J. R. RITTER.

SELF FASTENING CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 23, 1918.

1,309,341.

Patented July 8, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

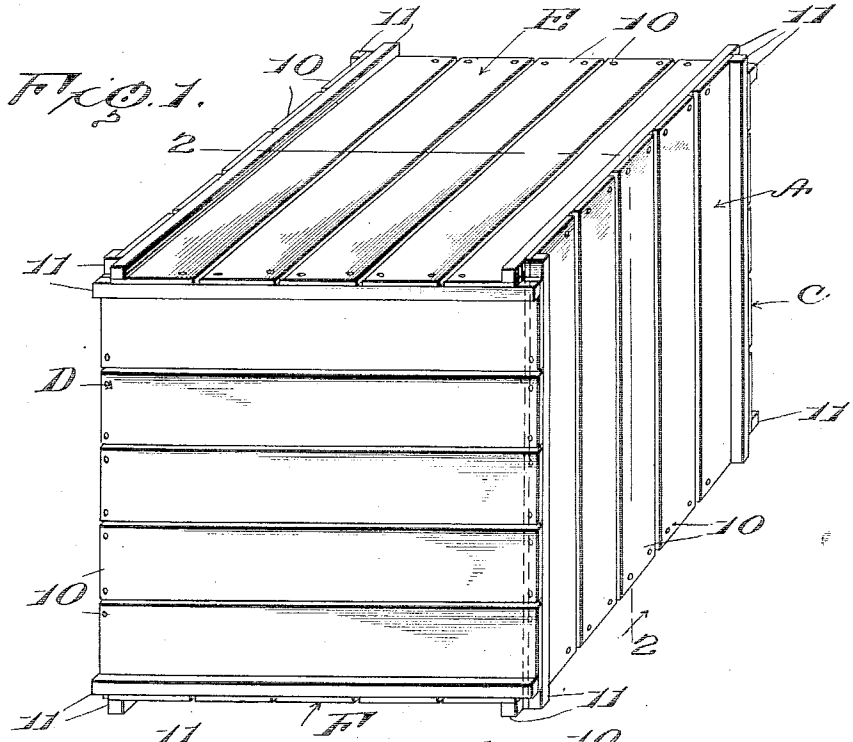
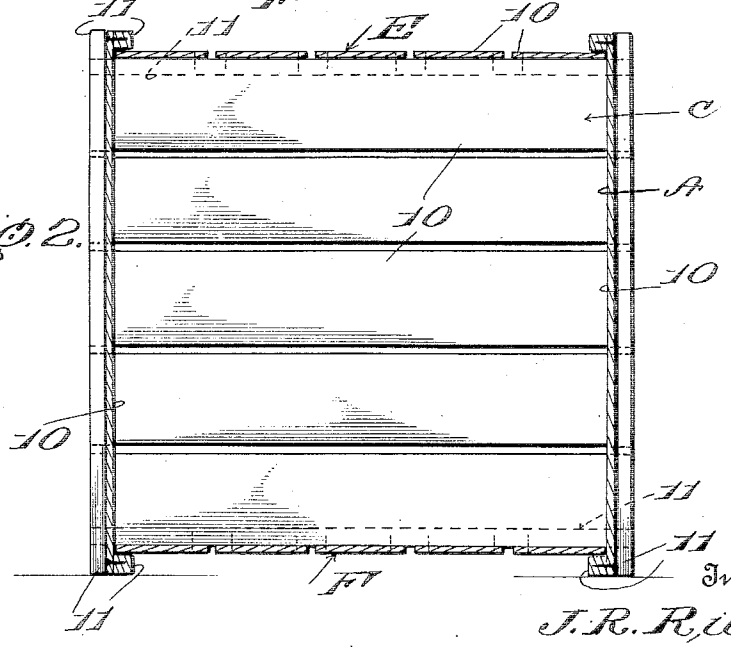


FIG. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 3.

