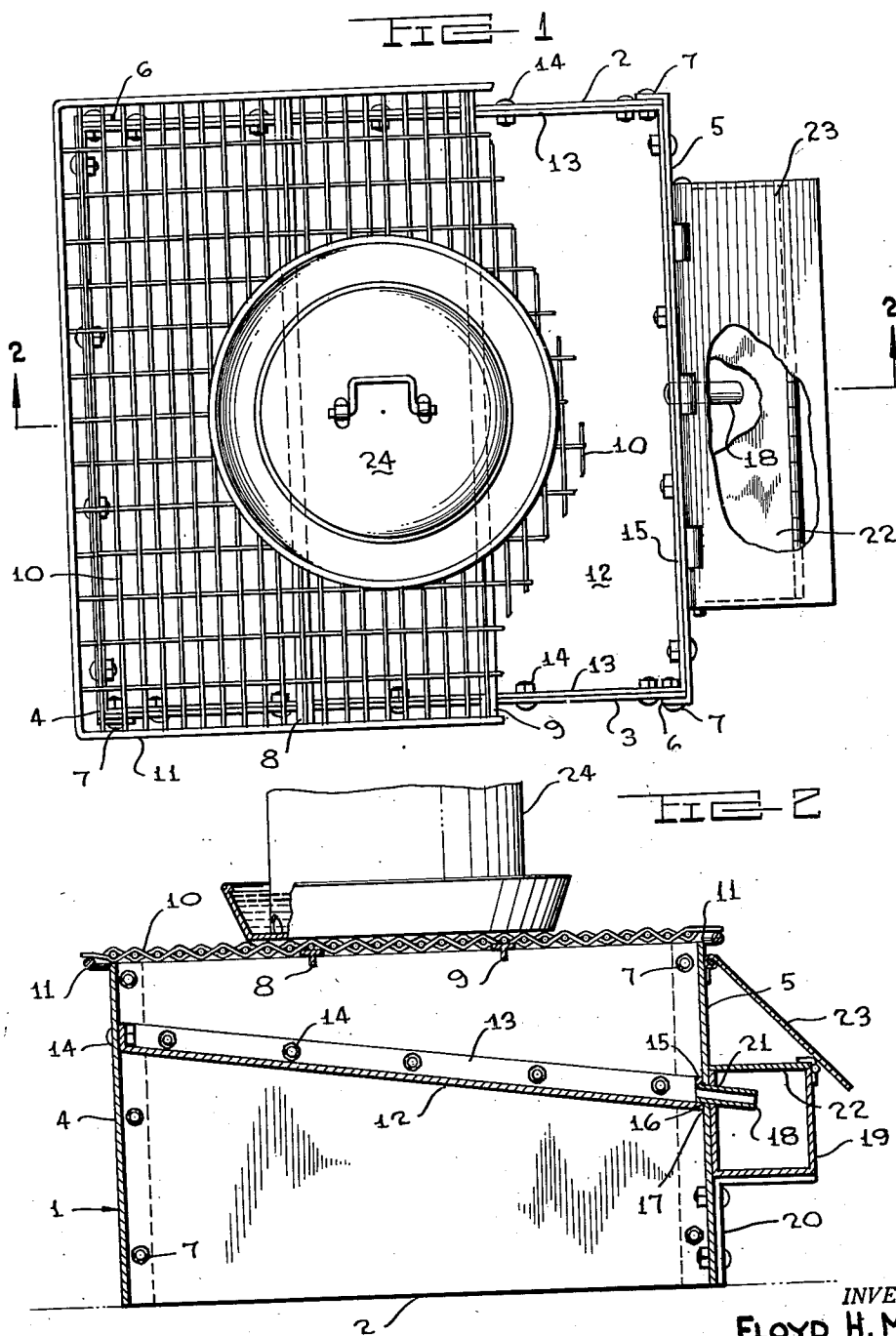


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WATER FOUNTAIN STANDARD
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WATER FOUNTAIN STANDARD

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1 Claim. (Cl. 119-72)

1

The present invention relates to a water fountain standard, particularly to a water fountain standard for supporting a poultry watering device.

Because of the peculiar way in which a chicken drinks, a large portion of the water taken into a chicken's beak will run down its breast and onto the floor if no provision is made to catch the overflow. If the floor beneath the fountain is permitted to remain wet, the chicken's feet will become wet and track dirt into the nest. This unsanitary condition is doubly undesirable since it may result in illness of the chickens and will result in dirty eggs which require more cleaning and are consequently of poorer quality.

