May 15, 1962 J. J. CURRAN 3,034,682

CARRIER CARTON

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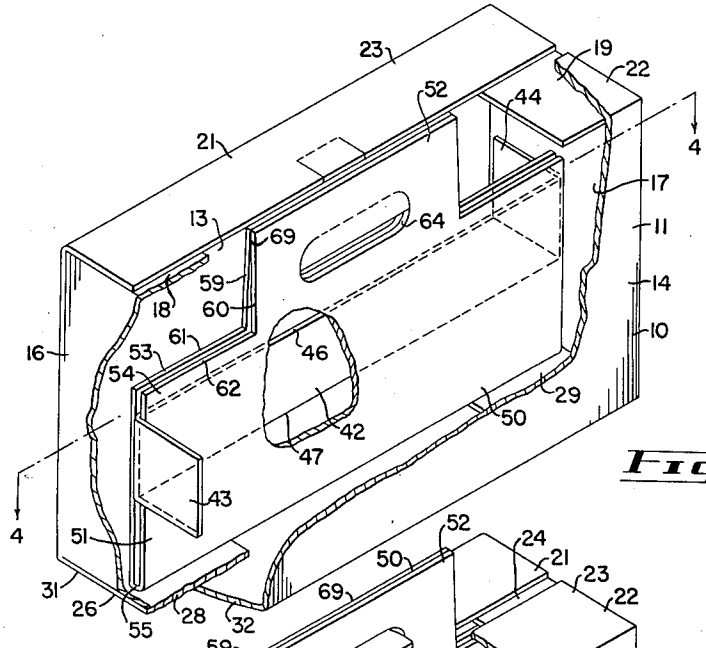



Fig. 1

Fig. 2

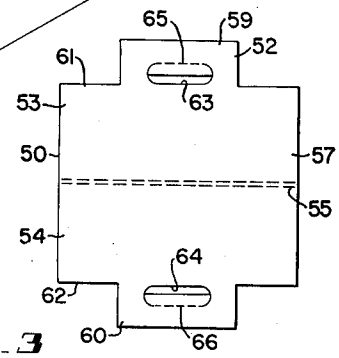



Fig. 3

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CARRIER CARTON

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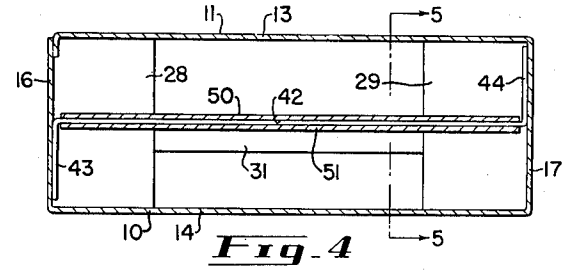



