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2,551,089

PACKAGING CONTAINER CONVERTIBLE INTO A TOY

Filed Dec. 21, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

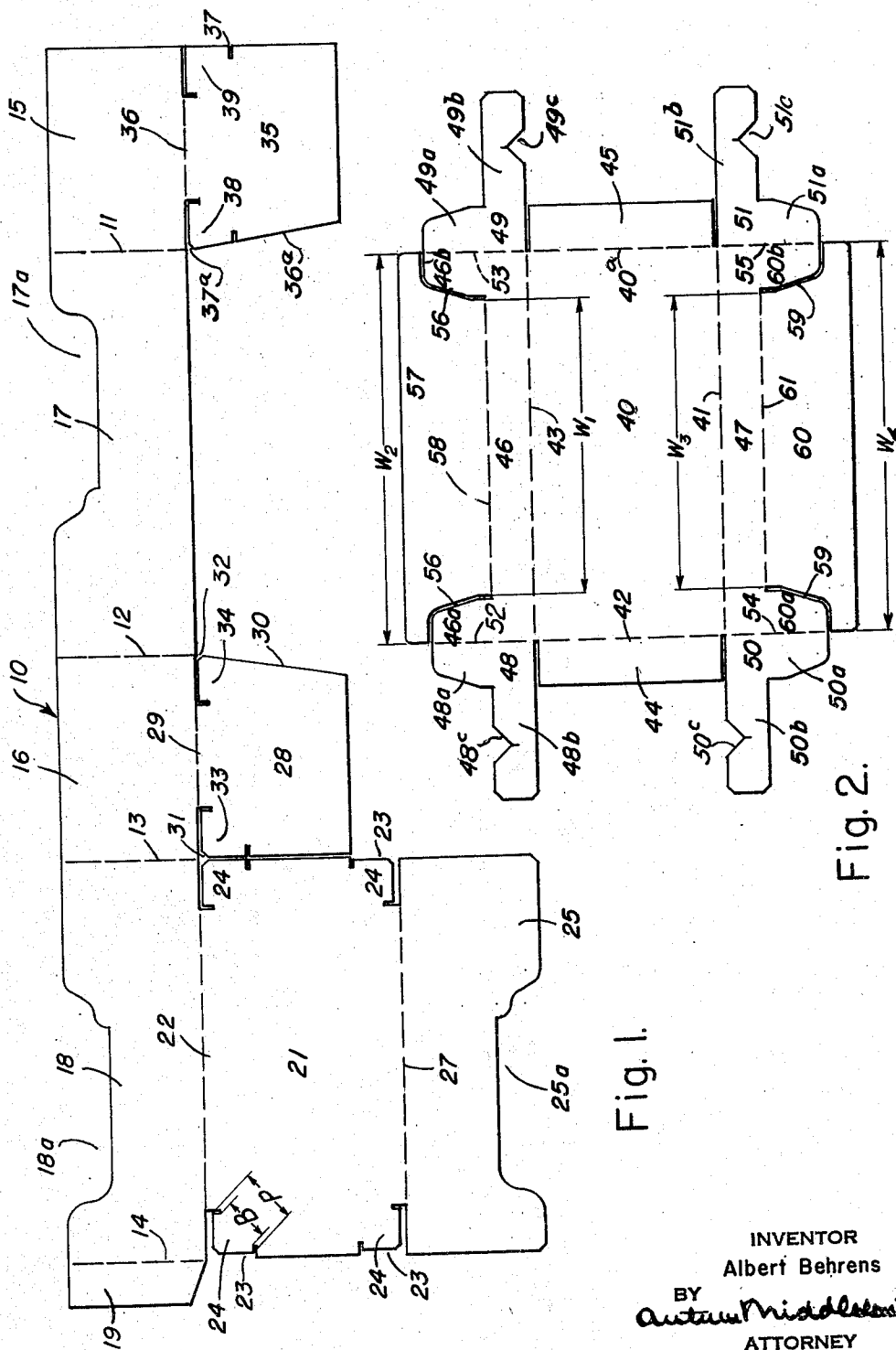


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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