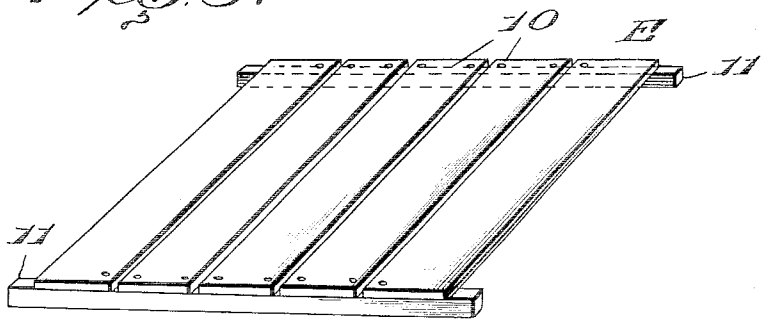


FIG. 4.

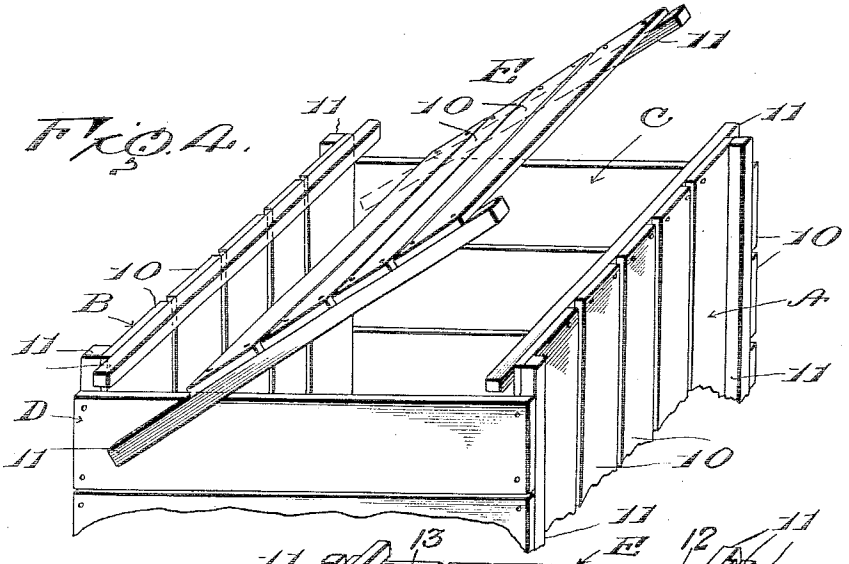
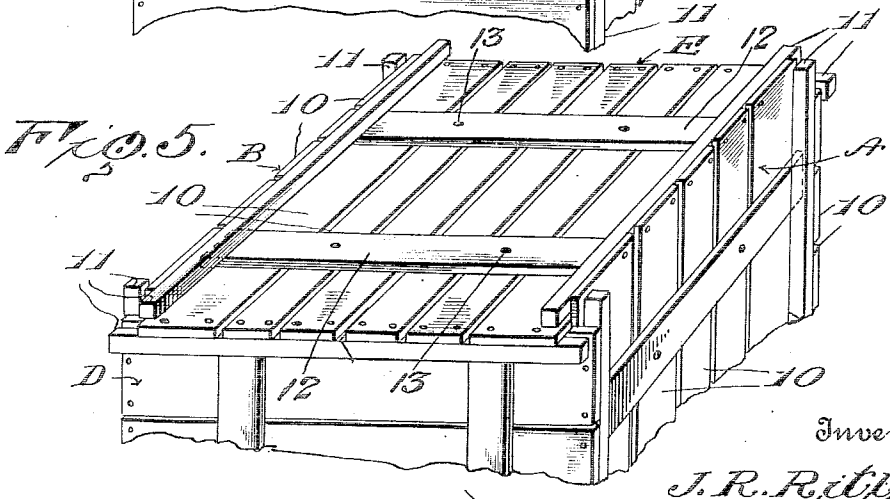


FIG. 5.



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JOSEPH R. RITTER, OF HASTINGS, FLORIDA.

SELF-FASTENING CONTAINER.

1,309,341. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 8, 1919.

Application filed October 23, 1918. Serial No. 259,326.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH R. RITTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hastings, in the county of St. Johns, State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Fastening Containers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in containers and particularly to boxes and crates.

One object of the present invention is to provide a novel and improved device of this character which is simple in construction and durable and efficient in operation.

Another object is to provide a novel and improved device of this character by which great economy of material and of machinery is accomplished in the manufacture of the containers.

