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T. H. ALFREDS

2,483,607

EGG PACKING MATERIAL

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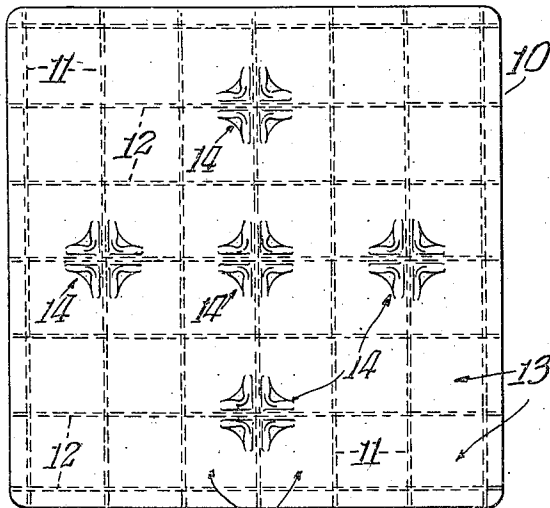


FIG. 1.

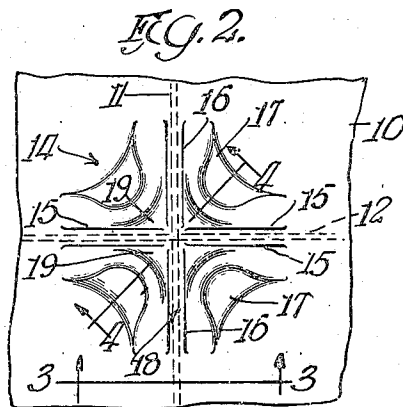


FIG. 2.

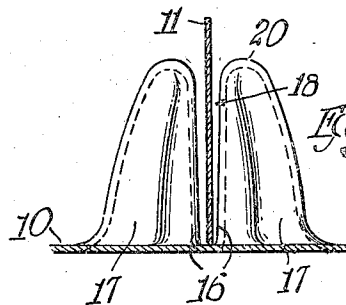


FIG. 3.

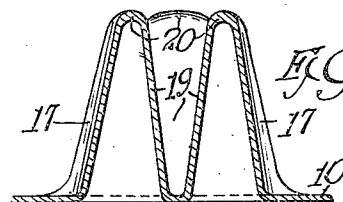


FIG. 4.

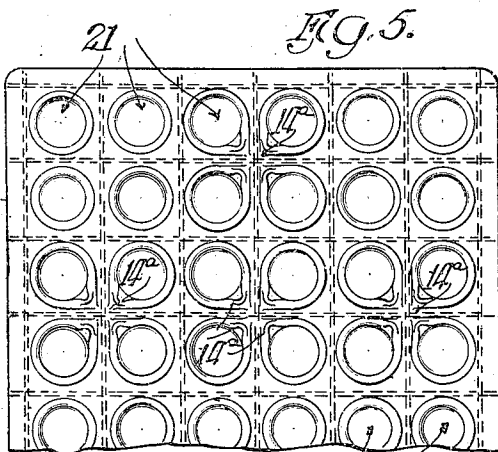


FIG. 5.

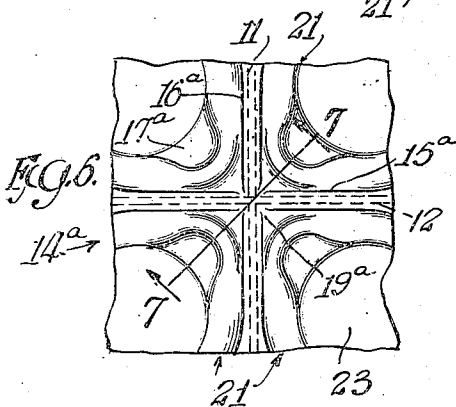


FIG. 6.

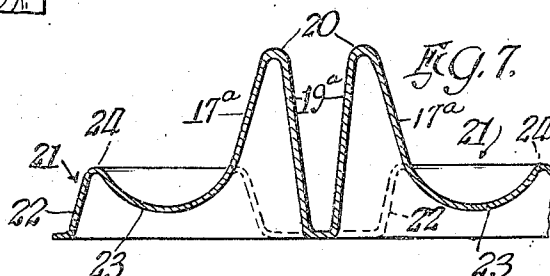


FIG. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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EGG PACKING MATERIAL

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7 Claims. (Cl. 217-26)

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This invention relates to improvements in egg packing material and it consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Packing material of this kind, as now made, consists of a substantially flat rectangular sheet-like body, generally of molded pulp, of a size to fit rather snugly in the compartment of an egg case. In some instances, such material is provided with right angled rows of relatively low, but upstanding egg seats, so spaced apart as to be disposed, one in each square cell produced by the intersecting right angled strips of a cellular filler used therewith. Such material is packed one upon the other in a compressed stack and is so delivered to the egg packer. Being substantially flat and pressed together, the individual units thereof are somewhat difficult to separate from the remainder in a stack and are also difficult to pick up and handle, either in placing the same in or removing it from an egg case compartment. Even though such material may have the egg seats mentioned, such seats are too low in height and too widely separated to make it an easy matter to pick up a single piece or unit of such material by grasping the seats, by means of the fingers, from above.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide packing material of this kind in the form of a so-called pad which includes pick-up projections that may be readily grasped by the fingers from above for an easier handling, either by one or both hands, in placing the material in or removing it from an egg case compartment when packing or unpacking the same, thereby making it easier for the person performing these operations, and also speeding the operation.

