B. T. WEBB.

BOTTLE CASE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 2, 1917.

1,240,520. Patented Sept. 18, 1917.

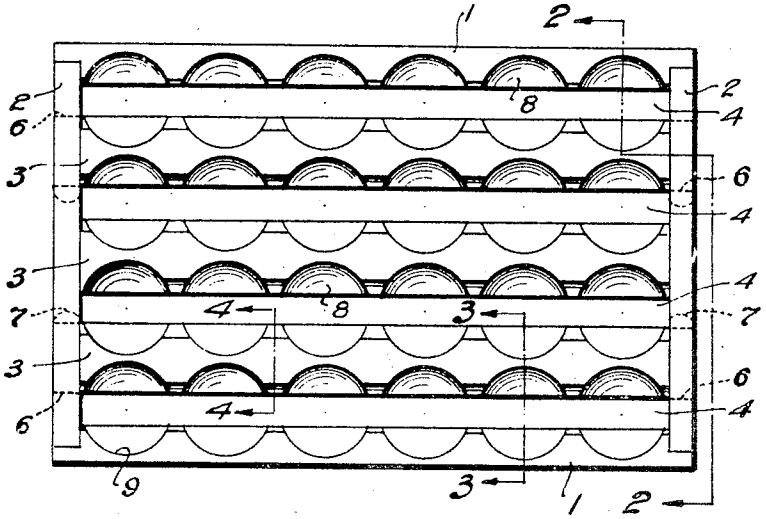


Fig. 1.

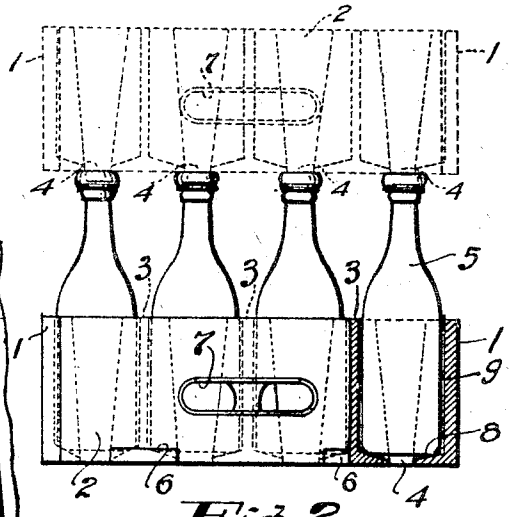


Fig. 2.

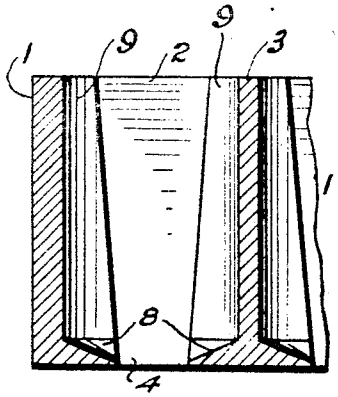


Fig. 3.

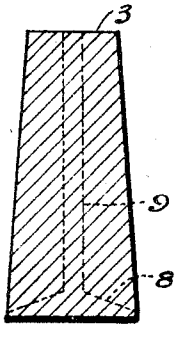


Fig. 4.

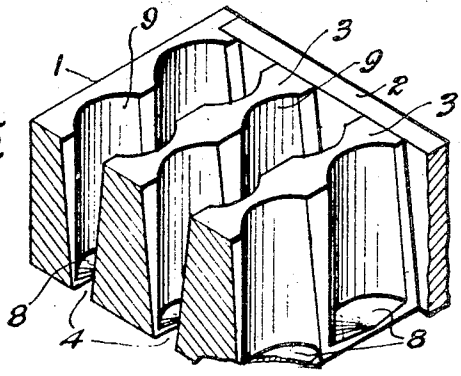


Fig. 5.

Witness

P. Gordon Parker.

Inventor

B. T. Webb.

Watts D. Johnston

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN T. WEBB, OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO L. JULIAN TOOLE, ONE-FOURTH TO GEORGE E. KYSER, AND ONE-FOURTH TO ALGERNON W. NELSON.

BOTTLE-CASE.

1,240,520. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 18, 1917.

Application filed April 2, 1917. Serial No. 159,223.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN T. WEBB, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Birmingham, in the county of Jefferson and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bottle-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to bottle cases or boxes intended for the handling of bottles of soda water, beer and the like.