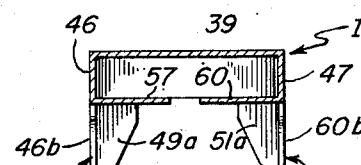
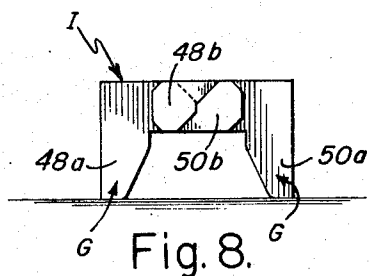
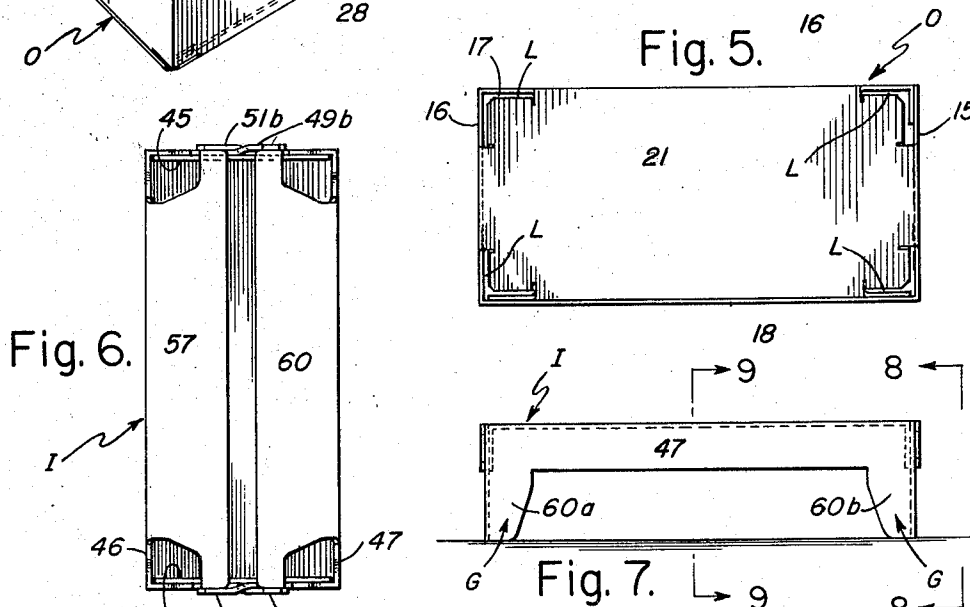
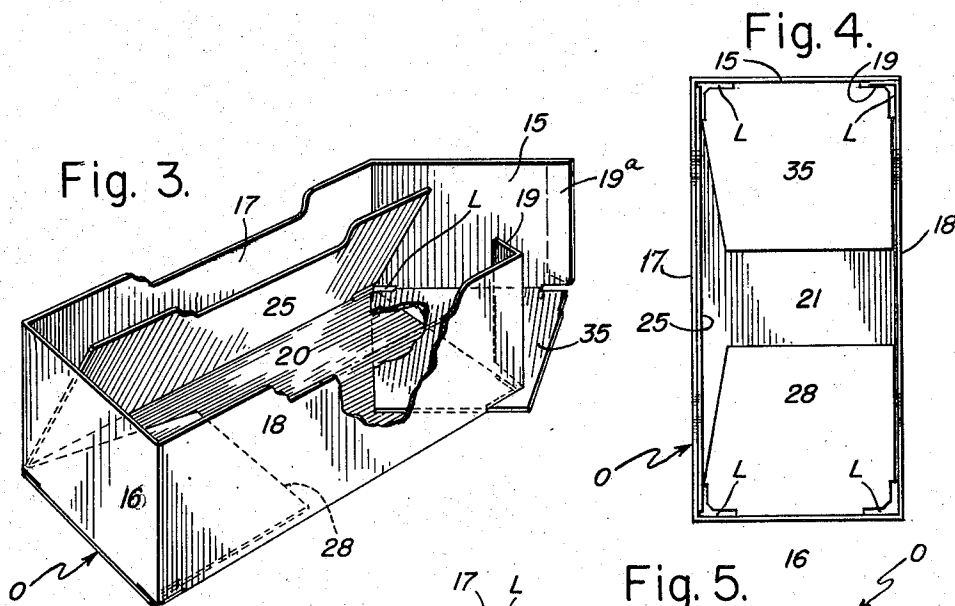
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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