A. LOMBARDO.

BANANA CRATE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 2, 1919. RENEWED JUNE 3, 1921.

1,385,015. **Patented July 19, 1921.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

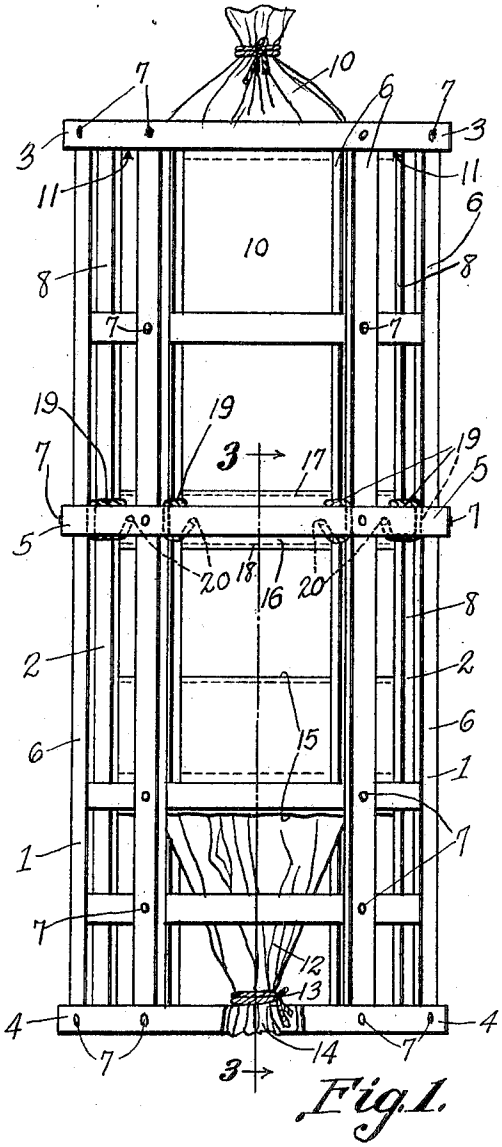


Fig. 1.

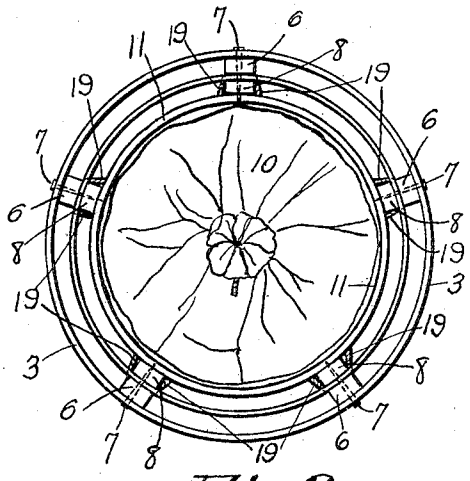


Fig. 2.

Witness

Inventor

A. Lombardo.

By C. A. Snow & Co.

Attorneys

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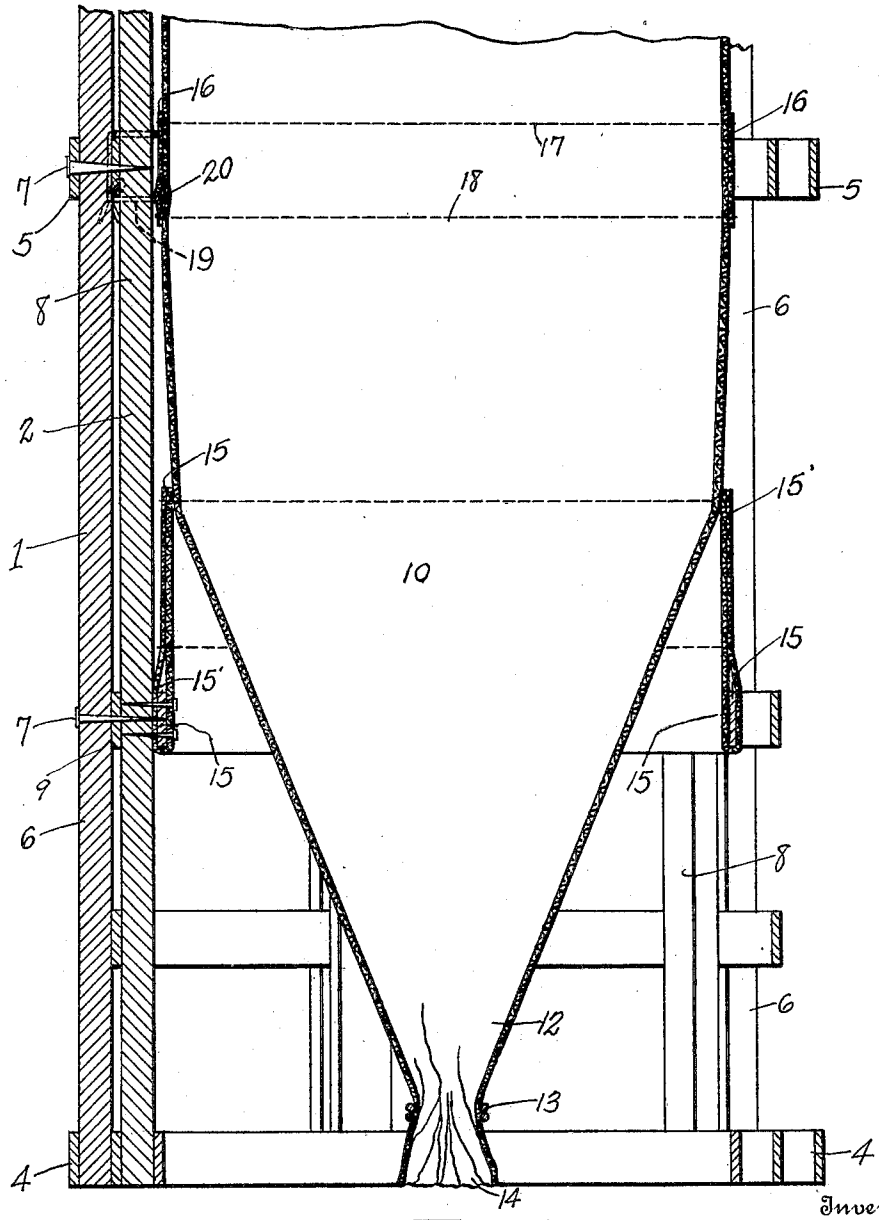


