O. J. LA BAUVE.

COOP OR CRATE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1908.

909,615. Patented Jan. 12, 1909.

Fig. 1.

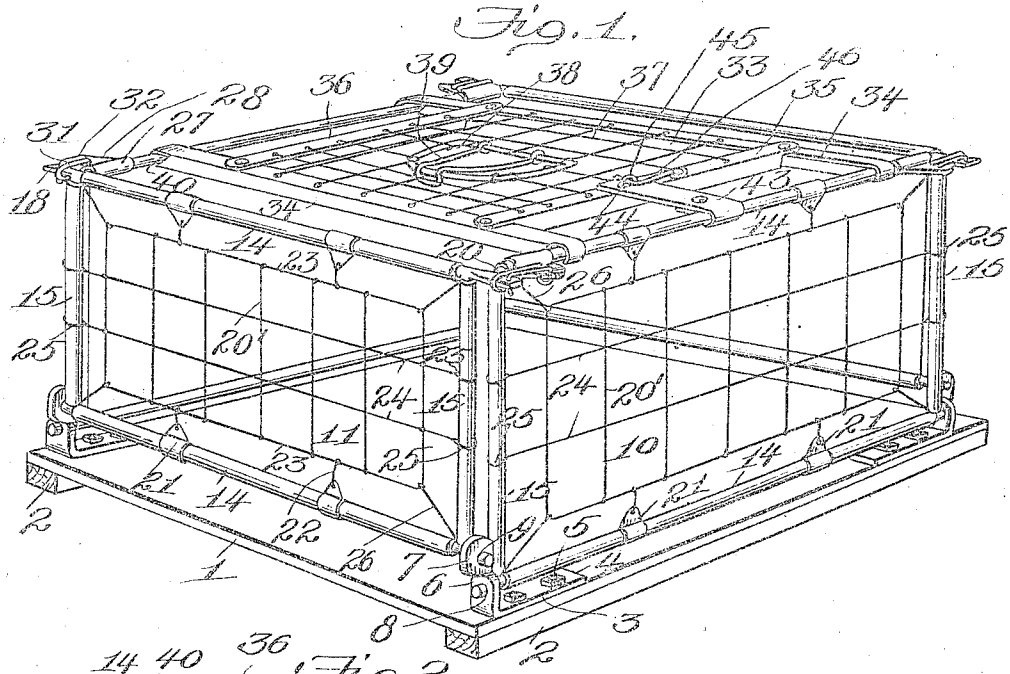


Fig. 2.

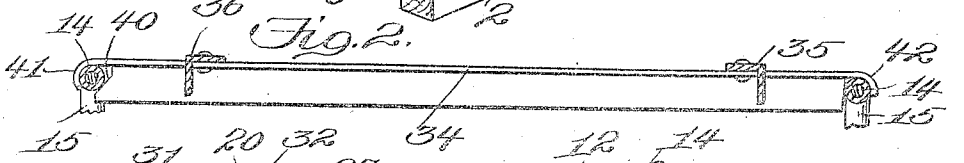


Fig. 3.

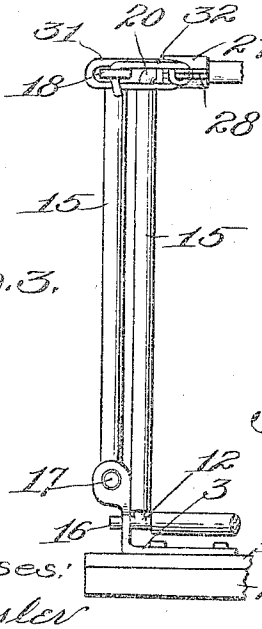


Fig. 4.

