Feb. 19, 1935. E. B. HIATT 1,991,746

BASKET LINER

Original Filed Nov. 25, 1929

Fig. 1.

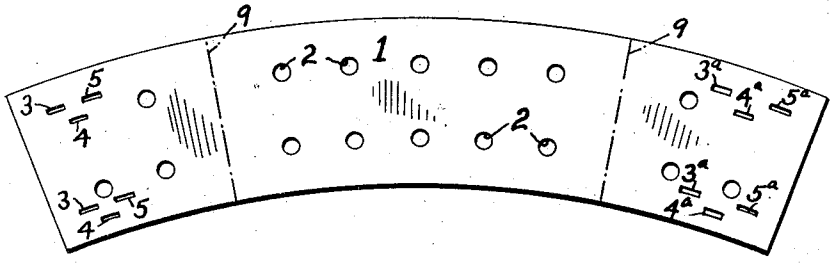


Fig. 2.

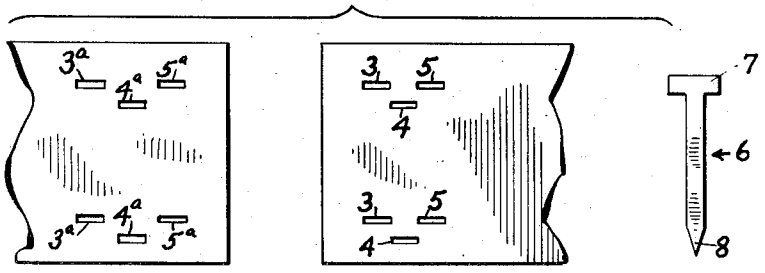
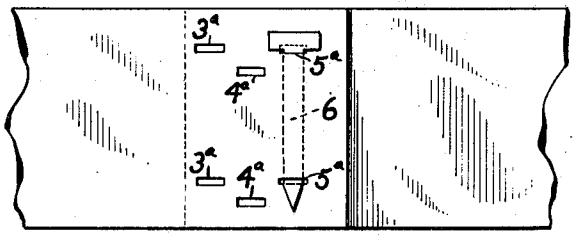


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR-
Enos B. Hiatt
BY
Ramsey & Kent
his ATTORNEYS

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BASKET LINER

Enos B. Hiatt, Denver, Colo., assignor to Carpenter-Hiatt Sales Company, Denver, Colo., a corporation of Colorado

Original application November 25, 1929, Serial No. 409,493. Divided and this application February 13, 1933, Serial No. 656,471

4 Claims. (Cl. 217—3)

This invention relates to liners used for lining baskets, barrels, crates, pails, etc. In the trade, such liners are ordinarily referred to as "basket liners" because their principal use is for lining baskets; and the common terminology of "basket liner" is used herein without regard to whether or not the container to be lined is technically a "basket". This application is pursuant to a requirement of division made in my copending application Serial No. 409,493, filed November 25, 1929.

The liner of the present invention is suitable for lining containers generally, but is designed primarily to meet the requirements of packing by the system known in the trade as the Hiatt Ring Pack System of packing. In this system fruit, vegetables, etc. are packed by placing a layer of fruit (for example) on a circular face plate; then placing on the top of the face plate a frusto-conical metal shell within which there is a frusto-conical liner; filling the shell with fruit; removing the shell and leaving a column of fruit supported by the liner; inverting the basket over the column of fruit; turning the basket and face plate as a unit to bring the basket right side up; and then (or at the same time) jolting the basket so that the liner yields or breaks and allows the fruit to settle into a snug pack into the basket.

An object of the present invention is to provide for inexpensive, quick, and satisfactory securing together of the ends of the liner.

Another object of the invention is to provide an inexpensive liner in which the ends can be quickly secured together in such manner as to firmly lock them against separation under the pressure of a column of fruit (or the like) after the packing shell has been removed.

Another object of the invention is to provide a liner in which the ends may be locked together in such a way as to give a wide range and various increments of adjustability to the size of the looped liner.