Fig. 4

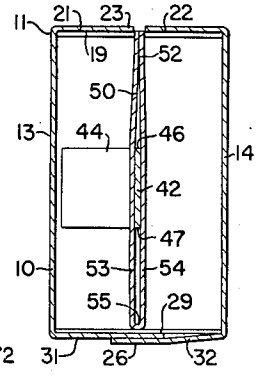



Fig. 5

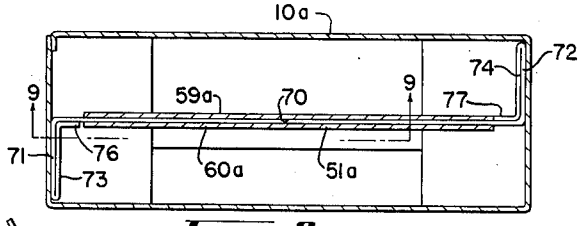



Fig. 8

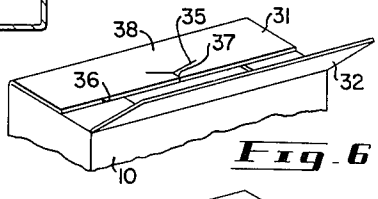



Fig. 6

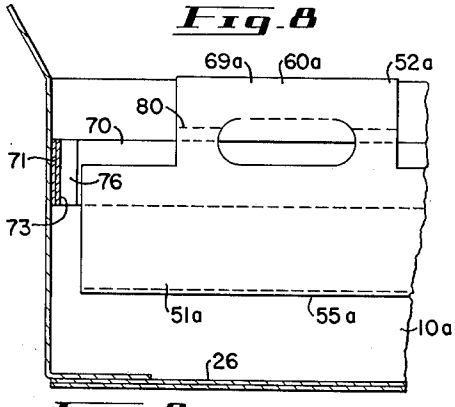



Fig. 9

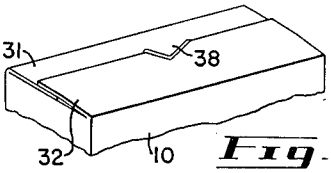



Fig. 7

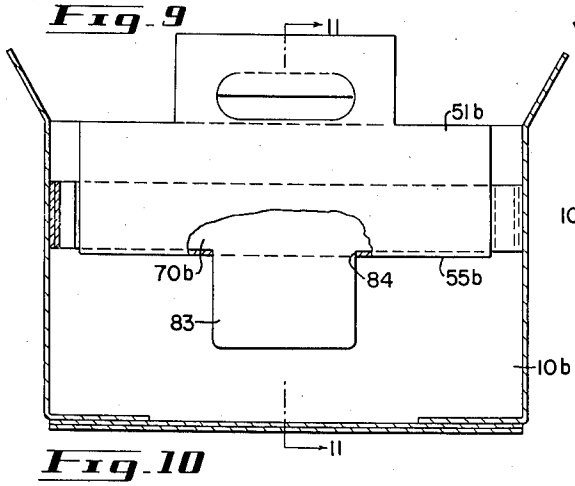



Fig. 10

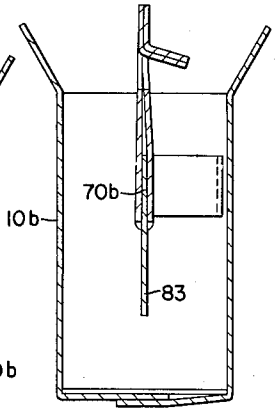



Fig. 11

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CARRIER CARTON

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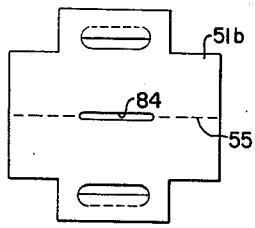



Fig. 12

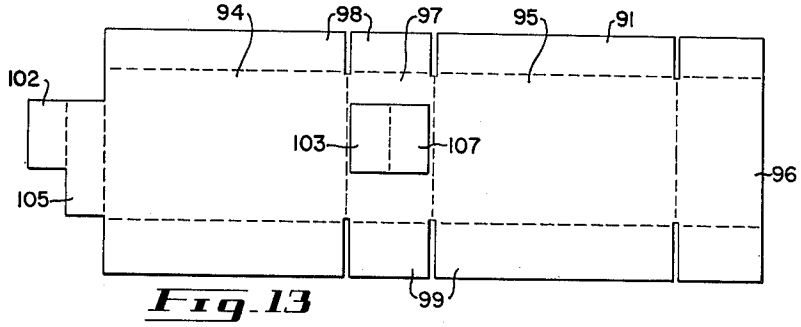



Fig. 13

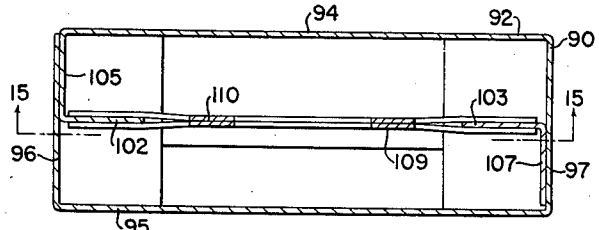



Fig. 14

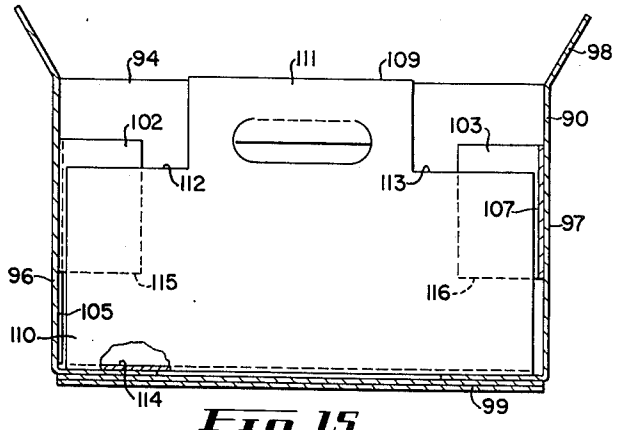



Fig. 15

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CARRIER CARTON

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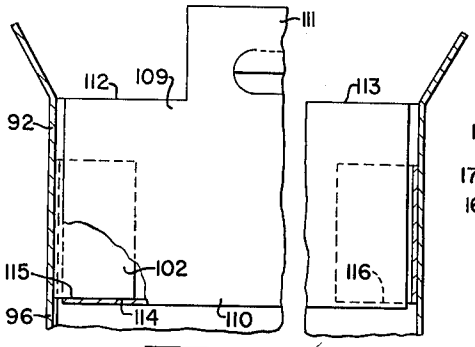