Fig. 3.

Witness

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST LOMBARDO, OF MASON CITY, IOWA.

BANANA-CRATE.

1,385,015. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 19, 1921.

Application filed September 2, 1919, Serial No. 321,096. Renewed June 3, 1921. Serial No. 474,767.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST LOMBARDO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mason City, in the county of Cerro Gordo and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Banana-Crate, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to shipping crates, and more particularly to crates employed in transporting bananas.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a crate of this character wherein the strain of the articles contained therein, is distributed throughout the length of the bag forming a part of the crate, and not directed to one particular portion thereof, as is the case with crates now in use.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring now to the drawing:—

Figure 1 illustrates a side elevational view of a crate constructed in accordance with my invention, the bottom hoop thereof being partly broken away.

Fig. 2 illustrates a top plan view of the same, and;

Fig. 3 illustrates a longitudinal section view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Having reference to the drawings in detail, the crate includes an outer protecting casing 1, and an inner supporting casing 2, the outer casing 1 including the end hoop members 3 and 4, and a central hoop member 5.

These hoop members 3, 4, and 5, are connected by the longitudinally extending panel members 6 forming side stays of the crates, the same being held in spaced relation with each other, on said hoop members, by means of the nails or other securing members 7.

The inner or supporting casing 2, includes longitudinally extending panel members 8, each of which is supported directly behind the panel members 6 forming the uprights of the outer casing 1, and as shown are held in spaced relation therewith, by the hoops 9 spaced throughout the length of the panel members 8, and held in such spaced relation by means of the securing members 7, which extend through the panel members 6, hoops 9, and longitudinal panel members 8, of the inner casing.

The cushioning bag, or receptacle 10 in which the fruit is supported, is sewed or otherwise secured to the upper hoop 11, at a point adjacent the top of the bag, the hoop 11 being secured to the inner walls of the panel members 8 of the inner or supporting casing 2, adjacent the extreme upper ends thereof, thereby providing a support for the upper portion of the bag 10.

As shown, the bag 10 is relatively long and extends downwardly within the inner casing, and terminates in a tapered bottom 12, which has its end folded in and secured by the flexible member 13 tied around the folded portion 14 thereof.

A reinforcing band 15 is looped around the lower supporting hoop 15, the upper ends of said band being secured to the bag 10 at a point above the hoop 15, whereby the strain of the weight of the fruit contained in the bag 10 is distributed throughout the length thereof, and not directed to the lower supporting hoop 15, as is the case with the crates now in use.

Secured to the bag 10 substantially intermediate its length, is a reinforcing band 16, which has its upper and lower edges secured to the bag by the lines of stitching 17 and 18, and provides a means for securing the flexible securing members 19 to the bag 10.

The securing members 19, have a portion thereof extending through openings 20 in the reinforcing band 16, the intermediate portions of the members 19 adapted to embrace the inner edges of the panel members 8, and extend transversely of the sides thereof, passing downwardly between the substantially central hoops of the outer and inner casing.

It will therefore be seen that the bag 10 is capable of a longitudinal movement with relation to the supporting casing, thereby permitting the strain directed to the bag to be distributed throughout the length thereof.

The extreme upper end of the bag, is left open in order to permit the fruit to be inserted therein, the flaps forming the mouth

of the bag adapted to be tied or otherwise secured for protecting the fruit while in transportation.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

In a shipping crate, a protecting casing and an inner supporting casing, a cushioning bag supported within the protecting casing, means adjacent the upper end of the bag for supporting the same, a supporting hoop adjacent the lower end of the supporting casing, a strip of canvas embracing the supporting hoop, said strip of canvas having its ends extending upwardly and connected to the cushioning bag at a point above the supporting hoop.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

AUGUST LOMBARDO.

Witnesses:
W. STREETER,
M. F. O'NEILL.