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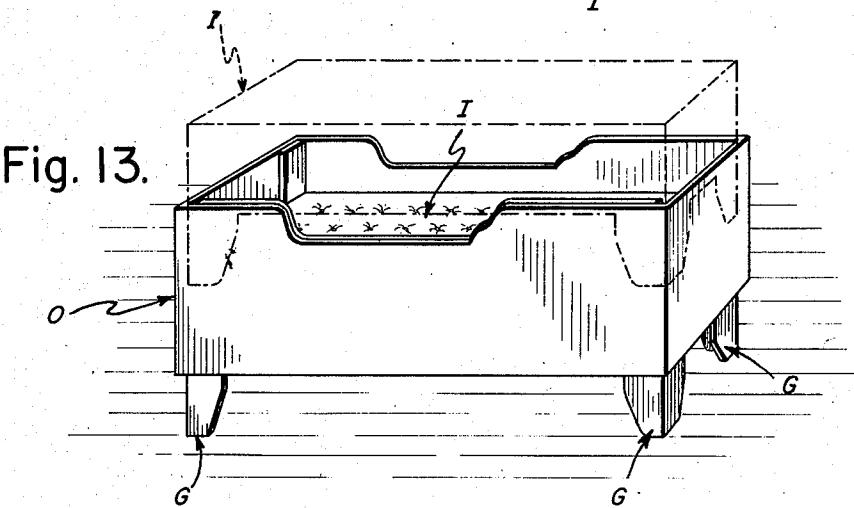
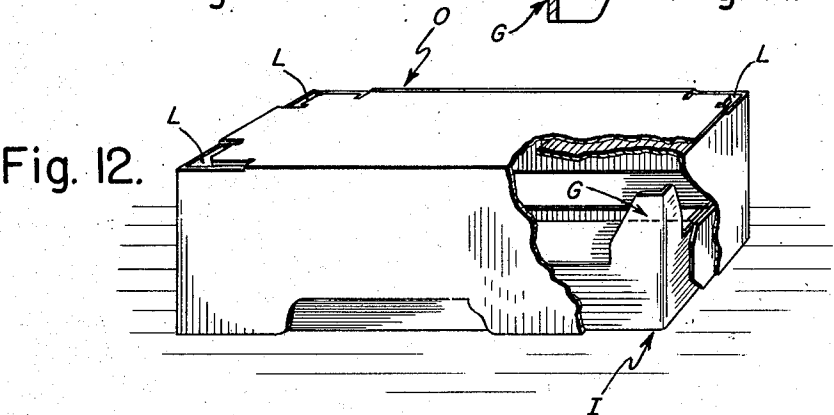
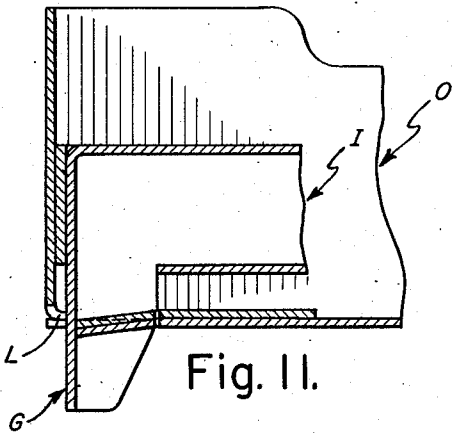
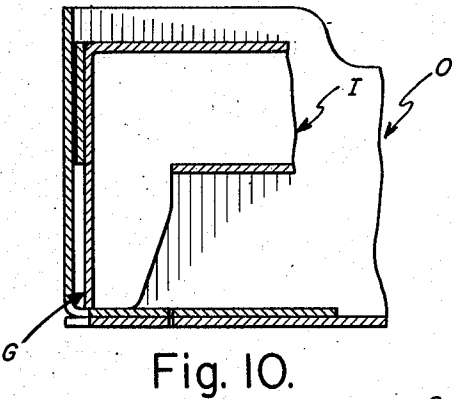
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PACKAGING CONTAINER CONVERTIBLE INTO A TOY

