M. B. McNAB.

NEWSPAPER PACKAGING MEANS.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 26, 1917.

1,369,448. **Patented Feb. 22, 1921.**

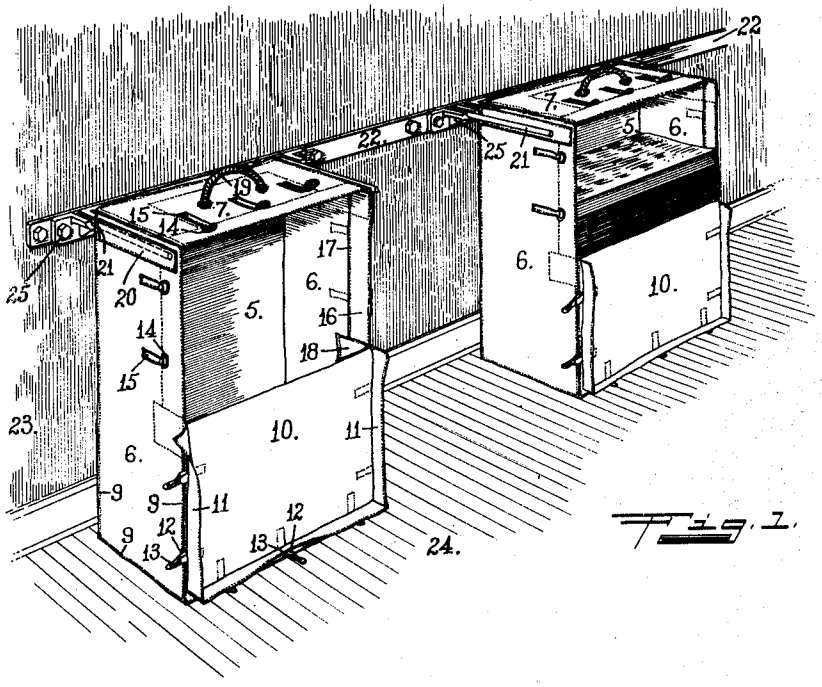


Fig. 1.

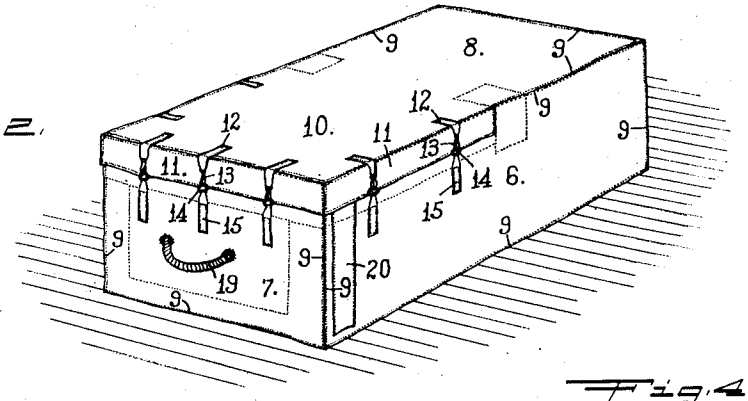
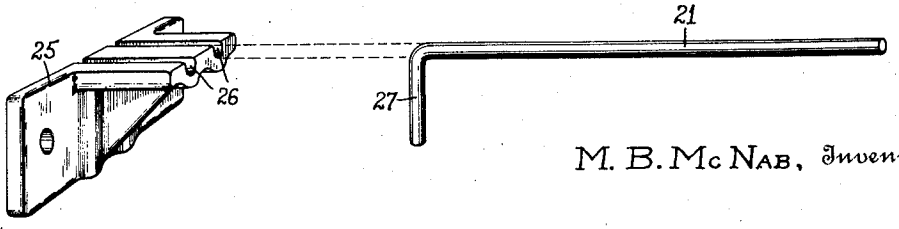


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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NEWSPAPER-PACKAGING MEANS.

1,369,448. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 22, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MALCOLM B. McNAB, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Omaha, in the county of Douglas and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Newspaper-Packaging Means, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the general class of special receptacles and packages, and it is the object thereof to provide a receptacle and packaging means especially adapted to facilitate the handling and local distribution of newspapers, whereby the papers may be taken directly from the press in counted bunches, placed in the receptacles, inclosed and protected thereby during their transportation to the point of distribution, and removed from the receptacle with the bunch-count thereof preserved; thereby reducing to a minimum the labor involved in handling the papers, expediting the distribution thereof, avoiding loss of papers due to wetting and soiling thereof during transportation to the distributing points, and conserving the supplies of cordage commonly employed in making up packages of newspapers.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a perspective view of receptacles embodying my invention, together with the preferred means for supporting the same in open form while they are being filled, Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the receptacles filled and closed, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the supporting-rack brackets, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of one of the rods or arms therefor.

