Jan. 17, 1933. C. S. ANDREWS 1,894,337

MERCHANDISE PACKAGE

Filed Feb. 12, 1930

FIG. 1.

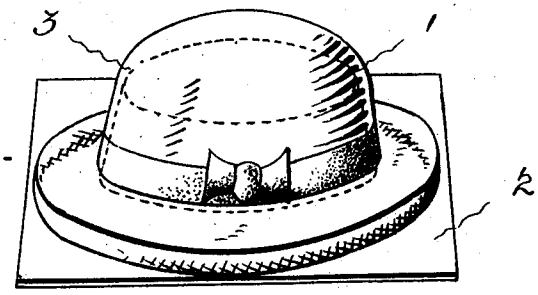


FIG. 2.

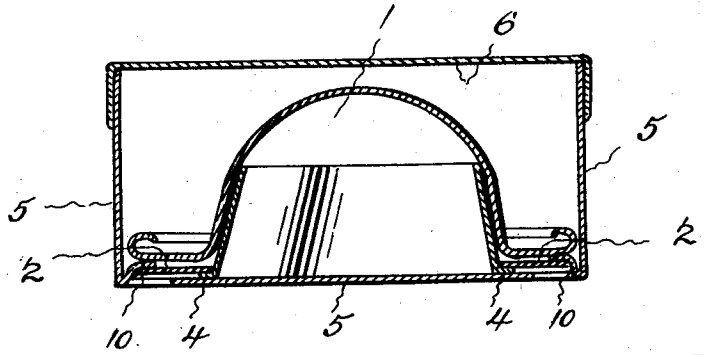


FIG. 4.

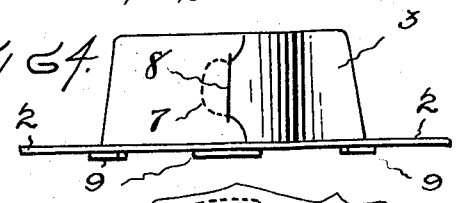


FIG. 3.

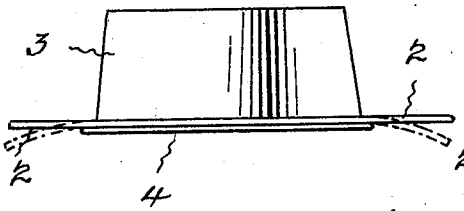
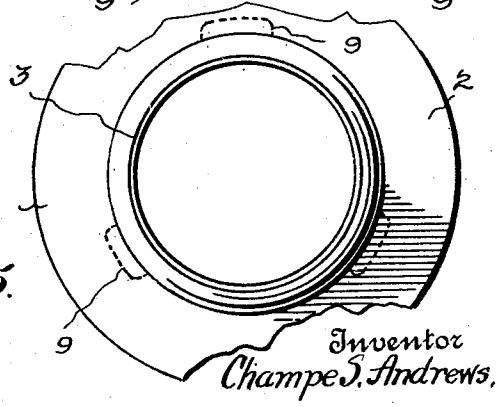


FIG. 5.



Inventor
Champe S. Andrews,

By his Attorney
Albert M. Austin

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHAMPE S. ANDREWS, OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

MERCHANDISE PACKAGE

Application filed February 12, 1930. Serial No. 427,683.

The present invention consists of a new and useful means employed therewith particularly applicable for packing merchandise of a certain kind, for example hats or such other articles that are liable to be crushed in transportation when improperly packed.

According to the present invention, as part of the improved method of packing, a suitable container is employed, preferably a folding or collapsible paper box, so that the latter may be shipped and stored in a flat condition and when the box is to be used it may readily be set up into the operative position. Supporting means are provided within the box whereby the article of merchandise packed in the box is constantly retained in a supported or suspended position within said box in a manner whereby said article cannot come in contact with the walls of the box. A separate sheet or member is provided to form a support for the article and said member is so constructed or has means associated therewith whereby the article supported or suspended thereby is retentively held in a determined position within the box. Said retaining sheet or member, together with the article, is placed within the box by a sliding movement, through the open side or sides of the box or in some cases if preferred, the top of the box may be open and the article together with the supporting member can then be dropped into the box. In all instances means convenient to operate are provided for anchoring the article and the carrying member so that the article will not become displaced in transportation or other handling.

The improved method together with one example of means employed therewith, will be hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the article and the supporting means;

Figure 2 is a sectional view showing the article and supporting means contained within a box of a conventional type;

Figure 3 is a detail view of the supporting device in one form; and

Figures 4 and 5 are respectively a side elevation and bottom plan view of a modified form of the supporting device.

