Feb. 26, 1929. 1,703,805

D. W. WITHAM

FEEDER

Filed July 2, 1926

Fig. 1.

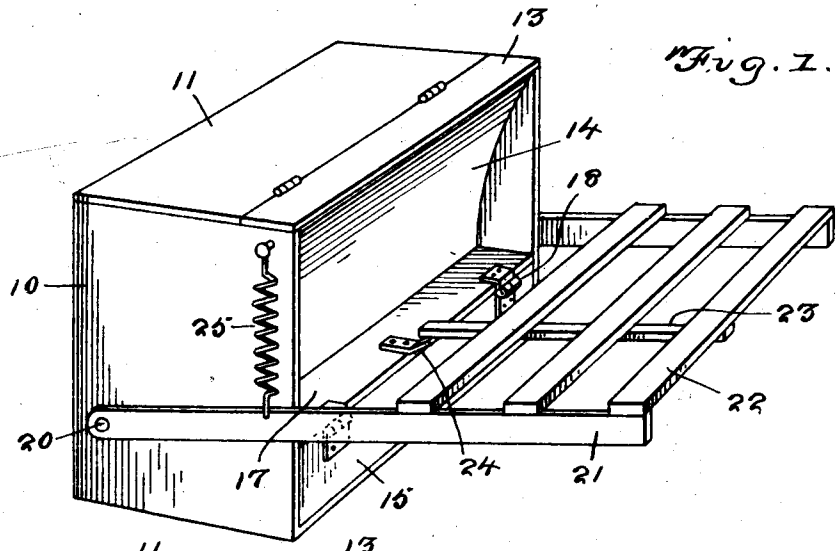


Fig. 2.

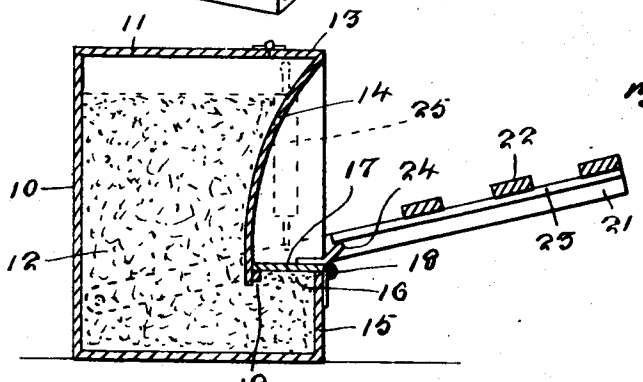
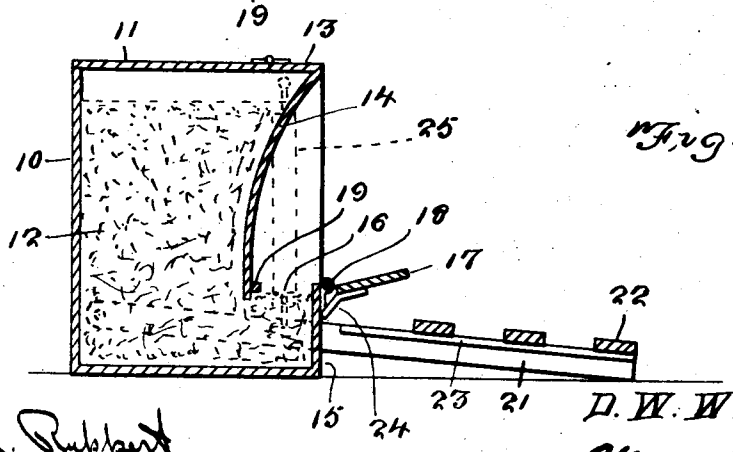


Fig. 3.



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WITNESS:

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Patented Feb. 26, 1929. 1,703,805

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID WILLIAM WITHAM, OF TOLEDO, IOWA, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO FRANK AMIL UCHYTIL, OF TOLEDO, IOWA.

FEEDER.

Application filed July 2, 1926. Serial No. 120,144.

This invention relates to feeders especially designed for feeding poultry, an object being to provide a normally closed feed container or hopper which will be automatically opened by the weight of a chicken so that the latter may have ready access to the feed, and automatically closed when relieved of the weight of the chicken so that the feed within the hopper or container will be kept in a clean and sanitary manner.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further includes the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a feeder constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view of the same with the feeder closed.

Figure 3 is a section showing the feeder open.

Referring to the drawings in detail wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the reference character 10 indicates a hopper or container which may be provided with an open top adapted to be closed by a lid 11, whereby access may be had to the interior of the hopper for the insertion of feed 12. The cover 11 is hinged to a permanent top portion 13 and extending downwardly from this permanent top portion is an inwardly inclined front wall 14 whose lower edge terminates short of the bottom of the hopper and at a point spaced inward from the front edge of the latter. The front of the hopper is provided with a wall 15 which extends upward a short distance beyond the horizontal plane of the lower edge of the inclined wall 14, so that the feed 12 from within the hopper will pass into the space between the front wall 15 of the inclined wall 14, which space provides a feeding trough 16.

The trough 16 is designed to be normally closed by a lid 17 having its outer end hinged to the wall 15 as shown at 18 while its inner edge is adapted to engage a stop or strip 19 carried by the inclined wall 14.

Pivotally secured to the opposite sides of the hopper as shown at 20 are the inner ends of bars 21. These bars are connected by slats 22 and the latter carry a strip 23. The inner end of this strip bears upon an arm 24 which is secured to and projects from the lid 17.

Normally, the lid is closed as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings and the platform formed by the slats 22 is yieldingly held elevated by springs 25 which connect the bars 21 with the hopper. When the weight of a chicken rests upon the platform, the latter will be depressed, downward movement of the platform serving to raise the lid 17 due to the engagement of the strip 23 with the arm 24. When the platform is fully depressed, the lid 17 will be thrown outward a sufficient distance so that the chicken may have ready access to the feed within the trough 16.

The invention is susceptible of various changes in its form, proportions and minor details of construction and the right is herein reserved to make such changes as properly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

Having described the invention what is claimed is:—

In a poultry feeder, a feed trough, a normally closed lid hingedly mounted thereon, a pivotally mounted platform, means to yieldingly hold the platform normally elevated, and means extending from the lid and located in the path of downward movement of the platform to open the trough and swing said lid outward into the path of upward movement of the platform.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

DAVID WILLIAM WITHAM.