July 23, 1929. T. E. BOOHER 1,721,942

PIG APARTMENT

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FIG. 1

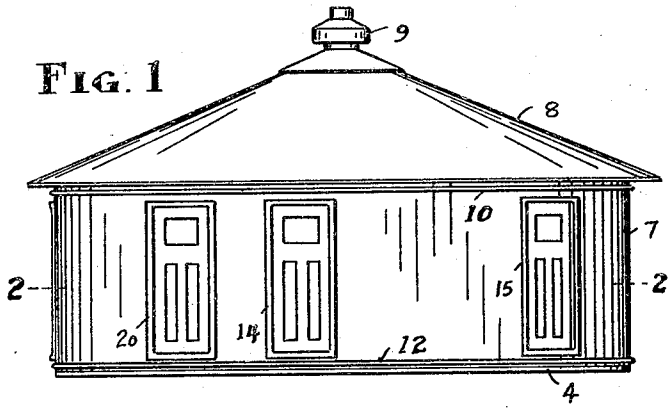


FIG. 2

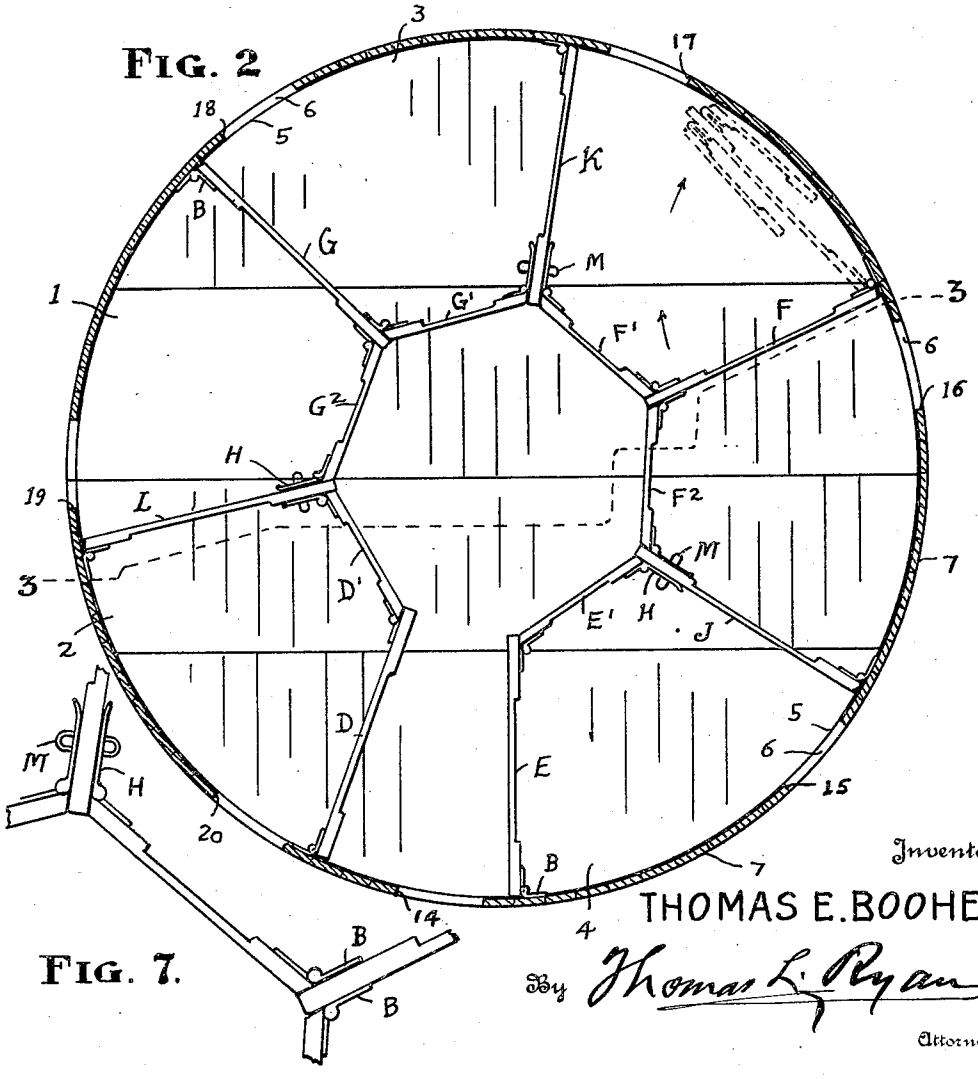


FIG. 7.

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FIG. 3.

