J. E. & L. C. HOOD.

BIDDING BOX.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 22, 1908.

908,263.

Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

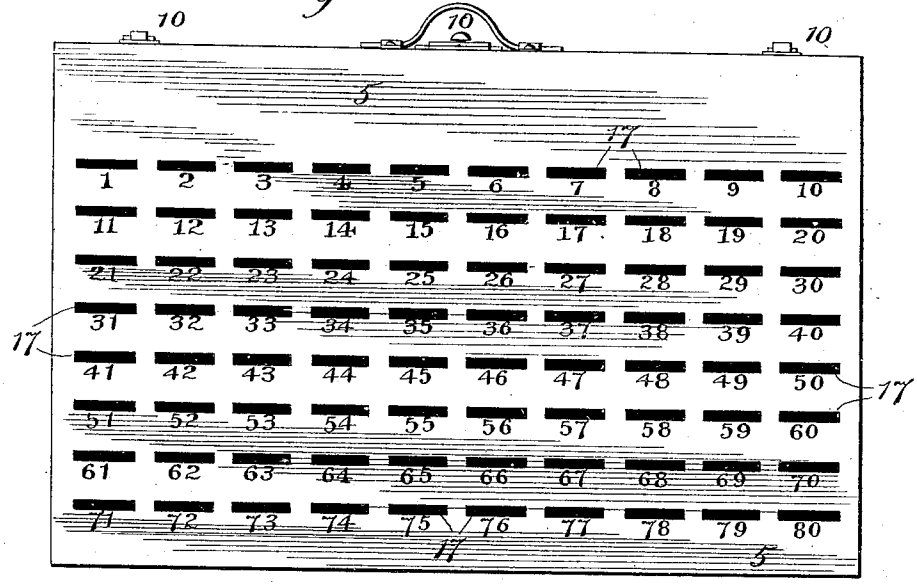
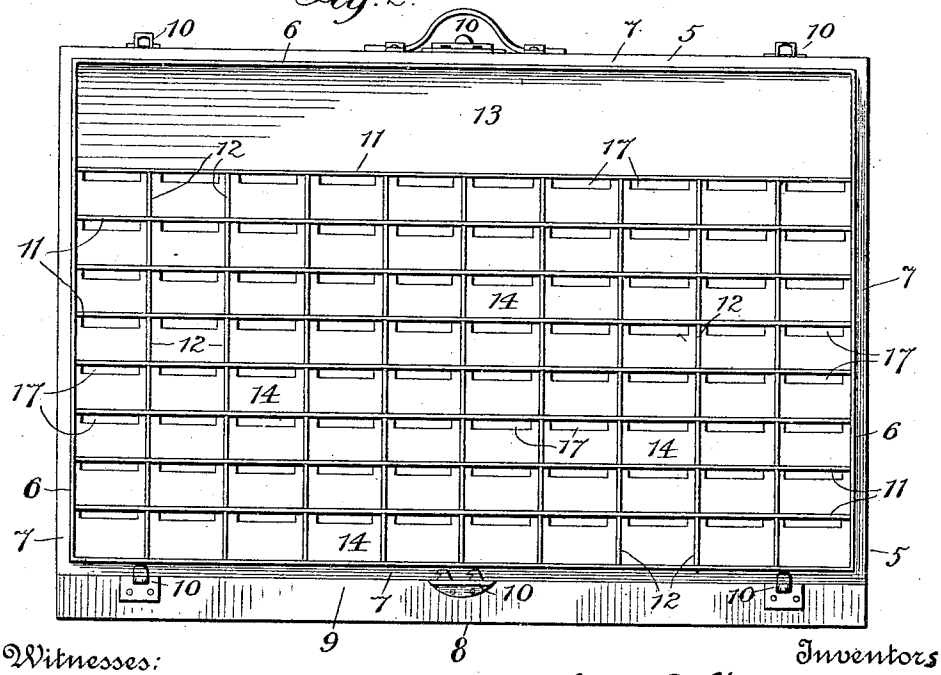