It is, therefore, the principal object of my invention to provide a water fountain standard which will collect water spilled by poultry in the process of drinking.

It is a further object of my invention to provide a standard which will be easily cleaned and maintained in a sanitary condition.

It is a still further object of my invention to provide a standard of simple, sturdy construction which may be easily and cheaply manufactured and which may be shipped knocked down and assembled by the user.

Other and more specific objects will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved standard, and

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 2-2 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration, I have shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 1 designates a box like structure open at the top and bottom which forms the main frame of my device. This frame comprises a pair of rectangular side members 2 and 3 and a pair of similarly shaped end members 4 and 5.

The side members may be formed of sheet metal and the top and bottom edges may be folded back upon themselves to strengthen the panels and eliminate sharp edges. The side edges may be similarly folded to increase the stiffness of the panel.

The end members 4 and 5 may be similarly formed and are each provided with inwardly extending flanges 6 extending at right angles to the face of the panel. The flanges 6 may be secured to the panels 2 and 3 by suitable bolts

2

7, or the like. This, however, is not essential and the bolts may be omitted since the panels will be rigidly secured by means described hereinafter.

A pair of rails 8 and 9 preferably of T-section, span the side panels intermediate their ends and are suitably notched to receive the top edges of the panels. The notches are preferably provided in the vertical leg of the T-section rails thereby permitting the rails to be positioned at any point on the panel edge. The rails 8 and 9 provide the necessary structural rigidity to support the fountain.

A foraminous floor 10, somewhat larger in area than the upper end of the frame, rests upon the upper end of the frame 1 and is additionally supported by the rails 8 and 9. The floor 10 may be formed of wire mesh and serves to support the poultry while drinking. I have found galvanized wire of 1-inch by 2-inch mesh to be suitable. A metal rod 11 is suitably secured around the edge of the mesh 10, as by welding or by bending the free ends of the wires which form mesh 10 around rod 11.

Mounted at a suitable distance below the floor 10 is an inclined drip pan 12 having upstanding flanges 13 engaging the panels which form the frame 1. The pan 12 may be rigidly secured to the panels by bolts 14. It will be noted that the pan 12 will serve to retain the panels 2, 3, 4 and 5 in rigidly spaced relation and may be the sole means of securing the panels if desired.

Drainage means is provided at the lowermost end of the drip pan in the form of a nipple 18 secured in aligned holes 16 and 17 in the flange 15 and the end panel 5. A container 19 is removably supported upon brackets 20 which are suitably secured to panel 5. The container 19 has an opening 21 therein for receiving the nipple 18 and may be of any desired shape, being herein shown as a rectangular trough-like member which may be provided with a hinged lid 22, if desired. The nipple 18 prevents accidental displacement of the trough.

A lid 23 is hinged to the side of the panel 5 adjacent the top and depends downwardly at an angle, being supported on the edge of the container 19. The lid 23 serves to prevent chickens from perching on container 19.

A suitable fountain 24, of conventional design may be supported on top of the mesh floor 10 over rails 8 and 9, which provide the necessary structural support.

It may be thus seen that my water fountain standard is simply and rigidly constructed of a

3

plurality of sheet metal members which may be cheaply fabricated of inexpensive material. Furthermore, when disassembled the members are essentially flat and may be readily packed in a container of small dimensions thus saving on shipping costs. By virtue of its simple construction it may be readily assembled by the purchaser by simply bolting together the panels 2, 3 and 4, securing pan 12 thereto and thereafter bolting on end panel 5, to which the brackets 20 and the pipe 18 have previously been secured. The assembly is completed by placing rails 8 and 9 on members 2 and 3 and laying the mesh 10 thereover.

It will be understood that the above disclosure is merely illustrative of a preferred embodiment of my invention and that such changes in the invention may be made as are within the scope of the following claim.

I claim:

In a watering device, an open frame, a foraminous floor mounted on the upper end of the frame and extending thereacross for supporting a water fountain, a declining drip pan supported within said frame beneath said floor, the de-

4

pressed end of the drip pan terminating at a level above the lower end of said frame, and a trough mounted on a side of said frame in communication with the depressed end of the drip pan into which water dripping from the fountain and draining down the drip pan is adapted to collect, said trough being located on the exterior of the frame so as to be accessible from outside of the frame, and a lid hinged on the frame at a point above said trough, said lid normally occupying a declining position over the top of the trough and being adapted to be swung upwardly to afford access to the trough.

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