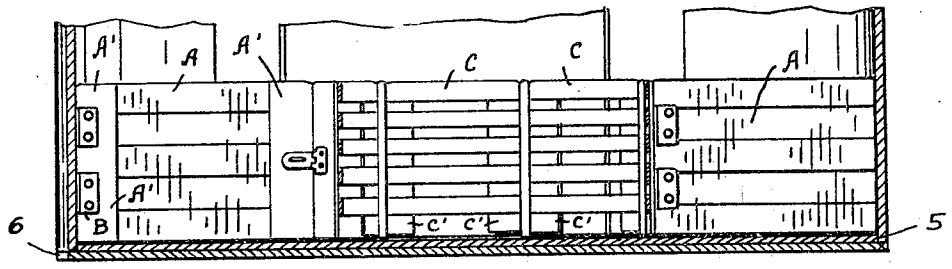


FIG. 4.

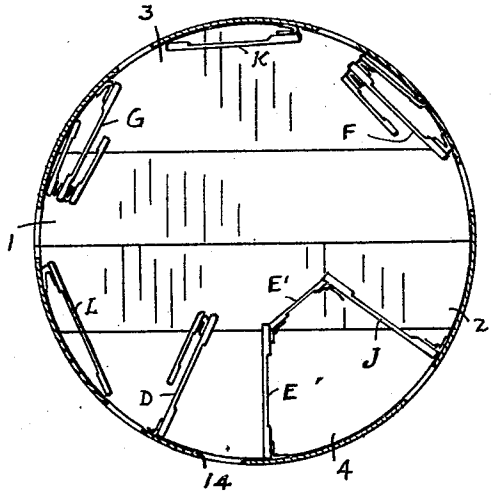


FIG. 5.

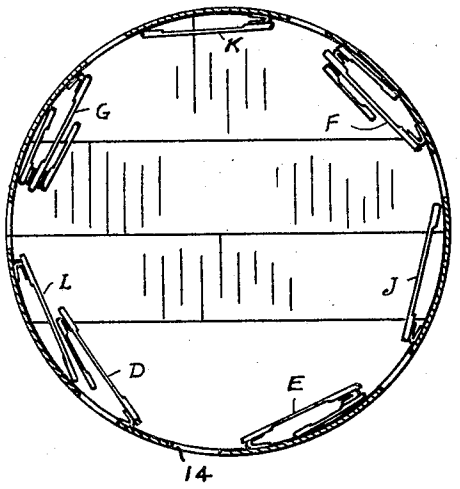


FIG. 6.

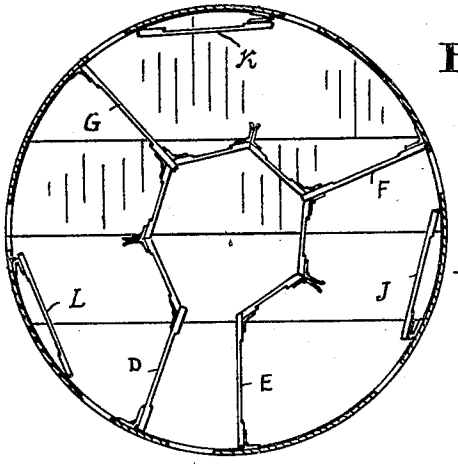
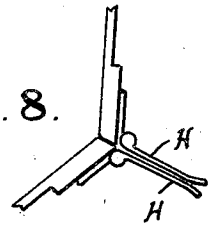


FIG. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PIG APARTMENT.

Application filed October 8, 1928. Serial No. 311,212.

This invention relates to improvements in structures intended for the lodgment, feeding, and caring for animals such as pigs and sheep, and is especially applicable in connection with an inclosure or building structure of curvilinear or polyhedral formation in plan. The invention as shown herein, being especially adaptable for the housing and caring for pigs, is designated as a pig apartment.

The object of the invention is to provide in a building or inclosure of the kind described, means whereby the area therein, in its entirety, or in compartment formation, may be efficiently and effectively used; and whereby ingress to and egress from the said area and areas, may easily be had.

My invention contemplates the providing of partition walls dividing the floor area into spaces or compartments, and gates connected to and between the said partitions, the said partitions and gates being so constructed and combined with each other, and with the inclosure walls, that from a central area in the floor space, access to any one, or to all of the compartment areas may be had; and also whereby two or more compartments may be made in to a single and enlarged compartment.

