Dec. 2, 1952 R. TOMCHIN 2,619,768

COLLAPSIBLE BOX CRADLE

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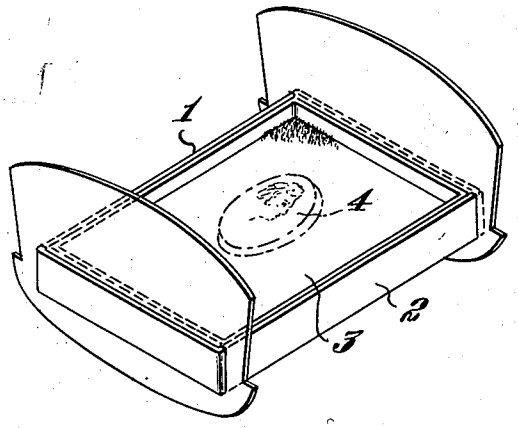

Fig. 1

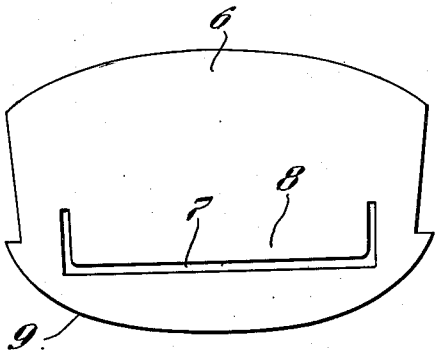

Fig. 2

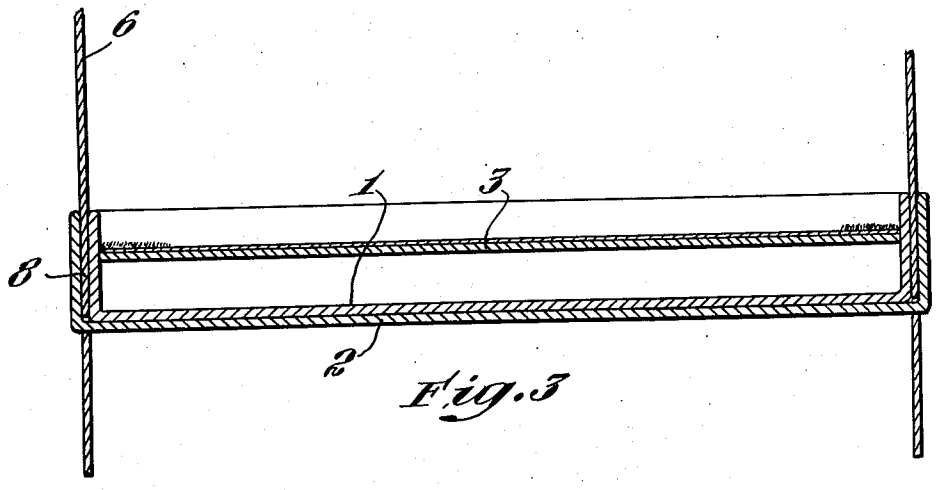

Fig. 3

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COLLAPSIBLE BOX CRADLE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 46—15)

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This invention relates to the art of cradles and more particularly to toy cradles which may be made of paper products, objects of the invention being to provide a cradle which can be readily assembled and disassembled, which when disassembled can be conveniently stored, which is constructed of simple inexpensive parts, and which when disassembled can be used to store other articles such as articles of jewelry.

In one aspect the invention involves a cradle which comprises a box having rectangular inner and outer parts nested together with their open sides both facing upwardly, together with cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of the aforesaid parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly-directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to the cross-sectional contour of the outer part of the box and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part, the tongues being slipped into the aforesaid cracks and the bottom edges of the slots bearing on the bottom of the outer part of the box. Preferably the height of the cradle ends is less than the width of the box and the length of the cradle ends is less than the length of the box so that the cradle ends can be stored in the box when the parts are disassembled. In the preferred embodiment the cradle ends are curved on the bottom to serve as rockers.

In a more specific aspect the box comprises a jewelry box formed in the usual way of cardboard or the like and having a pad or other means to support an article of jewelry, the cradle ends being formed of stiff paper, acetate, etc., and shaped as aforesaid.

For the purpose of illustration a typical embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings in which

Fig. 1 is an isometric view of the parts assembled in the form of a cradle;

Fig. 2 is an elevation of one of the cradle ends; and

Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal vertical section of the cradle.

