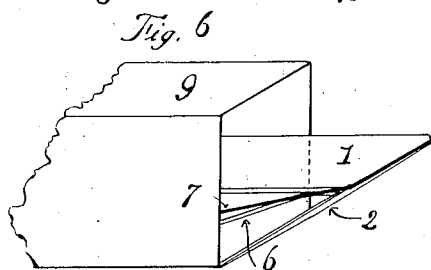
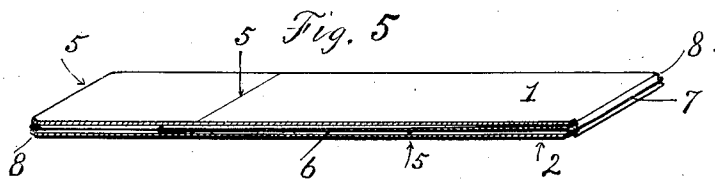
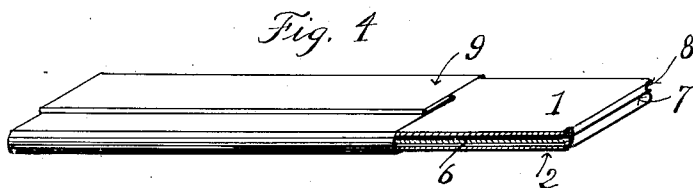
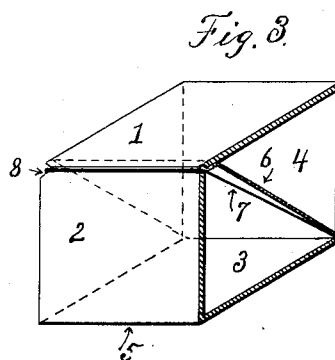
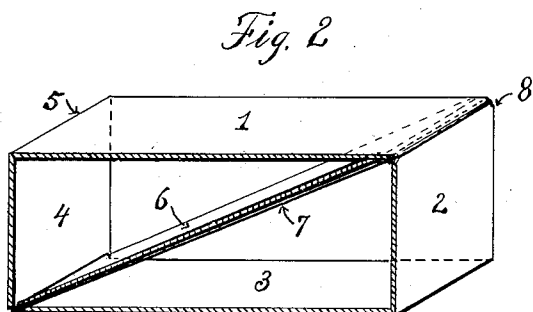
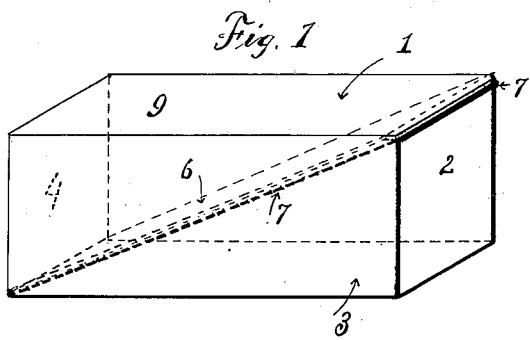


No. 888,774.

PATENTED MAY 26, 1908.

N. B. WOOD.
COLLAPSIBLE BOX.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 2, 1906.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHAN B. WOOD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HORACE G. STRIPE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

COLLAPSIBLE BOX.

No. 888,774.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 26, 1908.

Application filed April 2, 1906. Serial No. 309,255.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHAN B. WOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing in New York city, borough of Manhattan, New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object to provide a box or the like which may be readily collapsed, and which when collapsed will automatically spring open and be retained in such position, which box may be used for advertising purposes, as a toy or trick, and in other relations.

