March 17, 1931. W. MAY 1,797,097

FRUIT PICKER'S BAG

Filed May 20, 1929

Fig. 1.

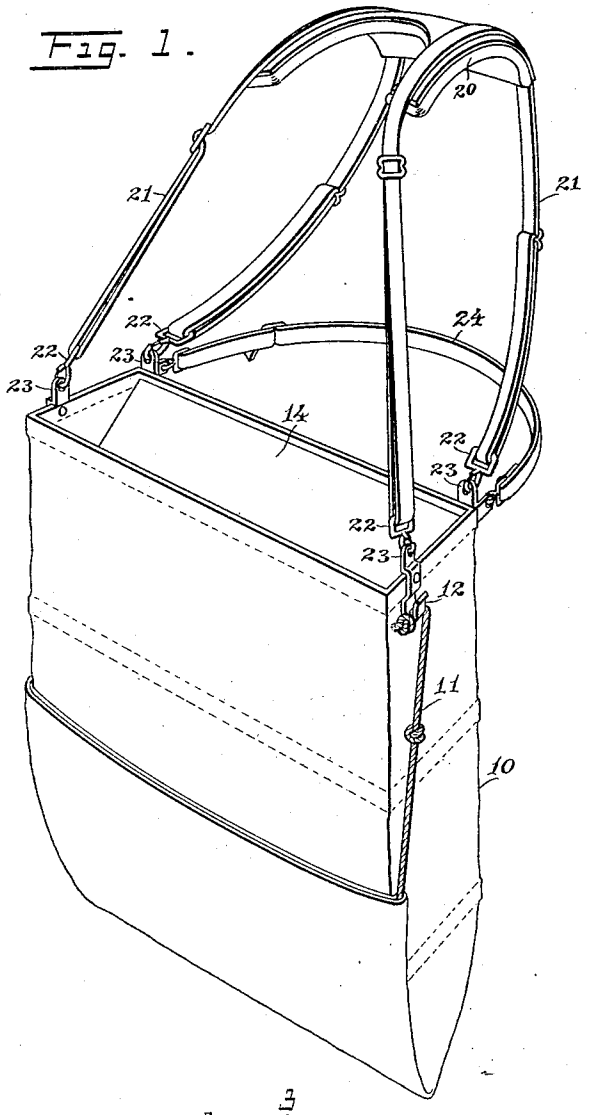


Fig. 3.

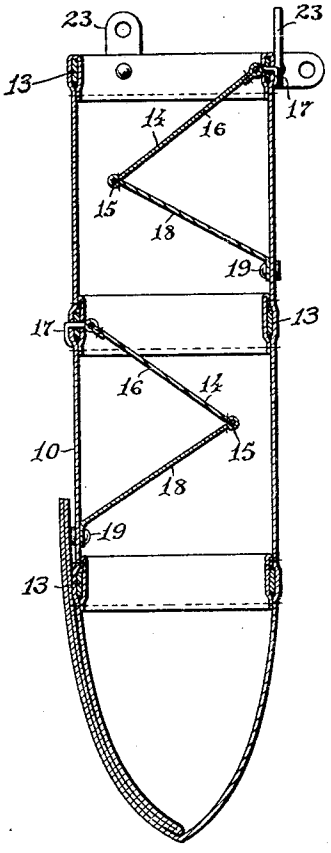


Fig. 2.

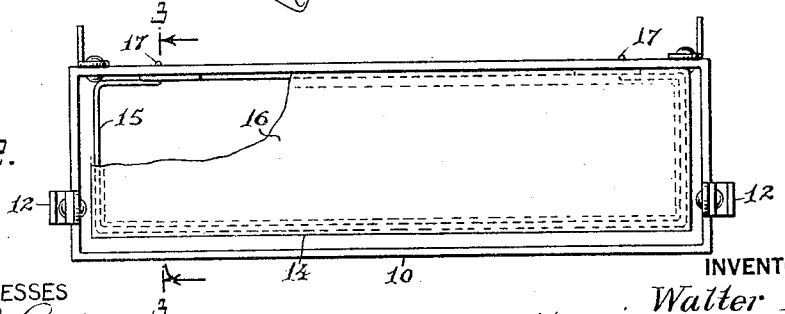
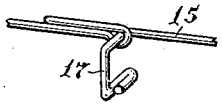


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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FRUIT-PICKER'S BAG

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This invention relates to a fruit picker's bag.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of a bag of the indicated character having improved means arranged within the bag to break the fall of fruit and thereby avert bruising or damaging of the fruit, and which is also adapted to close back against the side walls of the bag, as the bag fills, in order that the bag may be filled to full capacity, and which affords added protection to the fruit from contact with the picker's ladder and limbs of the trees.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a bag of the indicated character having an improved form of carrying harness which enables the picker to conveniently gather the fruit, and which also enables the picker to carry a full bag without discomfort to the picker.

