so designed and constructed that it can be opened and removed from about a suspended string of insulators by simply cutting two holding bands surrounding the crate, swinging the crate cover in open position and laterally sliding the crate from about the insulator string.

Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing is a perspective view of one form of crate assembly embodying the invention, showing the crate cover about to be placed in position to close the crate;

Fig. 2 is an end view of the crate with the cover pivoted thereto and in open position and illustrating an insulator string being introduced into the crate;

Fig. 3 is an end view of a crate containing a string of insulators ready for shipment;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but illustrating a slightly modified structure; and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a crate containing a string of insulators ready for shipment.

The crates illustrated are hexagonal in shape and each comprises two separately assembled parts, one of which is the crate proper and the other the cover. The crate proper comprises two similarly shaped end pieces 11 arranged opposite one another in spaced relation and bridged together with a third end piece 12 to which end pieces 11 are permanently nailed. These end assemblies are connected by slats 13 secured to the end pieces by nails or screws. The cover portion of the crate assembly consists of two end pieces 12' connected together by slats 13'.

The end pieces 12 and 12' are so arranged that when the cover is in closed position they are opposite and in the same spaced relation to one another as are end pieces 11. As a consequence there is a square opening 14 in the center of each end of the crate. Lateral access may be had to these openings by removal of the cover portion of the crate, thereby permitting a string of insulators 16 of a length slightly greater than that of the crate to be positioned therein with the head 17 of the uppermost insulator passing through one of the openings 14, making such head accessible for attachment to a power line tower.

With the cover assembly in closed position, pins or nails 18 may be driven through end pieces 11 and 12' of the crate ends to hinge the cover to the crate proper. The cover may preferably be held in closed position wholly by bands 19 bound around the slats 13 and 13'.

In the form of crate illustrated in Fig. 1, the bottom insulator of a string rests on the lowermost end pieces 12 and 12' and, accordingly, if the cover should be swung to open position while the crate is standing on end the lowermost end piece 12' would be moved from under the insulator string causing it to tend to fall out of the crate. Ordinarily the crate is not opened until the insulator string has been suspended and therefore this feature is not considered objectionable. If considered objectionable, however, it can be overcome by modifying the structure in accordance with the disclosure in Fig. 4 wherein the lowermost insulator will rest on parts 11. With such a structure the support for the insu-

lator string remains intact when the cover is swung to open position.

By packing a string of insulators in a crate assembly of either of the foregoing designs, it is possible to transport the assembled and crated string of insulators from location of assembly to the tower from which they are to be suspended and to actually raise and suspend them from such tower before severing the bands and removing the crate from about the insulators, thereby protecting them from damage until after their installation.

What is claimed is:

1. A crate suitable for protecting high tension insulators during transit and installation, comprising two units separable from one another each including an end connected to slats, the end of one unit consisting of a single part having two sides to which two of the slats are attached and the corresponding end of the other unit having three parts each having at least one side engaged by a slat and one of which is like the end of the first unit and oppositely disposed and in spaced relation thereto and the remaining two of which are alike and disposed in spaced relation to one another and arranged at right angles to and overlapping the end part of the first defined unit and pins passing through overlapping end parts of the respective units pivotally connecting them to one another.

2. A crate suitable for protecting high tension insulators during transit and installation, comprising two units separable from one another each including an end connected to slats, the end of one unit consisting of a single part having two sides to which two of the slats are attached and the corresponding end of the other unit having three parts each having at least one side engaged by a slat and one of which is like the end of the first unit and oppositely disposed and in spaced relation thereto and the remaining two of which are alike and disposed in spaced relation to one another and arranged at right angles to and overlapping the end part of the first defined unit, pins passing through overlapping end pieces of the respective units pivotally connecting them to one another, and bands surrounding the crate and solely by frictional contact with the slats holding the units in closed position with respect to one another.

EDGAR R. WILSON.