Jan. 8, 1935. L. NEJELSKI 1,987,491

CONTAINER FOR DRESSED FOWLS

Filed Jan. 10, 1931 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

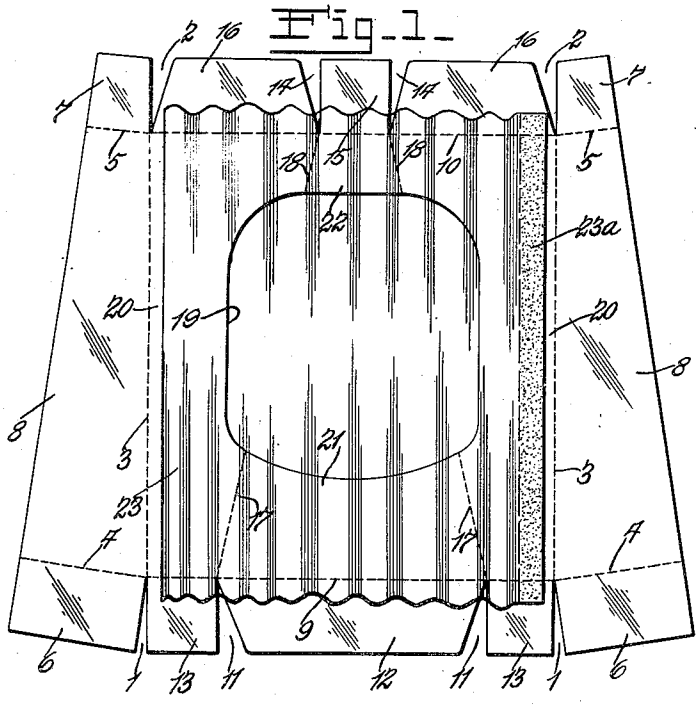
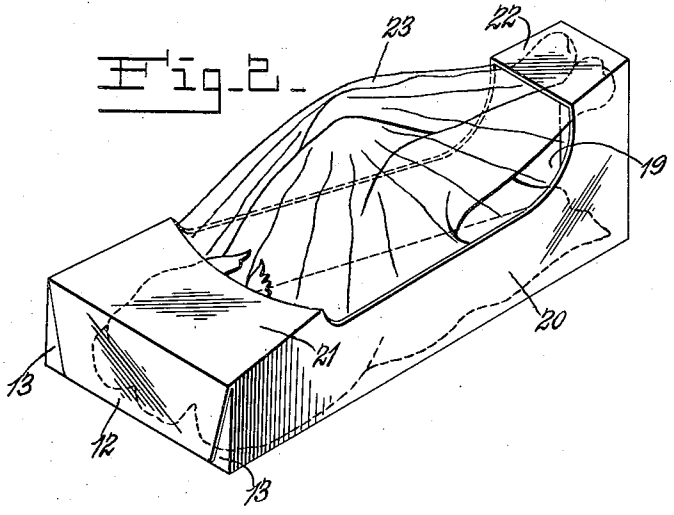


Fig. 2.



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Filed Jan. 10, 1931 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3.

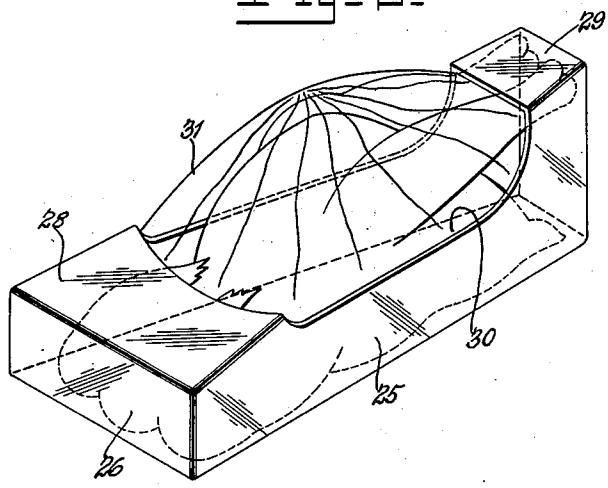


Fig. 4.