A further object is to provide a novel and improved device of this character wherein all of the walls of the container are of uniform outline and design, as well as material, so that said walls are interchangeable.

Another object is to provide a novel and improved device of this character wherein any shaped container may be constructed with two opposite walls of uniform outline and design.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide a novel and improved device of this character wherein each of the walls of the container interlocks with the adjacent walls.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the container in properly assembled position.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the walls of the container removed.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the upper portion of the container showing the key slat removed from the cover or top, and the cover partly removed.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of another construction for top, and wherein reinforcing battens or slats are used on all of the walls.

Referring particularly to the accompanying drawing, the container includes the two opposite sides A and B, and the two other opposite sides C and D, and the top E and bottom F. Each of the said sides and the top and bottom are formed of the slats 10 which are secured to the battens or binders 11.

When assembling the container, the bottom is placed with its battens uppermost and the portions of the slats thereof between the battens resting on the upper faces of the battens of the sides A and B, said battens of said sides being disposed inwardly toward the center of the container. The sides C and D are then placed with their lower slats resting on the upper faces of the slats of the bottom, immediately inwardly of the battens thereof. The outermost slats of the sides A and B will then lie against the inner faces of the battens of the sides C and D inwardly of the battens of the sides C and D, while the edges of said slats bear against the inner faces of the slats of the sides C and D inwardly of the battens of the sides C and D. When the sides A, B, C and D, and the bottom have been thus assembled, it will be noted that the sides A, B, C and D must necessarily be fastened near the top to prevent the sides C and D from spreading out while the container is being filled. This may be accomplished by a nail driven through the slats of the sides A and B into the battens or binders of the sides C and D near the top of the container from the inside, or wire or any well known method of fastening may be employed at the four top corners for this purpose; the top E from which the end slat 10 has been removed is then placed so that its battens straddle the container from the side A to the side B, and outwardly thereof. The top is then slipped toward the side D until the slats of the top rest on the upper edges of the uppermost slats of the sides C and D. The top is then slipped back again until the outer end slat is disposed beneath the ends of the battens of the sides A and B. The removed slat 10 is then placed on the battens of the top with its outer longer edge beneath the batten of the side D and nailed to the battens of the top.

Another improved method of inserting top is designated in the drawing 5 and is constructed in same manner as its opposite side, with the exception that the key slat is

eliminated and this slat is nailed to the battens; the side is then cut through the center of each batten and the two pieces are inserted in position, two reinforcing slats being employed—one near each end—to hold the top in. No other fastenings are necessary, as the accurate and peculiar construction cause the top to be held tightly in correct position. Extending transversely of the slats of each of the sides and top and bottom of the container is a retaining and bracing slat 12. In the assembling of the parts of the container, this slat 12 of the top is only secured at one place as indicated at 13, and after the removable slat has been put in place and nailed, the slat 12 is swung across and its ends engage under the battens of the sides A and B.

It will be noted that the top, bottom, and the sides, are of identical size and construction, whereby they are interchangeable. Furthermore this is conducive to cheapness in the manufacture.

Although the drawing shows each side, top and bottom of identical size and construction, it will be readily understood that containers may be made in any shape desired, it being essential that two opposite sides of three different constructions be the same size and dimension; containers may be constructed with solid sides as well as ventilated, and of any material desired.

What is claimed is:

1. A knockdown container comprising a plurality of walls of equal dimensions and form and each consisting of end battens disposed in parallel relation and slats secured to and extending between the battens, the ends of the battens projecting beyond the endmost slats of each wall, the outer edge portions of the endmost slats of each wall engaging inwardly of the battens of two of the adjacent walls and the end slats of the said adjacent walls engaging inwardly of the battens of the first-named walls, one of the endmost slats of one of the walls being removable to permit the rocking movement of said wall and the removal of the same from the container.

2. A knockdown container comprising a plurality of walls of equal dimensions and form and each comprising parallel end battens and slats secured to and extending between the battens, the ends of the battens projecting beyond the edges of the endmost slats of the walls and engaging in overlapping relation at the corners of the container, the endmost slats of each wall engaging beneath the battens of the adjacent walls, and reinforcing slats secured transversely of the slats of each wall and engaging beneath the said battens of the adjacent walls.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH R. RITTER.

Witnesses:
J. W. CASE,
RUBY DOESCHER.