The nature of the invention and its distinguishing features and advantages will appear when the following specification is read in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bag selected to illustrate the features of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a top view of the bag without the harness, and a portion of the upper deflector being broken away.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a detail view.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, it will be apparent that the bag consists of a tubular body 10 which is made of fabric of suitable texture and weight. The body 10 is open both at the upper and lower end. The lower end of the bag has connected therewith closing means which consists of knotted cords 11 connected with the lower end of the body 10 and which are respectively engageable with clips 12 disposed at opposite sides of the body 10 at the upper end, for the purpose of holding the lower end of the bag in folded condition to close the same. The cords 11 may be readily disengaged from the clips 12 to allow the lower end of the bag to unfold for the purpose of discharging the fruit from the bag. The body 10 includes metal frames 13 of substantially rectangular formation, there being three in the present instance which maintain the walls of the body 10 from collapsing toward each other.

In accordance with one of the features of the invention, there is arranged within the body 10 protecting means to prevent bruising or damaging of the fruit as it is being put into the bag by the picker. The said means consists of a plurality of members arranged respectively on the opposite side walls of the body 10, normally retained in deflecting positions, but which may assume positions substantially parallel to the related walls of the body in order that the latter may be filled to full capacity. The said members, which are hereinafter referred to as deflectors, may be diversely constructed. In the present instance each deflector 14 includes a wire frame 15 of rectangular form on which is arranged a piece of suitable fabric 16. The piece of fabric has the marginal edges thereof hemmed about the members of the frame 15. It is to be understood that the piece of fabric 16 may be padded or tufted to afford added protection against injury to the fruit. Means are connected with each of the deflector frames 15 and one of the body frames 13 to normally retain the deflector in a downwardly inclined deflecting position, and which is also adapted to allow the deflector to assume a position substantially parallel to the related wall of the body. Said means in the present instance consists of spring provision 17 on each end of the frame 15 at one side thereof which is engageable with or fastened to the frame 13. The deflectors 14 are arranged one above the other, and when disposed in the deflecting positions allow the fruit to pass around the same to the lower end of the body 10, and as the body fills, the deflectors 14 close back against the walls of the body and therefore makes it possible to fill the body to full capacity. An apron 18 of fabric is connected with the free side of each deflector 14 and the related wall of the body 10, as at 19. The apron 18 may be a continuation of the piece of fabric 16 of the deflector or may form a

separate part. The aprons 18 prevent the fruit from getting behind the deflectors 14, consequently the deflectors will not be prevented from assuming positions substantially parallel to the related walls of the body 10.

In accordance with another feature of the invention there is provided a novel form of carrying harness which consists of a shoulder pad 20 and body straps 21 which are connected with the shoulder pad 20. The straps 21 are adjustable and the ends thereof are provided with suitable snap fasteners 22 which are engageable with apertured lugs 23 on the upper end of the body 10. The shoulder pad 20 is made preferably of leather padded on the under side and is cut out to fit about the neck and shoulders of the picker. This type of shoulder pad will therefore be kept from shifting and also make it easier on the shoulders and back of the picker in supporting a fully loaded bag. The bag also has a body strap 24.

Most fruit pickers, pick with both hands and in picking apples a picker often throws two apples with each hand toward the body or back side of the bag. Ordinarily the apples do not get away fast enough and come in contact with each other and are bruised or damaged or punctured by stems. The deflectors eliminate this damage due to the angular disposition and flexibility thereof, and enable the picker to rapidly place the fruit in the bag without coming in contact with other fruit before reaching the bottom of the bag.

It is to be understood that the invention is not restricted to the precise arrangement of parts shown and described, as details of construction may be modified and rearranged without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which is limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bag of the class described having the combination of an open ended tubular body, a deflector for deflecting articles dropped in said body, and means connected with the deflector and said body which normally retains said deflector inclined downwardly from the body in a deflecting position interiorly of the body, and which allows said deflector to assume a position substantially parallel to the wall of said body.

2. A bag of the class described having the combination of an open ended tubular body, of deflectors for deflecting articles dropped in said body, and means connected with each deflector and said body which normally retains said deflector inclined downwardly from the body in a deflecting position interiorly of the body, and which allows said deflector to assume a position substantially parallel to the wall of the body, said deflectors being arranged one above the other.

3. A fruit picker's bag having in combination therewith, a yieldable and flexible fruit deflector, said deflector having flexible provision for preventing fruit from getting between the deflector and the wall of the bag.

4. A bag of the class described having the combination of an open ended tubular body, a deflector for deflecting articles dropped in said body, means connected with the deflector and said body which normally retains said deflector in a deflecting position interiorly of the body, and which allows said deflector to assume a position substantially parallel to the wall of said body, and a flexible member connected with the free edge of the deflector and the body, to prevent articles from getting between the deflector and the wall of the body.

5. A bag of the class described having the combination of an open ended tubular body, a deflector comprising a metal frame and a piece of fabric or the like spanning said frame, means securing said frame to said body so that said frame will be normally inclined downwardly within said body and also flexible downwardly and laterally from its normal position.

6. A bag of the class described having the combination of an open ended tubular body, a deflector comprising a metal frame and a piece of fabric or the like spanning said frame, means securing said frame to said body so that said frame will be normally inclined downwardly within said body and also flexible downwardly and laterally from its normal position, and a piece of fabric or the like connected with the free edge of the deflector and said body, for the purpose of preventing fruit from getting between the deflector and said body.

WALTER MAY.