Fig. 16

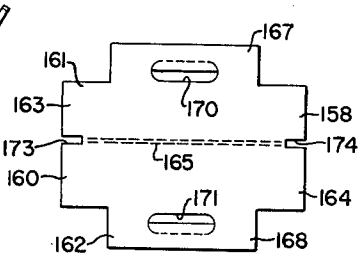



Fig. 17

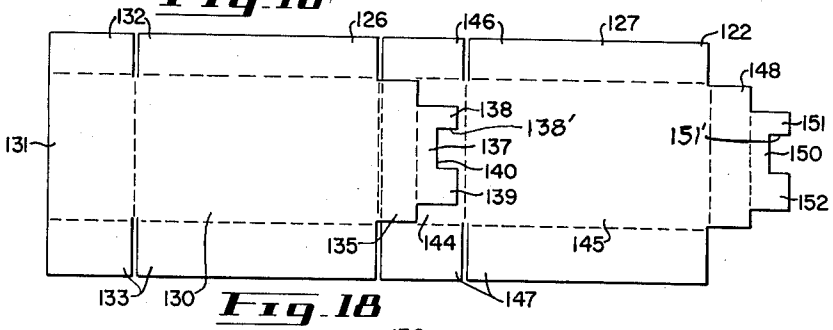



Fig. 18

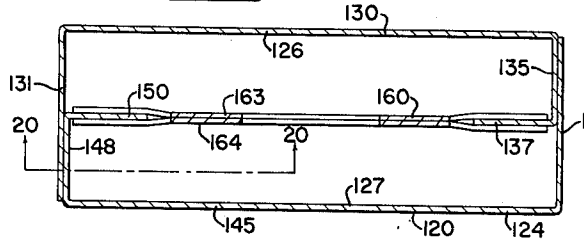



Fig. 19

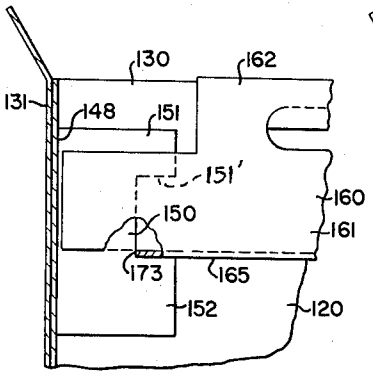



Fig. 20

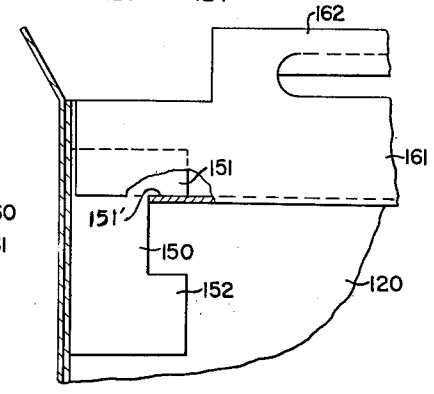



Fig. 21

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United States Patent Office 3,034,682 Patented May 15, 1962



3,034,682

# CARRIER CARTON

John James Curran, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, assignor, by mesne assignments, to Unipak Cartons Ltd., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Filed Oct. 17, 1960, Ser. No. 63,043
Claims priority, application Canada Dec. 22, 1959
11 Claims. (Cl. 220—105)

This invention relates to a carrier carton for bottles and the like.

An object of the present invention is the provision of a carrier carton having a stronger handle construction than the carrier cartons on the market without increasing the cost thereof. In fact, this stronger handle construction may be produced at lower cost than the handle and partition constructions of the carton in common use today.

Another object is the provision of an improved carrier carton which requires less material than the carrier cartons on the market.

Accordingly, the present invention relates to a carton having a wall structure including end walls, side walls, and a bottom; an interior assembly located within the carton; said assembly including a handle member movable upwardly from a first retracted position from within the carton to a second position where a portion thereof is projected for carrying purposes, said handle constituting a longitudinal partition dividing the interior of the carton into a plurality of adjacent rows of article receiving compartments; and load bearing means fixed to said wall structure for limiting the amount of movement of said handle member and spaced a predetermined distance from said bottom; both said handle and said means extending along the longitudinal axis of the carton; said handle member embracing said load bearing means and being slidable relative thereto.

The invention is illustrated, by way of example, in the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of one form of enclosed carton with part of the casing broken away to show the handle completely within said casing;

FIGURE 2 is a view similar to FIGURE 1 but showing the handle projecting from the top of the closed casing for carrying purposes;

FIGURE 3 is a reduced flat layout of the handle member for the carton of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 is a horizontal section through the carton taken substantially on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 5 is a vertical section taken on the line 5—5 of FIGURE 4;

FIGURE 6 is a reduced perspective view of the bottom of the carrier carton, said bottom being only partly closed;

FIGURE 7 is a view similar to FIGURE 6, but showing the carton bottom completely closed;

FIGURE 8 is a view similar to FIGURE 4 illustrating a slight modification of the carton of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 9 is a vertical section taken on the line 9—9 of FIGURE 8;

