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COLLAPSIBLE CARTON ADAPTED FOR POTTED PLANTS

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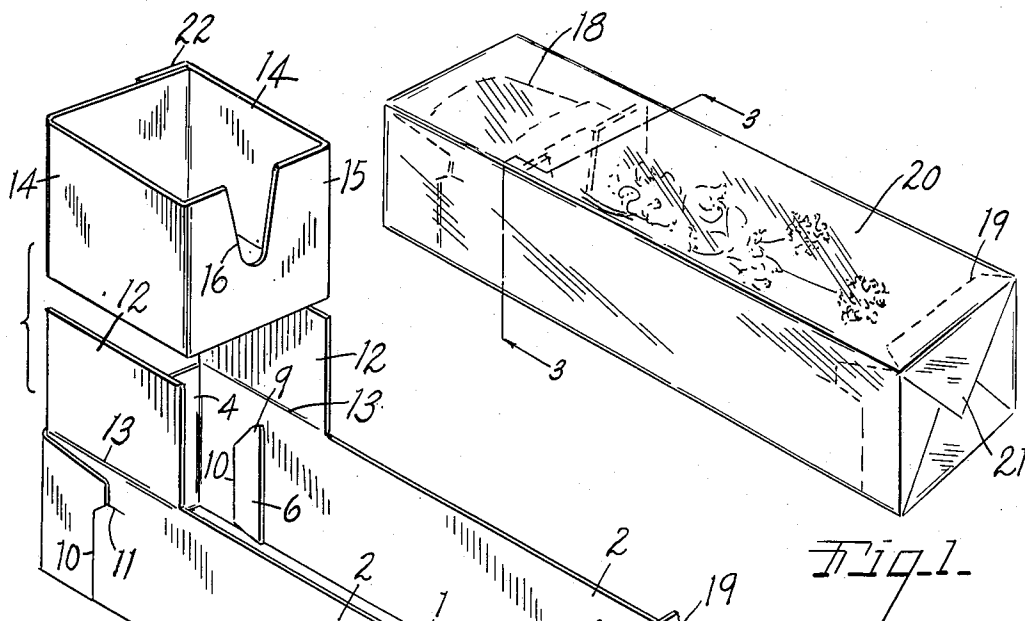


Fig. 2

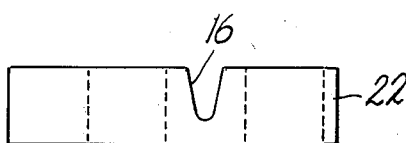


Fig. 4

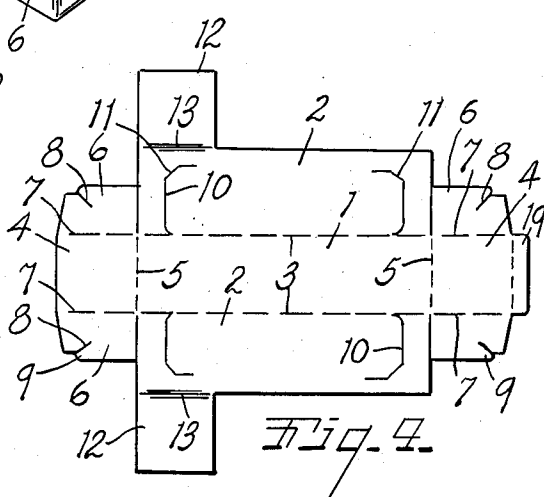
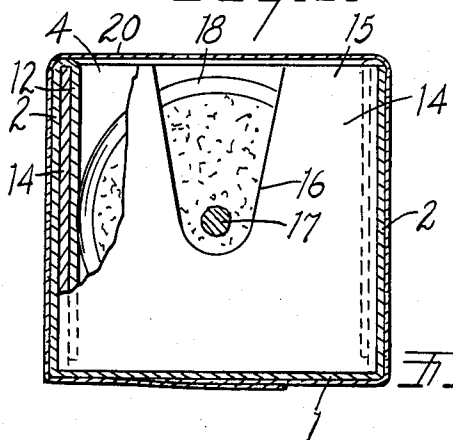


Fig. 6

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10 Claims. (Cl. 47—37)

This invention relates to a collapsible carton adapted for 15 potted plants.

The main objects of this invention are:

First, to provide a carton for potted and other growing plants which serves as an effective support and protection therefor and also constitutes a display package. 20

Second, to provide a carton adapted for packaging plants and the like which enables the rapid packaging and provides an effective support for the plant for handling and shipment.

