April 15, 1941. C. A. BREWSTER 2,238,676

FOLDABLE CHICKEN COOP

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Fig. 1.

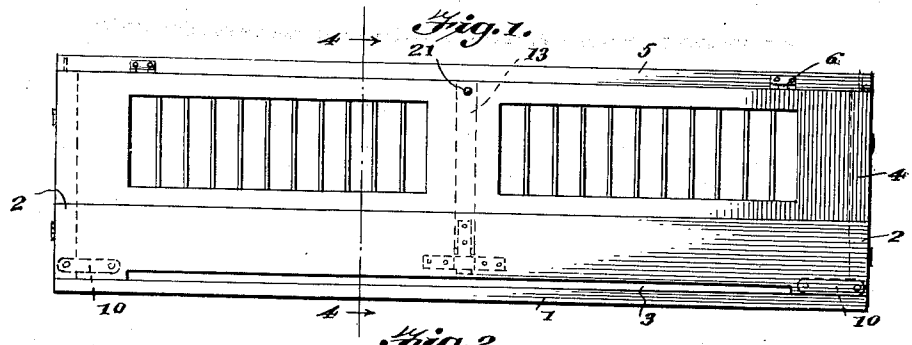


Fig. 2.

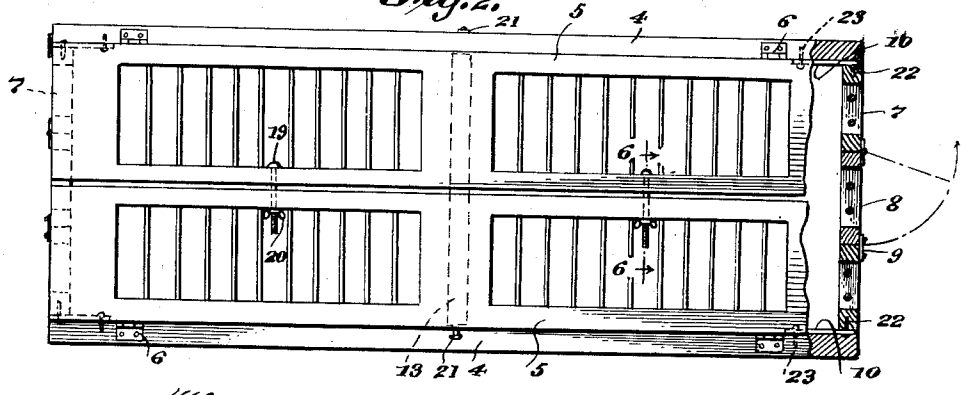


Fig. 3.

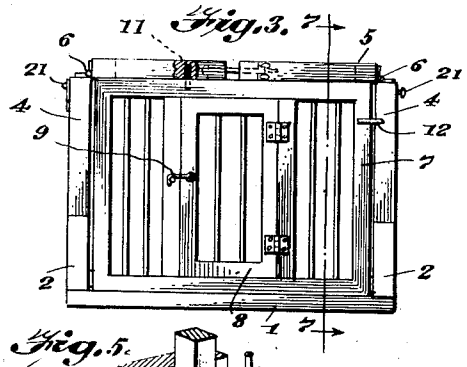


Fig. 4.

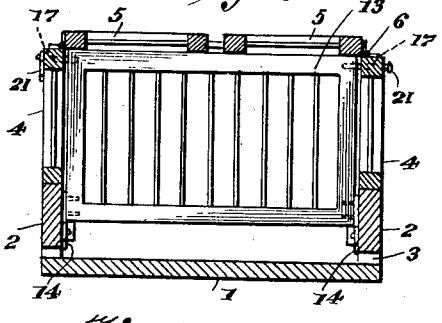


Fig. 5.

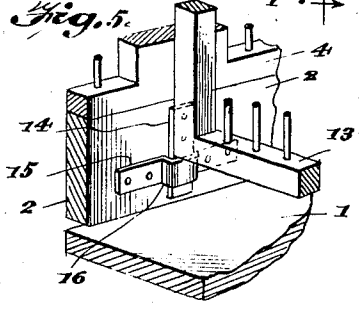
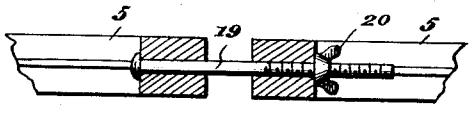


Fig. 6.



Inventor,
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Fig. 7.