FIGURE 10 is a vertical section similar to FIGURE 9 illustrating a variation of the carton of the latter figure;

FIGURE 11 is a vertical section taken on the line 11—11 of FIGURE 10;

FIGURE 12 is a flat layout of the handle member blank for the carton of FIGURE 10;

FIGURE 13 is a flat layout of the casing blank for an alternative form of a carrier carton;

FIGURE 14 is a view similar to FIGURE 4 illustrating the carton of which the casing blank of FIGURE 13 forms part;

FIGURE 15 is a vertical section taken on the line 15—15 of FIGURE 14, showing the handle in its inner position;



FIGURE 16 is a fragmentary view similar to FIGURE 15 showing the handle in its upper or raised position;

FIGURE 17 is a flat layout of the handle member blank for another alternative form of carrier carton;

FIGURE 18 is a flat layout of the casing blank for said other alternative carton;

FIGURE 19 is a view similar to FIGURE 4 of said other alternative form;

FIGURE 20 is a fragmentary vertical section taken on the line 20—20 of FIGURE 19, illustrating the handle member in its inner position; and

FIGURE 21 is a view similar to FIGURE 20 but showing the handle member in its upper or outer position.

Although the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings as being applied to an enclosed carton, i.e. one incorporating a top closure constituted by a plurality of top flaps, it will be appreciated that it is equally applicable to an open-topped carton.

Referring to FIGURES 1 to 7 of the drawings, **10** is one form of carrier carton which includes a casing **11** of substantially standard construction. This casing has a wall structure constituted by opposed side walls **13** and **14**, and opposed end walls **16** and **17**. Top end flaps **18** and **19** are secured to the upper edges of end walls **16** and **17**, and top side flaps **21** and **22** are secured to the upper edges of side walls **13** and **14**, all of said top flaps forming a top closure. In order to close casing **11**, flaps **18**, **19**, **21** and **22** are folded inwardly and glued or otherwise secured to each other in the usual manner to form a top **23** for the casing. Side flaps **21** and **22** are of such length that when they are folded inwardly they terminate short of each other to form a slot **24** in the casing top **23** extending longitudinally and centrally thereof.

A bottom **26** is formed in a similar manner for the casing. Bottom end flaps **28** and **29** are secured to the lower edges of end walls **16** and **17**, while bottom side flaps **31** and **32** are secured to the lower edges of side walls **13** and **14**. Flaps **28—29** and **31—32** are folded inwardly and glued or otherwise secured to each other in the usual manner to form the casing bottom **26**, all of said bottom flaps forming a bottom closure.

As the finished carton **10** is shipped in collapsed state in the customary manner for cartons of this nature, it is opened up and bottom **26** closed when it is desired to put bottles or other articles in the carton. For example, bottles are usually inserted by suitable apparatus in the carton while it is in this state. At this time, the carton is placed on a feed conveyor which directs it into the apparatus. As it is desirable to glue both the top and bottom flaps at the same time, the bottom flaps are not glued until after the bottles have been inserted in the carton. This makes it rather difficult to keep a carton in a proper upright position on the conveyor owing to the tendency of the bottom flaps to spring outwardly from their closed position after the initial folding operation.

FIGURES 6 and 7 illustrate a very simple and effective way of temporarily keeping the bottom flaps closed until after the carton has been filled. One of the bottom side flaps, in this example flap **31**, is formed with a substantially V-shaped slit **35** about midway between the ends thereof and spaced inwardly from the free marginal edge **36** of the flap. Another slit **37** extends inwardly from the free marginal edge **36**, and at right angles thereto, to slit **35** at the base of the V thereof. The area of the edge **36** between the slit **35** thus forms a small V-shaped tongue **38** in bottom flap **31** and which may be raised relative to said flaps.

Tongue **38** is used temporarily to keep the bottom flaps closed while the carton is being directed into the filling machine. Bottom side flap **31** is folded downwardly first, and then bottom side flap **32** is folded over

it and tucked under the V-shaped tongue **38**, as shown in FIGURE 7. This keeps the flaps from springing open. After the carton has been filled, bottom side flap **32** is withdrawn from beneath tongue **38**, folded over said tongue, and then the top and bottom flaps of the casing are glued and sealed in their closed positions in the usual manner.

Load bearing means is provided for carton **10**, said means being connected to end walls **16** and **17** and extending inwardly therefrom. In this form of the invention, the load bearing means comprises a bar member **42** extending longitudinally of casing **11** spaced equally from side walls **13** and **14** and having a limiting underedge **47**. This bar is formed of relatively heavy or thick material. Bar **42** is formed with securing means, constituted by tabs **43** and **44**, at its opposite ends and extending outwardly from opposite sides thereof. Tabs **43** and **44** are secured to the inner surfaces of adjacent end walls **16** and **17**, respectively, by gluing, stapling, or other means. The upper edge **46** of the load bar is spaced below casing top **23**, and its lower edge **47** is spaced above bottom **26**, as clearly shown in FIGURES 1, 2 and 5.