Third, to provide a carton having these advantages which is very simple and economical and may be quickly set up from knocked down or collapsed form. 25

Objects relating to structural details will appear from the description to follow. The invention is defined in the claims. A structure which embodies the features of the invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which: 30

Fig. 1 is a top perspective view of a carton embodying my invention with a plant conventionally shown therein.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the carton and the holder 35 associated therewith in disassembled relation and illustrating one of the steps in assembly.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the carton blank.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the blank from which the holder 40 member is formed.

The embodiment of my invention illustrated is primarily designed as a carton or package for potted or balled plants. The structure comprises a bottom 1 having side walls 2, 2 hingedly connected thereto at 3 and end walls 4 hingedly connected thereto at 5. The end walls have corner flap extension 6 hingedly connected thereto at 7. These corner flaps have slits 8 extending from their side edges, providing upwardly facing tongues 9. The side walls have slits 10 through which the edges of the corner flaps may be inserted with the tongues 9 engaging the upper edges of the slits of the angled portions 11 of the slits as is shown in Fig. 2. 45

The side walls have rectangular holder engaging flaps 12 hingedly connected to their upper edges at 13. The holder designated generally by the numeral 14 is in the form of a rectangular tube and disposed in upright position between the side walls so that the flaps 12 of the side walls may be folded downwardly into the holder over the upper edges of the side walls thereof. Flaps 12 are of such dimensions as to fit within the holder, supporting it against longitudinal movement within the carton. The holder serves as a locking or retaining means for the adjacent corner flaps, which is a desirable feature as the potted or balled plants are normally of considerable weight. 50

The inner wall 15 of the holder has a notch-like recess 16 opening at the upper edge of the wall to receive the stem of the plant indicated at 17 in Fig. 1 when the pot 18 of the plant is disposed horizontally within the holder. The end wall opposite the holder is provided with a wrapper supporting flap 19. With the plant in position 55

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within the carton, the carton is provided with a wrapper 20, a transparent wrapper being illustrated and heat-sealed as indicated at 21. The holder is formed of a blank suitably scored to form the side walls and to provide a flap 22 at one end, which is lapped upon the adjacent sidewall. This may, if desired, be adhesively secured, although that is not commonly required or deemed necessary.

The carton may be quickly set up or erected to receive the plant and the holders serve to reinforce the walls so that they may be formed of comparatively light stock and at the same time afford effective protection for the packaged plant. 60

I have illustrated and described my invention in a highly practical embodiment thereof. I have not attempted to illustrate or describe other embodiments or adaptations as it is believed that this disclosure will enable those skilled in the art to embody or adapt my invention as may be desired.

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

1. A collapsible carton adapted for potted plants comprising a bottom, side and end walls hingedly connected thereto, the end walls having corner flaps provided with tongues engaged within slits provided therefor in the side walls for holding the walls in erected position, the side walls having at one end thereof opposed rectangular holder-engaging flaps hingedly connected to their upper edges, and an open topped rectangular tubular holder member disposed within the erected walls adjacent the end wall of the carton at the end of the carton having said holder engaging flaps and in spaced relation from the opposite end wall of the carton, the holder engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder, said holder being of dimensions to be fittingly received within the erected walls and sidewise supportingly engage the said tongues at the end of the carton having the holder engaging flaps, said holder flaps being of such dimension that oppositely disposed edges thereof coact with the end walls of the holder to support the same against endwise shifting movement, the outer end wall of the holder so supported by the holder flaps being disposed adjacent and reinforcing the end wall of the carton at the end of the carton having the holder engaging flaps, the inner end wall of the holder having an opening extending from its upper edge to receive the stem of a potted plant when the pot thereof is disposed horizontally within the holder. 65

2. A carton adapted for potted plants comprising a bottom, side and end walls, the side walls having at one end thereof opposed rectangular holder-engaging flaps hingedly connected to their upper edges, and an open topped rectangular tubular holder member disposed within the walls adjacent the end wall of the carton at the end of the carton having said holder engaging flaps, the holder engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder, said holder flaps being of such dimension that oppositely disposed edges thereof coact with the end walls of the holder to support the same against endwise shifting movement, the outer end wall of the holder so supported by the holder flaps being disposed adjacent and reinforcing the end wall of the carton at the end of the carton having the holder engaging flaps, the inner end wall of the holder having an opening extending from its upper edge to receive the stem of a potted plant when the pot thereof is disposed horizontally within the holder. 70

3. A collapsible carton adapted for plants comprising a bottom, side and end walls hingedly connected thereto, the end walls having corner flaps provided with tongues engaged within slits provided therefor in the side walls for holding the walls in erected position, the side walls having at one end thereof opposed holder-engaging flaps hingedly connected to their upper edges, and an open topped holder member disposed within the walls adja-

cent the end wall of the carton at the end of the carton having said holder engaging flaps, the holder engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder, said holder being of dimensions to be fittingly received within the erected walls and sidewise supportingly engage the said tongues at the end of the carton having the holder engaging flaps, the inner wall of the holder having an upwardly facing opening extending from its upper edge to receive the stem of a plant when the pot thereof is disposed horizontally within the holder.