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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PACKAGING CONTAINER CONVERTIBLE
INTO A TOY

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9 Claims. (Cl. 46—11)

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This invention relates to a packaging container or folding carton convertible into a toy. One of the objects is to provide a container or folding carton which by simple manipulation is convertible into a toy bed to receive a toy figure, although when unconverted the toy figure may be placed inside the container or carton.

To this end the container or carton consists of a pair of open box-like members each of which has a bottom and sides or wall portions providing a free edge. The one member fits over the other member in complementary fashion as the free edge portion of the one slips over the free edge portion of the other—that is to say, one box member fits inverted into the other upright box member. The inner or inverted box member has a vertical downward extension or leg at each corner adapted to extend through corresponding bottom apertures in the opposite or outer upright box member. Whether or not the legs extend through the apertures depends upon how far the inner member is purposely telescoped into the other member. When telescoped into one another to the limit the two box members assume a relationship in which they present a toy bed the legs of which extend through and from the bottom apertures in the outer member.

Various features of the invention relate to the manner in which the complementary box members or component members of the toy bed are folded into their operative shapes from die-cut blanks.

The invention possesses other objects and features of advantage, some of which with the foregoing will be set forth in the following description. In the following description and in the claims, parts will be identified by specific names for convenience, but they are intended to be as generic in their application to similar parts as the art will permit. In the accompanying drawings there has been illustrated the best embodiment of the invention known to me, but such embodiment is to be regarded as typical only of many possible embodiments, and the invention is not to be limited thereto.

The novel features considered characteristic of my invention are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its organization and its method of operation, together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will best be understood from the following description of a specific embodiment when read in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 shows a foldable blank for making the outer or upright box member;

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Fig. 2 shows a foldable blank for making the inner or inverted box member;

Fig. 3 shows the blank of Fig. 1 in an intermediate stage of being folded;

Fig. 4 is a top view of the outer or upright box member folded from the Fig. 1 blank;

Fig. 5 is a bottom view of the outer or upright box member folded from the Fig. 1 blank;

Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the inverted or inner box member folded from the Fig. 2 blank;

Fig. 7 is a side view of the same box member;

Fig. 8 is an end view on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a cross-sectional view on the line 9—9 of Fig. 7;

Fig. 10 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional broken-off view of the box members in an intermediate telescoping position;

Fig. 11 is a view similar to Fig. 10 although with the box members in an extreme position of being telescoped into each other whereby they assume the form of a toy bed;

Fig. 12 is a perspective view of the box members telescopically positioned to form a container carton;

Fig. 13 is a perspective view of the box members telescopically positioned to form a toy bed.

The blank for making the outer box member is shown in Fig. 1 to comprise a body portion 10 divided by folding or score lines 11, 12, 13, 14, into portions constituting a pair of end walls 15 and 16 as well as a pair of side walls 17 and 18; and an end-connecting tab 19. From the bottom edge portion of the side wall 18 extends a bottom portion 21 foldable along a score line 22 and provided with substantially L-shaped corner indentations 23 whereby each corner of the bottom portion 21 is formed with a tongue portion 24, the base portion B of which is narrower than the intermediate portion P. From the bottom portion 21 in turn extends a duplicate side wall 25 foldable on a score line 27 and being similar and symmetrical to the side wall 18.

From the bottom edge portion of the end wall 16 extends a bottom tab 28 foldable on score line 29 and having a tapered side 30, and further having at its base a pair of indentations 31 and 32 similar to those of the bottom 21 and constituting tongue portions 33 and 34. The end wall 15 has a similar bottom tab 35 foldable on score line 36 and having a tapered side 36^a, and also having a pair of indentations 37 and 37^a constituting corner tongue portions 38 and 39. The side walls 17 and 18 as well as the duplicate side wall 25 are shown to have a recess 17^a, 18^a, 25^a respectively.

The blank for making the inner box member as shown in Fig. 2 comprises a rectangular body por-

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tion 40 defined by score lines 40^a, 41, 42, 43, a pair of end tabs 44 and 45, a pair of side tabs 46 and 47 constituting primary tabs from each of which extend a pair of secondary tabs 48, 49, and 50, 51 respectively, the secondary tabs being defined by score lines 52, 53 and 54, 55 respectively. The side or primary tab 46 has two relatively wide recesses 56 whereby there is formed a wide tongue portion 57 foldable on a score line 58, this tongue portion having a width w_1 at its base which is narrower than the width w_2 at its end. The primary tab 46 is thereby formed with a pair of projections 46^a and 46^b. Similarly the side or primary tab 47 has recesses 59 whereby there is formed a tongue portion 60 foldable on score line 61, the tongue portion having a width w_3 at its base which is narrower than the width w_4 at its end.

The secondary tabs 48, 49 and 50, 51 have a wide base portion 48^a, 49^a and 50^a, 51^a respectively and a narrow tongue-like end portion 48^b, 49^b, 50^b, 51^b respectively, each of which has a V-shaped notch 48^c, 49^c, 50^c, 51^c respectively.

In order to constitute the finished article as shown in Figs. 10, 11, 12 and 13, the blanks of Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 representing the outer and the inner box member respectively can be folded in the manner of Figs. 3 to 9 illustrating intermediate stages of folding or assembly.

