May 26, 1959 R. E. CONNELLY 2,888,221

PALLETS

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Fig. 1

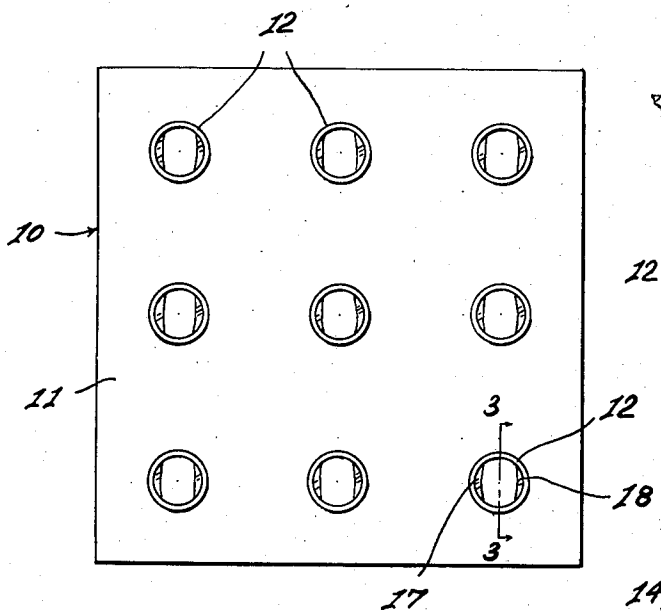


Fig. 3

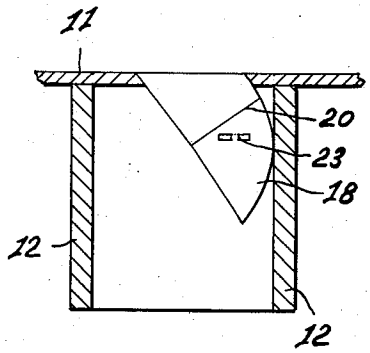


Fig. 2

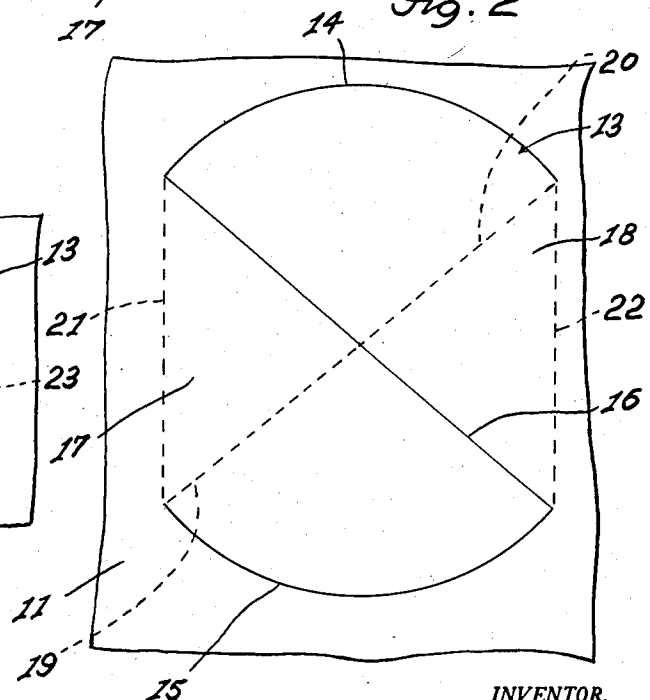
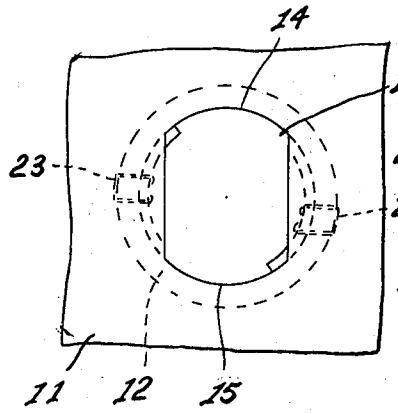