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

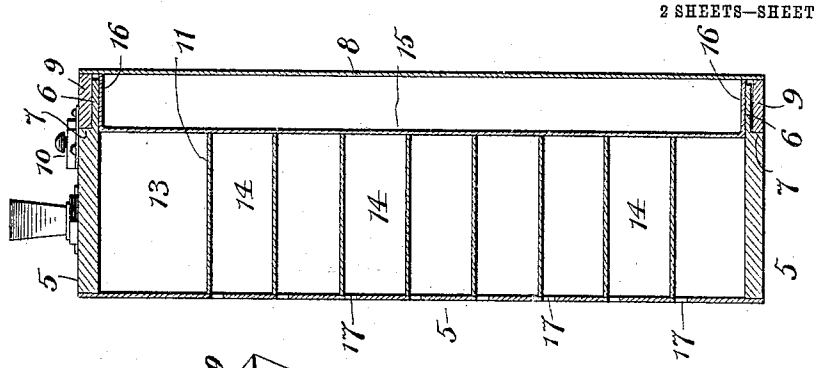
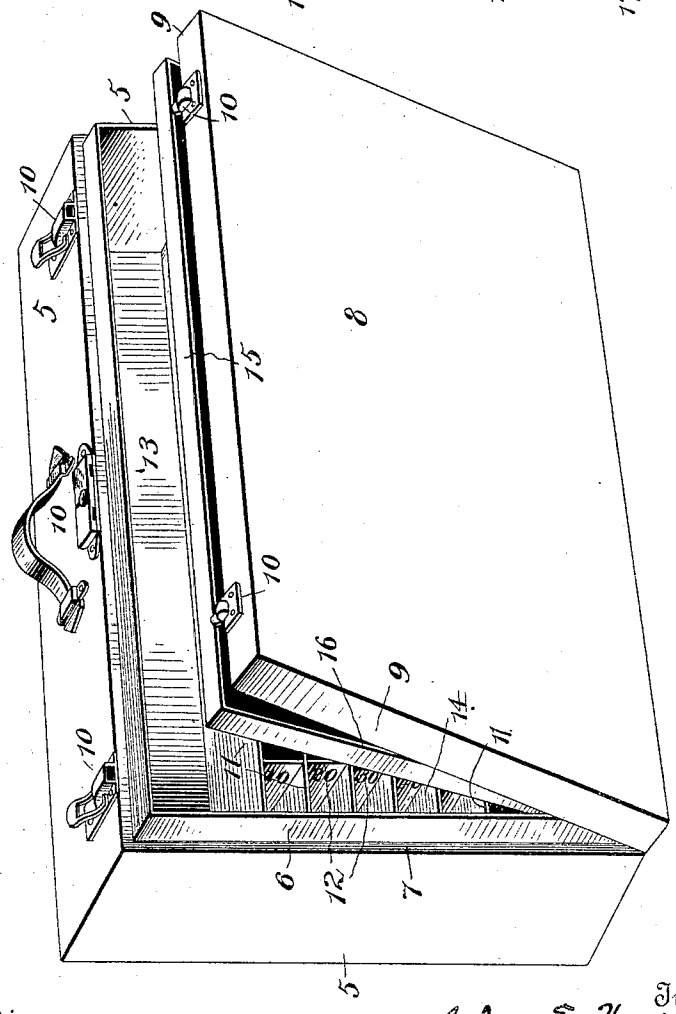


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BIDDING-BOX.

No. 908,263. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

Application filed August 22, 1908. Serial No. 449,816.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN E. HOOD and LOUIE C. HOOD, citizens of the United States, residing at Sparta, in the county of Randolph and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bidding-Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention provides a receptacle having receiving-compartments therein with a separate opening leading to every one, the compartments being arranged to receive bidding cards, tickets, blanks, or the like, bearing designations corresponding to the different designations of the respective openings to the compartments. The bidding-box of this invention for this purpose includes an outer casing forming the box proper, wherein are contained a number of separate compartments, openings to the compartments being formed in the front of the box. Included within the box is also a larger compartment at the top for storage purposes. The compartments are formed by divisional partitions, and are closed at the back by a removable tray-like member, which may be easily lifted out to afford access to the compartments at the back. The tray is covered and held in place by the back of the box, which is hinged and provided with fastening means which are arranged to facilitate opening and closing of the box.