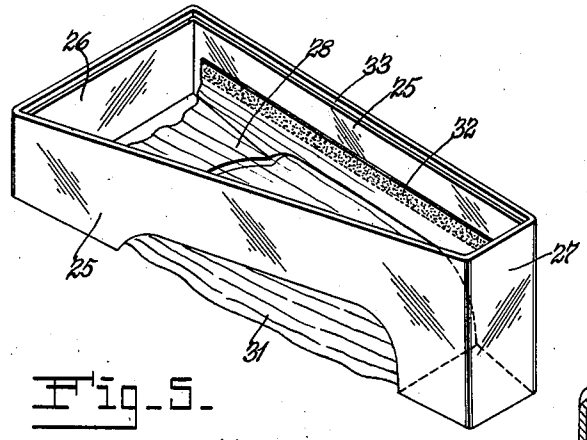


Fig. 5.

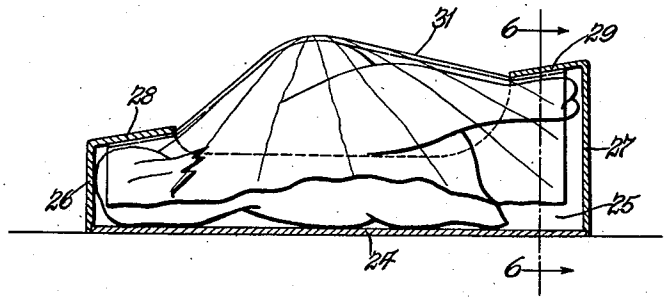
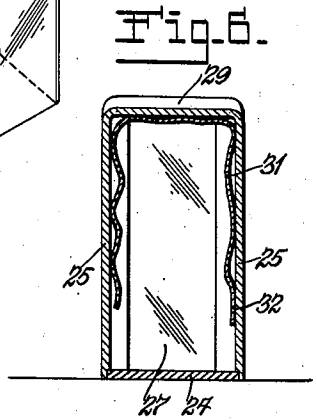


Fig. 6.



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Filed Jan. 10, 1931 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 7.

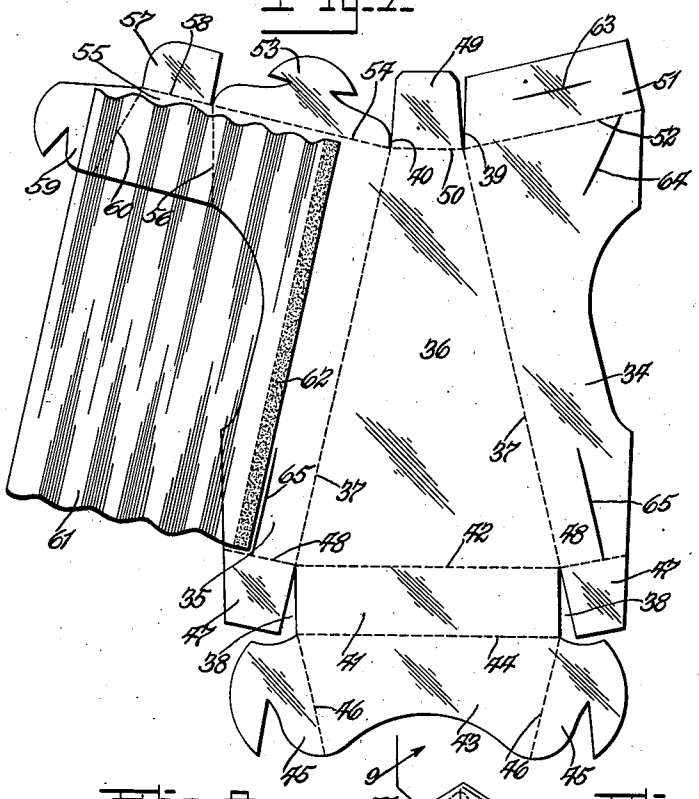


Fig. 8.

