

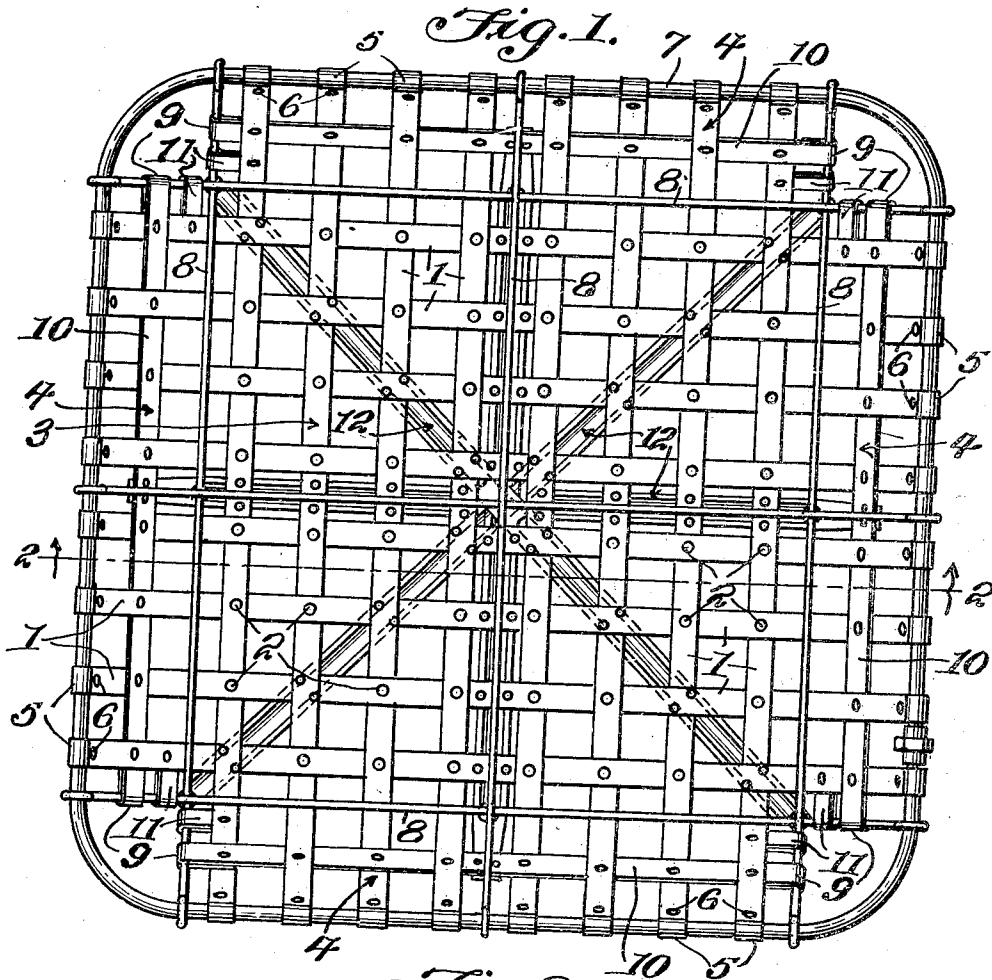
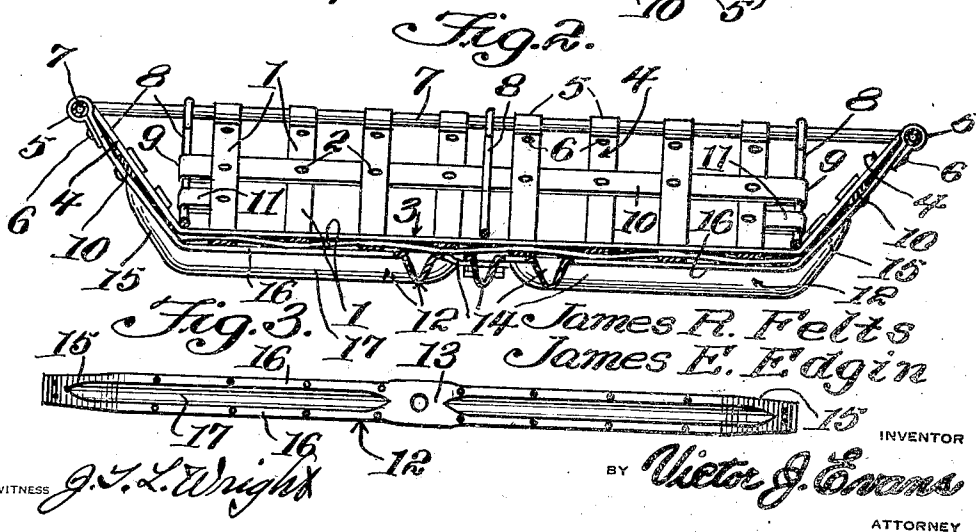
Jan. 5, 1932.

