Oct. 17, 1933. E. P. SHERMAN 1,931,330

MARKET BASKET

Filed May 13, 1932

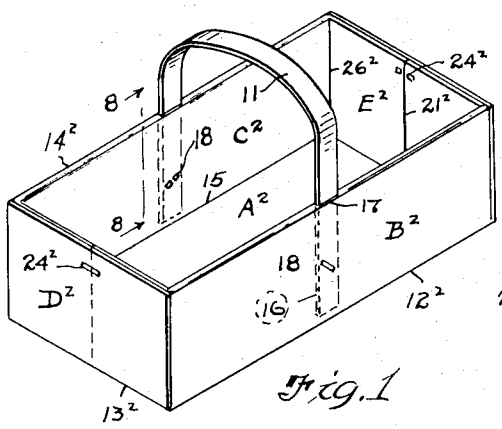


Fig. 1

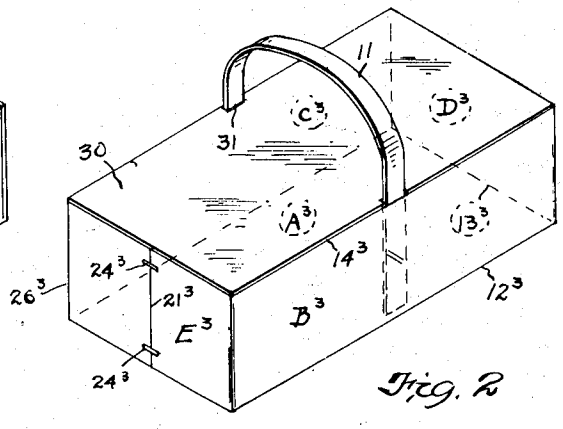


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

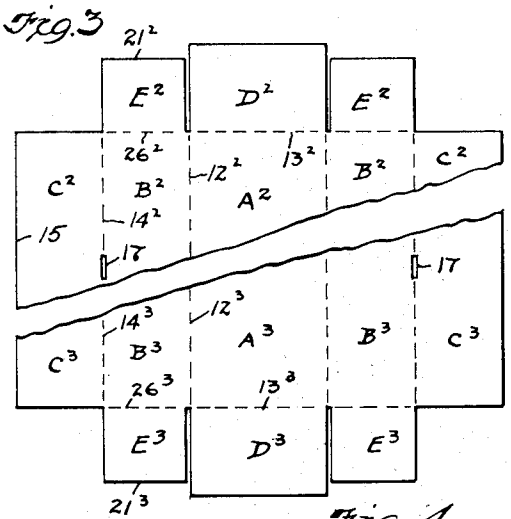


Fig. 4.

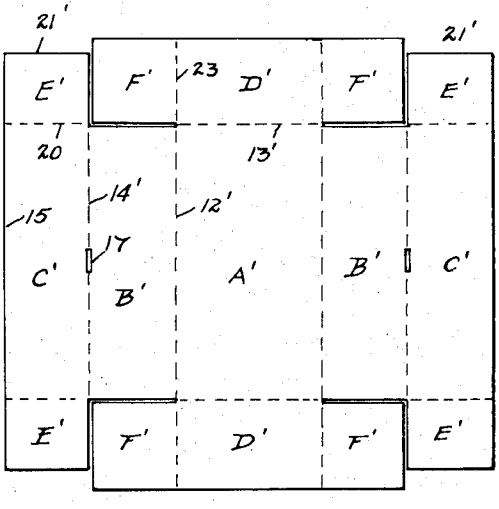


Fig. 5

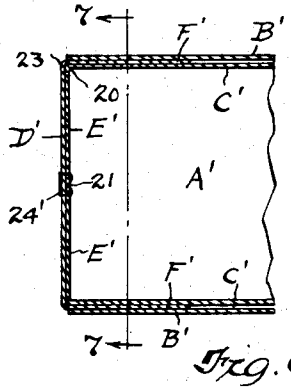


Fig. 6

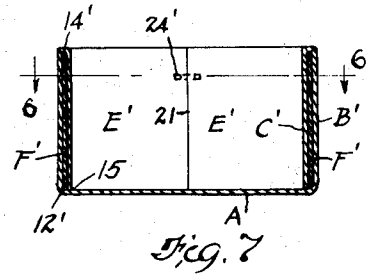


Fig. 7

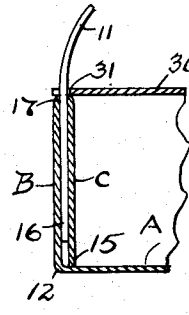


Fig. 8

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MARKET BASKET

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Application May 13, 1932. Serial No. 611,062

4 Claims. (Cl. 229—52)

This invention relates to baskets and aims particularly to provide a construction for handled baskets which can be made of corrugated board, a material hitherto not employed in the basket field. In particular the invention aims to provide a corrugated board basket for fruit in which the means for assembling the basket body and for attaching the handle thereto will not present any elements which could damage the fruit or interfere with the stacking of the baskets. Further aims are to provide a basket body which can be shipped in quantities knocked down flat, readily assembled from blanks by unskilled workmen with few and simple tools and which will present a neat appearance when assembled, the appearance of the container being a valuable factor in the retail marketing of the higher grades of fruit. A further aim is to provide means for covering the basket more neatly than has hitherto been the case, at the same time so supporting the cover that it will not bear down in the middle upon the fruit in the basket. Another purpose is to provide a basket in which the bottom and sides will not have any through seams or openings which can spread apart. That is, the bottom, the sides and the ends each include at least one seamless piece of board.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, said invention, then, consists of the means hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

This application is a continuation in part of my application Serial No. 608,940, filed May 3, 1932, in which the construction of the body was substantially that of a standard carton, the invention there being more particularly directed to the adaptation of such a carton construction to a handled basket.

