M. M. HAMMOND.

TRAY.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 14, 1914.

1,169,638. Patented Jan. 25, 1916.

Fig 1

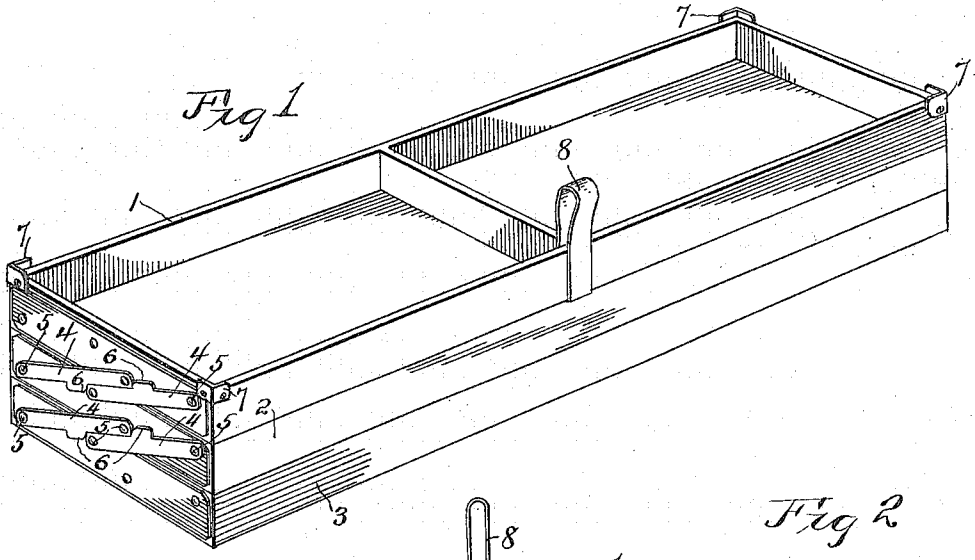


Fig 2

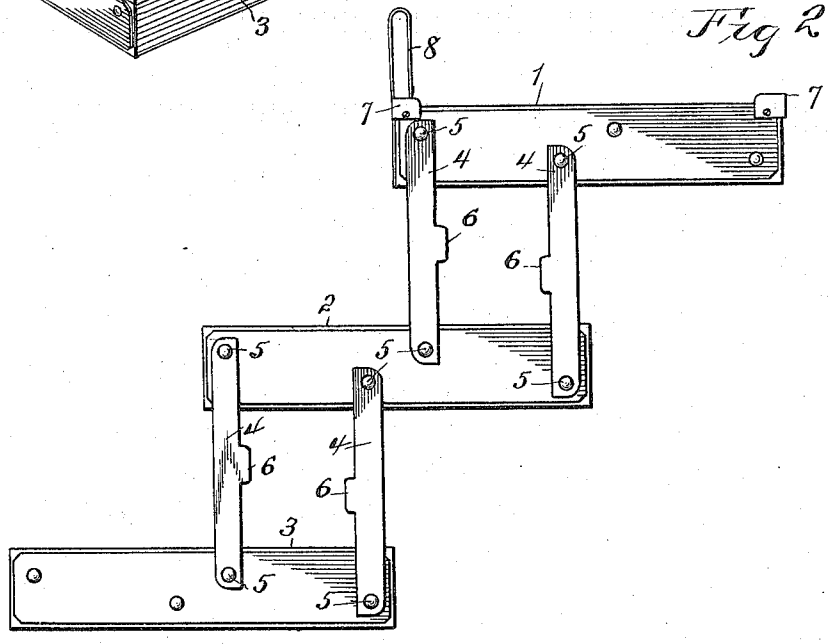
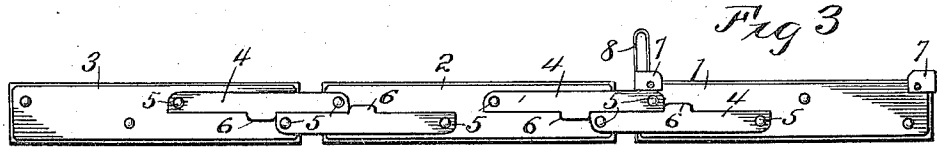


Fig 3



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TRAY.

