Feb. 20, 1923. 1,446,100.

W. J. MORRIS.

CRATE.

FILED APR. 29, 1922.

Fig. 1.

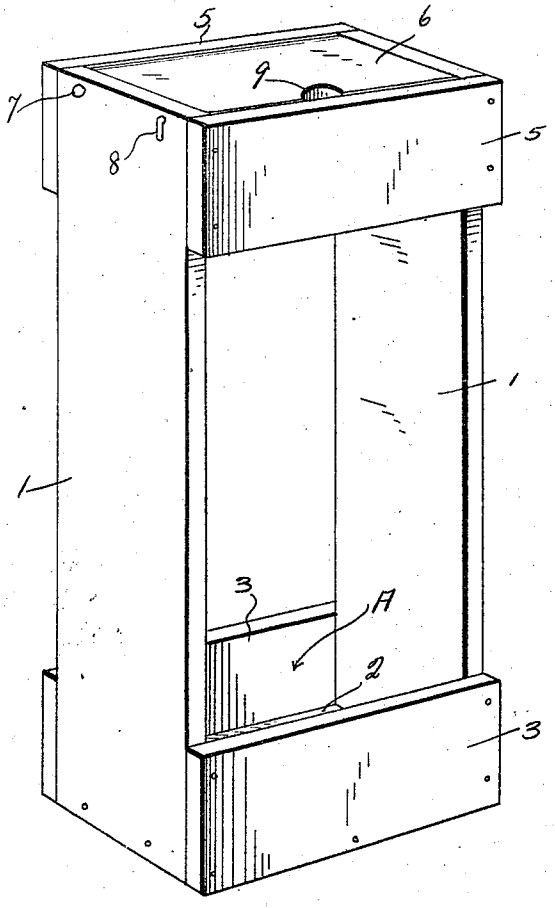
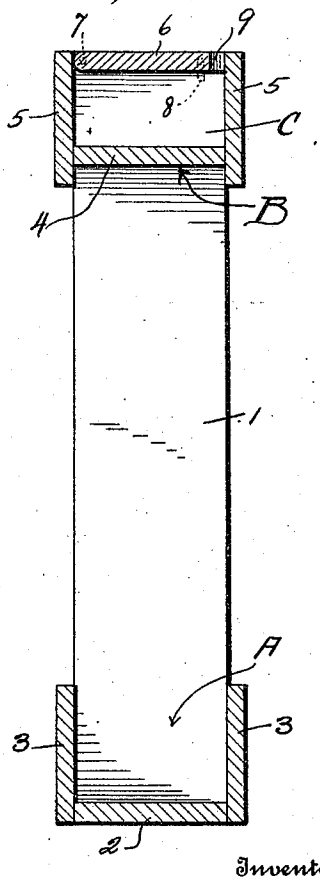


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. MORRIS, OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

CRATE.

Application filed April 29, 1922. Serial No. 557,317.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that WILLIAM J. MORRIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, has invented certain new and useful Improvements in Crates, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain improvements in crates and has relation more particularly to a device of this general character especially designed and adapted for use in the packing of axe handles or kindred articles and it is an object of the invention to provide a novel and improved device of this general character whereby a plurality of handles are effectively maintained in a compact form and in a manner whereby the same may be readily transported or stored.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved device of this general character provided with a compartment or housing adapted to contain a supply of wedges or the like for use in connection with the handles contained within the crate.

The invention consists in the details of construction and the combination and arrangement of the several parts of my improved signal whereby certain important advantages are attained and the device rendered simpler, less expensive and otherwise more convenient and advantageous for use, as will hereinafter be more fully set forth.

The novel features of my invention will hereinafter be definitely claimed.

In order that my invention may be the better understood, I will now proceed to described the same with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a crate constructed in accordance with an embodiment of my invention, and

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken through the device as illustrated in Figure 1.