The annexed drawing and the following description set forth in detail certain structure embodying the invention, such disclosed means constituting, however, but one of various structural forms in which the principle of the invention may be used.

In the drawing Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a basket showing one embodiment of the basic principles of the invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a modified basket embodying the same principles, and including a cover; Fig. 3 shows the blank used for the basket of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 shows the blank used for the basket of Fig. 2; Fig. 5 shows the blank used for the basket of Figs. 6 and 7; and Fig. 8 is a section on the line 8—8, Fig. 1.

Aside from end details, which differ in the different forms, Figs. 1 and 2 show the general appearance of all forms of my improved basket. In the description, for convenience, the same letters and numbers are used throughout for identical or corresponding parts of all baskets, differences related to the varying details being indicated by exponents.

Each basket is made from a single blank, Fig. 3, 4 or 5, and a handle 11 preferably of about the same thickness as the box material. The basket bodies are folded to interlock, using a minimum number of staples or other fastenings. No through seams occur in the completed basket, since a one-piece blank is used. The bottom A, the outer sides B, and the ends D are formed by scoring the blank and folding 90° along the side lines 12 and end lines 13. The blank is likewise scored at 14 between B and C and folded 180°, bringing the outer edge 15 of the side C down to the bottom of the basket, the ends of C interlock with the basket ends. The ends 16 of the handle 11 are inserted through openings 17, and suitably fastened, as by staples 18.

The end construction varies slightly. In the form shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, which gives the most rigid lock, the side tabs E′ are continuations of the inner sides C′, scored and folded 90° along the junction line 20, inside the end D′, and with their vertical edges 21′ abutting, Fig. 6. The end locks or wings F′ are continuations of the ends D′, scored and folded 90° at 23, and are caught under the bend 14′ and between the sides B′ and C′. This type of end can be unlocked only by first removing the handle, then pulling the tabs E′ at each end of one side inward to free one of the abutting edges 21′, then turn both inner sides C′ up to release the end locks F′, after which the blank can be flattened out. A staple 24′ may be conveniently used in each end to hold the edges 21′ in abutment.

The basket end shown in Fig. 1 looks almost exactly like the one just described, but does not include the end locks F′. Its side tabs E^2 are joined to the outer sides B^2, scored and folded 90° at 26^2, and brought down inside the ends D^2 with ends 21^2 abutting. A staple 24^2 holds the ends in abutment.

In Fig. 2 the end of Figs. 1 and 3 is modified by having the side tabs E^3 outside the ends D^3, with edges 21^3 abutting. The preferred fastening is by means of staples 24^3.

A cover 30, Figs. 2 and 8, may be used with this basket. The cover is by preference of the same material as the basket, stiff corrugated board being the most suitable. The characteristics of

this cover are that it is cut to the dimensions of the finished basket, as shown, so that its edges bear on the top edge surfaces of the basket evenly all around, thus keeping pressure off the fruit, but do not protrude, hence do not interfere with stacking the baskets. Corrugated board and like materials are particularly adapted for such a construction because such materials can be cut and folded squarely and to exact shapes and dimensions. The cover is notched as at 31 to clear the handle. It is preferably applied by pressing down on the handle to spring the handle wider, then slipping the cover endwise to its place, and releasing the pressure, so that the handle springs back within the notches.

It will be seen from the foregoing that I have invented a basket which can be shipped in packages of flat blanks ready for assembly, can be assembled quickly, by unskilled help, and locked in shape almost entirely by folding, with only very little stapling or other fastening. My basket presents a neat square-cornered appearance, and so shapes up that printing originally done on the appropriate flat surfaces of the blank will be properly and attractively placed on the assembled basket. The cover is in keeping with the character of the basket body, and the whole thing is particularly advantageous for the high class fruit trade, although it can be manufactured at the plant and assembled at the orchard, all very cheaply.

Other modes of applying the principle of my invention may be employed instead of the one explained, change being made as regards the structure herein disclosed, provided the means stated by any of the following claims or the equivalent of such stated means be employed.

I therefore particularly point out and distinctly claim as my invention:

1. A basket formed of fiber board, comprising in combination double side walls having their outer thickness common with the basket bottom and their inner thickness folded along the top edge and turned down to the bottom, an arched flat handle of resilient material having straight ends, said ends being passed between said top edge and secured flatwise between said walls.

2. A basket for fruit and the like having double side walls each formed of a single piece of fiber board folded along the top, a perforation along said top fold, and an arched handle of flat resilient material having each end extending down through one of said perforations and between the inner and outer walls, and fastening means securing each of said ends against displacement.

3. A basket formed of fiber board, double side walls having their outer thickness common with the basket bottom and their inner thickness folded along the top edge and turned down to the bottom, each of said top edges having a handle opening therein, an arched handle of stiff flat material having a straight end entering said opening and secured flat wise between said walls, said handle being approximately the thickness of the corrugated board, and basket ends formed by an upturned end of the bottom, said ends having lateral wings folded at the basket corners, said lateral wings being received between the outer and inner side walls of the assembled basket and having their upper surfaces held beneath the top fold of the side walls.

4. A basket of fiber board or the like comprising sides, ends, and bottom formed of a single blank, the sides being formed by portions turned upward from the bottom and other portions of equal width turned downward and inward to the bottom, the line of fold between said up and down portions constituting upper edges of the basket, perforations through the upper side edges, an inverted U-shaped handle having its ends passing downward through said respective perforations and secured between and entirely covered by the inner and outer thicknesses of the sides.

ELROY P. SHERMAN.