The object of my invention is to provide a bottomless box in which the compartments or pockets for the bottles are formed by recesses cut downwardly into but not entirely through the opposing faces of the side walls and intermediate partitions of the case. In order that the case shall be light and require as little material as possible, and at the same time be of maximum serviceability and strength, I have designed the case with the sides and partitions of equal height and I prefer to make all of stock which tapers from the base to the top and is bored vertically after the case is assembled by a wide diameter auger which stops just short of the bottom of the partitions and sides so as to leave a bottom ledge for supporting the bottles. The auger is shaped to cause this ledge to slope toward the bottom opening left between the partitions and sides to prevent trash accumulating therein. For economy in manufacture, the partitions and sides are formed of square stock sawed diagonally so as to produce two similar half portions, the partitions having their ends sawed in the same operation to cause each side to slope symmetrically with reference thereto.

Another important feature of my invention is the arrangement of the partitions with the bottle recesses or pockets on each side thereof and with their wide bases spaced to leave bottom openings less in width than the diameter of the bottle tops, thus permitting the cases to be stacked and to be easily drawn off lengthwise without the tops of the bottles in the cases catching or holding the case above them. All trash, labels, crowns and the like, which tend to accumulate in the cases, causing them to rapidly rot, will fall out through the openings left between the partitions and thus increase the life of the case.

Another feature of my invention relates to the manner in which the sides and partitions are jointed to the ends so as to give the case great strength.

These and other objects of my invention will be more fully understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 shows the case in top plan view.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, showing the bottle cases in stacked relation.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of Fig. 1 taken on the line 3—3.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of Fig. 1 taken on the line 4—4.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a portion of the box.

Similar reference numerals refer to similar parts throughout the drawings.

The box has sides 1 connected by rabbeted joints to the ends 2. Between the sides and parallel therewith are a series of vertical partitions 3. The sides and partitions are formed of stock which tapers from the base upwardly, the side tapers only on the inner faces while the partitions on each face. The width of the bases is such that in assembled relation they leave bottom openings 4 slightly less in width than the diameter of the tops of the bottles 5 which the case is designed to carry. The object of this, as seen in Fig. 2, is to permit a case to be seated on the tops of the bottles in a case under it and to be slid off from it without the bottles catching in the bottom openings 4. This arrangement is important as it is the common practice in the handling of cases of all kinds of bottled goods, and particularly of soda water, beer and the like for which the case under consideration is more particularly intended, to stack the cases of bottles on each other and to draw the top cases lengthwise from the stack as they are used. The case illustrated is provided with three partitions 3, the intermediate partition being nailed or otherwise fastened between the ends 2 while the two side partitions are left with bottom lips 6 which are mortised into the ends 2 to increase the rigidity of the case. The intermediate partition is cut away at its ends opposite the hand holes 7.

After the partitions and sides are assembled in the manner described, a battery of augers of large diameter are employed to bore the seats or recesses for the bottles, which recesses stop short of the bottom of

the case so as to leave segmental seats 8 upon which the bottom of the bottle rests and which slope from all sides toward the openings 4. The sides of the pockets 9 are curved and are struck on a diameter greater than that of the bottles so that the latter can be freely inserted and removed. The pockets, being left open at their bottoms by the spaces 4 between the partitions and sides, will be kept clear of trash and foreign matter which will escape therethrough. This will keep the bottom dry and greatly increase the life of the case.

It is only by using the taper stock for the partitions and sides that the case can be constructed light enough for practical use and yet having bottom openings 4 too narrow for the bottle necks to pass therethrough.

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

1. In a bottomless case for bottles, sides and ends suitably connected, spaced vertical partitions which taper upwardly and are partially cut away to form segmental bottle seats, and ledges on said partitions at the bottom of the seats, substantially as described.

2. In a bottomless case for bottles, sides and ends suitably connected, spaced vertical partitions which taper upwardly and are partially cut away to form segmental bottle seats, and ledges on said partitions at the bottom of the seats, which ledges slope toward the spaces between the bases of the partitions, substantially as described.

3. A bottomless case for bottles comprising ends, sides and partitions parallel with the sides, the partitions and sides being wider at the base than at the top, and bottle seats bored downwardly nearly to but not through the bottoms of the partitions and sides, as and for the purposes described.

4. A bottomless case for bottles having ends, sides and intermediate partitions, the sides having their inner faces sloping from the top inwardly to the bottom, and the partitions having their side faces sloping from wide bases upwardly toward narrow tops, the spaces between the bases of the sides and partitions being less than the diameter of the necks of the bottles to be used in the case, and bottle seats formed by segmental recesses bored downwardly partway through the side faces of the sides and partitions, and bottom ledges left at the bottom of each of said seats to support the bottles, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

BENJAMIN T. WEBB.

Witness:

NOMIE WELSH.