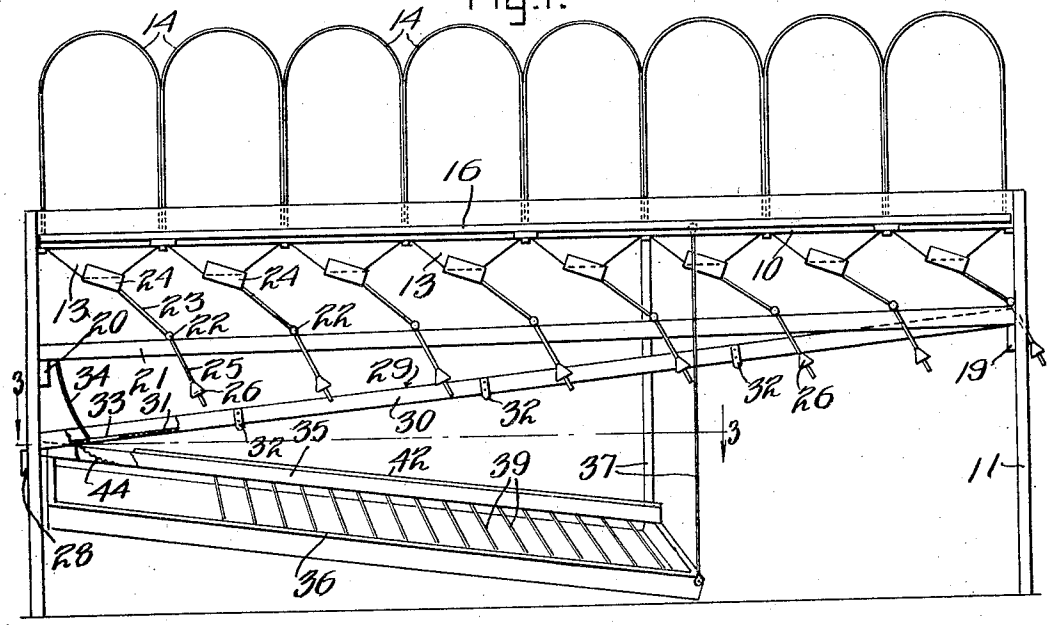
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FOWL NEST

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Fig. 1.