4. A collapsible carton adapted for plants comprising a bottom, side and end walls, the side walls having opposed holder-engaging flaps hingedly connected to their upper edges, and an open topped holder member provided with side and end walls disposed within the walls between said holder engaging flaps, the holder-engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder over the upper edges of the side walls of the holder and into position to be engaged by the inner sides of the end walls of the holder to limit movement of the holder in the carton endwise thereof, one end wall of the holder being spaced from one of the end walls of the carton and having an upwardly facing opening extending from its upper edge to receive the stem of a plant when the pot thereof is disposed horizontally within the holder.

5. A packaging carton assembly comprising a bottom and two pairs of opposed walls, one pair of opposed walls having opposed rectangular holder-engaging flaps at one end thereof extending from their upper edges, and an open topped rectangular tubular holder having one pair of opposed walls disposed between and parallel to the opposed walls of the carton having the said holder-engaging flaps, the holder-engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder and being of such dimension that oppositely disposed edges thereof coast with the other pair of opposed walls of the holder to support the same against movement endwise of the walls having the holder engaging flaps, one of the opposed walls of the last mentioned opposed walls of the holder being spaced from one of the opposed walls of the other pair of spaced walls of the carton and having an opening extending from its upper edge to receive the stem of a plant disposed within the holder.

6. A packaging carton assembly comprising a bottom and two pairs of opposed walls, one pair of opposed walls having opposed rectangular holder-engaging flaps at one end thereof extending from their upper edges, and an open topped rectangular tubular holder having one pair of opposed walls disposed between and parallel to the opposed walls of the carton having the said holder-engaging flaps, the holder-engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder and being of such dimension that oppositely disposed edges thereof coast with the other pair of opposed walls of the holder to support the same against endwise shifting movement, the vertical dimension of the walls of the holder over which said holder engaging flaps are folded approximating that of the walls from which the holder engaging flaps extend.

7. A packaging carton assembly comprising a bottom and walls including opposed walls having opposed holder-engaging flaps extending from their upper edges, and a tube-like holder open at the top disposed between the walls having the said holder-engaging flaps, the holder-engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder to retain it within the walls and against shifting movement endwise of said opposed walls, one of the walls of the holder being disposed transverse to said opposed

walls of the carton and in spaced relation from the opposite ends of the opposed walls and having an opening extending from its upper edge to receive the stem of a plant disposed within the holder.

8. A packaging carton assembly comprising a bottom and walls including opposed walls having opposed holder-engaging flaps extending from their upper edges, and a tube-like holder open at the top disposed between the walls having the said holder engaging flaps, the holder engaging flaps being folded downwardly within the holder to retain it within the walls and against shifting movement endwise of said opposed walls, one of the walls of the holder being disposed transverse to said opposed walls of the carton and in spaced relation from opposite ends of said opposed walls, the vertical dimension of the holder approximating that of the opposed walls of the carton.

9. A packaging carton assembly comprising a carton having a bottom and walls connected thereto and disposed in rectangular form and connected at their ends, two opposed walls having holder flaps extending from their upper edges, and a holder open at the top and having walls disposed in rectangular form and connected at their ends, the holder being disposed within the carton with two opposed walls of the holder in parallel relation to and adjacent the opposed walls of the carton having the holder engaging flaps, the height of said opposed walls of the holder approximating that of said opposed walls of the carton, the holder flaps being folded over the upper edges of said opposed walls of the holder and downwardly into the holder to retain the holder in the carton, the holder flaps when folded into the holder having oppositely disposed edges thereof disposed adjacent the walls of the other opposed walls of the holder to support the holder against movement endwise of said opposed walls of the carton.

10. A packaging carton assembly comprising a bottom, opposed walls and walls connecting the opposed walls at the ends thereof, the opposed walls having holder flaps extending from their upper edges, a holder provided with spaced members, and means connecting said spaced members, the spaced members being parallel to and adjacent said opposed walls and approximating the height of said opposed walls, said holder flaps being folded over the upper edges of the spaced members and downwardly between the same to retain the holder against vertical displacement relative to said opposed walls, certain of the edges of the holder flaps when the holder flaps are folded downwardly between the spaced members of the holder being disposed adjacent said connecting means to limit movement of the holder endwise of said opposed walls, said connecting means including a member spaced from said connecting walls for said opposed walls and having an opening therethrough for receiving a portion of an article therein with the article disposed on opposite sides of said member and between said opposed walls.

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