A handle member **50** includes a body **51** and a handle portion **52** projecting upwardly therefrom, said handle member extending longitudinally of casing **11** and embracing the load bar **42** and being slidable vertically relative thereto from a first retracted position from within the carton to a second position where the handle portion **52** is projected for carrying purposes. This body includes a pair of complementary side panel portions or sections **53** and **54** extending upwardly from a common lower edge **55**. Although the side sections **53** and **54** may be formed of separate pieces of material joined together along the common lower edge **55**, the handle body **51** is preferably formed from a single piece of material **57**, see FIGURE 3, folded longitudinally and centrally thereof to form the common lower edge **55** and side sections **53** and **54**. The handle portion **52** is preferably constructed of overlapping handle sections **59** and **60** which extend upwardly from the upper edges **61** and **62** of the body side sections **53** and **54**. These upper edges of the side section form a pair of shoulders extending longitudinally of the casing on opposite sides of handle **52**. Handle sections **59** and **60** are formed with aligned hand holes **63** and **64**. All or part of the material that is cut away for hand holes **63** and **64** is left attached to the handle sections **59** and **60** along lines **65** and **66** so that said material may be bent outwardly as shown at **67** in FIGURE 2 to act as a form of protector for fingers extending through the aligned holes **63** and **64**.

When the handle blank **57** is folded over to embrace the load bar **42**, handle sections **59** and **60** are secured together along their outer edges to form a common handle edge **69** by gluing, stapling or other means.

The depth of the handle body side sections **53** and **54** may be as desired, provided that the handle **52** is completely within casing **11** when the top **23** thereof is closed, at which time the upper edge **69** of the handle is located immediately below said top, as shown in FIGURE 1. In this example, the body side sections are of such depth that when the handle is within the carton, the common lower edge **55** of the handle body rests on the bottom **26** of the casing. This keeps handle **52** in its proper position immediately below slot **24** in the casing top. The shoulders **61** and **62** of the handle body are spaced below top **23** at this time. However, this spacing is such that when handle **52** is drawn upwardly through the top slot **24** the pair of shoulders engage the under surface of top closure **23** just as or just before the folded-over common lower edge **55** engages the limiting underedge **47** of load bar **42**. Thus, when the closed carton **10** is carried by means of handle **52**, the load thereof is transferred to said handle through shoulders **61** and **62** bearing against the undersurface of top closure **23**. If the lower edge **55** of the handle body **55** engages the load bar at this time, said bar also takes some of the load. After casing **11** has been opened, it may still be carried by means of handle **52** since the common lower edge **55** then engages the load bar so that the latter takes the entire load.



If desired, the side sections **53** and **54** of the handle body **51** may not be as deep as shown in the FIGURES 1 and 2. In this case, the common lower edge **55** of the handle body will not engage casing bottom **26** when handle **52** is in its inner position immediately beneath slot **24**. This would make it necessary to provide other means for preventing the handle from moving downwardly too far. This may be accomplished by gluing all of the handle sections **59** and **60** together so that bar **42** cannot move between these sections and therefore the handle cannot drop downwardly too far.

From FIGURE 4 it will be seen that the handle body **51** extends substantially to the end walls **16** and **17** of the casing. With this arrangement, said end walls or the tabs **43** and **44** secured thereto act as end guides for handle member **50**, to keep handle **52** aligned with the casing top slot **24** in a longitudinal direction. Load bar **42** keeps said handle properly aligned with the slot transversely of the casing.

FIGURES 8 and 9 illustrate a carrier carton **10***a* which is slightly different from carton **10**. Instead of load bar **42**, carton **10***a* includes a load bar **70** which is similar to the former but has a different tab formation at the ends thereof. The material from which bar **70** is made is folded outwardly at opposite ends of said bar to form securing tabs **71** and **72** which are connected to end walls **16** and **17** of casing **11** by glue or other suitable means. The bar material is also folded back on itself to form reinforcing sections or a further pair of end tabs **73** and **74** which overlap and are secured to the tabs **71** and **72**. The material is also folded at the inner ends of sections **73** and **74** to provide portions or spacer tabs **76** and **77** that extend along and are secured to bar **70** adjacent the ends thereof. As tabs **76** and **77** are secured to the bar, and the reinforcing sections **73** and **74** are secured to tabs **71** and **72**, the connection of the bar to the casing end walls **16** and **17** is reinforced by this construction. In other words, the actual connection of bar **76** with its securing tabs **71** and **72** is reinforced by the reinforcing section and spacer tab arrangements **73—76** and **74—77**, respectively. In this example, handle body **51***a* is a little shorter than body **51** so that it extends between tabs **76** and **77** which act as spacers or guides to keep the handle in its proper position longitudinally of the carton and to limit endwise movement of said handle member. In this example, the common lower edge **55***a* of the handle body is spaced above casing bottom **26** when handle **52***a* is in its correct inner position within the casing. In this case, the handle sections **59***a* and **60***a* are secured together from the outer handle edge **69***a* to a point generally indicated by broken line **80** in FIGURE 9. This prevents the handle from dropping downwardly too far within the casing. An advantage of this construction is that considerably less material is required for the handle member than for the handle member of FIGURE 1.

