Aug. 12, 1947. G. J. HOFELDT ET AL 2,425,536

SHIPPING AND DISPLAY BOX

Filed Nov. 10, 1944

Fig. 1.

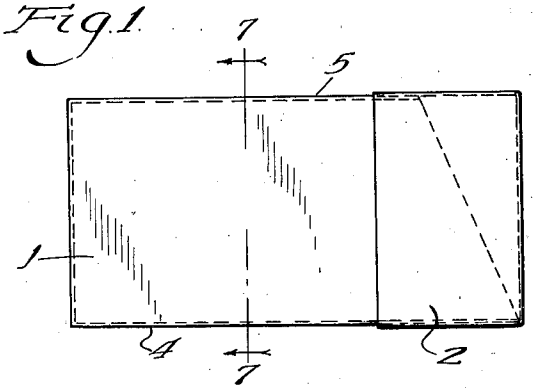


Fig. 3.

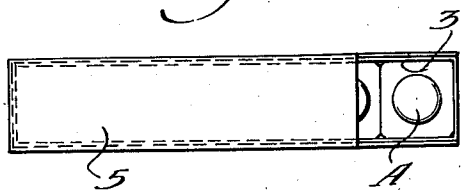


Fig. 5.

Fig. 2.

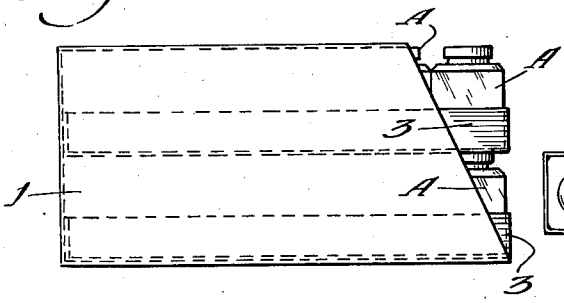


Fig. 6.

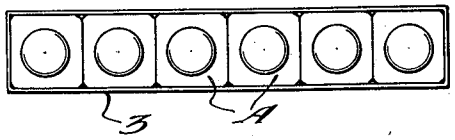


Fig. 7.

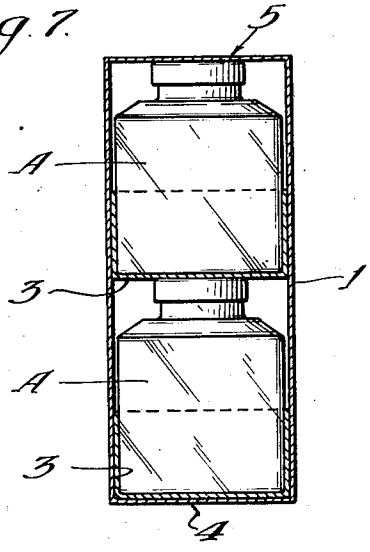
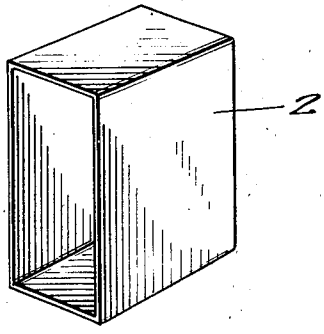


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,425,536

SHIPPING AND DISPLAY BOX

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Application November 10, 1944, Serial No. 562,758

2 Claims. (Cl. 206—44)

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The present invention has for its object to produce a simple and novel box in which quantities of small articles, little bottles of ink, for example, may be securely packaged and occupy a minimum amount of shipping or storage space while, upon reaching the merchant, the articles may remain in the box and yet be displayed effectively on a counter or elsewhere.

The various features of novelty whereby our invention is characterized will hereinafter be pointed out with particularity in the claims; but, for a full understanding of the invention and of its object and advantages, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side view of a box or package embodying the present invention; Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, with the cover of the box removed; Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the box, the cover being off as in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the box cover, detached from the box; Fig. 5 is a side view of one of the trays removed from the box; Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the tray of Fig. 5, filled with bottles, whereas in the latter view the tray is empty; and Fig. 7 is a section on line 7—7 of Fig. 1.

In the drawing the invention is illustrated in connection with packaging and displaying bottles of ink or the like and, for the sake of brevity, the detailed description will refer to this embodiment only, although it will be apparent that quantities of other things may be handled in the same way.

In carrying out our invention we construct a box all of the sides of which are preferably rectangular when the box is closed. In the arrangement shown, the box consists of a long body member 1, open at one end, and a short cover member 2 telescoped over the open end of the same. In cross section, in a plane parallel to the end walls of the box, it is about as wide as one of the bottles and twice as high as the bottle. Cooperating with the box are a plurality of trays 3, two being shown. The trays are about as long as the box and about as wide; the length of the box and the tray being such that a predetermined number of bottles A, arranged side by side, completely fill a tray. With this arrangement two filled trays may be inserted, one on top of the other, in the box and thus completely fill the box.

It will be seen that the open end of the body of the box, or box proper, is not cut off square but terminates in an inclined plane that leaves the bottom wall 4 longer than the opposite or

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top wall 5 by an amount about equal to the width of a bottle. Consequently when the box, without its cover, is set down on the bottom wall a portion of each tray protrudes from the open front end of the box. Thus the first bottle in the upper tray is almost fully bared, while a fragment of the corresponding bottle in the lower tray can be seen. In other words, the contents of the box are effectively displayed, the forward part of the upper tray can be grasped to pull it part way or all the way out, or both trays can be slid out simultaneously. When a tray is taken out its contents are not disturbed but are held together by the tray. Any desired number of boxes may be placed side by side to present the appearance of a single wide box or case that is exhibiting two rows of bottles, one above the other, distributed across the front.

When the box is full and the cover is on, the trays act as struts cooperating with the long bottom wall to resist end thrusts on the box, so that the box remains strong and rigid notwithstanding the fact that the front end of the main member is not square. The cap or cover must, of course, be deep enough to overlap the short top wall 5 a substantial distance to create a tight joint, and this further reenforces the box.

It will thus be seen that we have produced a simple and novel box or carton which, when filled, is as sturdy and rugged as though the open end of the main or body member were square and which becomes, upon merely removing the cap or cover, a means for effectively displaying the contents. It will also be seen that the box is easily filled with bottles or other objects, which are first placed in trays that are then slipped into the box and may at any time be removed and be put back again if the entire contents of a tray are to be examined or exhibited.

While we have illustrated and described with particularity only a single preferred form of our invention we do not desire to be limited to the exact structural details thus illustrated and described; but intend to cover all forms and arrangements coming within the definitions of our invention constituting the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A rectangular bottle package comprising a long carton body member having an open end terminating in a plane inclined to two opposed walls thereof so that one of the latter is longer than the other, a cover telescoped over the said open end of the body member, a plurality of loose, shallow trays arranged one above the other in the body member parallel to the aforesaid walls and substantially as wide as the latter, each tray

substantially the length of said longer wall, bottles that are higher than the depth of the trays filling the latter, the parts being so proportioned that the filled trays have a combined depth about equal to the distance between the said walls, the inclination of the open end of the body member being such that when the cover is removed portions at least of all endmost bottles at said open end are exposed to view from the sides and the end of the body member.

2. A package as set forth in claim 1, wherein there are two trays and the widths thereof are such that each contains a single row of bottles.

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