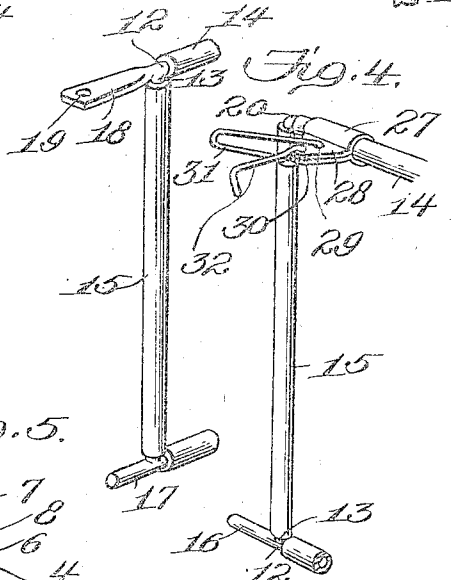
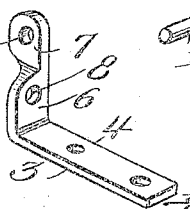


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

E. Kesler

F. D. Kelly

Inventor

Odelon J. La Bauve

James L. Norris.

Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ODELON J. LA BAUVE, OF EDNA, TEXAS.

COOP OR CRATE.

No. 909,615. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 12, 1909.

Application filed January 17, 1908. Serial No. 411,308.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ODELON J. LA BAUVE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Edna, in the county of Jackson and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Coops or Crates, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding coops or crates of that type having infolding sides and ends coöperating with a base or bottom and having a removable cover which is separable and capable of being compactly arranged in relation to the remaining parts of the crate for storage or return shipment.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a folding coop or crate having such structure as to render it convenient for transporting poultry and other live stock, and wherein the several parts are strong and durable, comparatively simple in their construction, and effective in operation.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple hinge means for the sides and ends and reliable fastenings which may be readily manipulated to hold the sides and ends in operative position or released to permit the said sides or ends to be collapsed.

With these and other objects and advantages in view, the invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts which will be more fully hereinafter specified.

In the drawing: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a coop or crate embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section through the upper portion of the crate. Fig. 3 is a detail side elevation of a portion of the crate. Fig. 4 illustrates detail perspective views of portions of contiguous extremities of the sides and ends, a part of one side and a portion of one end being shown. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of one of the hinge brackets.

Similar characters of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates a bottom or base which is preferably formed of wood and at opposite sides has longitudinal sills 2 secured thereto to raise the bottom from the supporting surface. Adjacent the corners of the bottom are supporting brackets 3 having horizontal members 4 which are secured to the bottom or base by bolts or analogous fastenings 5 extending therethrough and engaging the sills 2 to provide a firm and reliable attaching means. Each supporting bracket 3 has an outer upstanding angular extremity composed of a lower member 6 and an upper integral member 7 disposed in a plane at right angles to the said lower member 6, as clearly shown by Fig. 5. The members 6 and 7 have openings 8 and 9 extending therethrough, one in each, and this simplified form of supporting bracket constitutes the main element of the hinge connection for the lower corner portions of the sides 10 and ends 11 of the coop or crate. The sides 10 of the crate are movably attached to the lower members 6 of the supporting bracket, and the ends 11 pivotally engage the members 7 so that said ends 11 have their lower edges elevated above the lower edges of the sides 10 to facilitate infolding of the said ends over the sides.

The sides 10 and ends 11 are practically of the same construction, but differ in dimensions, and each is made up of intersecting rods 12 and 13 respectively extending through tubular sections or pipes 14 and 15, the rods 12 and 13 projecting beyond or outwardly from the ends of the tubular sections or pipes and welded together at the lower ends of the sides 10 and ends 11 to provide pintles 16 and 17, and at the upper corners of the ends 11 to form coupling extensions 18 which are flattened and provided with apertures or openings 19, as clearly shown by Fig. 4. The rods at the corners of the upper portions of the sides 10 are bent as at 20 and continued through the tubular sections or pipes 15. The projecting pintles 16 and 17 respectively engage the openings 8 and 9 in the members 6 and 7 of each supporting bracket 3; and it will be observed in the event of breakage of any one of the brackets that it may be readily replaced without requiring reconstruction or expensive repair of the entire coop or crate.

