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F. P. ALLEN

PACKING DEVICE

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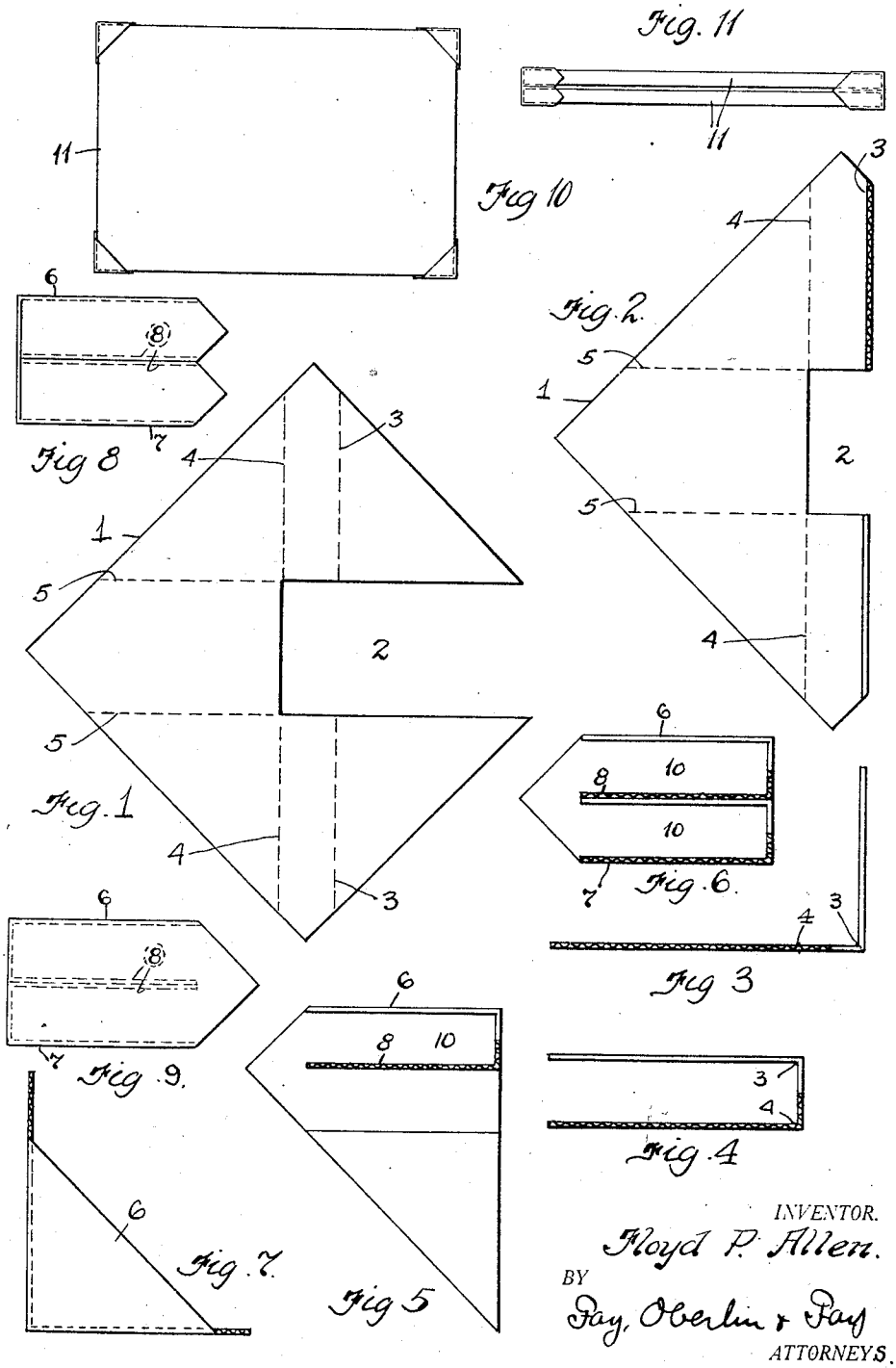

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PACKING DEVICE.

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The present improved packing device has been designed particularly for the purpose of facilitating the packing of enamelware such as enamel table tops, washtub covers and the like. Certain of these articles, for example, such as washtub covers, are regularly sold in pairs, but despite this, the practice has persisted of individually protecting the corners of each cover with a so-called corner pad before crating. The object of the present improved packing device is to provide a single corner pad fabricated from a single piece of cardboard or like protecting material that may be fitted onto and simultaneously protect two corresponding corners of a pair of trays or like articles placed side by side.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, the invention, then, consists of the means hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims, the annexed drawing and the following description setting forth in detail certain mechanism embodying the invention, such disclosed means constituting, however, but one of various mechanical forms in which the principle of the invention may be used.