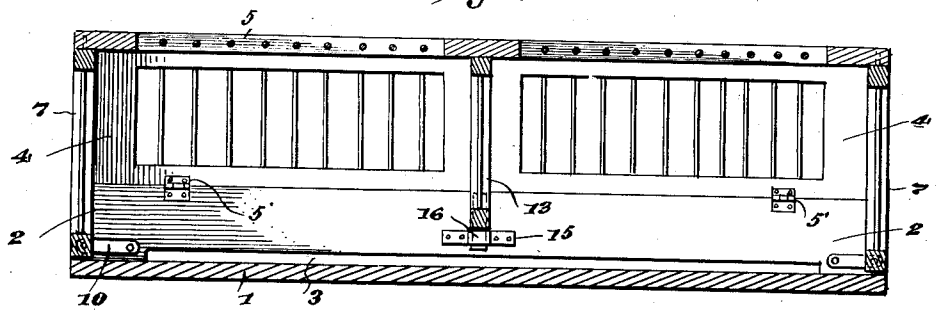


Fig. 8.

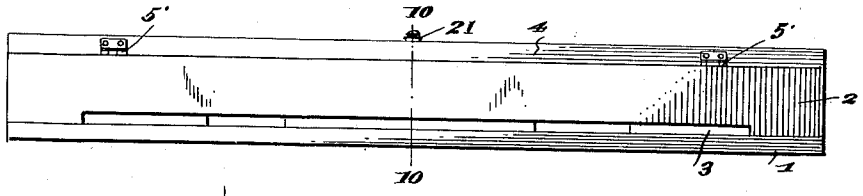


Fig. 9.

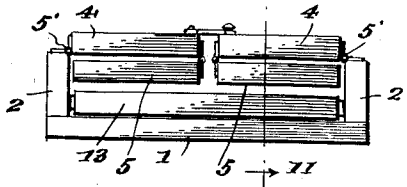


Fig. 10.

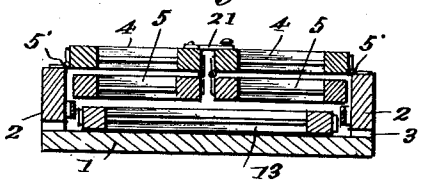


Fig. 11.

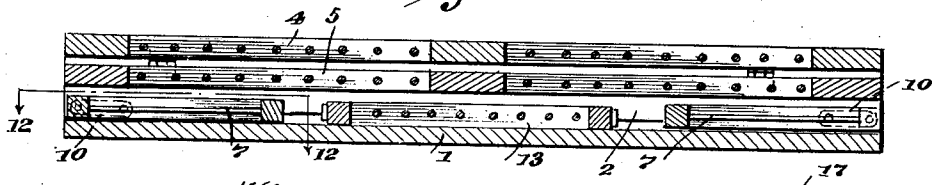


Fig. 12.

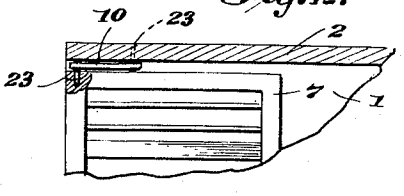
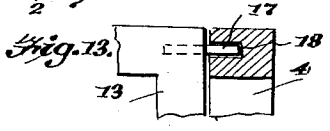


Fig. 13.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,238,676

FOLDABLE CHICKEN COOP

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Application August 30, 1939, Serial No. 292,707

1 Claim. (Cl. 217—47)

This invention relates to a foldable chicken coop.

An object of the invention is the construction of a simple and efficient coop or crate in which poultry can be confined, or shipped or transferred with safety and with considerable ease.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel and efficient partition in the coop or container, whereby the coop can be separated into different compartments.

A still further object of the invention is the novel construction of end sections, and the supporting means therefor, whereby the end sections are securely retained in place, but are permitted to be lifted or raised during the cleaning of the coop.

Another object of the invention is the improvement of the general structure of the coop, including the partition, the end sections, and the peculiar manner of holding all of the units of the coop in an open or condition for shipping poultry.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a coop or container constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan view, partly shown in section.

Figure 3 is a view in end elevation.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4, Fig. 1, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the coop.

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on line 6—6, Fig. 2, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken on line 7—7, Fig. 3, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 8 is a view in side elevation of the coop in a closed or folded condition, while

Figure 9 is an end view of the same.

Figure 10 is a sectional view taken on line 10—10, Fig. 8.

Figure 11 is a sectional view taken on line 11—11, Fig. 9, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 12 is a sectional view taken on line 12—12, Fig. 11, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 13 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 13—13, Fig. 4.

In the drawings, in which I have shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, 1 designates the bottom of the coop or container, to which are fixedly secured two side pieces 2. Each side piece 2 is cut away at 3 (Figs. 1 and 7) to facilitate cleaning of the coop.

