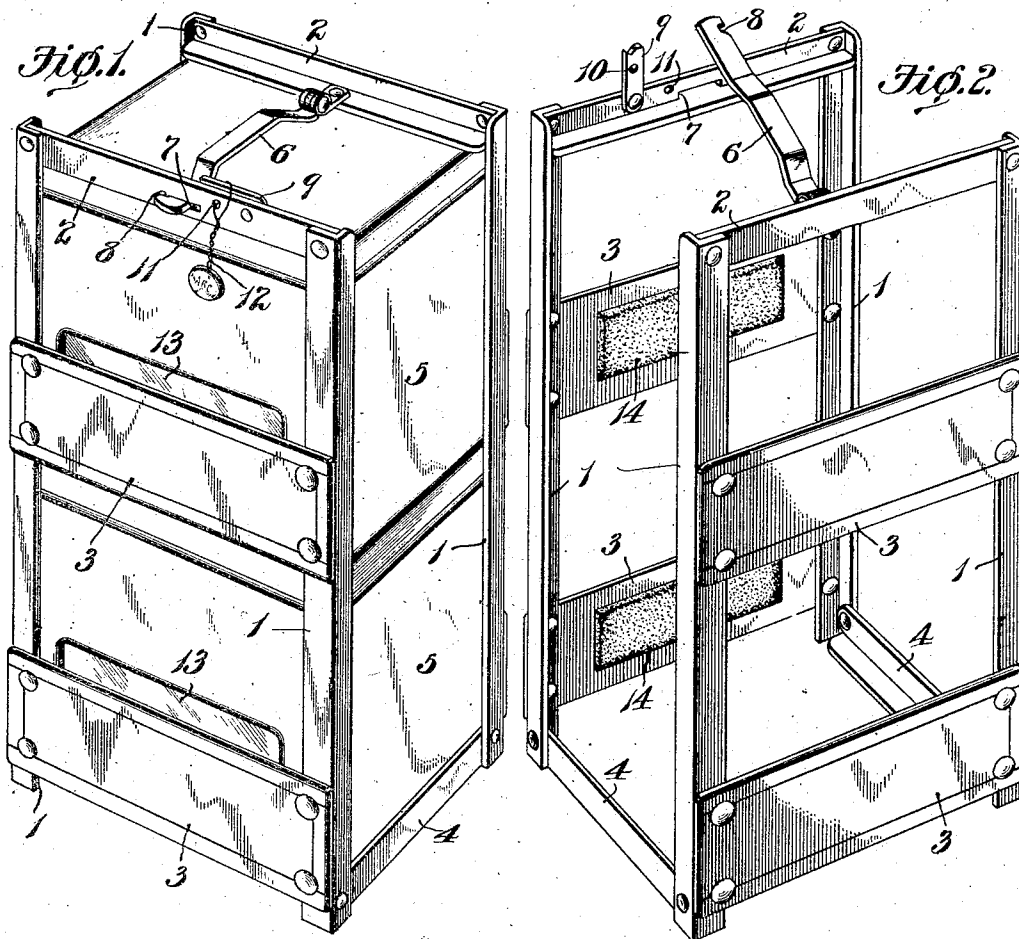
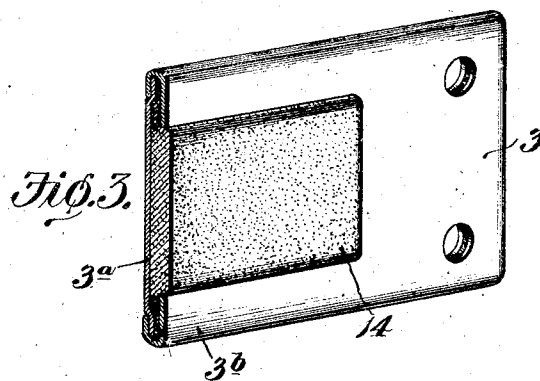


No. 842,494.

PATENTED JAN. 29, 1907.

G. G. ROHRSEN.
COLLAPSIBLE CRATE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 1, 1906.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COLLAPSIBLE CRATE.

No. 842,494.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 29, 1907.

Application filed August 1, 1906. Serial No. 328,739.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE G. ROHRSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Collapsible Crates, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a crate constructed in accordance with my invention, showing two cans arranged inside of the crate. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the crate with the cans removed, and Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view showing the construction of the cross-pieces which carry the cushions or pads.