The sides 10 and ends 11 have wire screens 20′ applied thereto and connected to the tubular sections or pipes 14 and 15. Clips 21 engage the tubular sections or pipes 14 and have hooks 22 connected thereto and caught over the longitudinal marginal wires 23 of the screens 20′. Intermediate longitudinal wires 24 of the screens have their opposite extremities extended and hooked around the tubular sections or pipes 15 as at 25, and at the corners of the screens are secured diagonal connecting wires 26 which are attached by any suitable means to the corners

of the sides 10 and ends 11. This mode of securing the screens 20 to the sides 10 and ends 11 permits a replacement of said screens in the event of injury thereto, and when it is desired to rehabilitate a coop or crate embodying the features of the invention at a minimum expense it is only necessary to disconnect the hooks 22 and 25 and the diagonal connecting wires 26 and insert a new screen. In other words, the screens are readily replaceable, and in some instances screens having different meshes may be substituted alternately to accommodate the transportation of different kinds of poultry and live stock.

The upper, adjacent corners of the sides and ends are separably locked when the said sides and ends are raised into operative positions. The form of lock is very simple and includes the locking extensions 18 of the upper rods 12 of the ends 11. As clearly shown by Fig. 4, a clip 27 is applied over the upper tubular section or pipe 14 of each side 10 close to the upper opposite corners of said sides and each clip has outwardly projecting flanges 28 in contiguous relation and having inner and outer openings 29 and 30, the inner opening being engaged by one extremity of a movable hasp link 31 and the outer opening 30 has one end of a hook 32 movably secured therein. In assembling the parts of the lock the hasp link 31 is turned over the locking extension 18 and the hook 32 is inserted through the opening 19 in said extension. By this means the sides and ends are firmly secured, but may be readily separated when it is desired to collapse or fold the coop or crate.

A cover 33 is removably applied to the coop or crate and comprises end bars 34 which are angular in cross-section and connected by longitudinal tie bars 35 and 36, a screen covering 37 being secured between the bars and having a central opening 38 which is closed by a gate 39. The opposite extremities of the end bars 34 are projected beyond the tie bars 35 and 36 and one set of the extremities is terminally cut inwardly at an angle as at 40, Fig. 2, and the top adjacent portion of the bar is bent around the top tubular section or pipe 14 of one of the sides as at 41. The opposite projected extremities of the bars 34 are bent downwardly as at 42 and loosely engage over the top tubular section or pipe 14 of the opposite side. At the center of the top tubular section or pipe 14 adjacent to the tie bar 35, a hasp plate 43 is secured and has an opening 44 in its free end to fit over an upstanding staple 45 secured to the center of the said tie bar 35; a hook 46 being also attached to the tie bar 35 to engage the staple 45 above the end of the hasp plate 43. The cover 33 is removable and may be opened to clear the entire top of the coop or crate, the bends 41 serving with the under or inclined cuts or ends 40 of the bars 34 as a hinge means. When it is desired to separate the cover 33 the bends 41 are released or slightly drawn outwardly to permit the tubular section or pipe 14 with which they have had close engagement to be liberated and at the same time the hasp plate 43 is detached from the tie bar 35. When the sides and ends of the crate are infolded or collapsed, the cover may be applied thereover and suitably secured to reduce the coop or crate for reshipment or storage.

In the operation of collapsing the coop or crate, the cover 33 is first removed, the sides 10 infolded over and against the bottom or base and the ends 11 then turned downwardly and inwardly over the folded sides, the cover being then disposed upon the folded sides and ends and secured by any suitable means, such as wire or cord, so that it will not move out of place through shipment or storage. In setting up the crate, the cover is removed from the folded sides and ends, and the ends and sides are then elevated as shown by Fig. 1 and secured by the fastenings at the upper adjacent corners through the medium of the hasp links 31 and hooks 32, which are placed in engagement with the locking extensions 18.