The objects of my invention are accomplished by, and the invention is embodied in the new construction, combination and arrangement of parts shown in the accompanying drawings, and described in the following specification. The several parts of the invention are identified by suitable characters of reference applied to them in the different views in the drawings, in which

Figure 1 is front view of a building or inclosing structure of the form preferred, and in which to embody and practice my invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional top plan view, taken on the line 2—2 in Figure 1, showing my invention in form for providing six compartments of similar size, and an entryway leading to the central area of the floor space.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross section view, taken on the line 3—3 in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a top plan view showing a disposition of the partitions and gates, whereby one compartment only, is provided.

Figure 5 is a top plan view showing the positions of the partitions and gates when the entire floor area is cleared.

Figure 6 is a top plan view showing the positions of the partitions and gates, whereby three compartments of enlarged size, and also a central compartment or space, are provided.

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary top plan view, showing in detail, the hinge connections, and the hasp and staple connections, between the end portions of the gates and the end portions of the partitions.

Figure 8 is an enlarged fragmentary top plan view, showing in detail the hasps and the end portions of the gates in coengaged position when arranged in the status as shown in Figure 6.

My invention may be practiced in connection with an inclosing or housing structure of curvilinear, or of polyhedral formation in plan. For the reason that the circular building structure shown and described in my pending application Serial Number 241,248, filed December 17, 1927, is capable of being easily erected, and that it embodies a floor and walls of weather proof construction, and that the walls thereof are of stable and secure arrangement, the said structure is shown herein as being especially suitable for the installation and use of the invention as an apartment structure for the sheltering and caring for pigs and sheep or the like.

The floor structure of the building is circular in plan, and it consists of matched central sections 1 and 2; and similar side sections 3 and 4. These floor sections, joined together as shown, constitute a circular floor having an offset peripheral upright edge 5, and flange 6, and they may be reposed on a foundation of any suitable kind for supporting the central and marginal portions of the floor structure. For a building intended for the sheltering and caring for pigs, as in the present instance, the diameter of the same may be about eighteen feet.

The wall 7 consists of upright members or staves having matched edges, and which staves are disposed in edge to edge engagement, with their lower ends on the circular floor flange 6, and against edge 5. The roof structure 8 may be equipped with a suitable ventilator and chimney device 9 centrally located as shown, and its rafters are adapted to rest securely on the upper rim of the wall. The wall members and panels in which are

retained the doors, are bound securely together, and to the floor and roof structure, by the metal bands or hoops 10 and 12.

In the preferred construction shown herein for carrying out the purposes of my invention, I provide the openings 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 for doors which may be of any suitable form of construction, and which are spaced substantially equidistant from each other. Each of the wall-like partition structures is hingedly connected to the wall of the building, said partitions being spaced, as shown in Figure 2, with relation to the location of the said doors. Gate structures which are hinged to the free ends of the said partitions, have their free ends adapted to register with and to be removably fastened to the free ends of the adjacent partitions; or, in instances where the compartment of enlarged formation is to be provided,—to each other, as shown in Figure 6. For the purposes of the general construction set forth in the present specification, each of the said partitions is similar to the other in structure, form, and dimensions.

Each partition is about five and one-half feet in length and about three feet in height, and consists of boards A set edge to edge and bound together at their ends by vertical battens A^1. By hinges B of suitable strength and size, these partitions are connected to the wall, of the building, at such height that their bottoms may be moved freely upon, or just immediately above the surface of the floor. The gates also are of similar construction and dimensions, and may consist of spaced boards C retained securely by the vertical battens C^1 which are of height the same as the height of the partitions.

Hinged to the free ends of the partitions D and E are the gates D^1 and E^1. Hinged to the free ends of the partitions F and G are the gates F^1 and F^2, and the gates G^1 and G^2 respectively. The free end of each of the gates is provided with a hinged hasp H. The free ends of the partitions J, K, and L, are provided with staples M which are adapted to be engaged by the said hasps.

It will be observed that the location of the hinged ends of the partitions are such, with relation to the positions of the doors, that when any one of the partitions is swung on its hinges (the direction of its movement being indicated by the arrow in Figure 2), its free end will clear the adjacent door. With the several partitions and gates at the positions shown in Figure 2, there is constituted a maximum number of compartments, and the said compartments are similar in size. Entrance into the inclosure is had through the door 14 and through the space between the partitions D and E, to an open central area. Surrounding this central area are the compartment areas constituted, as above described, by the partitions and the gates. From the central area, access may easily be had to any one of the compartment areas through the gate thereof. Also there is possible the easy ingress to or egress from any one of the compartments through the door thereof in the wall of the building.