The outer box member O (see Figs. 3, 4 and 5) is formed from its Fig. 1 blank by folding inwardly on score lines 11, 12, 13, 14 and gluing or otherwise interconnecting the tab 19 with a corresponding end portion 19^a of end wall 15 to establish the rectangular inter-relationship of the walls, then folding the bottom tabs 28 and 35 inwardly on score lines 29 and 36, and then folding the bottom portion 21 inwardly on score line 22 and over the folded bottom tabs 28 and 35, while folding the duplicate side wall 25 on score line 27 and inserting it into the interior of the thus formed box member in such a manner that it will come into face-to-face relationship and in substantial registry with the inner face of the side wall 17. An L-shaped bottom opening will thus be formed in each corner of the outer box member O thus produced.

The inner box member I (see Figs. 6, 7 and 8) is formed from its Fig. 2 blank by first folding the end tabs 44 and 45 on score lines 42 and 43^a, then folding the side tabs 46 and 47 on score lines 43 and 41 respectively, and then folding the secondary tabs 48, 50 and 49, 51 on score lines 52, 54 and 53, 55 respectively, all folds being inwardly. Thus the tongue portions 48^b and 50^b will enclose and overlie the end tab 44 and may be interlocked by means of inter-engagement of their notches 48^c and 50^c (see Figs. 6 and 8). Similarly the tongue portions 49^b and 51^b will enclose and overlie the end tab 45 and may be interlocked by means of inter-engagement of their notches 49^c and 51^c. In this way there are also formed vertical corner extensions or legs G upon the inner box member I. The legs G of the inner member have L-shaped cross-sections and fit into the corresponding L-shaped bottom openings L of the outer member O when both members are assembled by telescoping the one into the other in the manner and to the extent shown in Fig. 11 or perspective shown in Fig. 13. In this relative position the two box members constitute a toy bed, since the legs G are held with sufficient friction in the openings L.

Fig. 13 moreover shows in dot-and-dash an initial position of the inner box member I while

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being placed into the outer box member O. Fig. 10 shows the relative position of two box members O and I just prior to the entry of the legs G into the openings L.

Fig. 12 illustrates the use of the box members O and I when assembled to represent a container. Fig. 12 must be inverted and the inner box member must be telescoped further into the outer box member in order to push the legs G through the openings L so that the parts may assume the aspect of Fig. 13 representing the toy bed.

It has been noted above that the width B at the base of the tongue portions 24 is smaller than the width P of an intermediate portion thereof. This configuration or constriction at the base of these tongue portions facilitates or encourages a slight downward deflection of these tongue portions about the base as and when the legs G are pushed or forced into and through the L-shaped openings L (see Figs. 10 to 13). In this way the passageway for the legs assumes a one-way characteristic in that added friction between the tongue portions and the legs is set up and resists a withdrawal of the legs from these openings. This frictional locking effect is sufficient to hold the box members in place with respect to each other once the conversion of the container into a toy bed has been effected.

I claim:

1. A container comprising an outer box member having a bottom provided with corner apertures, a pair of side walls, and a pair of end walls, an inner box member to fit into said outer member and having corner extensions coextensive with the respective corner edges at the free ends thereof, said extensions registering with said bottom apertures of the outer member, said container being convertible into a toy representing a toy bed when said inner box member is pushed sufficiently far into the outer box member to have said extensions pass through and extend outwardly from the bottom of said outer member to represent downwardly extending legs of said toy bed adapted to rest on a base in which the bottom of the inner member represents the horizontal plane of the bed spaced from a base by said legs and wall portions of the outer member extending upwardly beyond said horizontal plane to represent the confines of the bed.

2. A container according to claim 1, in which the corner extensions of said inner member are of L-shaped cross-section, and the bottom apertures of the outer member are of substantially corresponding shape.

3. A container according to claim 1, in which the corner extensions of said inner member are of L-shaped cross-section, and the bottom apertures of the outer member of substantially corresponding shape being defined by tongued portions constituting the corner portions of the bottom of said outer member.

4. A container according to claim 1, in which said outer member is folded from a blank comprising a body portion having four transverse folding lines defining a pair of side walls, a pair of end walls, and a connecting tab at one end of said body portion whereby when said body portion is folded said walls assume right-angle relationship with one another and whereby the ends of said body portion are interconnected through said connecting tab, a substantially rectangular bottom portion extending from one side wall and foldable along the bottom edge of the side wall, and a duplicate side wall portion extending from the free end of said bottom portion

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substantially symmetrically to one side wall and foldable with respect to said bottom portion in a manner to come face to face with the inner face of one side wall when the bottom assumes right-angle relationship with said walls, said bottom portion having corner indentations forming said bottom apertures.