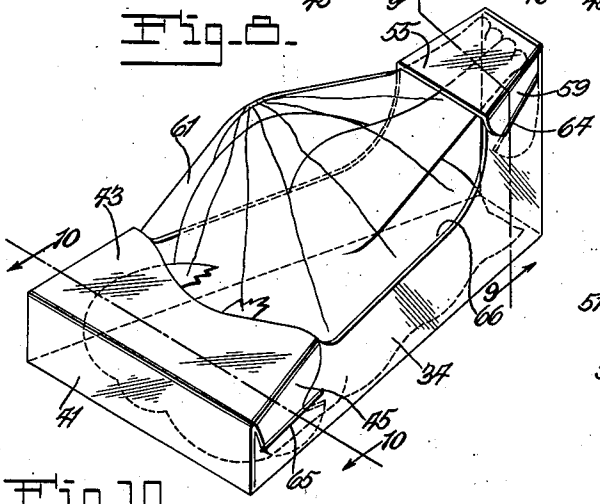


Fig. 9.

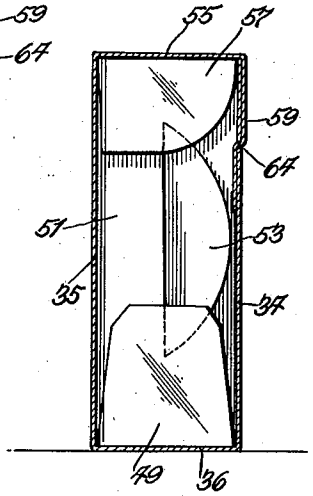
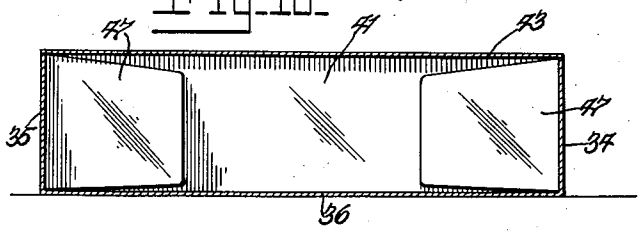


Fig. 10.



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Patented Jan. 8, 1935 1,987,491

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,987,491

CONTAINER FOR DRESSED FOWLS

Leo Nejelski, University City, Mo., assignor of one-third to William J. Lonergan, Richmond Heights, Mo.

Application January 10, 1931, Serial No. 507,793

8 Claims. (Cl. 206—44)

This invention relates to containers for enclosing and protecting and displaying dressed fowls and the like; and an object of the invention is to provide a container for enclosing a dressed fowl and having a display opening through one side provided with a transparent closure through which the fowl that is enclosed in the container may be seen.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved blank for forming a container and provided with score lines along which the blank may be folded to provide a container enclosing a dressed fowl and having a display opening through one side that is closed by a section of flexible transparent material completely protecting the enclosed fowl without interfering with the visibility thereof.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container that may be used satisfactorily and economically to enclose and protect and prevent the contents of the container from coming into contact with other objects and materials.

Other objects will appear from the following description, reference being made to the accompanying drawings showing different forms of the invention, and in which—

Fig. 1 is a plan view showing the side of the blank that forms the inner side of one form of the container.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the completed container showing the manner in which a dressed fowl is enclosed, protected and displayed by the container.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a completed container for the same purpose and of the same general shape as that shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, but of different construction.

Fig. 4 is an inverted perspective view of the container that is shown in Fig. 3, the bottom wall being removed.

Fig. 5 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the container that is shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged vertical cross sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a plan view showing the inside of a blank differing in construction from that shown in Fig. 1 but foldable to form a container of the same general shape and for the same purpose.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the container provided by the blank of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged vertical cross sectional view on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8.

Fig. 10 is an enlarged cross sectional view on the line 10—10 of Fig. 8.

In the embodiment of the invention shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, the container blank may be made of cardboard, or other similar material, and has approximately the shape shown in Fig. 1. As there shown, the blank has at one end a pair of notches 1 and at the opposite end a pair of notches 2. Each notch 1 is connected with the corresponding notch 2 by a score line 3. From the intersections of the score lines 3 with the notches 1, score lines 4 extend to the side edges of the blank; and from the intersections of the score lines 3 with the notches 2, score lines 5 extend to the side edges of the blank and are approximately parallel with the corresponding score lines 4. Thus, each notch 1 and the connected score line 4 provide defined portions 6, and each notch 2 and the connected score line 5 provide defined end portions 7. This leaves bottom wall portions 8, each of which is bordered by the score lines 3, 4 and 5 and by the side edge of the blank.