In said annexed drawing:—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the blank from which my improved packing device is formed, the dotted lines indicating the scorings in said blank defining the lines upon which the blank is folded to produce the finished device; Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 after the first folding step; Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the blank after such first folding step as viewed from the lower edge in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 after the second folding step; Fig. 5 is a plan view of the blank as viewed from the same direction as in Figs. 1 and 2 with one portion shown in the position occupied after such second folding step and the portion at the top part of the figure appearing edge on in the position occupied after a third folding step; Fig. 6 is a view from the same direction as in Fig. 5 showing the blank after the final folding step, i. e. as completed; Fig. 7 is a view of the completed device as seen from a direction at right angles to Fig. 6; Fig. 8 is an elevation of one outer side and Fig. 9 of the other outer side thereof; and Figs. 10 and 11 are respectively a plan view and a side elevation of a pair of trays having a set of my improved packing devices fitted to their corners.

As indicated above, the device will preferably be formed from a sheet of corrugated board, although any equivalent material may be employed for the purpose. As blanked out (see Fig. 1) the device is in the form of an approximately square pad 1 with a rectangular recess 2 extending slightly more than half way across the same from one of the corners which is of course cut away. To facilitate the successive folding, as well as to insure the accuracy of such folding, the blank is formed with two sets of aligned scorings 3, 3, and 4, 4, at right angles to the median line of recess 2. Such scorings lie at equal distances from a line joining the corresponding corners of the blank and it will be noted that the last mentioned scorings coincide with the inner edge of such recess 2. Similarly coinciding with the respective lateral edges of such recess are two other scorings 5, 5, which are equidistantly spaced from a line symmetrically dividing the remaining corner of the blank.

The first step in assembling or arranging the device for use is to bend up the blank along scorings 3, 3, until the angular portions to the right thereof, as viewed in Fig. 1, are approximately vertical to the original plane of the blank (see Figs. 2 and 3). Thereupon the portions thus bent up with the portions that lie between the scorings 3 and 4 are bent around such last mentioned scorings until the initially bent up portions lie approximately parallel with the original plane of the blank, as shown in Fig. 4 and the lower portion of Fig. 5. Finally, each part thus preliminarily folded up that lies outside the scorings 5, 5, is bent up about such scoring until the originally bent up portions are brought face to face, as shown in Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, which represent the completed device.

Such device it will be seen is of general triangular box-like form with top and bottom walls 6 and 7 and an intermediate wall or partition 8 of double thickness. While the side walls of the box-like structure are closed, the device is open on its inner face presenting two pockets 10, 10, which are of the proper width to snugly fit the corners of the trays 11, as shown in Figs. 10 and 11.

But little more material is required to

form a pad of the construction described which is adapted to receive and protect the corners of a pair of trays than is required for a pad of the type at present in use which protects the corner of but one such tray. It accordingly is possible with this improved device to save fully half the cost heretofore incurred for this item in the packing of such trays. At the same time the corners of the trays are firmly held together and there is much less danger of their being damaged by coming in contact with each other. It will be understood that while particular reference has been made to the use of the device with so-called washtub covers, which are generally supplied in pairs, there is no limitation to the use of the device for such particular purpose, nor necessarily to articles that are shipped in pairs for it will be advantageous to employ the same wherever a plurality of similar articles having corners to be protected are to be packed.

Other modes of applying the principle of my invention may be employed instead of the one explained, change being made as regards the mechanism herein disclosed, provided the means stated by any of the following claims or the equivalent of such stated means be employed.

I therefore particularly point out and distinctly claim as my invention:

1. A blank for a packing device of the character described, said blank being approximately square with a rectangular recess extending inwardly from one corner thereof, substantially as described.

2. A blank for a packing device of the character described, said blank being approximately square with a rectangular recess extending inwardly from one corner thereof, and having two scorings extending transversely of such recess and two other scorings aligned with the respective sides of such recess.

3. A blank for a packing device of the character described, said blank being approximately square with a rectangular recess extending inwardly from one corner thereof, and having two scorings extending transversely of such recess and two other scorings aligned with the respective sides of such recess, each such pair of scorings being symmetrically located with respect to the adjacent corners of the blank.

4. As an article of manufacture, means for packing tray-like articles having corners, said means comprising a protective wrapping adapted to wrap about both edges of the corners of two of such articles adjacently placed and have its ends tucked in therebetween.

5. As an article of manufacture, means for packing tray-like articles having corners, said means comprising a cushioning wrapping adapted to wrap about both edges of the corners of two of such articles adjacently placed and have its ends tucked in therebetween.

Signed by me this 24th day of August, 1925.

FLOYD P. ALLEN.