A side section 4 is hingedly mounted at 5—5, upon each side piece 2, and a top section 5 is hingedly mounted at 6 upon the upper edge of the side section 4. Therefore, it is to be understood that the sets of side and top sections can be folded down, so to speak, within the side pieces 2 (Figs. 9 and 10), and when the operator so desires, they can be raised, or unfolded, to assume their open positions as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

Each end section 7 is provided with a hinged door 8, Fig. 3, and this door is retained closed by a suitable latch or catch 9. Each end section is pivotally connected to the outer ends of two metal hinge-strips 10; these strips 10 (Fig. 12) are pivotally secured at their inner ends to the fixed side pieces 2. Therefore, it is to be noted that the end sections cannot be moved at the bottom off the ends of the side pieces 2, but these end sections can be lifted upwardly to permit the coop to be thoroughly cleaned at the ends. Each end section 7 is provided in its top with an upstanding pin 11, which pin extends into a suitable socket in one of the top sections 5, Fig. 3. An angle stop 12 is mounted on the end of one of the side sections 4, and this stop is engaged by the end section 7, whereby the end section is prevented from swinging or hinging too far out, beyond the ends of the side pieces and side sections.

The partition 13 is provided with two tenon plates 14, secured to the side edges of said partition, Fig. 5. Horizontal brackets 15 are secured to the inner faces of the side pieces 2, near to the bottom 1. Each bracket 15 is provided with a socket 16, into which fits one of the tenon plates 14. By this manner of supporting the partition 13, the fowls will not be permitted to pass under the partition, but the cleaning of the coop will be facilitated by there being sufficient clearance under the partition, and too the positioning of the partition above the floor will permit a wire netting placed upon the bottom 1 to be slipped horizontally under the partition, if it is demanded, or required to keep the feet of chickens in the coop from having direct contact with the bottom. It should also be noted that since the partition is in an elevated position with respect to the bottom 1

a feed pan may be slid under the partition and chickens in both end portions of the coop may feed from the same pan. The partition 13 is provided on each side, and near the top, with two horizontal pins 17 (Fig. 13), which enter sockets 18 formed in the side sections 4. This novel pin unit 17 together with the bracket unit 15 makes a very secure holding means for retaining the partition in an upright position when the crate is ready for receiving and shipping fowls.

When the partition 13 and the end sections 7 are in their assembled position, as shown in Figs. 4 and 7, with the top sections 5 in their normal horizontal position, to positively secure the units of the coop together, I use, preferably, two bolts 19, each provided with a butterfly nut 20. By referring to Figures 2 and 6, it will be seen that these bolts 19 extend through the contiguous parts of the frames constituting the top section side, whereby when the nuts 20 are screwed inwardly on said bolts, the parts are brought snugly together by the clamping or binding action of said bolts and nuts, securely retaining the parts in their assembled position.

When the parts of the coop are folded, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10, I may employ a latch 21 to hold the parts as shown.

In further explanation of the novel hinged structure of the end sections 7, it is to be understood that each hinge strip 10 is preferably mounted at its outer end upon a nail or tack 22, driven into the end section, whereas the inner end of the hinge strip is mounted upon a tack or nail 23 (Fig. 12) driven into the side piece 2. Consequently, the end section can rest at its bottom upon the upper face of the bottom 1, and can be bodily lifted upward, without displacing it from the assembled position with the hinge strips 10.

It is to be understood that any suitable feed trough, or drinking fountain, can be placed in the coop, when the operator desires.

When the units of the coop or container are in their folded or "knockdown" position, the partition is resting on the central part of the bottom or floor 1, as shown in Fig. 11. The "set-up" of the parts can be quickly accomplished, when it is desired to place the coop in condition for receiving the fowls, since all that is necessary is to raise the sides and top sections upwardly, then swinging the end sections into their vertical position, then place the partition in position, whereupon the top sections 5 can be closed down on the top edges of the end sections and the partition, after which the tightening bolts 19 can be placed in position.

It is to be noted that the fastening units 21 are attached to the side sections 4; these units each comprising an ordinary catch with a stud or nail to be engaged thereby (see Figs. 9 and 10).

While I have described the preferred embodiments of my invention and illustrated same in the accompanying drawings, certain changes or alterations may appear to one skilled in the art to which this invention relates during the extensive manufacture of same, and I, therefore, reserve the right to make such changes or alterations as shall fairly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

In a folding coop or container, the combination of a body provided with a bottom and fixed side pieces carried thereby, horizontal brackets fastened to the inner faces of said side pieces, each bracket provided with a socket open at its top and bottom, a vertical partition provided at opposite ends with depending tenon plates, said tenon plates normally seated in the sockets and the partition resting on said brackets to support the partition above the bottom in vertical spaced relation thereto, said partition provided with outwardly extending horizontal pins adjacent its upper end, side sections on said side pieces, each side section provided with a socket adapted to receive a companion one of said outwardly extending pins to maintain the partition upright, and top sections carried by the side sections and capable of closing down upon said partition.

CHARLES A. BREWSTER.