A score line 9 connects the two score lines 4 near one end of the blank and a score line 10 connects the two score lines 5 near the opposite end of the blank. Notches 11 extend from the end of the blank to the score line 9, thus providing an end wall portion 12 between the notches 11 and two portions 13 between the notches 1 and 11.

From the opposite end of the blank, a pair of notches 14 extend to the score line 10, thus providing a central foldable portion 15 between the notches 14 and wall forming portions 16 between said notches 14 and the notches 2.

Score lines 17 extend from the inner ends of the notches 11 toward the inner ends of the notches 14, and score lines 18 extend from the inner ends of the notches 14 in alinement with the score lines 17. The central portion of the blank is cut out to form an enlarged opening 19 entirely across that portion of the blank between the score lines 17 and between the score lines 18.

The score lines 17 and 18 cooperate with the score lines 3 to form side walls 20. The lines 3 are approximately parallel and the lines 17 converge from the notches 11 toward the notches 14 and cooperate with the lines 18 to provide top wall portions 21 and 22.

A section 23 of flexible transparent paper or the like, such, for instance, as the substances known commercially as "Cellophane" or "Glassine", has one edge attached to the inner side of one of the side walls 20 of the container by glue 23^a, or other appropriate fastening means, and has an area equal nearly to the area of the side and top wall forming portions 20, 21 and 22 of the container blank. The remaining portion of the transparent section 23 is preferably detached from the blank, so that the central portion of said section 23 may be pushed up through the opening 19 to conform to the shape of the fowl, or other object or article, enclosed in the container, as will be well understood by reference to Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The blank above described is manipulated and shaped and folded around the fowl, or other ar-

ticle or object, enclosed in the container and is secured in such form. The fowl to be enclosed in the container is placed upon the transparent member 23, pushing and extending said member 23 through the opening 19 to the extent required. The side wall portions 20 of the container are then turned approximately at right angles to the top wall portions 21 and 22 and the bottom wall portions 8 are turned inwardly toward each other and may be attached together or not, as desired. The end extensions 6 are then bent along the lines 4 and extended toward the top wall portion 21 and the extensions 13 are bent inwardly toward each other and against the extensions 6 to which they may be attached by glue, or other fastening means, as desired. Then the end wall member 12 is bent along the line 9 and laid against the outer surfaces of the extensions 13 and attached thereto by glue, or other appropriate fastening means.

The opposite end of the container is completed by bending the extensions of the bottom wall upwardly and bending the extension 15 of the top wall downwardly and bending the two wall forming portions 16 inwardly one against the other and securing them together by glue, or other appropriate fastening means, in order to hold the container in its completed form.

The completed container with a fowl confined therein is shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. Thus, it is clear that this container constitutes a sanitary enclosure for such merchandise as chickens, ducks, squabs, and other fowls, by which the enclosed fowl is completely covered and protected while selected portions of the fowls are plainly exposed to view. The container thus constitutes an attractive display device which also functions to protect the fowl from contamination. This container is constructed and arranged so that when the fowl for which the container is intended is enclosed thereby, the neck portion of the fowl extends under the wall 21, the ends of the legs of the fowl extend under the wall 22 and the intermediate underside of the fowl protrudes upwardly through the opening 19 supporting the transparent closure 23 in an irregular dome formation. Thus, the choicest portions of the fowl are displayed and, at the same time, the fowl is protected and shielded. The dimensions of the container are such that the fowl should fit more or less snugly within the container and thus be retained substantially in the position indicated.

The form of the container shown in Figs. 3 to 6, inclusive, of the drawings is not made of a folded blank, but the container proper is of integral construction and may be cast or molded. It may be made of cast or molded fibrous materials, such as the material used in the manufacture of cardboard, or it may be made of any other suitable and available material.