The particular embodiment of the invention chosen for the purpose of illustration comprises inner and outer box parts 1 and 2 which may be formed of cardboard or other suitable material and nested together as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. Preferably the box contains a pad 3 of any suitable type for supporting an article of jewelry such as shown at 4 in Fig. 1.

According to the present invention the cradle

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ends 6 which are preferably formed of stiff paper, contain U-shaped slots 7 defining downwardly-directed tongues 8. The lower edges 9 of the ends may be rounded as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 so that the cradle may be rocked back and forth.

To assemble the parts in the form of a cradle the inner and outer box parts are nested together with their open sides both facing upwardly as in Figs. 1 and 3. To mount the cradle ends on the box the lower portions of the ends are flexed outwardly, the tongues 8 are slipped downwardly into the cracks between the ends of the box parts to the position shown in Fig. 3, after which the lower portions of the ends are permitted to flex back into the plane of the upper portions so that the bottom edges of the slots bear on the bottom of the outer part of the box as shown in Fig. 3.

To disassemble the parts the lower portions of the ends are flexed outwardly and the ends are then lifted free of the box. As shown in the drawings the height of the ends is preferably less than the width of the box and the length of the ends is less than the length of the box so that the ends can be stored in the box when the parts are disassembled.

It should be understood that the present disclosure is for the purpose of illustration only and that this invention includes all modifications and equivalents which fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A cradle comprising a box having rectangular inner and outer parts nested together with their open sides both facing upwardly, cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of said parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly-directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to the cross-sectional contour of the outer part of the box and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part, the tongues being slipped into said cracks and the bottom edges of the slots bearing on the bottom of the outer part of the box.

2. A cradle comprising a box having rectangular inner and outer parts nested together with their open sides both facing upwardly, cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of said parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly-directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to

the cross-sectional contour of the outer part of the box and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part, the tongues being slipped into said cracks and the bottom edges of the slots bearing on the bottom of the outer part of the box, the height of the cradle ends being less than the width of the box and the length of the cradle ends being less than the length of the box so that the cradle ends can be stored in the box when the parts are disassembled.

3. A cradle comprising a box having rectangular inner and outer parts nested together with their open sides both facing upwardly, cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of said parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly-directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to the cross-sectional contour of the outer part of the box and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part, the tongues being slipped into said cracks and the bottom edges of the slots bearing on the bottom of the outer part of the box, the height of the cradle ends being less than the width of the box and the length of the cradle ends being less than the length of the box so that the cradle ends can be stored in the box when the parts are disassembled, the cradle ends being curved on the bottom to serve as rockers.

4. For making a toy cradle with a cardboard box having rectangular inner and outer parts telescoping together, cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of said parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly-directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to the cross-sectional contour of the outer part and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part so that the tongue may be slipped into said crack by flexing the lower end of the rocker outwardly after which the lower end may flex back under the end of the box with the outer edge of the slot bearing on the outer surface of the outer part at the sides and bottom.

5. For making a toy cradle with a cardboard box having rectangular inner and outer parts telescoping together, cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of said parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to the cross-sectional contour of the outer part and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part so that the tongue may be slipped into said crack by flexing the lower end of the rocker outwardly after which the lower end may flex back under the end of the box with the outer edge of the slot bearing on the outer surface of the outer part at the sides and bottom, the height of the cradle ends being less than the width of the box and the length of the cradle ends being less than the length of the box so that the cradle ends can be stored in the box when the parts are disassembled.

6. For making a toy cradle with a cardboard box having rectangular inner and outer parts telescoping together, cradle ends of stiff flexible sheet material thin enough to slip into the cracks between the ends of said parts when nested together, each cradle end having a U-shaped slot defining a downwardly-directed tongue, the shape of the slot corresponding to the cross-sectional contour of the outer part and the width of the slot corresponding to the thickness of the outer part so that the tongue may be slipped into said crack by flexing the lower end of the rocker outwardly after which the lower end may flex back under the end of the box with the outer edge of the slot bearing on the outer surface of the outer part at the sides and bottom, the height of the cradle ends being less than the width of the box and the length of the cradle ends being less than the length of the box so that the cradle ends can be stored in the box when the parts are disassembled, the cradle ends being curved on the bottom to serve as rockers.

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