1,169,638. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 25, 1916.

Application filed March 14, 1914. Serial No. 824,625.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY M. HAMMOND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Trays, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in trays.

The object of my invention is to provide a plurality of trays with connecting means by which the trays may be superposed one upon the other, in compact form suitable for transportation or for storage, or by which the trays may be swung to a stretched out position disposed side by side and in the same plane, whereby goods contained therein may be readily displayed.

A further object of my invention is to provide connecting mechanism between the trays which will permit of their being swung from a stretched out to a superposed position, and which in either of these positions will firmly hold them from relative lateral movement in a horizontal plane.

Other novel features of my invention are hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing which illustrates the preferred embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the trays shown in the superposed position. Fig. 2 is an end elevation showing the trays in the intermediate position. Fig. 3 is an end elevation showing the trays in the stretched out position.

Similar reference characters designate similar parts in the different views.

1, 2 and 3 designate respectively, the upper intermediate and bottom tray, the trays being, preferably, of the same dimensions and of rectangular form.

4 designates parallel bars of which there are four pairs, each pair having its ends respectively pivoted by pivots 5 to adjacent ends of adjacent trays.

The distances between the pivots 5 are such that the trays 1, 2, and 3 may be swung from the superposed position shown in Fig. 1 to the stretched out position shown in Fig. 3.

Each bar 4 is provided at one side edge with a projection 6 which is adapted to engage the adjacent end of the adjacent bar, when the trays are in the superposed position shown in Fig. 1 or in the stretched out position shown in Fig. 3. In these two positions, the projections 6 serve to hold the trays against relative movement in a horizontal plane.

The upper tray 1 has secured to its corners at the outer sides thereof, right-angled brackets 7 which project a short distance above the upper edges of the tray 1. These brackets serve as guides for holding another set of trays, not shown, superposed on the tray 1 from relative lateral movement thereon. As shown in Fig. 3, the forward brackets 7 also serve to limit the swinging movement in one direction of the adjacent bars 4, when the trays are in the stretched out position.

Secured to the forward side of the tray 1 is a flexible finger hold 8 consisting of a doubled piece of leather or similar material, by means of which the trays, when filled, may be readily swung to and from the superposed position, by grasping the tray 3 with one hand and pulling upwardly on the finger hold 8 with the other hand.

I do not limit my invention to the structure illustrated and described, as modifications, within the scope of the appended claims, may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

1. In a tray mechanism, two trays, and two pairs of parallel connecting bars, each pair having its ends respectively pivoted to adjacent ends of the trays, the distance between the pivots of said bars being such as to permit one tray to swing from a superposed position directly above and resting upon the other tray to a position at one side of and in the same plane as the other tray, each of said bars being provided at one edge with a projection arranged to contact with the adjacent end of the adjacent bar when the trays are in the stretched out position, thereby preventing endwise movement of the bars relative to each other when in the last named position.

2. In a tray mechanism, two trays, and two pairs of parallel connecting bars, each pair having its ends respectively pivoted to adjacent ends of the trays, the distance between the pivots of said bars being such as to permit one tray to swing from a position directly above and superposed upon the other

tray to a position at one side of and in the same plane as the other tray, each of said bars in the superposed and in the stretched out position having one edge disposed against the adjacent edge of the adjacent bar, each of said bars being provided at one edge with a projection arranged to contact with the adjacent end of the adjacent bar when the trays are in the stretched out position, thereby preventing endwise movement of the bars relative to each other when in the last named position.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARY M. HAMMOND.

Witnesses:
E. B. HOUSE,
WARREN D. HOUSE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."