My invention comprises a box adapted to fold at its corners, an elastic or spring attached to the box tending to draw the same to an open condition, and a stay to limit the opening of the box, whereby the box can be folded flat and when released will spring open so far as the stay will permit. I also provide an exterior covering for the box which is adapted to close the open sides of the box when the latter is expanded and to make a complete finished box-like device through the open ends of which covering the parts of the box may slide when collapsed, and upon said covering advertising matter, pictures, and the like may be applied.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvements complete, showing the same opened, Figs. 2 and 3 are perspective views, partly in section, of the collapsible box portion, Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the box collapsed and the covering folded thereon, Fig. 5 is a similar view, the covering being removed, and Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view showing the box partly collapsed within its covering.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The box I have shown is in the nature of a rectangular frame having sides 1, 2, 3, and 4 which are hinged at the corners so as to fold flat as shown in Fig. 5. The said parts may be made of stiff paper or paste-board and slightly cut at the corners 5 so as to fold thereat in the nature of a hinge, and the meeting ends of such material may be glued together, whereby by pushing upon a corner of the box the same will collapse. Within the box is a stay 6 which at one end is secured to one side of the box and at its opposite end is free, and such stay extends diag-

onally between opposite corners of the box when the latter is opened, whereby the box sides are prevented from moving too far in one direction and thereby may be maintained in an open position. At 7 is a spring, shown in the form of an elastic band which is laid across opposite corners of the box and extends diagonally substantially parallel with the stay 6, so that when the box is released the elastic or spring will tend to open the box and the stay 6 by abutting at its free end against a corner of the box will cause the box to assume an open position as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. To keep the spring or elastic in proper position at the corners of the box, and as a cheap and convenient means for the purpose, I cut notches at the corners, as at 8, into which the elastic passes and by its tension is retained in said notches.

To make a finished appearance to the box and to close the open ends thereof I provide a covering 9, as in the nature of a wrapping, which is open at both ends and in substantially tubular form and adapted to receive the box within it, the size of the wrapping preferably corresponding to the size of the box when opened, as indicated in Fig. 1, the ends 2 and 4 of the box then appearing to close the open ends of the covering or wrapper. The covering or wrapper may be in the form of paper bound around the box and having its edges glued together in tubular form, and while the covering 9 may be entirely loose upon the box I preferably secure it to one of the sides, as 1 or 3, which leaves the other parts of the box free to move within the covering. The covering or wrapper 9 may be provided with advertising matter, pictures, or any suitable embellishment.

In using the device the box is collapsed by pushing upon one end, as 4, through the open end of the covering 9, which will cause the box parts to collapse, as in Fig. 5, the stay 6 meanwhile traveling lengthwise within the box, as it is connected at one end with the box and free from the box at its other end, and then the covering 9 may be folded down upon the collapsed box as in Fig. 4. The folded box may then be placed in an envelop or held tight by a cord or elastic, and when released its elastic or spring 7 will draw the box into its open shape and simultaneously expand the covering 9, the stay limiting the opening of the box, whereupon the parts will assume the position shown in Fig. 1.

When used as an advertising medium my improvements can be folded substantially as in Fig. 4 and placed in an envelop or the like, so that when removed therefrom and released the box will suddenly spring open and thereby attract immediate attention. The device may also be used as a trick or toy in any approved manner.

My invention is not limited to the particular details of construction shown and described as they may be varied without departing from the spirit thereof.

Having now described my invention what I claim is:—

1. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of sides hinged together at the corners and open through from side to side, a spring to draw the sides into an open angular relation, a stay secured to one of the sides and extending freely diagonally across the interior of the device to engage but disconnected with the opposite side thereof, and a covering freely inclosing the device and having an open end portion, the top and bottom sides being arranged to fold

one upon the other in parallel relation and to have free movement within said cover.

2. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of sides hinged together, an elastic band extending diagonally around the outside and over the corners of the device when opened, and a stay attached to one corner within the sides and free at the opposite corner and arranged to extend diagonally to engage the last named corner to limit opening of the device.

3. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of sides provided with notches at opposite corners, an elastic band fitting said notches and extending around the outside of the device diagonally when opened, and a stay to limit the opening of the device, said stay being attached within said sides to one corner and extending diagonally to and engaging an opposite corner when the sides are held open by said band.

NATHAN B. WOOD.

Witnesses:

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