Another object of the invention is to provide material of this kind, which permits the ready removal thereof, with the filler and contained eggs therein as a combined unit, from a packed egg case, when it is desired to do so.

A further object of the invention is to provide material of this kind which may or may not have egg receiving seats thereon and which may be readily separated from others in the same stack and easily picked up singly, using the fingers of either or both hands from above, for placing in position in an egg case compartment.

Also, another object of the invention is to pro-

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vide material of the kind mentioned, which includes parts whereby it may be readily handled from above, and which parts are not only arranged symmetrically for stacking with others without matching the arrangement of the margins thereof, but also form guides for receiving the intersecting portions of the strips of an associated cellular filler in a manner guiding them into place on the material when the same is applied thereto as well as bracing the strips after they are in place thereon.

The above mentioned objects of the invention, as well as others, together with the advantages thereof, will more fully appear as the specification proceeds.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of egg packing material of the seatless type, embodying one form of the invention and shows one manner in which the pick up projections therefor may be symmetrically arranged thereon.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary top plan view of a portion of the material in Fig. 1, on an enlarged scale, and more particularly illustrates the shape and form of a group of pick up projections and the arrangement thereof relative to one intersection of a pair of right angled strips of an associated cellular filler.

Fig. 3 is a detail vertical sectional view through a part of the material as taken on the line 3-3 and on the scale of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is another detail vertical sectional view through a part of the material, as taken on the line 4-4 and on the scale of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view similar to and on the scale of Fig. 1 and shows the invention as applied to packing material having egg seats thereon.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view on the scale of Fig. 2 and more particularly shows the shape and form of a group of pick up projections when formed integral with associated egg seats.

Fig. 7 is a vertical detail sectional view as taken on the line 7-7 and on the scale of Fig. 6.

Referring now in detail to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive of the accompanying drawing, the improved material includes a square flat pad or body 10, preferably of molded pulp material, of a size to have a relatively snug fit in the compartment

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of a standard egg case. When disposed in said compartment there is used with the pad a cellular filler composed of sets of right angled intersecting strips 11 and 12 respectively, which appear in dotted lines in Fig. 1. There are seven of such strips in each set and these form thirty-six square cell-like areas 13—13, each to receive an egg. With strips arranged as shown, the intersection of the strips in both sets are disposed symmetrically with one of said intersections in the center of the body.

Associated with certain of said intersections is a group of upstanding pick-up projections, each group being indicated as a whole by the numeral 14. Preferably one group of projections is disposed centrally of the pad or body and is associated with the intersection of the central ones of both sets of strips 11 and 12. The other groups of projections are disposed symmetrically with respect to the central one and with respect to the edges of the body. In Fig. 1, each of said other groups of projections are shown as spaced two intersections away from said central one. However other arrangements of said other groups of projections may be provided.

Each projection, in each group, has two sides 15 and 16 respectively, which at the base of the projection are parallel with the plane of the associated strips 11 and 12 and a third side 17, which at the base of the projection, is disposed angularly to said strips. The side 17 has a concaved cross section. The sides 15 and 16 of each projection flare upwardly and outwardly from the base of the projection and coact to define a channel-like space 18 (see Fig. 3) to accommodate the filler strip portions between them. This space is widest at the top end which acts as a mouth to guide the strips into proper position in the application of a filler to the top surface of the pad or packing material, as when packing an egg case therewith.

The sides 15, 16 and 17 of each projection, as well as a fourth or corner portion 19 of each projection, converge toward the rounded top 20 of the projection so that the projection has a somewhat irregular cone shape. Each projection is of such a height as to terminate in a plane below the top edge of the associated strips 11 and 12, as appears in Fig. 3.

As is obvious from Fig. 2, the four concaved sides of the four projections in each group provide portions of substantial height or length, which may be easily grasped by the thumb and three fingers of the hand for a good grip thereon and by which the pad as a whole may be readily picked up and placed in position and this is so whether the channels thereof are or are not occupied by the portions of the strips 11 and 12. Also, by reason of the conical shape of the projections, the projections on one pad will nest with those of another and this without arranging any one particular edge of one pad with a particular edge of another pad, thus permitting random stacking.