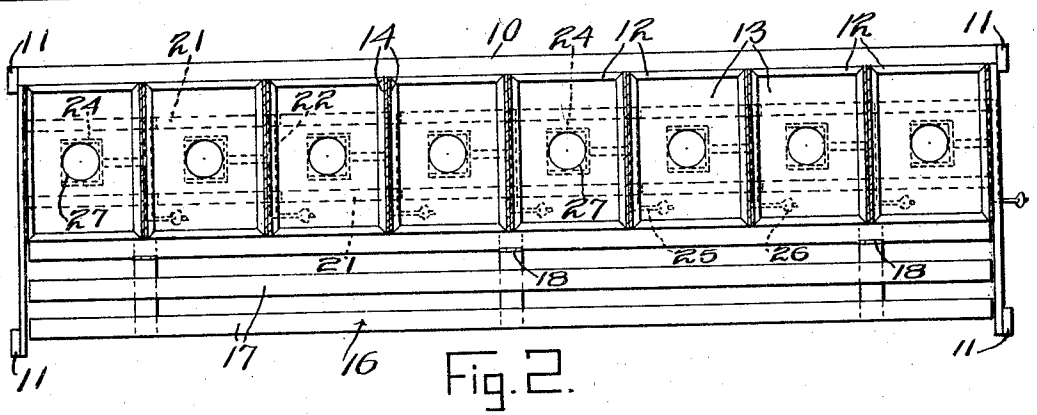


Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

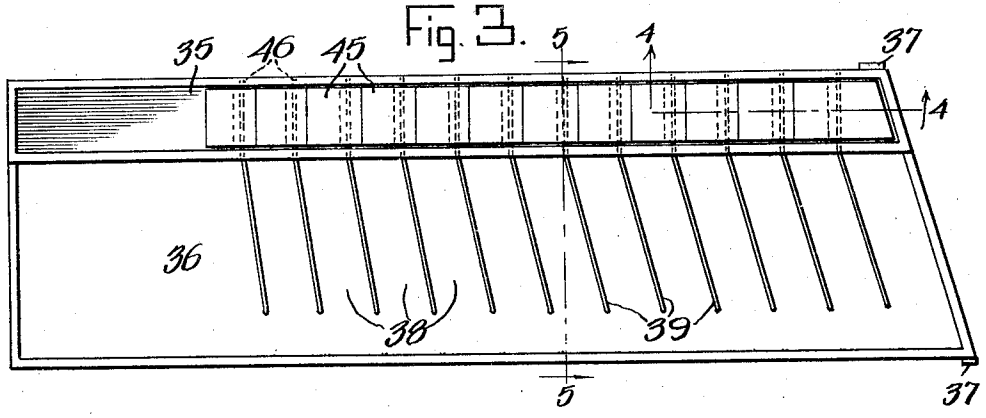


Fig. 4.

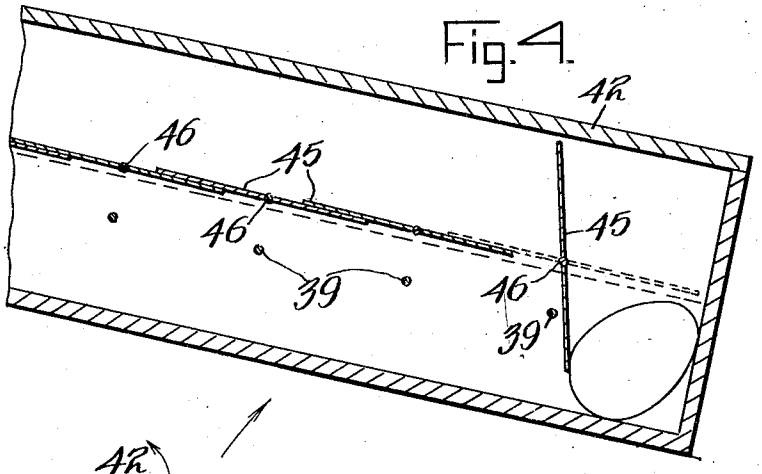
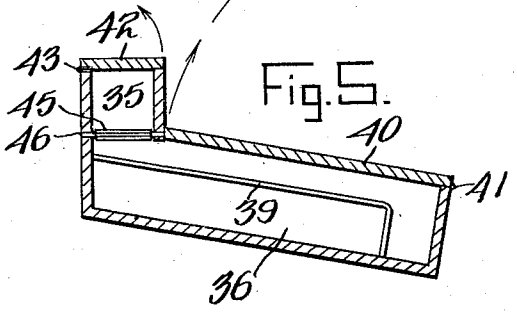


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOWL NEST

Application filed April 19, 1932. Serial No. 606,166.

This invention relates to fowl nests and the object of the invention is to provide a novel arrangement and construction whereby eggs may be automatically transferred from the nest box to a storage cabinet as soon as they are deposited in the nest box, all as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings which are made a part hereof and on which similar reference characters indicate similar parts,

Figure 1 is a front view in elevation of the device with the cover on the storage cabinet removed,

Figure 2, a plan view of the device, showing the nest covers in section,

Figure 3, a section on line 3—3 of Figure 1, and

Figures 4 and 5 are sections on lines 4—4 and 5—5, respectively, of Figure 3.

In the drawings reference character 10 indicates a framework supported by the legs 11 at each corner and having a plurality of nest boxes 12 mounted thereon. Each nest box is provided with a flexible bottom 13 and a removable cover 14. The bottom is preferably formed of canvas and the cover of sheet metal. A door 16 formed of a plurality of slots 17 is hinged at 18 to the frame-work 10 serving as a closure for the nests at night and as a perch during the day for the fowls to use in entering the nest boxes.

The legs 11 of the device are connected by the cross members 19 and 20 to which the members 21 are secured below and on each side of the bottom of the nests. The members 21 serve as supports for the rods 22. An arm 23 is secured at one end to the center of each of the rods 22 and is provided with a dipper or receptacle 24 having its outer end open fixed to the other end thereof. A similar arm 25 is secured to one end of the rod 22 and is provided with a counterweight 26 thereon which normally holds the receptacle 24 against the bottom of the nest. An opening 27 is provided in the bottom of the nest of a size which is sufficiently large to allow an egg to fall into the receptacle.

