May 13, 1958 J. H. NUTE 2,834,530

CHICK SHIPPING CONTAINER

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Fig. 1.

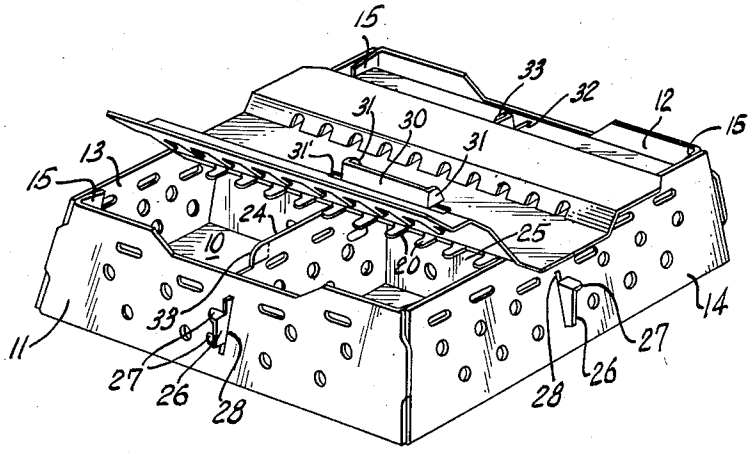


Fig. 2.

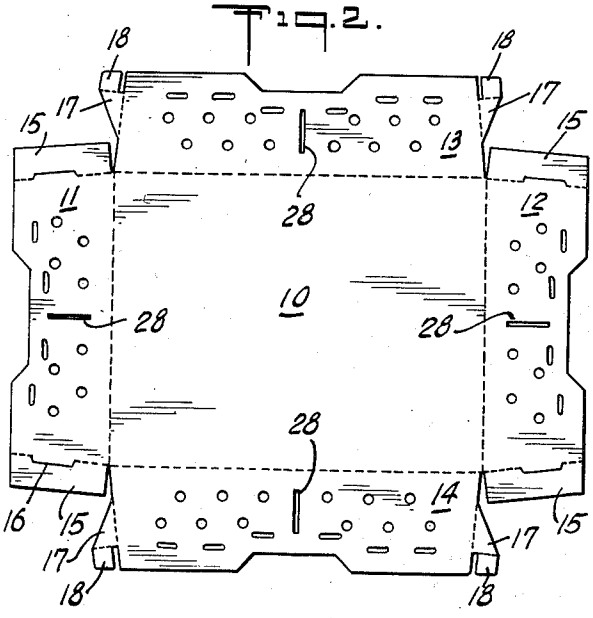


Fig. 3.

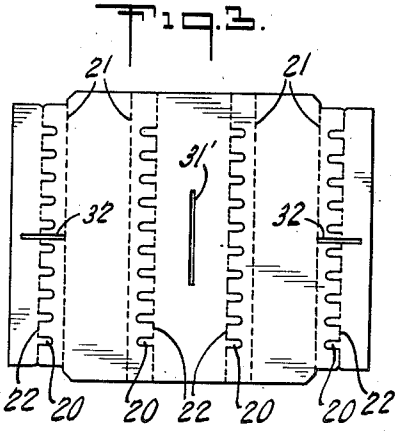


Fig. 4.

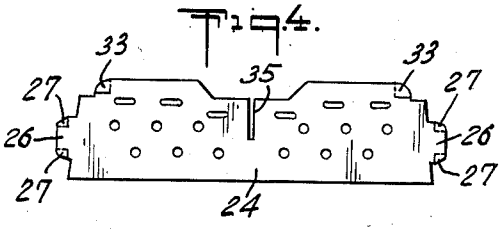
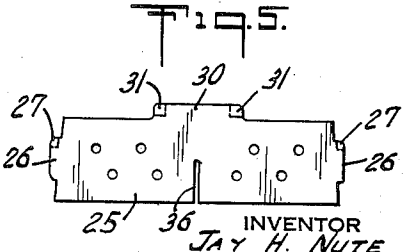