Fig. 4



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Fig. 5

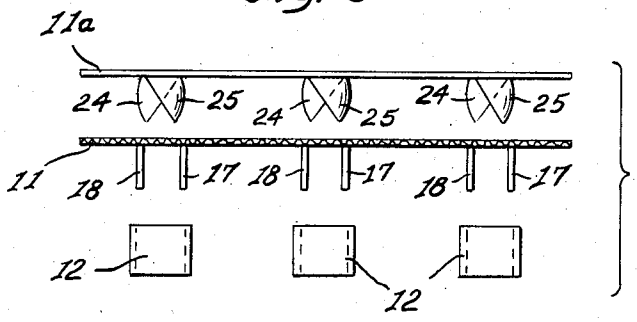


Fig. 6

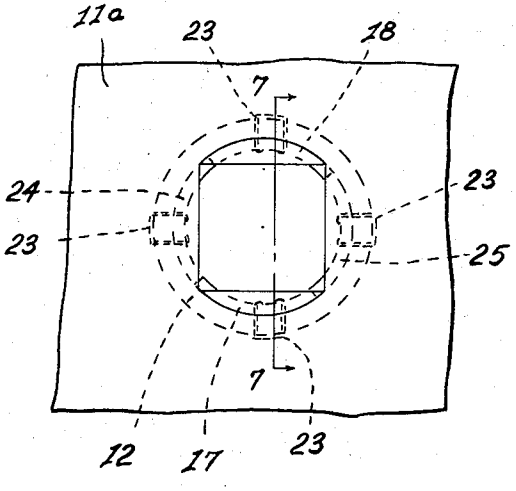
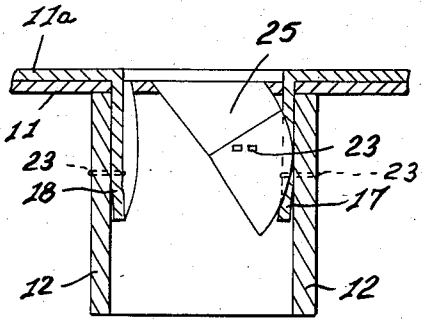


Fig. 7



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2,888,221

PALLETS

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Application January 7, 1957, Serial No. 632,831

2 Claims. (Cl. 248—120)

My invention relates to improvements in load support pallets, and more particularly to those pallets made from paper board which are designed in the nature of a load bearing platform for use with a fork lift truck.

It is a primary object of my invention to provide a pasteboard pallet of light weight construction which will support a heavy load.

Another object of the invention is to provide a pallet which is strong and rigid and inexpensive to manufacture, to ship, and to use.

A further object of my invention is to provide a knock-down pallet which can be quickly and easily assembled.

Still a further object of my invention is to provide a pallet which can be discarded after a single use.

Another object of my invention is to provide a pallet which can be strengthened by the addition of at least one additional platform.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same—

Fig. 1 is a bottom view of the pallet;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the platform showing the cutout portion which forms the tabs;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the top of the platform showing a leg attached thereto;

Fig. 5 is an exploded view of a modified form of my invention showing two platforms and legs;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the platform showing a leg attached thereto;

Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

In the drawing wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral **10** indicates the pallet generally which comprises a square platform **11** preferably made of corrugated paperboard and a plurality of legs **12**. The legs **12** are preferably made of a tubular paperboard construction and are equally spaced on the underside of platform **11** so as to distribute the load carried on the upper surface of the platform **11** equally and thereby eliminate any stress or strain on any one particular portion of the pallet. The legs **12** are of a height sufficient to permit a fork pick truck (not shown) to easily position its fork under the platform **11** prior to moving said pallet.