This container comprises a removable bottom wall 24 that is secured to the container proper after the fowl has been placed therein. The container proper comprises two side walls 25 integrally connected at one end by a front end wall 26 and at the opposite end by a rear end wall 27 and having an integral front top wall portion 28 and a rear top wall portion 29. The top wall 28 is integral with the walls 25 and 26 and the wall 29 is integral with the walls 25 and 27. This provides an opening 30 extending entirely across the top of the container and downwardly into the upper edges of the walls 25 so as to permit the choicest under portion of the enclosed fowl to protrude upwardly through said opening when the fowl is enclosed in the container in a manner in which the front end of the fowl extends under the wall 28 and the ends of the legs of the fowl extends under the wall 29. A section 31 of "Cellophane" or "Glassine", or other appropriate transparent material, has one edge 32 attached to the inner side of one of the side walls 25 by glue, or other appropriate fastening means, and has its opposite side edges extending downwardly at the inner side of the opposite side wall 25 and its front and rear edges engaged under the walls 28 and 29, respectively. When the fowl is placed in the container, the intermediate portion of the underside of the fowl protrudes upwardly, raising the closure 31 to an irregular dome-like form through which the choicest portion of the fowl is visible for inspection, while the fowl is thoroughly protected from contamination.

The inner portions of the lower edges of the walls 25, 26 and 27 are rabbeted to provide a notch 33 designed and intended to receive the marginal edges of the bottom wall 24 in the manner shown in Figs. 5 and 6 so as to provide a complete enclosure for the fowl after the fowl has been placed within the container proper.

The container shown in Figs. 7 to 10, inclusive, is made of a blank comprising a side wall 34, an opposite side wall 35, and a bottom wall 36 integrally united with and defined from the walls 34 and 35 by score lines 37. The score lines 37 have their front ends beginning at the inner edges of notches 38 and said lines 37 converge toward the rear where they intersect the inner edges of notches 39 and 40, respectively.

A front wall 41 is integrally united with and defined from the wall 36 by a transverse score line 42 extending from the intersection of the lines 37 with the notches 38. A top wall 43 is integrally united with and defined from the front wall 41 by a transverse score line 44, so that the width of the wall 41 is defined by the distance between the lines 42 and 44. Each side edge of the wall 43 is formed with a hook extension 45. These extensions 45 are integral with the side edges of the wall 43 and are defined therefrom by score lines 46 beginning at the side edges of the wall 41 and converging, so that the wall 43 is of equal width with the subjacent portion of the wall 36 when it is completed. Each of the walls 34 has a foldable tab 47 integral with its forward end and defined therefrom by a score line 48 extending from intersection with the ends of the lines 37 to the edges of the walls 34.

The rear end of the wall 36 is formed with an extension 49 defined from the wall 36 by a score line 50 connecting the rear ends of the lines 37. The rear end of the wall 34 is formed with a foldable portion 51 defined therefrom by a score line 52 extending from intersection with the rear end of the line 37 to the edge of the wall 34. The rear end of the wall 35 is formed with a hook tongue 53 defined therefrom by a score line 54 extending from intersection with the rear end of the line 37, so that the tongue 53 is readily bendable along the line 54. The wall 35 is formed integral with a rear top wall portion 55 defined from the wall 35 by a score line 56, so that the wall portion 55 is of the same area as the subjacent portion of the wall 36 when the container is completed. An extension 57 is formed integral with the rear end of the wall 55 and is defined therefrom by a score line 58, which is directly above the score line 50 when the container is completed. A

hook tongue 59 is formed integral with the side edge of the top wall portion 55 and is defined therefrom by a score line 60.

A section 61 of "Cellophane" or "Glassine", or other appropriate transparent flexible material, has one edge attached to the inner side of the wall 35 by glue 62, or other appropriate fastening means.