5. A container according to claim 1, in which said outer member is folded from a blank comprising a body portion having four transverse folding lines defining said side walls and said end walls and a connecting tab at one end of the body portion and whereby said walls when the body portion is folded assume right-angle relationship with one another and whereby the ends of said body portion are interconnected through said connecting tab, a substantially rectangular bottom portion extending from one side wall and foldable along the bottom edge thereof, a duplicate side wall extending from the free end of said bottom portion substantially symmetrically to said one side wall and foldable with respect to said bottom portion to come face to face with the inner face of said one side wall when the bottom portion assumes rectangular relationship with said walls, a bottom tab extending from each end wall and foldable inwardly so as to overlie and to be defined by said bottom portion, said bottom portion and said bottom tabs having corner indentations registering to form said bottom apertures.

6. A container according to claim 1, in which said outer member is folded from a blank comprising a body portion having four transverse folding lines defining said side walls and said end walls and a connecting tab at one end of the body portion, and whereby said walls when the body portion is folded assume right-angle relationship with one another and whereby the ends of said body portion are interconnected through said connecting tab, a substantially rectangular bottom portion extending from one side wall and foldable along the bottom edge thereof, a duplicate side wall extending from said bottom portion symmetrically to said one side wall and foldable with respect to said bottom portion to come face to face with the inner face of said one side wall when the bottom portion assumes rectangular relationship with said walls, said bottom portion having indentations forming tongue-like corner portions.

7. A container according to claim 1, in which said outer member is folded from a blank comprising a body portion having four transverse folding lines defining said side walls and said end walls and a connecting tab at one end of the body portion, whereby said walls when the body portion is folded assume right-angle relationship with one another and whereby the ends of said body portion are interconnected through said connecting tab, a substantially rectangular bottom portion extending from one side wall and foldable along the bottom edge thereof, a duplicate side wall extending from said bottom portion symmetrically to said one side wall and foldable with respect to said bottom portion to come face to face with the inner face of said one side wall when the bottom portion assumes rectangular relationship with said walls, said bottom portion having corner indentations forming tongue-like corner portions having a base narrower than the intermediate portion of each tongue.

8. A container according to claim 1, in which

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said inner member is folded from a blank comprising a rectangular body portion having an end tab foldable inwardly at each end of the body portion, a primary tab extending from each side of the body portion and foldable inwardly along that side and having a pair of symmetrically disposed slots each of which extends from one side edge of the primary tab substantially obliquely to an end point spaced from the base of the tab which slots and their end points define and subdivide the primary tab into a pair of projections and an intermediate tongue portion flanked by said projections, which tongue portion has a base line extending between and defined by said end points and has a free end width substantially equal to and defined by the basic width of said primary tab and therefore wider than its base as defined by the length of said base line, which intermediate tongue portion is foldable inwardly about its base line, a secondary tab extending from each side and from each of said projections of said primary tabs and also extending beyond the adjacent end of said body portion, a pair of said secondary tabs being foldable inwardly on a line at right angles to the folding line of their respective primary tabs whereby said projections with said secondary tabs constitute said legs, each secondary tab having means for interconnecting a pair of associated secondary tabs over an associated end tab of said body portion.

9. A container according to claim 1, in which said inner member is folded from a blank comprising a rectangular body portion having an end tab foldable inwardly at each end of the body portion, a primary tab extending from each side of the body portion and foldable inwardly along that side and having a pair of symmetrically disposed slots each of which extends from one side edge of the primary tab substantially obliquely to an end point spaced from the base of the tab which slots and their end points define and subdivide the primary tab into a pair of projections and an intermediate tongue portion flanked by said projections, which tongue portion has a base line extending between and defined by said end points and has a free end width substantially equal to and defined by the basic width of said primary tab and therefore wider than its base as defined by the length of said base line, which intermediate tongue portion is foldable inwardly about its base line, a secondary tab extending from each side and from each of said projections of said primary tabs and also extending beyond the adjacent end of said body portion, said secondary tab being foldable inwardly on a line at right angles to the folding line of its respective primary tab whereby said projections with said secondary tabs constitute said legs, each secondary tab having a tongue-like extension whereby a pair of associated secondary tabs are interlockable over an associated adjacent end tab.

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