In Figs. 5, 6, and 7, the invention is illustrated as embodied in a pad having egg receiving seats 21 thereon, arranged centrally, one within each space or area 13, as defined by the strips 11 and 12 of the filler. In this instance each egg receiving seat is shown as being of circular shape, but other shapes may be used. The seat is so formed as to include an upwardly and inwardly tapering outer wall 22 and a concaved top 23 that join together as an annular ridge 24 as best appears in Fig. 7.

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Associated with certain groups of four adjacent seats disposed about the same intersection of the strips as in Fig. 1, is a group of four projections 14a. In this instance each projection rises from a part of the egg seat and includes the sides 15a, 16a and 17a respectively and corner portion 19a. The sides 15a and 16a of each projection merge at their bottom into the ridge 24 and a part of the side wall 22 of the associated seat, while the side 17a merges into the concaved top of the egg seat, as best appears in Figs. 6 and 7.

The projections extend a considerable distance above the ridge of the associated seat and afford portions that may be readily grasped by the fingers from above.

In Figs. 1 and 5 the pad is shown as provided with five symmetrically disposed groups of finger graspable projections and one of said projections is disposed in the center of the pad. If only one group of such projections is to be employed in the pad, it will preferably be disposed centrally thereof so that the pads will nest together for packing the pads in a stack, in random fashion.

By means of the arrangement described, the pads may be more readily grasped for handling not only in separating one from the others in a stack, but also for handling in placing the pad in or removing it from an egg case compartment.

While in describing the invention I have referred in detail to the form, construction and arrangement of the parts of the material or pad, the same is to be considered only in the illustrative sense so that I do not wish to be limited thereto except as may be specifically set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engaged on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersecting strips, which in operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at a right angle to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, egg receiving seats rising from said side of the body portion and arranged thereon to be disposed centrally one in each cell-like area and projections rising from parts of the seats in the corners of at least two adjacent cell-like areas at one of the intersections of at least two right angled strips of the filler, said projections extending to an elevation above the top of the associated egg seats whereby the same may be grasped by the fingers, from above, for supporting said member when handling the same.

2. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engaged on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersecting strips, which in operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at a right angle to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, egg receiving seats rising from said side of the body portion and arranged thereon to be disposed centrally one in each cell-like area and projections rising from parts of the seats in the corners of at least two adjacent cell-like areas at one of the intersections of at least two right angled strips of the filler, said projections extending to an elevation above the top of the associated egg seats, but not higher than the associated filler strip, whereby the same may be

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grasped by the fingers, from above, for supporting said member when handling the same.

3. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engaged on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersecting strips, which in operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at a right angle to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, egg receiving seats rising from said side of the body portion and arranged thereon to be disposed centrally one in each cell-like area and projections rising from parts of the seats in each of the four corners of four adjacent cell-like areas grouped about the intersection of at least two right angled strips of the filler, said projections extending at an elevation above the top of the associated egg seats to be easily grasped by the fingers, from above, for supporting said member when handling the same.

4. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engageable on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersecting strips, which in the operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at right angles to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, and a plurality of sets of upward projections rising from said side of said body portion, in a group of corners arranged symmetrically with reference to all edges of the body portions, each set of projections comprising four projections disposed in the corners of four adjacent cell-like areas at the intersection of associated right angled strips of the filler, said projections being of a height not more than that of the filler.

5. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engaged on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersectiong strips, which in operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at a right angle to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, and projections rising from said side of the body portion in the corners of at least two adjacent cell-like areas at one of said intersections of at least two right angled strips of the filler, each projection having at least two sides that parallel adjacent strips of the filler and a third

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side disposed angularly to said strips, all of said sides tapering toward each other at the top, said projections being of a height not greater than that of the filler.

6. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engaged on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersecting strips, which in operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at a right angle to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, and a set of four projections rising from said side of the body portion in the corners of four adjacent cell-like areas at one of said intersections of at least two right angled strips of the filler, each projection having at least two sides that parallel adjacent strips of the filler and a third side disposed angularly to said strips, all of said sides of each projection tapering toward each other at the top, said projections being of a height not greater than that of the filler.

7. A packing member embodying therein a rectangular and generally flat body portion of a size for use in a compartment of a packing case and adapted to be engaged on the upper side thereof by the edges of a conventional cellular filler composed of sets of intersecting strips, which in operative position on said upper side of the body portion are arranged at a right angle to each other and form a plurality of cell-like areas, and projections rising from said side of the body portion in the corners of at least two adjacent cell-like areas at one of said intersections of at least two right angled strips of the filler, each projection having at least two sides that parallel adjacent strips of the filler and a third side disposed angularly to said strips, and having a concaved surface considered cross sectionally in a plane parallel the plane of the seat, all of said sides tapering toward each other at the top, said projections being of a height not greater than that of the filler.

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