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

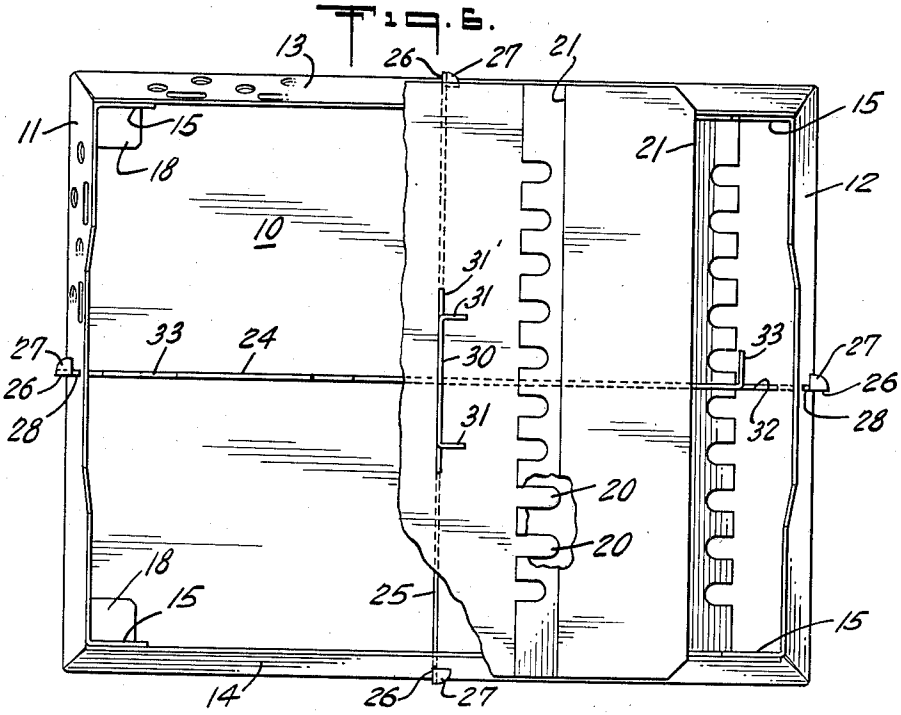


Fig. 7.

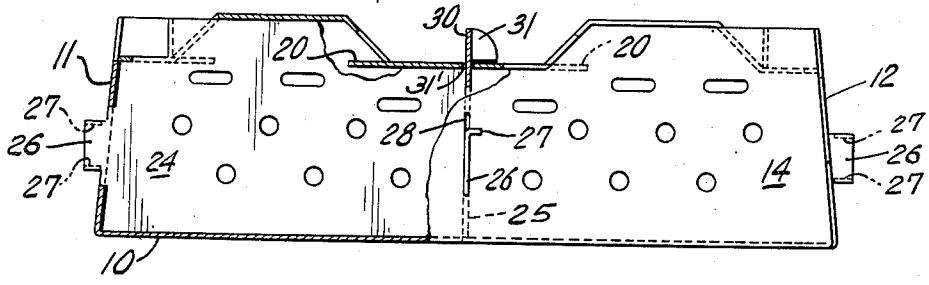
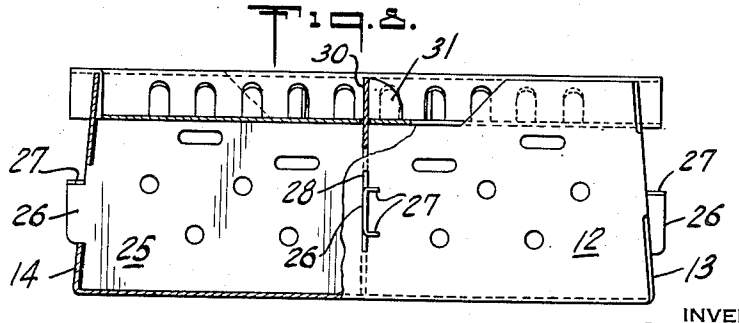


Fig. 8.



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CHICK SHIPPING CONTAINER

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Application January 9, 1957, Serial No. 633,342

1 Claim. (Cl. 229—6)

This invention relates to containers for shipping baby chicks, and more particularly to such containers constructed of paperboard such as corrugated board, solid fiberboard or the like.