This invention relates to shipping-crates, and particularly to crates that are used for shipping boxes or cans in which crackers, cakes, and similar articles are contained.

One object of my invention is to provide an indestructible collapsible crate which is so constructed that the corners of the boxes will be protected, and thus prevent them from being bent or damaged.

Another object of my invention is to provide a novel form of locking device for holding the two movable sections of the crate in operative position, and still another object of my invention is to provide a crate having means for preventing the boxes therein from rattling or jarring and also for protecting the glass panels with which the boxes are provided.

Referring to the drawings, which represent the preferred form of my invention, I designate the corner-posts of the crate, which preferably consist of pieces of light-weight angle-iron. Each movable section of the crate is formed by two corner-posts, a transversely-extending angle-iron 2, connected to the inner sides of the upper ends of the posts, and two cross-pieces 3, connected to the outer faces of said posts. The two sections of the crate are connected together by angle-irons 4, which are pivotally connected to the inner faces of the lower ends of the corner-posts; thereby enabling the crate to be collapsed so that it can be returned in knock-

down form to the manufacturer who used it for shipping the boxes or cans of merchandise to the retail dealer.

Fig. 1 shows the crate used in connection with two rectangular-shaped cans 5, and referring to said figure it will be seen that the corners of the can fit inside of the angle-irons 1, which constitute the corner-posts, and also the angle-irons 4, which are connected to the lower ends of said posts, so that the corners of the can are completely protected. The angle-irons 2 at the upper ends of the corner-posts engage the top of the upper can, and for securing the two sections of the crate together I have provided a cross-piece 6, consisting of a metal bar which is hinged to the upper angle-iron 2 of one section of the crate and projects through a slot 7 in the vertical leg of the angle-iron 2 of the other section of the crate. The end of the bar 6 is provided with a notch 8, which engages the edge of the slot 7 in the angle-iron 2, and said bar is retained in locked position by means of a dog 9, which is pivotally connected to the vertical leg of the angle-iron 2 and provided with a notched end which bears against one edge of the bar 6 and forces its notch into engagement with the edge of the slot 7. Preferably the dog is provided with a hole 10, located in alinement with a hole 11 in the vertical leg of the angle 2 when said dog is in operative position, so that a sealing-wire 12 can be passed through these holes to prevent the locking-dog from being swung up to release the bar 6, thereby preventing the boxes from being removed surreptitiously from the crate.

For preventing the boxes from rattling or jarring, and also for protecting the glass panels 13 in the boxes, I have provided the cross members 3 on their inner faces with yielding pads or cushions 14, the pads or cushions on one section of the crate bearing against the glass panels of the boxes and those on the other section of the crate bearing against the rear walls of the boxes, so that the boxes are held securely in position by yielding pressure. I prefer to construct the cross-pieces 3 as shown in Fig. 3, each cross-piece consisting of a plate 3^a and a cooperating plate 3^b, having its edge portions bent around the plate 3^a, with a piece of yielding material interposed

between said plates and projecting through an opening in the plate 3^b to constitute the pad or cushion 14.

A crate that is constructed in this manner is practically indestructible, as it is made entirely from metallic members, so that it can be used repeatedly, and as the corners of the boxes are completely surrounded by the angle-irons 1 and 4 they will not be bent or damaged during transportation.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A collapsible crate consisting of four pieces of angle-iron which constitute the corner-posts of the crate, cross-pieces connecting pairs of the corner-posts together to form two sections, cushions on some of said cross-pieces, two pieces of angle-iron pivotally connected to the inner faces of the lower ends of the corner-posts for connecting the two sections of the crate together, a bar connected by a hinge to the upper end of one section of the crate and adapted to engage the other

section of the crate, and a pivotally-mounted dog for locking said bar in position; substantially as described.

2. A collapsible crate, consisting of two sections which are pivotally fastened at their lower ends to connecting-bars, means at the upper ends of the sections for locking them together, each section of the crate consisting of two angle-iron corner-posts connected together at their upper and lower ends by pieces of angle-iron, and cross members fastened to said corner-posts and consisting of two metallic plates fastened together with a piece of yielding material interposed between same and projecting through an opening in one plate; substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses, this 27th day of July, 1906.

GEORGE G. ROHRSEN.

Witnesses:

WELLS L. CHURCH,
COEA BADGER.