FIGURES 10 to 12 illustrate a carry carton **10***b* which is only slightly different from carton **10***a*. In this example, load bar **70***b* is formed with a relatively wide tongue **83** extending downwardly from its limiting underedge and spaced from its ends. This tongue extends downwardly through a slot **84** formed in the common lower edge **55***b* of handle body **51***b*. This slot is shown in the handle member blank illustrated in FIGURE 12. Tongue **83** slidably fits in slot **84** so that the tongue acts as a guide for the handle member as it is raised and lowered within the casing. Although this tongue has been shown in connection with a load bar similar to bar **70** of carton **10***a*, it will be understood that it may be

used with load bar 42 of carton 10 if the handle member of the latter carton is relatively shallow and similar to the handle member of carton 10*a*.

FIGURES 13 to 16 illustrate an alternative form of carrier carton 90, the main difference from the previous cartons being in the load bearing means. FIGURE 13 illustrates a blank 91 for forming casing 92 of carton 90. This blank is substantially the same as a standard casing blank. It includes side walls 94 and 95, end walls 96 and 97, top flaps 98 and bottom flaps 99. A pair of separate bar members 102 and 103 are provided. Bar member or tab 102 is integrally connected to an attachment web 105 which, in turn, is integrally connected to the free edge of side wall 94. Bar member or tab 103 is integrally connected with an attachment web 107 which is secured to the inner surface of end wall 97 by gluing or other means. When casing 92 is formed in the usual manner, attachment web 105 is secured by gluing or other means to the inner surface of end wall 96, see FIGURE 14. This secures the casing in its tabular form, and at this time load tabs 102 and 103 project inwardly from end walls 96 and 97 centrally thereof and in line with each other. A handle member 109 is provided, said member including a body 110 and handle 111 projecting upwardly therefrom, said handle member embracing the load tabs 102 and 103, see FIGURES 14 and 15. Handle member 109 may be the same as handle member 50 of carton 10, as shown. When member 109 is completely within casing 92, the shoulders 112 and 113 are spaced below the casing top, at which time the common lower edge 114 rests on the carton bottom. When the handle member is drawn upwardly with the casing open, the folded-over common lower edge 114 of said member engages the limiting underedges 115 and 116 of load tabs 102 and 103. Thus the load is taken through these tabs. When the casing is closed, shoulders 112 and 113 of the handle member abut against the lower surface of the casing top to take part or all of the load in the manner described above in connection with carton 10.

While tab 102 and attachment web 105 of carton 90 have been shown as being integrally connected to an end of casing blank 91, it will be understood that the casing blank may be a completely standard blank, in which case attachment web 105 would be separate from the blank and glued or otherwise secured to the inner surface of end wall 96 in the same manner as attachment web 107 is connected to end wall 97.

FIGURES 17 to 21 illustrate still another alternative form of carrier carton 120. This carton has a pair of separate bar members or load tabs which are similar to tabs 102 and 103 of carton 90, and which may be secured to the casing end walls in the same manner as the latter tabs, and a casing blank which is somewhat different from the standard casing blank.

Referring to FIGURE 18, 122 is a blank which forms a casing 124. This blank is made into identical sections 126 and 127. Section 126 includes side and end walls 130 and 131 standard upper and lower flaps 132 and 133 connected to the upper and lower edges thereof. End wall 131 is secured to one end of side wall 130, and an attachment web 135 is integrally connected to the opposite end of said wall. A load tab 137 is integrally connected to the free edge of web 135 and it has spaced upper and lower tongues 138 and 139 projecting from the edge 140 thereof, the underside of said upper tongue 138 forming a limiting underedge 138'.

The casing section 127 is identical with section 126. Section 127 has end and side walls 144 and 145, and top and bottom flaps 146 and 147. An attachment web 148 is integrally connected to an edge of side wall 145, and a load tab 150 is integrally connected to web 148, said tab having spaced upper and lower tongues 151 and 152, the underside of said upper tongue 151 forming a limiting underedge 151'.