Chick shipping containers are generally constructed with a plurality of holes in the side walls and top to provide circulation of air for the live baby chicks. The side walls are often slanted and the top may contain a channel to aid in the circulation of air when a number of the containers are stacked together. For strength, the containers usually have dividers which may form four compartments in the box which also serve to divide up the chicks and prevent crushing. One of the problems with the containers involves the setting up of the container. The volume usage of the boxes at any one time and place is often not so great as to permit the economic installation of setting up machinery. Furthermore, it is desirable if the setting up method permits reopening for inspection without destroying the container. With relation to manufacturing the containers, one of the economic problems involves the cleaning out of the air holes or vents after they have been cut.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved chick shipping container.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved chick shipping container which may be set up without the use of glue or staples.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved chick shipping container wherein there are no holes to clean out of the top of the container.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an improved chick shipping container having a cover which may be locked in place, reopened and relocked without the use of glue, staples or twine or rope.

These and other objects are attained by the present invention which may best be understood by reference to the attached drawings showing a preferred embodiment of the invention. It will be understood, however, that variations and substitutions may be made within the scope of the claims.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the container of the present invention with the top partially opened.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank of the principal body member.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank used to form the cover.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of one divider.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of another divider.

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the top of the assembled container with a portion of the cover cut away.

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view at the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a cross-sectional view at the line 8—8 of Fig. 6.

With reference to the drawings, the blank of Fig. 2 comprises a bottom section **10** with end walls **11** and **12** and side walls **13** and **14** attached to the bottom **10** by means of wall lines. The end walls **11** and **12** contain lock flaps **15** having slots **16** adapted to receive lock inserts **17** on the side walls **13** and **14**. At the extremity of lock inserts **17** are lock tabs **18** hingedly connected thereto.

The cover is illustrated at Fig. 3 as a blank substantially rectangular in shape, having a plurality of U-shaped cutouts **20**, arranged in rows in a predetermined pattern. The cover has a plurality of score lines extending across it. Score lines **21** extend across the cover, whereas score lines **22** are interrupted score lines and occur only between the U-shaped cutouts so that when the cover is folded the U-shaped cutouts remain as tabs in the plane of the portions of the cover forming the valleys of the channels of the container.

In assembly, the container is first formed by placing insertions **17** in slots **16** as the side and end walls are raised up into position. The tabs **18** are then bent at an angle to the insertions **17** to lock the container in assembled position.

As shown in Figs. 4 and 5, there are provided dividers **24** and **25**. Each contains inserts **26** with lock tabs **27** which are similar in function to the inserts **17** and lock tabs **18**. These dividing members are inserted into slots **28** in the side and end walls and locked in position by a twist of the flaps **27**.

The cover member is first folded to conform to the channels divided by the walls **12** and **13** and divider member **24**. In forming the channels the U-shaped cutouts are bent away from the U-shaped tabs **20**, thus providing a plurality of ear ducts which do not require cleaning out or removing of any cutout pieces of board as is ofttimes necessary in the case of cutout holes. The cover is locked in place by reason of insert **30** of divider **25** coming up through slot **31** in the cover. The insert is then located in place by lock tabs or ears **31** which are at an angle. Similarly, the ends of the cover are locked in place through slots **32** adapted to receive lock tabs **33** on dividing member **24**. The dividing members themselves are placed at right angles and inserted by the registration of slots **35** and **36**.

As will be seen from the drawings, the container is easily assembly by the use of slots and inserts and by bending lock tabs. The cover may be closed, opened and reclosed simply by bending lock tab **33** and may be removed by bending lock tabs **31—31**. The U-shaped cutouts **20** are cleaned out merely by a bending along the fold lines **22—22**, thus saving the labor required to individually punch out the holes.

I claim:

In a chick shipping container of paperboard, a body member comprising a bottom and side walls, partition members and a cover member, side wall members connected together by means of lock tabs in slots adjacent the corners of said container and said cover secured by lock tabs in slots therein, said side walls being wider at their bottom than at the top, one pair of said side walls having recesses in their upper edges, said cover member comprising seven sections foldably connected to each other and being folded into said recesses so as to form a channel in the top of the container, said cover having four rows of U-shaped cut-outs, the base of each U-shaped cut-out being continuous with the cover member and not separated therefrom by fold lines whereby in assembled relationship U-shaped tabs extend into the container in the same plane as the bottom of said channel.

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