J. B. RHODES.
SHIPPING CASE AND TRAY.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 22, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

INVENTOR.
Jay B. Rhodes

ATTORNEYS.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Jay B. Rhodes, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city and county of Kalamazoo, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping Cases and Trays, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in trays and shipping cases.

My improved combined tray and shipping case is especially designed by me for the shipping and the handling of dispensing cans such as are shown in my application for Letters Patent, filed June 2, 1921, Serial No. 474,329.

The main objects of this invention are:

1. To provide an improved combined shipping case and tray which is well adapted for the handling of glass receptacles such as glass dispensing cans and one by which they are effectively protected for shipping by parcel post or otherwise.

2. To provide an improved shipping case and tray having these advantages which is comparatively economical in structure, enables the rapid packing and unpacking of the cans, the removable parts or the parts added to produce the shipping case being not only easily removed, but economical.

3. To provide an improved shipping case and tray having these advantages which is comparatively economical in structure, enables the rapid packing and unpacking of the cans, the removable parts or the parts added to produce the shipping case being not only easily removed, but economical.

4. To accomplish the objects of my invention by the devices and means described in the following specification. The invention is clearly defined and pointed out in the claims.

5. A structure which is a preferred embodiment of my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this application, in which:

Fig. I is a side view of my improved combination shipping case and tray adapted or adjusted as a tray.

Fig. II is a detail view partially in longitudinal section with a part of the packings being arranged in the compartments.

Fig. III is a perspective view on one of the packing members, it being a U-shaped strip of fiber board.

Fig. IV is a perspective view showing the method of placing or removing the top section.

Fig. V is a plan view with the parts all assembled as a shipping case, one of the top cleats and a part of the packings being partially broken away.

Fig. VI is a perspective view of the parts completely assembled as a shipping case.

Fig. VII is a perspective view of the top section complete.

The drawings similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views, and the sectional views are taken looking in the direction of the little arrows at the ends of the section lines.

Referring to the drawing, I provide a tray comprising side members 1, end members 2, and bottom 3. The tray is provided with a longitudinal partition 4 and transverse partitions 5, forming a plurality of compartments for the receptacles or cans 7, the caps 8 of which are adapted to be removed and inverted within the cans as shown in Figs. IV and V. These cans are described in detail in my application for Letters Patent above referred to; however, my improved tray and receptacle is adapted for other uses, although especially adapted for the handling of these dispensing cans. The uprights 9 are secured in an opposed relation on the outer sides of the ends 2 to project above the same. A grip 10 extends between these uprights; this completes the tray.

The top section comprises the ends 11, sides 12, and the top cleats 13. The sides and ends are of the same external dimensions as the sides and ends of the tray, so that the ends may be slipped between the uprights 9 resting upon the ends as shown in Fig. VI. The top section is secured in position by the projecting ends of the top cleats which engage the edges of the uprights, thereby retaining the top section in position, the grip 10 preventing its being lifted upwardly.

The cans are provided with packing members 14 of U shape. A packing member is dropped into each compartment, the can 100 placed therein, and a second packing member placed over the top of the cans with its edges projecting into the compartments. In assembling, the bottom packing members are arranged in the compartments, the top section with one of the top cleats removed is positioned as shown in Fig. IV, the cans arranged in one row of compartments and the top packing members placed over the cans as is indicated in Fig. IV. The top section
is then slipped into position bringing the first top cleat over the packed row of cans. The other row of compartments is then filled in the same way and the second top cleat nailed on, which completes the package. The handle projects up so that the completed package may be conveniently handled thereby which renders it very convenient as a parcel post or express package. Further, a plurality of the packages may be stacked in a convenient relation, the bottom row being placed side by side and the superimposed rows arranged between the handles. This may be carried on to the desired height.

When it is desired to unpack, all that is necessary to do is to knock off one of the top cleats and remove the top section.

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

1. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a tray provided with longitudinal and transverse partitions providing a plurality of compartments, a handle for said tray comprising uprights disposed on the outer sides of the ends of said tray, and a grip extending between the uprights, a removable top section comprising side and end members aligned with corresponding side and end members of the tray when assembled with the end members of the top section within the uprights and resting upon the upper edges of the ends of the tray, and top slats secured on the ends of the top section with the ends of the slats projecting to engage the uprights thereby retaining the top section.

2. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a tray, a handle for said tray comprising uprights disposed on the outer sides of the ends of said tray, and a grip extending between the uprights, a removable top section comprising side and end members aligned with corresponding side and end members of the tray when assembled with the end members of the top section within the uprights and resting upon the upper edges of the ends of the tray, and top slats secured on the ends of the top section with the ends of the slats projecting to engage the uprights thereby retaining the top section.

3. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a tray, a handle for said tray comprising uprights disposed on the outer sides of the ends of said tray, and a grip extending between the uprights, a removable top section adapted to be assembled within the uprights, and top slats secured on the ends of the top section with the ends of the slats projecting to engage the uprights thereby retaining the top section.

4. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a tray, a handle for said tray comprising uprights disposed on the outer sides of the ends of said tray, and a grip extending between the uprights, a removable top section comprising side and end members aligned with corresponding side and end members of the tray when assembled with the end members of the top section within the uprights and resting upon the upper edges of the ends of the tray.

5. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a tray, a handle for said tray comprising uprights disposed on the outer sides of the ends of said tray, and a grip extending between the uprights, and a removable top section comprising side and end members adapted to be assembled within the uprights.

6. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a tray, a handle for said tray comprising uprights disposed at opposed sides of said tray, and a grip extending between the uprights, a removable top section arranged on the tray within the uprights, and top slats secured on the top section with their ends projecting to engage the uprights thereby retaining the top section.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

JAY B. RHODES. [L.S.]