It will be noted that attachment web 135 overlaps and is secured to end wall 144 by glue or other suitable means. When casing 124 is formed from blank 122, attachment web 148 overlaps the inner surface of end wall 131 and is secured thereto by glue or other suitable means, see FIGURE 19. Load tabs 137 and 150 extend inwardly from end walls 131 and 144 substantially midway between side walls 130 and 145, see FIGURE 19.

FIGURE 17 illustrates a blank 158 for a handle member 160 to be used in carton 120. This handle member includes a body 161 and handle 162, said member being formed of side sections 163 and 164, and the blank is folded over longitudinally thereof to form a common lower edge 165. Handle sections 167 and 168 overlap each other to form handle 162, said handle sections having aligned hand holes 170 and 171 therein. Short slots or notches 173 and 174 are formed at opposite ends of the handle body along the folded-over edge 165 thereof.

When handle member 160 is formed, the body 161 thereof embraces the aligned load tabs 137 and 150, said tabs slidably extending into slots 173 and 174 of said body. At this time, the lower tongues 139 and 152 of the load tabs extend beneath the lower edge 165 of the handle body to prevent said body from moving downwardly any further within the carton. At this time, handle 162 is completely within the carton. The upper tongues 138 and 151 are positioned between the side sections 163 and 164 of the handle body so that when the carton is open, handle 162 may be drawn upwardly until the folded-over common lower edge 165 of the body engages the limiting underedges 138' and 151' of said upper tongues 138 and 151. At this time, the load is taken by the upper tongues and the load tabs which are secured to the end walls 131 and 144 of the carton casing 124. If the carton is closed, the shoulders formed by the handle body engage the casing top just before or at the same time as the body edge 165 engages the upper tongues 138 and 151.

Although casing 124 is made in two sections, it will be understood that a standard casing may be used with this form of the invention. In this case, webs 135 and 148 with their respective load tabs would be made separately and glued or otherwise secured to the inner surface of the end walls of the casing.

When the present carrier carton is loaded and closed, the body of the handle is at or near the bottom of the carton. Thus the handle body keeps bottles located on opposite sides thereof away from each other. If desired, the length of the carton may be reduced slightly from that of standard carrier cartons so that the bottles in each row thereof fit snugly against each other. Alternatively, any suitable or desired transverse divider construction may be employed in this carrier carton. For example, transverse dividers may be secured to the inner surfaces of the side walls of the casing and project inwardly therefrom, or transverse dividers may be located on opposite sides of the handle structure, said dividers being connected together beneath the handle in such a way as to permit the latter to move to its inner or lower position. This last arrangement may be employed if the handle body terminates above the bottom of the casing when the handle member is in its inner position as illustrated in FIGURE 9.

I claim:

1. An enclosed carton having a wall structure including end walls, side walls, and a bottom; said carton including a top closure integral with said wall structure and an interior assembly located within the carton; a slot in said top closure extending longitudinally and centrally thereof; said assembly including a handle member having a pair of complementary side panel portions extending centrally along the longitudinal axis of the carton substantially from end to end thereof; each of said side panel portions having a reduced portion provided with a hand

carrying aperture therein; said handle member being movable upwardly from a first retracted position from within the carton to a second position where said reduced portions are projected through said slot for carrying purposes; at least one bar member, having a pair of side faces and a limiting underedge, extending along a predetermined distance of the central longitudinal axis of the carton and constituting load bearing means cooperating with said handle; at least one tab integrally and hingedly connected to each end of said bar member, said tabs fixing the latter to opposed end walls of the carton, said limiting underedge of said bar member being spaced a predetermined distance from said bottom; one of said side panel portions being located adjacent one side face of said bar member and the remaining side panel portion being located adjacent the other side face of said bar member; said pair of side panel portions thereby serving as a pair of spaced longitudinal partitions extending substantially from end to end of the carton and dividing the interior of the carton into a pair of adjacent complementary article receiving compartments; a common lower edge connecting said pair of side panel portions together and extending substantially from end to end of the carton, and whereby said handle member is slidable relative to said bar member, said common lower edge being adapted, when said handle member is in its said second position, to abut said limiting underedge of said bar member whereby the latter serves to limit the extent of movement of said handle member in its projected position; and a pair of longitudinally aligned shoulders, extending in the direction of the length of said carton and located between said reduced portion and said common lower edge of said side panel portions, on each of said latter portions; said shoulders being adapted, when said handle member is in its said second position and said top closure is in its closed operative position, to abut the underside of said top closure, whereby when the carton is carried by the handle member, at least part of the load of the carton is transferred to said handle by means of said shoulders; and whereby, when the top closure is in its open inoperative position and said carton is carried by the handle, the entire load of the carton is transferred to said handle by means of said load supporting means.

2. An enclosed carton according to claim 1 including a pair of foldable tabs on each end of said bar member; the first of said tabs of each pair thereof being adapted to be bent normal to the said bar member and to be secured to an adjacent said end wall of the carton, the remaining tab of each pair thereof being fast with its associated first tab and being adapted to be bent normal to the bar member and to be secured to its said associated first tab in face-to-face parallel contact therewith and having a portion serving to limit endwise movement of the handle member.