The platform **11** is provided with a series of equally spaced cutout portions generally indicated at **13** aligned with the legs **12**. Said cutout portions **13** are of substantially circular configuration and are formed by cutting a pair of opposed arc-shaped cuts as at **14** and **15** (at opposite ends of said cutout portions **13**) and cutting a diagonal cut as at **16** from opposite ends of said arc-shaped cuts **14** and **15** (see Fig. 2). The cutting of the platform at **14**, **15** and **16** provides tabs **17** and **18**. The tabs **17** and **18** are scored as at **19** and **20**, respectively,

for a purpose to be explained hereinafter. The tabs **17** and **18** are then folded in a downward direction on opposed and parallel fold lines comprising their bases **21** and **22**, and are attached to the inner surface of the leg **12** by any suitable means such as the staples **23**. As will be readily seen in Fig. 3, the tab **18** is approximately equal to the inner diameter of the legs **12**.

The score lines **19** and **20** which extend diagonally across the tabs **17** and **18** enables said tabs to bend slightly inward so as to better conform to the inner surface of the legs **12** and thereby provide a stronger connection.

In operation, the pallet is shipped in knock-down form. The cuts **14**, **15** and **16** are made prior to shipping thereby forming the tabs **17** and **18**. These tabs are not bent, and the platforms remain flat and can be shipped and stored with a minimum of effort and space. The legs **12** are shipped pre-formed. When assembling the pallet, it is only necessary to bend down the tabs **17** and **18** as at **21** and **22** and place a leg **12** over each series of tabs, securing the tabs to the legs in any suitable manner such as by staple **23**. The pallet is now ready for use.

If a stronger pallet is desired for a heavier job (see Figs. 5–7), it is merely necessary to add a second platform **11***a* above and at right angles to said first platform **11**. The tabs **24** and **25** provided by platform **11***a* are, therefore, offset 90° relative to tabs **17** and **18** and are then fastened to the inner surface of the legs **12** between the tabs **17** and **18**, and in the same manner. Since the tabs **17** and **18** of platform **11** are on opposite sides of the cutout portions **13**, and tabs **24** and **25** of platform **11***a* are identically constructed, it will be readily seen that when the second platform, **11***a*, is placed on the first platform, **11**, at right angles thereto that each of said tabs **17**, **18**, **24** and **25** will be positioned against a portion of the inner surface of the leg **12** (see Fig. 6). Also, the corrugations of the platforms **11** and **11***a* will be running cross-wise to each other. This feature gives the pallet even greater strength.

It is understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, as hereinafter claimed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A pallet comprising a platform of sheet material and a plurality of spaced supporting legs below said platform, tabs of platform material integral with said platform, said tabs being downwardly struck sections of platform stock defining a hole in said platform substantially complementary to the interior of said leg, at least one tab extending into each leg with a space on at least one side thereof to accommodate at least another like tab, means securing at least one tab to its leg to connect the latter to said platform, a second platform substantially identical to said first mentioned platform, said second platform being parallel with and overlying at right angles said first mentioned platform, said second platform having tabs of platform material integral with said second platform, said tabs being downwardly struck sections of said second platform stock defining a hole in said second platform substantially complementary to the interior of said leg, at least one tab extending through the adjacent hole in said first platform and into each leg in offset relation to the corresponding tab of said first platform, said last named tab being received in one of said spaces and means securing said tabs of said second platform to said legs to anchor said second platform to said first platform.

2. A pallet comprising a platform of sheet material and a plurality of spaced supporting legs below said platform, a plurality of pairs of opposed tabs adjacent said supporting legs, said tabs being downwardly struck sec-

tions of platform stock defining a hole in said platform substantially complementary to the interior of said leg, each tab being equal to approximately one-half the area of the hole, each pair of tabs extending into its adjacent leg with space on either side thereof to accommodate a second pair of tabs, means securing each pair of tabs to its leg to connect the latter to said platform, a second platform substantially identical to said first mentioned platform, said second platform being parallel with and overlying at right angles said first mentioned platform, said second platform having a plurality of pairs of opposed downwardly depending integral tabs defining holes in said second platform substantially complementary to the interior of a leg, each tab being equal to approximately one-half the area of its hole, each pair of tabs of said

second platform extending through the adjacent holes in said first platform and into each leg in offset relation to the corresponding tabs of said first platform, and means securing said tabs of said second platform to said legs to anchor said second platform to said first platform.

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