As disclosed in the accompanying drawings, my improved crate comprises elongated side members 1 of desired dimensions and arranged in parallelism. Adjacent ends of the side members 1 are connected by a head 2 interposed therebetween with the outer face of said head 2 preferably flush with the adjacent ends of the side member 1. Bridging the space between the side members 1 and secured to the end portions of said side members immediately adjacent the head 2 are the cross members or cleats 3, the outer longitudinal edges of said cleats 3 being substantially flush with the adjacent end edges of the members 1 and the outer face of the head 2.

The applied members or cleats 3 in conjunction with the adjacent end portions of the side members 1 and the head 2 provide a pocket or chamber A in which end portions of the axe handles or the like are received. The opposite end portions of the handles or the like are received within a chamber B arranged inwardly of the head 4. The head 4 bridges the space between the members 1 and is positioned at a predetermined distance inwardly of the ends of the side members 1 remote from the head 2. Secured to said end portions of the side members 1 are the relatively broad members or cleats 5, the outer longitudinal edges of which being substantially flush with the adjacent ends of the side members 1. The inner longitudinal edges of the members or cleats 5 are positioned inwardly of the head 4 whereby the desired chamber B is provided.

The members or cleats 5 and the adjacent end portions of the side members 1 outwardly of the head 4 provide a compartment C adapted to contain wedges or the like intended for use in connection with the handles contained within the crate. The outer face of the compartment C is adapted to be closed by the head 6, which, when in closed position fits snugly within the outer portion of the compartment C. Each end of the head 6 is hingedly or pivotally connected as at 7 adjacent a longitudinal marginal portion of said head 6 with a side member 1 of the crate whereby the head 6 may be readily swung into either open or closed position as desired.

When the head 6 is in closed position the same is locked against swinging movement by a brad or nail 8 disposed through the adjacent end portion of each side member 1 and penetrating an end of the head 6 and preferably at a point adjacent the free longitudinal edge of said head 6. In order that the head 6 may be readily and conveniently swung into open position I provide the central part of the free longitudinal marginal portion of the head 6 with a recess or notch 9 through which the digit of a hand may be readily inserted.

For the purpose of shipment or storing, after the axe handles or the like have been properly contained within the crate the wedges or the like are placed within the compartment C and the closure member locked in closed position. By this means a shipment of axe handles may be accompanied with the required number of wedges for use in conjunction therewith.

It will also be understood that when applying the axe handles or the like within the casing C, one of the side members or cleats 3 or 5 is removed and applied after the axe handles or the like have been properly positioned within the crate.

From the foregoing description it is thought to be obvious that a crate constructed in accordance with my invention is particularly well adapted for use by reason of the convenience and facility with which it may be assembled and operated, and it will also be obvious that my invention is susceptible of some change and modification without departing from the principles and spirit thereof and for this reason I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise arrangement and formation of the several parts herein shown in carrying out my invention in practice except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A shipping crate of the class described comprising side members, end members connecting the side members, one of said end members being positioned inwardly of the adjacent end of the side member, cleats connecting opposite sides of the side members and extending inwardly of the end members, the cleats adjacent the first named end member extending outwardly thereof to provide a compartment, and a closure member for said compartment.

2. A shipping crate of the class described comprising side members, end members connecting the side members, one of said end members being positioned inwardly of the adjacent end of the side member, cleats connecting opposite sides of the side members and extending inwardly of the end members, the cleats adjacent the first named end member extending outwardly thereof to provide a compartment, a closure member for said compartment, and means for pivotally connecting said closure member with the side members.

3. A shipping crate of the class described comprising side members, end members connecting the side members, one of said end members being positioned inwardly of the adjacent end of the side member, cleats connecting opposite sides of the side members and extending inwardly of the end members, the cleats adjacent the first named end member extending outwardly thereof to provide a compartment a closure member for said compartment, means for pivotally connecting said closure member with the side members, a marginal portion of the closure member being provided with a recess.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

WILLIAM J. MORRIS.