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1,839,210

TOBACCO BASKET

Filed Sept. 13, 1929



WITNESS

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TOBACCO BASKET

Application filed September 13, 1929. Serial No. 392,438.

Our present invention has reference to a marketing basket for leaf tobacco, and our primary object is to produce a metal slat basket for this purpose which may be readily and cheaply constructed and marketed, which shall be strong and durable to withstand the rough usage to which it is subjected and which has its base mounted on runners so that the same can be slid in any direction upon the floor of the warehouse in which the sales are made.

To the attainment of the foregoing and other objects which will present themselves as the nature of the invention is better understood, the improvement further resides in certain other novel features of construction, combination and operative association of parts, a satisfactory embodiment of which is disclosed by the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a tobacco marketing basket in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of one of the slides or runners.

In certain tobacco growing sections the crop is largely marketed on what is known as loose floors and the tobacco is packed in a shallow basket and put in rows upon the floor of the warehouse and the sales are made from these baskets. The baskets are of a regulation size, that is, 42 x 42 inches, of a depth from five to six inches. These baskets, to the best of our knowledge, are constructed of wood and as the same are subjected to hard usage, especially in view of the fact that the tobacco containing baskets are slid along the floor of the warehouse the same are comparatively short lived and seldom outlive a single season.

In carrying out our invention we produce a slat basket for this purpose which is wholly constructed of metal. The slats are arranged in longitudinal and transverse series. The slats are all of the same thickness and width and are woven or threaded between each other so that the same are equidistantly spaced. The slats 1, at their lapping portions

are riveted together, as at 2. The slats are constructed to provide a flat bottom 3 and angle sides and ends 4, respectively. By reference to Figure 1 of the drawings it will be noted that a gap or opening is left at the corners of the basket. The ends of the slats that provide the sides and ends of the basket are rounded upon themselves, as at 5, and have their straight extensions riveted, as at 6, to the slats proper. Through these rounded portions or eyes 5 we pass a continuous hollow metal bar 7 that provides the rim of the basket.

To partly reinforce the basket we coil around the rim 7 adjacent to the corners of the basket preferably hollow rods 8. These rods pass through rounded or bent ends 9 of the slats 10 that provide the longitudinal elements of the inclined sides and ends of the basket. If desired, and as disclosed by the drawings shorter slats or plates 10 may be secured to the longer end slats and have their outer ends rounded around the reinforcing rods 8. The rods 8 may be threaded and woven between the slats that constitute the bottom 3 of the basket and the rods 8 being arranged both longitudinally and transversely of the basket serve to materially reinforce the same.

As previously stated it is customary to slide the basket along the floor of the warehouse in almost any direction so that the contents thereof may be conveniently inspected and to provide therefor and to likewise reinforce the bottom as well as the sides of the basket we provide metal slides or shoes whose body portions, from points adjacent to the center and ends thereof have their outer faces centrally grooved so that these portions of the runners 12 are substantially V-shaped in cross section. The runners 12 each have a flat central portion 14 and the ends thereof are bent angularly, as at 15. The inner faces of the runners are flat throughout and as disclosed by the drawings, the runners are arranged both longitudinally, transversely and diagonally below the bottom and the angle ends 15 thereof are brought against the angle sides of the basket and riveted or otherwise effectively secured there-

to. The straight lapping central portions 13 of the runners are riveted together and may likewise be riveted to the slatted bottom. The flat upper faces 16 of the runners, to the opposite sides of the grooves 17 therein are also riveted to the bottom, side and end slats. The runners 12 not only serve as means whereby the basket can be readily slid along the floor of the warehouse in any direction but also materially increase the strength of the basket construction and it is believed that the simplicity of our improvement as well as the advantages thereof will present themselves to those skilled in the art without further detailed description, it being, however, thought necessary to state that we do not wish to be restricted to the precise details of construction herein disclosed and, therefore, hold ourselves entitled to make such changes therefrom as fairly fall within the scope of what we claim.

Having described the invention, we claim:

1. A basket including a bottom and sides, runners extending transversely, longitudinally and diagonally of the bottom and crossing each other centrally of the bottom and secured together, said runners having their end portions angularly disposed and secured to the sides of the basket.
2. A basket attachment comprising a plurality of runners arranged angularly to each other and provided with flat portions intermediate their ends and disposed in engagement with each other and secured together, said runners having annularly related portions and each runner of substantial V-shape in cross section, said runners adapted to engage the bottom and walls of a basket and secured to the walls of said basket.
3. A basket comprising a plurality of interwoven longitudinally and transversely arranged slats forming the bottom of a basket and secured together where engaging each other and having their end portions angularly disposed to provide sides and ends to the basket, a frame having the ends of the slats secured thereto, longitudinal and transverse rods secured to the frame and bent to conform to the contour of the sides, ends and bottom of the basket with some of said rods bearing against the slats where bent to form the sides and ends of said basket, and means securing the rods to certain of the slats at the corners of the basket.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

JAMES RICHARD FELTS.
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