In assembling this container about a fowl to be enclosed thereby, the dressed fowl is placed upon its back on the bottom wall 36 with the front end of the fowl terminating about the line 42. The side walls 34 and 35 are then folded upwardly at the sides of the fowl and the rear top wall portion 55 is folded over the ends of the legs of the fowl. The side edge of the section 61 is enclosed between the wall 34 and the adjacent side of the fowl. The part 49 is folded upwardly, the part 57 is folded downwardly, the rear end wall 51 is folded inwardly against the rear surfaces of the parts 49 and 57 and the hook tongue 53 is folded inwardly against the rear side of the wall 51 and interlocked within a slot 63 in the wall 51. The hook 59 is folded downwardly against the outer side of the wall 34 and interlocked in a slot 64 in said wall 34.

The parts 47 are then folded inwardly at the front end of the fowl and the wall 41 folded upwardly against the outer sides of the parts 47. The wall 43 is then folded over the front end of the fowl and over the front end of the member 61. Then the hooks 45 are interlocked in slots 65 in the front portions of the walls 34 and 35, thus completing the folding of the container about the enclosed fowl. When the container is thus completed, the front edge of the fowl is engaged under the wall 43 and the legs of the fowl are engaged under the wall 55. The intermediate underside of the fowl protrudes upwardly through an opening 66 between the walls 43 and 55 and extending downwardly into the upper edges of the side walls 34 and 35. The transparent member 61 is thus held in an irregular dome-like shape clearly disclosing to view the choice intermediate underside portion of the fowl.

It will be understood that the shape of any and all of these containers may be varied so as to adapt them for use in the protection and display of fowls of different shapes and sizes. I contemplate such variations as may be desirable or necessary to adapt the containers for all uses to which they may be satisfactorily applied. The exposed surfaces of all of the walls of the several containers herein disclosed are well designed and adapted to receive trade-marks and trade emblems as well as other advertising and printed matter.

The construction and arrangement of the containers may be varied within equivalent limits without departure from the nature and principle thereof. I do not restrict myself in any unessential respects, but what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A container for enclosing a dressed fowl and having its side walls converging toward the rear and its top wall inclining downwardly toward the front end of the container and engaging over the front portion and the ends of the legs of the fowl and having an opening through which the intermediate under portion of the fowl protrudes, when the fowl is enclosed in inverted position in the container.

2. A container for enclosing a dressed fowl in inverted position and having its side walls converging rearwardly and its upper wall inclining downwardly and forwardly to conform to the general shape of the inverted dressed fowl in the container, and means forming a transparent window exposing the upwardly protruding under intermediate portion of the fowl in said container.

3. A container for enclosing a dressed fowl comprising enclosing walls forming a container that is relatively wide and relatively low at the front end and that is relatively narrow and relatively high at the rear end, a top wall having an opening therethrough exposing to view a selected intermediate under portion of a fowl that is confined in said container in inverted position, a flexible transparent member closing said opening and covering the fowl, and means for holding said transparent member in connection with the container.

4. A blank for forming a container of the character described comprising wall forming portions foldable to provide bottom, side, end and top walls and having an opening through the top wall, and means for securing said wall forming portions in engagement with each other to form a container having a top wall inclining downwardly toward the front and having side walls converging toward the rear.

5. A blank for forming a container of the character described comprising wall forming portions foldable to provide bottom, side, end and top walls and having an opening through the top wall, means for securing said wall forming portions in engagement with each other to form a container having a top wall inclining downwardly toward the front and having side walls converging toward the rear, and a flexible transparent element attached to the blank and covering said opening.

6. A container comprising permanently connected side and end walls and top wall portions permanently connected with said side and end walls and spaced from each other and leaving an opening therebetween, a flexible transparent element covering said opening, a bottom wall, and means for securing said bottom wall in connection with the container.

7. A container of the character described comprising integrally connected end and side walls, downwardly and forwardly top wall portions integrally connected with said end walls respectively and with said side walls and leaving an opening to expose to view the contents of the container, and a flexible transparent member attached to one of said walls and closing said opening.

8. A container of the character described comprising integrally connected end and side walls, downwardly and forwardly top wall portions integrally connected with said end walls respectively and with said side walls and leaving an opening to expose to view the contents of the containers, a flexible transparent member attached to one of said walls and engaging margins of the other walls around said opening and closing said opening, and a detachable bottom wall engaging said side and end walls.

LEO NEJELSKI.