The box is more particularly designed for the reception of bids in a system of selling goods in which articles are bid for somewhat in the same manner as at a verbal auction sale, except that the bidding period usually extends over a longer time, and the bids, instead of being announced vocally, are written upon cards, tickets, blanks, or the like, bearing designations corresponding to those of the articles upon which bids are made, the respective compartments of the box being intended to receive bids with article-indicating designations corresponding to the designations of the openings to the compartments.

When read in connection with the description herein, the details of construction and arrangements of parts contemplated by this invention will be apparent from the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, wherein an embodiment of the invention is disclosed, for purposes of illustration.

Like reference-characters refer to corresponding parts in the several views of the drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the box; Fig. 2 is an interior view thereof, looking from back to front; Fig. 3 is a perspective view, the box being open and the tray being partially removed from its closed position; and Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view.

The box comprises a tray-like portion 5, having a flange 6 extending from its edge 7, and a lid or closure 8 hinged thereto, the lid forming the rear side of the box and having a rim 9 arranged to normally abut against edge 7 and to envelop flange 6, whereby a comparatively tight joint is formed between the tray-like portion and the lid when the box is closed. Any suitable fastening means 10 are provided to keep the box normally closed.

Disposed within the tray-like portion and extending from end to end thereof are regularly-arranged partitions 11, and extending from the top one of these partitions to the bottom of the box are upright or transverse partitions 12, the partitions engaging the front side of the tray-like portion and extending to or nearly to edge 7, thereby forming a comparatively large compartment 13 at the top and a plurality of smaller compartments 14 of similar characteristics regularly arranged throughout the remaining interior of the tray-like portion.

To close the compartments at the back, a removable tray or cover 15 is arranged to seat against the back edges of the partitions, and this tray is formed with a rim 16 sufficiently wide to be engaged by lid 8 when the box is closed, whereby the tray is held firmly in place to close the compartments.

In the front face of the box are formed a plurality of openings 17, one leading to and being disposed near the top of every one of the smaller compartments 14 of the box. These openings are designed by a series of differentiating characters, such as 1, 2, 3, etc.

When in use for bidding purposes, the box is closed and locked and set up in a place of convenient access to the front side having the openings. The articles to be bid on bear designations corresponding to those of the openings and to those of bidding tickets, blanks, or the like, furnished for use therewith. The bid on any particu-

lar article is made on a ticket, blank, or the like, bearing the same designation as the article, and it is then inserted into the box through an opening bearing the same designation. At any time during the bidding period, or at the end thereof, the box is opened, and the bids will be found sorted in the several compartments, all bids on different articles being in compartments whose openings bear designations corresponding to the designations of the respective articles. It will thus be seen that it will be unnecessary to sort the bids on the respective articles, but that those on every article will be found together and the highest bid can be readily ascertained.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A bidding-box having a closure on one side and comprising partitions dividing the interior thereof into compartments open on the closure side of the box, there being openings to the compartments on the side of the box opposite to the closure, and a member arranged to close the sides of the compartments opposite to the openings and to be held in closed position by said closure.

2. A bidding-box having a plurality of compartments therein with openings on one side leading thereto, and comprising a hinged side opposite to that with the openings, and a member arranged to normally close the compartments opposite to the openings thereto and having a flange arranged to be engaged by the hinged side whereby the member is held in position to close the compartments.

3. A bidding box formed with compartments therein having bid-receiving orifices leading thereto, and comprising a removable member forming the walls of the compartments on one side, and a closure arranged to hold said member in position.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN E. HOOD.
LOUIE C. HOOD.

Witnesses:
WILLIAM E. RICKMAN,
FRANK LINDSAY.