To combine with the said central area of the building, the area of any one of the compartments, the gate thereof is simply shifted to open position. If it may be desired to combine the areas of two or more compartments with the central area, then the two gates of the partition are swung to open status, and the partitions are shifted to the position as indicated by the dotted lines in Figure 2. Although in the drawing the partition and gates (in the dotted line position) stand apart from the wall, it will be understood that same in practice when in the shifted position shown, stand immediately adjacent to the wall, and that they occupy relatively small space.

Whereas I have shown my invention embodied in form to constitute six compartments, and in an inclosure structure of circular formation. I wish it to be understood that the invention is capable of being practiced in modified forms of structure and detail, in conformity with the plan formation of the inclosure structure, and the uses to which the building is to be devoted. The general features and details shown are considered suitable, and to be preferred on account of the economy with which they may be constructed and installed. The invention may be supplied as a part of the building construction, or it may be supplied as equipment for buildings of wood or metal construction already in use, in such instances, suitable modification of the dimensions, and of the materials for the several parts may be made.

Advantages of the invention are that the animals being cared for may be easily grouped, or segregated. Areas needed for special or unusual requirements are easily available, simply by the manipulation of the gates at desired locations, and the shifting of the partitions to their repose against the wall. Whereas the partitions may be arcuate in cross section and caused to thereby repose in position more nearly adjacent to the wall, this feature is considered not necessary, as the partition of straight formation is of more economical construction.

An illustration of a modification of the interior of the inclosed space, is shown in Figure 4, wherein there is provided the entryway by the partitions D and E, and a single compartment is provided by the partition E, gate E^1 and the partition J; all of the other partitions and gates being moved to the folded positions. It is obvious that a more or less number of compartments may be provided, and at desired relative positions, by the suitable disposal of the partitions and gates.

To clear entirely, the floor area of the inclosure, the several partitions are disposed in the positions as shown in Figure 5.

Still another and useful arrangement, is that shown in Figure 6, the partitions J, K and L having been swung to engagement with the walls, and the gates of the partitions E and F, F and G, and G and D, being set together with their hasps united, as shown in Figure 8.

By the construction, combination and arrangement of parts as described, there is facility whereby the handling of the pigs under most all varying circumstances, is practicable. The central area while affording easy access to any one or all of the compartments, also provides suitable space for the preparation and distribution of the foodstuffs or other articles of necessity for the proper handling and care of the animals. The work of segregation, and the handling of the animals individually or in groups, in whatever manner the circumstances may deem best, is possible of performance readily, expeditiously and easily, by a person of only ordinary skill.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an inclosure structure of the kind described, the combination with the wall thereof, of spaced partitions each of which has its one end pivotally connected to the wall, gate structures between the free ends of the partitions, and hinge and latch connections between the said gate structures and the said partitions.

2. An enclosure structure of the kind described and having a circular wall, a first set of spaced partitions each of which said partitions is hinged to the wall, a second set of partitions spaced in alternate relation to the partitions of the first set, a gate hinged to the free end of each partition of the second set, and whose free end is adapted to engage and to be fastened to the free end of the adjacent partition.

3. An enclosure structure of the kind described, a first set of spaced partitions, each of which said partitions is hinged to the wall, a second set of partitions spaced in alternate relation to the partitions of the first set, gates hinged to the free ends of the partitions of the second set, and whose free ends are adapted to be fastened to the free ends of the partitions of the first set, or to each other.

4. A housing structure of the kind described having a circular wall, a first set of spaced partitions, each partition of said set being hinged to the wall, a second set of partitions spaced in alternate relation to the partitions of the first set, a gate hinged on each side of the free end of each partition of the second set and whose free end is adapted to engage the free end of the adjacent partition, and a latch device for said gate.

5. An animal apartment housing, comprising an inclosure structure having a circular wall provided with spaced doors, an entry-way partition at each side of one of the doors, each of which said entry-way partitions is hinged to the wall, a gate hinged to the free end of each entry-way partition, a first set of spaced partitions each having its end hinged to the wall, a second set of partitions spaced in alternate relation to the partitions of the first set, a gate hinged on each side of the free end of each partition of the second set, the end of each of the said gates being adapted to engage each other, or to engage the free end of the adjacent partition, and a latch device for each of the said gates.

6. An animal apartment structure of the kind described, comprising a wall structure having spaced wall openings, a first set of spaced partitions each of which has its one end movably attached to the wall, a second set of partitions spaced in alternate relation to the partitions of the first set and each of which has its one end movably attached to the wall, the length of the said partitions being less than the measure of the distance between their wall connections and the adjacent door opening, a gate hinged on each side of the free end of each partition of the second set and whose free end is adapted to engage the free end of the adjacent partition, and connecting devices between the free ends of the gates and the free ends of the said partitions.

THOMAS E. BOOHER.