A cross-member 28 is fixed to the legs 11 below the member 20 serving as a support for the lower end of an inclined chute 29, the other end is supported by the member 19 and positioned between the members 21. The chute 29 consists of the side members 30 provided with a canvas bottom 31 and the metal bars 32 extending below and across the canvas. The lower end of the bottom of the chute is provided with an opening 33 through which an egg can pass. A canvas incline 34 is secured on the low side of the opening and serves as a buffer to prevent breaking the egg in its travel down the chute 29.

The chute 29 is connected to a passage 35 formed on the top and at the back of the inclined storage cabinet 36, one end of the cabinet is secured to and supported by the cross-member 28 and the lower end by the straps or hangers 37 to the framework 10. The bottom of the storage cabinet is sloped toward the front and is divided into a plurality of compartments 38 by means of the wires 39 secured at the back and to the bottom of the cabinet as shown in Figure 5. The storage cabinet is provided with a cover 40 hinged at 41 and the passage 35 is also provided with a cover 42 hinged at 43. The cover 42 is of such a length as to leave an opening at the top end of the passage 35 in communication with the opening 33. This portion of the passage is provided with an inclined canvas buffer 44 which checks the fall of the egg leaving the opening 33.

The passage 35 is separated from the storage cabinet 36 by a series of overlapping flaps 45, one being provided for each compartment. Each flap is mounted on a transversely positioned rod or pin 46, the rod or pin being slightly off center. The long side of each flap rests on the short side of the adjacent higher flap, thus forming a bottom for the passage 35.

Suitable cushioning material may be used at such points in the construction as necessary to prevent breaking the eggs.

The operation of the device is as follows: Considering the device in the position as

shown in Figure 1, the egg is deposited in the nest box and passes through the opening 27 into the receptacle 24. The weight of the egg overbalances the weight 26 and causes the receptacle to be forced downward when the egg is then deposited in the inclined chute 29. The receptacle being counter-balanced returns to its original position. The egg rolls down the chute and out through the opening 33 into the passage 35. The egg continues to roll down the passage 35 over the flaps 45 and when it strikes the last flap, the weight of the egg causes the flap to tip allowing the egg to enter the storage compartment 38, the compartment having a forwardly sloped bottom which causes the egg to roll to the front releasing the flap. The compartments may be of any suitable or desired size and when filled the last egg holds the flap open. The next egg enters the next higher compartment until it is filled and so on until all the compartments have been filled. The eggs are then removed by opening the door 40 to the storage compartment.

It is evident from the above description that the device is entirely automatic in operation, simple in construction and may be manufactured very cheaply. By use of this device the eggs may be kept in a clean, fresh and sanitary condition and may be readily collected with less effort on the part of the person collecting the eggs.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in my device without departing from the spirit of the invention and therefore we do not limit ourselves to what is shown in the drawings and described in the specification, but only as indicated by the appended claims.

Having thus fully described our said invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. In a device of the kind described comprising a nest and an inclined chute, an egg storage cabinet having an upper portion forming a passageway, a lower portion and a series of pivoted flaps separating said passageway from the lower portion of said cabinet, said lower portion being provided with transverse means dividing said portion into a plurality of compartments, said cabinet sloping longitudinally and laterally to cause an egg to roll longitudinally in said passageway into the lowermost empty compartment, then laterally in said compartment, substantially as set forth.

2. In a device of the kind described comprising a nest and an inclined chute, an egg storage cabinet having an upper portion forming a passageway, a lower portion and a series of overlapping pivoted flaps separating said passageway from the lower portion of said cabinet, said lower portion being provided with transverse partitions dividing said portion into a plurality of compartments, said cabinet sloping longitudinally and laterally to cause an egg to roll longitudinally in said passageway into the lowermost empty compartment, then laterally in said compartment, substantially as set forth.

3. In a device of the kind described comprising a nest and an inclined chute, an egg storage cabinet having an upper portion forming a passageway, a lower portion and a series of flaps pivoted on transverse axes separating said passageway from the lower portion of said cabinet, said lower portion being provided with transverse partitions dividing said portion into a plurality of compartments, said cabinet sloping longitudinally and laterally to cause an egg to roll longitudinally in said passageway into the lowermost empty compartment, then laterally in said compartment, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands at Pickering, Missouri, this 9th day of April, A. D. nineteen hundred and thirty-two.

HENRY H. WAGNER.
CHARLES L. WAGNER.