The receptacles provided by my invention are preferably constructed of strong and flexible material such as canvas or cotton duck of such weight as to be durable under the conditions of wear and usage to which the same are subjected. Each receptacle is of oblong rectangular form, the transverse section thereof being substantially the same in size and shape as the folded papers which it is to contain, and the inclosing walls thereof comprising a back or bottom 5, side-pieces 6, end-pieces 7 and a top or front-piece 8. The edges of the parts 5, 6, 7 and 8 are permanently secured together by suitable means, such as the seams or stitching 9. The longitudinal extent of the part 8 is approximately one-half that of the parts 5 and 6, but said part 8 is integral or continuous with a part 10 which forms a movable cover and forms the remainder of that wall of the receptacle of which one end-portion consists of said part 8. The free edges of the lid or cover 10 are provided with flaps 11 adapted to overhang the respectively adjacent edges of the side-pieces 6 and end 7, and upon said edges of the cover there are secured a plurality of straps or tabs 12 carrying at their ends spring-snaps 13 adapted for engagement with rings 14 carried on the ends of corresponding straps or tabs 15 secured to the body of the receptacle, as shown. By means of said tabs, snaps and rings the cover is retained in the closed position thereof shown in Fig. 2. The edges of the body-portion are preferably reinforced adjoining the opening thereof by strips 16 secured on the inside of the body by seams or stitching 17, and additional reinforcing patches 18 may be provided for the contiguous corners of the parts 6, 8 and 10. The ends 7 are also preferably provided on their inner sides with reinforcing patches, adapting the same to withstand the stresses produced by rope-handles 19 which are attached to the end-pieces as shown, and by which the receptacle is conveniently lifted and handled when filled. On the side-pieces 6 near the end-piece 7 which adjoins the opening to the body of the receptacle, there are secured strips 20 which inclose long narrow pockets opening at the ends thereof adjacent to the back or bottom-piece 5. Said pockets are adapted to receive parallel rods or arms 21 of a supporting rack for holding the receptacle in erect and extended position while filling the same.

The supporting rack is preferably constructed so as to hold a plurality of the receptacles simultaneously, and a convenient form thereof is shown in Fig. 1, with additional details in Figs. 3 and 4. In the structure shown, a rail or bar 22 is secured to a wall 23 or other convenient support so as to extend parallel to a floor 24 at a height above the floor equal to the length of the largest receptacle to be carried by the rack. On said rail or bar 22 at suitable intervals are secured brackets 25 of a form such as shown in Fig. 3, each having in the upper side thereof two channels or grooves 26 extending at right angles to the bar 22 and adapted to receive portions of the rods or arms 21. The latter have downwardly

turned end-portions 27 which fit into sockets therefor formed in the rearward sides of the brackets and extending down from the rear ends of the grooves 26. The brackets are preferably so formed that when the rods 21 are seated therein said rods will be inclined slightly upward from their rear to their front ends. When not in use the rods 21 may be lifted in the sockets and turned parallel to the wall or bar 22.

In the use of the invention the supporting rack is placed in the newspaper press-room at a position convenient to the delivery-tables of the press or presses. The receptacles are placed upon the supporting rack as shown in Fig. 1, being thereby held erect and extended, the cover-portions 10 being open and hanging down from the attached edges thereof. With all modern newspaper presses the papers are delivered by the press in counted bunches (usually fifty papers to a bunch) and said counted bunches are stacked or piled in alternately-reversed position, with the folded edges of one bunch at the same side of the pile as the loose or free edges of the adjoining bunches, thus preserving the press-count and facilitating the subsequent distribution of the papers. The stacks or piles of counted bunches are placed directly into the receptacles, fitting therein as shown at the right of Fig. 1, and the filling of the receptacles is readily effected owing to the erect and extended position in which the same are held by the supporting-rack. As each receptacle is filled, the cover 10 is raised and secured in closed position by attaching the snaps 13 to the rings 14, after which the receptacle is pulled off the arms of the supporting rack and turned so as to rest upon the floor as shown in Fig. 2. The filled and closed receptacles may then be taken directly from the press-room to the wagons or trucks by which they are conveyed to the distributing-points, and meanwhile the papers are protected from dirt and moisture, as well as being retained in the press-counted bunches, so that recounting thereof (except for parts of a bunch) is unnecessary. The empty receptacles, being of pliable or flexible material, may be folded into compact bundles and returned from the distributing-stations to the newspaper plant, and the use of the same receptacles may be continued indefinitely.

The receptacles may be made of different sizes as to the length thereof, for instance so as to have one-half or one-quarter the capacity of the full-size receptacles shown, thus providing for the distribution of quantities intermediate to multiples of the full capacity of the largest size. Practical use of the receptacles has shown, however, that even where the same are but partially filled, as one-half or more, the press-counted bunches remain unmixed with each other and the papers reach the distributing stations in perfect condition.

While the mechanical embodiment of my invention is of the utmost simplicity, its practical advantages may be best appreciated by a comparison with the mode of handling the papers customarily employed heretofore in newspaper plants. Papers for local distribution are usually taken from the press-room to a packaging-room where they are tied in bundles by means of ropes, straps and the like, and are then taken to the trucks or wagons for conveyance to the distributing-stations. The bundles not being inclosed, a considerable proportion of the papers become soiled and torn, and during rainy weather are apt to become water-soaked and practically unsalable. There is thus an economic loss involving the waste of the papers soiled, torn or water-soaked, the labor employed in tying the bundles, the cordage used for tying the bundles, and the delay in delivery to the distributing-stations due to the time required for tying the bundles and conveying the papers to the packaging-room. It will be clearly apparent that all of these losses are avoided by the use of my invention, and it may be noted that actual use of my packaging means for a period of several months in a metropolitan newspaper plant has shown an important saving of labor, cordage and print-paper stock, amounting in monetary value to many times the cost of installation of the equipment.

Now, having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A flexible collapsible newspaper packaging means comprising an oblong rectangular receptacle closed at the top, bottom and back and sides and provided at the upper portion of the front with an opening, the side walls being parallel and provided adjacent the top of the receptacle at opposite sides of the said opening with exterior horizontal parallel pockets open at the rear ends and adapted to receive detachably parallel supporting arms to sustain the receptacle in erect extended position during filling thereof, a flexible cover for the opening forming a continuation of the front wall, means for securing the cover in closed position and a handle secured to the top of the receptacle between the side pockets.

M. B. McNAB.