The welding together of the intersecting rods 12 and 13 at the upper and lower corners of the ends 11 and the lower corners of the sides 10 is an advantageous structure from the standpoint of convenience and economy, and the use of the tubular sections or pipes 14 and 15 with the rods insures a stronger frame formation for the sides and ends; and as the several rods 12 and 13 project through these tubular sections or pipes, the resistance to breakage of the parts of the frame coacting at their ends or extremities as securing and hinge means is distributed over the greater portion of the sides and ends with a consequent increase in strength and durability.

Changes in the proportions, dimensions and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:

1. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets at the corners, each of the brackets being formed with an upstanding angular extremity composed of lower and upper integral members vertically disposed in planes at right angles to each other, and sides and ends having lower pintle projections respectively engaging the lower and upper members of the supporting brackets.

2. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets at the corners with outer upstanding extremities formed with members disposed at right angles to each other, sides and ends having frames

consisting of rods extending through tubular sections or pipes and welded together at the lower corners of the sides and ends to form pintle projections which movably project through the said members of the supporting brackets.

3. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having corner supporting brackets, and sides and ends composed of frames including rods extending through tubular or pipe sections and horizontally projected at the lower corner portions of the said sides and ends and welded together to provide pintles which movably engage portions of the supporting brackets.

4. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets with outer upstanding extremities, sides and ends having frames composed of rods extending through tubular sections or pipes, the lower intersecting portions of the rods at the lower corners of the sides and ends being welded together to form pintles which movably engage the outer upstanding portions of the brackets.

5. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets at the corners, sides and ends having pintle devices at their lower corners movably engaging portions of the brackets, the upper parts of the ends being horizontally projected and flattened to form locking extensions and hasp links movably carried by the upper adjacent corner portions of the sides to separably fit over the said extensions.

6. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets at the corners, sides and ends having pintle devices at their lower corners movably engaging portions of the brackets, the upper portions of the ends having parts of the frames projected and flattened to form locking extensions, and locking devices carried by the adjacent upper corner portions of the sides and consisting of hasp links and hooks to removably engage the said locking extensions.

7. A crate or coop comprising a bottom having supporting brackets at the corners, sides and ends embodying frames consisting of rods extending through tubular sections or pipes, the intersecting portions of the rods at the lower corners of the sides and ends being welded together to form pintles which movably engage parts of the supporting brackets, and the upper rods of the ends projected and apertured to form locking extensions, and locking means carried by the adjacent upper corner portions of the sides to removably engage the said extensions.

8. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets at the corners, sides and ends having lower pintle devices movably engaging portions of the supporting brackets and disposed in relation to the latter at different elevations so that the ends will fold inwardly from the sides, locking means at the upper corners of the sides and ends, and a removable cover having a hinged connection with the intermediate portion of the upper part of the frame of one of the sides and separably engaging the upper part of the frame of the remaining side and adapted to be opened to fully clear the top of the crate or coop, the removable cover having an opening therein normally closed by a gate.

9. A coop or crate comprising a bottom having supporting brackets, sides and ends movably engaging the supporting brackets, and a cover having flanged end bars with one set of extremities undercut and bent to embrace the top portion of the frame of one side and the opposite set of extremities bent over and loosely embracing the top portion of the frame of the opposite side, and locking means coöperating with one side and the adjacent portion of the cover.

10. A coop or crate having sides and ends movably supported thereby and embodying frames, clips attached to the upper and lower portions of the frames and carrying hooks, and a screen removably engaged by the hooks and having intermediate longitudinal members terminally hooked over the end portions of the frames and also connected to said frames by diagonal wires attached to the corner portions thereof and the corners of the said frames.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ODELON J. LA BAUVE.

Witnesses:
F. G. MOFFETT,
W. W. MCCRORY.