Referring to said drawing, 1 represents a hat or any other article which is easily crushed or broken due to its fragility, such for example as a lamp shade or the like made either of paper, glass or some other breakable or crushable material. In Figure 1 the article and supporting means only are shown and which means comprises the sheet 2 having mounted thereon a band or form 3 which is substantially the shape and size of the hollow interior of the article to be packed. Said band 3 projects above the sheet 2 and is secured thereto by suitable means such for example as a crimped or flanged lower edge 4. The sheet 2 is cut out to form an opening to receive this band and the engaging flange 4 will retain the said band in place. Any suitable form of folding box may be employed such for example as the box 5 shown in Figure 2 and as shown, this box has an open top and a loose cover 6 therefor to permit removal of the article.

In carrying out the improved method, the improved box or packing container consists, as aforesaid, of the members described, namely the enclosing box, the supporting sheet or member and the retaining band or form, and all of which members may be so arranged that the entire outfit of the three members or pieces are foldable into a flat position to facilitate storing of the boxes. Furthermore, the various members are so designed that they may be readily put together to assemble the box ready for packing.

In Figure 3 the band 3 is formed of a separate strip having the ends united adhesively or by staples and when so prepared, the band may be folded into a flat position. When required for use, the collapsed band is opened and inserted into the opening in the supporting sheet 2. The flange 4 at the bottom of said band will retain the band in position.

In Figures 4 and 5 a modified form of band is shown and in this instance the ends of the band are united by locking tongues 7 at one end engaging slots 8 in the other end. By this means the band is formed and as before the band passes through an opening in the

supporting sheet 2. Instead of the flange 4, at the bottom of the band a series of ears 9 are employed and these ears perform the same function as said flange. In both instances referred to, the supporting sheet or member and the article carried thereby, are placed into the enclosing box and means such for example as tongues 10 in the bottom of the box are engaged by said sheet whereby the latter and the article carried therein are retained in a secure position.

In the packing of certain articles of merchandise, for example high grade hats, the present improved method of packing has the particular advantage that the hat, being supported from the interior, no part of the exterior surface of the hat comes into contact with the walls of the container and the supporting means. To get full advantage of this feature the supporting sheet 2 is flexible and larger or longer than the diameter of the container so that when inserted this sheet is bowed upwardly, as shown by broken lines in Figure 3. In this position the edges of said sheet 2 will bear against the side walls of the container and thereby through pressure, friction is caused which alone will retain the holder in place; therefore in most instances the retaining tongues 10 may not have to be used. Furthermore, when the sheet is so bowed the under surface of the brim of the hat is kept out of contact with said supporting sheet.

It will be understood from the above description of the improved method and means that the article packed accordingly is retentively held in a fixed position by suspension from the interior of the article so that the walls of the box and the support will not come in contact with the exterior surface of the article contained therein or supported thereby. The box employed must naturally be fairly firm so that it will not be easily crushed and thereby come in contact with the article packed therein.

Modifications in the above described method and means may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention and it is to be understood that any modification of the method and means, either in the construction or use thereof, coming fairly within the terms of the appended claims, shall be covered thereby.

I claim

1. Packing means for merchandise comprising a container, a removable support within said container, said support being composed of a sheet detachably held within said container, a collapsible and separable band detachably secured to said sheet by means comprising a flanged lower edge of said band engaging the under side of portions of said sheet adjacent to an opening in said sheet into which said band is inserted.

2. A merchandise package comprising a container having side walls and a bottom wall, a collapsible support frictionally held on the bottom wall of the container, said support including a flexible sheet base having an opening therein and a band extending through said opening and secured to said sheet, said support operating to receive and hold the merchandise in a position clear of the wall of the said container.

3. A package of the character described comprising a container having side walls and a bottom wall, a removable support within said container, said support comprising a flexible sheet detachably held within said container by frictional contact between the edges of said sheet and the side walls of the container, and a collapsible band extending through an opening in said sheet and detachably secured thereto, said support being adapted to receive and hold merchandise in a position clear of the walls of the said container.

4. Packing means for merchandise comprising a collapsible container, a removable support frictionally held within said container, said support comprising a sheet detachably secured to the bottom of the container, a band extending through an opening in said sheet and detachably secured thereto, said support being operative to receive and hold merchandise clear of the walls of the said container.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CHAMPE S. ANDREWS.