Fig. 1 of the drawing is a plan view of a liner strip embodying the present invention, before it has been bent into a loop.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary development showing the ends being brought together for fastening.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary development showing the fastened ends of the liner.

The liner 1 consists of an arcuate strip of suitable sheet material such as heavy paper or cardboard of moderate strength and stiffness, strong enough to properly support a column of fruit, but of such texture or character as to readily yield and conform to the shape and irregularities of a fruit basket when the filled basket is jolted. The body of the strip is preferably provided with a number of ventilating holes 2. One end of the strip is provided with vertically aligned pairs of slots 3, 4, and 5, and the other end of the strip is provided with corresponding vertically aligned pairs of slots 3^a, 4^a and 5^a, the intermediate pairs of slots in each end 4 and 4^a, being displaced vertically with respect to the other slots. To fasten the ends of the liner together I provide a separate key or pin 6 which may be of a thin flat sheet of metal or cardboard of substantial strength and stiffness, adapted to be threaded through the slots in the ends of the liner. This pin may have a T-shaped head 7 and a sharp point 8.

In use, or in preparation for use, the strip is bent into a loop and when this is done the curved contour of the original strip causes it to form into a frusto-conical liner. The ends of the liner are brought toward one another, as indicated in Fig. 2, and are overlapped until the desired pairs of slots in the two ends register; then the pin 6 is threaded through the registered pairs of slots, as shown in Fig. 3, thus securing the ends of the liner together. By providing several pairs of slots any corresponding pairs may be overlapped thus varying the effective size of the liner when set up, and the pin or fastener may be inserted through any of the corresponding pairs of slots of the two strip ends. Evidently, also, the number of pairs of slots may be varied as desired to give any desired adjustability in the size of the liner. This is very desirable because in practice different so-called "standard" sizes of baskets are used, and the individual baskets of a given so-called "standard" size vary somewhat in actual size.

The liner may be shipped from the factory to the packer in various conditions. It may be shipped out flat, as shown in Fig. 1, or it may be folded, in which case scoring creases or lines 9 are preferably provided. If the liner is to be so folded that the ends just meet but do not overlap, the scoring lines 9 will be in approximately the position shown in Fig. 1, but if the liner is to be shipped flat but with the ends locked together as shown in Fig. 3, the scoring lines 9 will, of course, be somewhat closer together.

The present invention may be embodied in forms other than the specific one disclosed, and hence the disclosure is merely illustrative in compliance with the patent statutes and is not to be considered as limiting the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A basket liner comprising: a strip of cardboard-like material adapted to be bent into a closed loop and have its ends fastened together in overlapping relation, each end of the strip having a plurality of sets of spaced perforations, permitting registration of a set of perforations in one end with a set of perforations in the other end when the ends are overlapped by different amounts; and a pin insertable through registered sets of perforations to fasten the ends of the strip together.

2. A basket liner comprising: a strip of cardboard-like material adapted to be bent into a closed loop and have its ends fastened together in overlapping relation, one end having at least two sets of spaced perforations positioned with the perforations of one set out of line with the perforations of the other set, and the other end having corresponding sets of spaced perforations registerable respectively with the sets of perforations in the first end; and a pin insertable through registered sets of perforations to fasten the ends of the strip together.

3. As as new article of manufacture, a split packing liner of frusto-conical shape for use in packing fruit and the like, comprising a paper band having its ends overlapping and having two holes in one end coinciding with two holes in the other end, all of said holes being substantially spaced from the longitudinal center of the band; and a flat flexible paper stick joining the said ends by being threaded through said four holes, and having one end extending from said holes toward the larger edge of said liner, said end of said stick having lateral extensions thereon that may be engaged by the edge of a basket as it is telescoped over said liner; the other end of said stick being shaped to pass through said hole readily.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a split packing liner of frusto-conical shape for use in packing fruit and the like, comprising a paper band having its ends overlapping and having two holes in one end coinciding with two holes in the other end, all of said holes being substantially spaced from the longitudinal center of the band; and a flat flexible paper stick joining the said ends by being threaded through said four holes, and having one end extending from said holes toward the larger edge of said liner.

ENOS B. HIATT.