3. An enclosed carton according to claim 1 including a slot in said common lower edge; and a tongue, extending downwardly from said limiting underedge of said bar member cooperating with and projecting through said slot; said cooperation thereby serving as a guide for said handle member during its said movement.

4. An enclosed carton according to claim 1 including a pair of foldable tabs on each end of said bar member; the first of said tabs of each pair thereof being adapted to be bent normal to the said bar member and to be secured to an adjacent said end wall of the carton, the remaining tab of each pair thereof being fast with its associated first tab and being adapted to be bent normal to the bar member and to be secured to its said associated first tab in face-to-face parallel contact therewith and having a portion serving to limit endwise movement of the handle member; a slot in said common lower edge; and a tongue, extending downwardly from said limiting underedge of said bar member cooperating with and projecting through said slot; said cooperation thereby serving as a guide for said handle member during its said movement.

5. An enclosed carton having a wall structure including end walls, side walls, and a bottom; said carton including a top closure integral with said wall structure and an interior assembly located within the carton; a slot in said top closure extending longitudinally and centrally thereof; said assembly including a handle member having a pair of complementary side panel portions extending centrally along the longitudinal axis of the carton substantially from end to end thereof; each of said side panel portions having a reduced portion provided with a hand carrying aperture therein; said handle member being movable upwardly from a first retracted position from within the carton to a second position where said reduced portions are projected through said slot for carrying purposes; a pair of separate bar members, in spaced alignment with one another, each having a pair of side faces and a limiting underedge, each of said bar members extending along a predetermined distance of the central longitudinal axis of the carton and constituting load bearing means cooperating with said handle; at least one tab integrally and hingedly connected to one end of each of said bar members, said tabs fixing the latter to the wall structure of the carton, said limiting underedge of each said bar member being spaced a predetermined distance from said bottom; one of said side panel portions being located adjacent one side face of each of said bar members and the remaining side panel portion being located adjacent the other side face of each of said bar members; said pair of side panel portions thereby serving as a pair of spaced longitudinal partitions extending substantially from end to end of the carton and dividing the interior of the carton into a pair of adjacent complementary article receiving compartments; a common lower edge connecting said pair of side panel portions together and extending substantially from end to end of the carton, and whereby said handle member is slidable relative to said bar members, said common lower edge being adapted, when said handle member is in its said second position, to abut each said limiting underedge of each of said bar members whereby the latter serves to limit the extent of movement of said handle member in its projected position; and a pair of longitudinally aligned shoulders, extending in the direction of the length of said carton and located between said reduced portion and said common lower edge of said side panel portions, on each of said latter portions; said shoulders being adapted, when said handle member is in its said second position and said top closure is in its closed operative position, to abut the underside of said top closure, whereby when the carton is carried by the handle member, at least part of the load of the carton is transferred to said handle by means of said shoulders; and whereby, when the top closure is in its open inoperative position and said carton is carried by the handle, the entire load of the carton is transferred to said handle by means of said load supporting means.

6. An enclosed carton according to claim 5 wherein each of said tabs is adapted to be bent normal to its associated bar member and to be secured in face to face parallel contact with an adjacent end wall of the carton.

7. An enclosed carton according to claim 5 wherein each of said tabs is adapted to be bent normal to its associated bar member and to be secured in face-to-face parallel contact with an adjacent end wall of the carton, a selected one of said tabs being integrally connected to a selected one of said side walls.

8. An enclosed carton according to claim 5 wherein each of said tabs is integrally connected to an adjacent and associated side wall and is adapted to be bent normal to its associated bar member and to be secured in face-to-face parallel contact with an adjacent end wall of the carton.

9. An enclosed carton according to claim 5 wherein

each said bar member is provided with an upper edge and an opposed lower edge, the said associated limiting underedge of each said bar member being located intermediate each said upper edge and said lower edge.

10. An enclosed carton according to claim 5 wherein each said bar member is provided with an upper edge and an opposed lower edge, the said associated limiting underedge of each said bar member being located intermediate each said upper edge and said lower edge; and wherein each of said tabs is adapted to be bent normal to its associated bar member and to be secured in face-to-face parallel contact with an adjacent end wall of the carton, a selected one of said tabs being integrally connected to a selected one of said side walls.

11. An enclosed carton according to claim 5 wherein each said bar member is provided with an upper edge and an opposed lower edge, the said associated limiting underedge of each said bar member being located intermediate each said upper edge and said lower edge; and wherein each of said tabs is integrally connected to an adjacent and associated side wall and is adapted to be bent normal to its associated bar member and to be secured in face-to-face parallel contact with an adjacent end wall of the carton.

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