No. 887,097. PATENTED MAY 12, 1908.

G. W. KIMBER.

DISPLAY CRATE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 24, 1906.

FIG. 1.

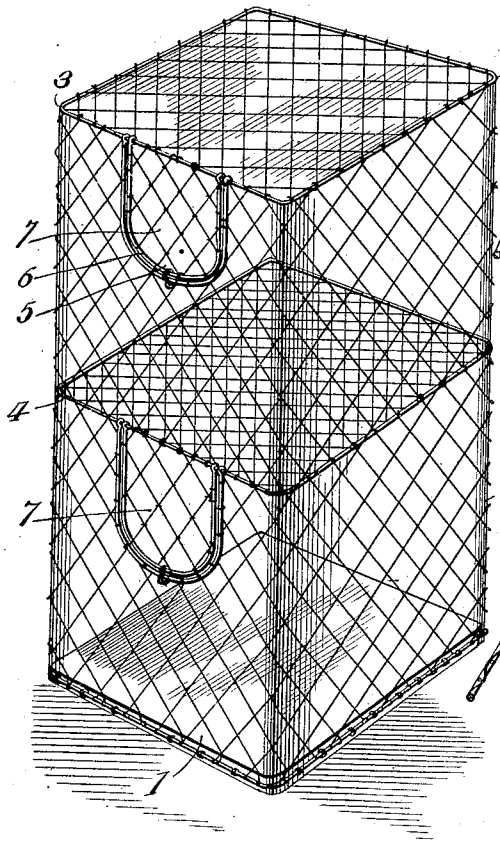
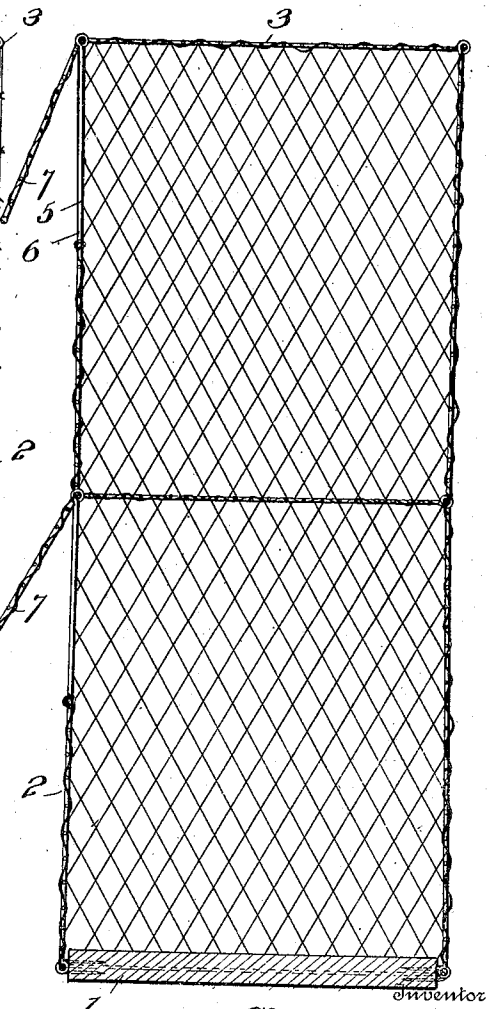


FIG. 2.



Witnesses

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DISPLAY-CRATE.

No. 887,097. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 12, 1908.

Application filed July 24, 1906. Serial No. 327,570.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. KIMBER, citizen of the United States, residing at La Crosse, in the county of La Crosse and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Crates, of which the following is a specification.

This invention provides an exhibitor for goods, such as fruits, vegetables and the like, being particularly designed for oranges, lemons, peaches, plums and fruit of kindred nature usually wrapped and requiring ventilation.

The object of the exhibitor is to enable an advantageous display of the goods, while at the same time preventing handling thereof and yet allowing the merchant to have free access thereto.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a display crate or exhibitor embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section thereof.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The crate or exhibitor is preferably formed of wire fabric which is light and provides ample mesh to admit of practically unobstructed observation of the goods to be displayed. The crate may be of any outline and construction and as shown comprises the bottom 1, preferably of wood, and a top and sides of open work material preferably wire fabric. The body 2 is continuous and is reinforced at its upper end by means of a wire 3 which forms a stiffener and constitutes a frame for the wire or open work top.

The crate or exhibitor is subdivided by means of a partition 4 into upper and lower compartments, each being accessible by means of an opening 5 formed in a side of the compartment near the top thereof, the said partition being surrounded by a wire frame as shown. Each of the openings 5 is reinforced by means of a wire 6 constituting a frame and a door 7 may be provided to close the opening, said door being constructed of open work and reinforced by a frame which provides a stiffener and hinged upon the frame immediately above the opening so as to swing upwardly. The doors 7 may be dispensed with without departing from the nature of the invention. The partition 4 is preferably of open work, such as wire fabric, and is reinforced at its outer edge by a wire frame. The partition, as well as the top 3, may be connected to the body of the crate in any manner either by extending the outer ends of the wires and bending the same about the body wires or by means of tie or binding wires looped about the frames of the top and partition and about the body wires at the points of intersection. In horizontal section, the crate is of rectangular outline, and the openings 5 are formed in the rear side.

A crate or exhibitor constructed in accordance with this invention is adapted to have its front supplied with the goods to be displayed in regular formation, the remainder of the goods being supplied to the compartments at random by being inserted through the openings. The crate when placed in upright position upon the bottom 1 is arranged with the side having the openings to the rear, thereby preventing any one from handling the goods while at the same time affording ready access thereto by the merchant.

When filling the crate it is preferably placed on its face, thereby permitting the fruit to be evenly and nicely arranged upon the first layer, the remainder adjusting itself. When nicely displayed the sales are increased, and since the invention admits of the goods being quickly and evenly arranged, there is an incentive to fill the crate or receptacle face downwards.

It will be noted that the wire fabric of which the body of the crate is composed is formed of comparatively large mesh and that, therefore, comparatively large spaces are provided, so as to allow a small portion of the surface of the fruit held in the crate to protrude out of the latter and be held in the even display arrangement mentioned in the paragraph above.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that I have provided a compartment crate, in which the lowermost frame is of wire and encircles the margin of the wooden bottom 1 and therefore tends to prevent said bottom from splitting in addition to provid-

ing a space around the edge of the bottom above and below the lower bottom frame for staples to straddle said frame and secure the entire wire mesh framework rigidly to the bottom.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

The herein described display crate comprising a wooden bottom, sides of wire mesh, upper, lower and intermediate frames applied to the sides, a top of wire mesh connected to the upper frame, a transverse partition of wire mesh connected to the intermediate frame, the lower frame receiving the edges of the bottom and being secured thereto, one of the sides of the crate having openings formed therein immediately below the upper and intermediate frames respectively, and upwardly swinging doors for the said openings, the said doors being hinged respectively to the said upper and intermediate frames.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. KIMBER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
FRANK WINTER,
CHRISTIAN J. KLEIN.