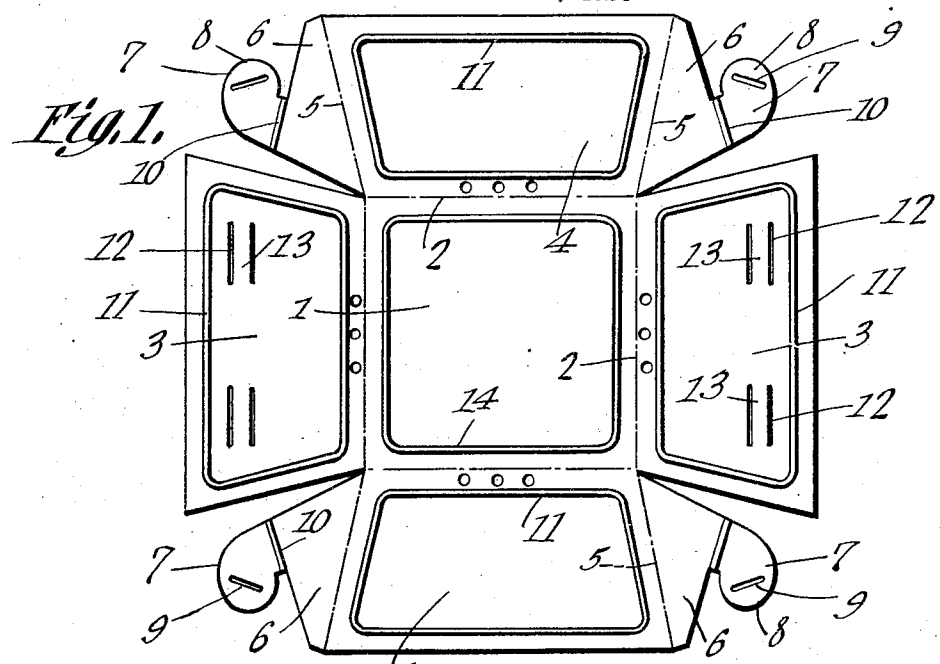
Dec. 13, 1927. 1,652,251

R. M. OLIVER ET AL

BERRY BASKET

Filed June 16, 1924

Fig. 1.



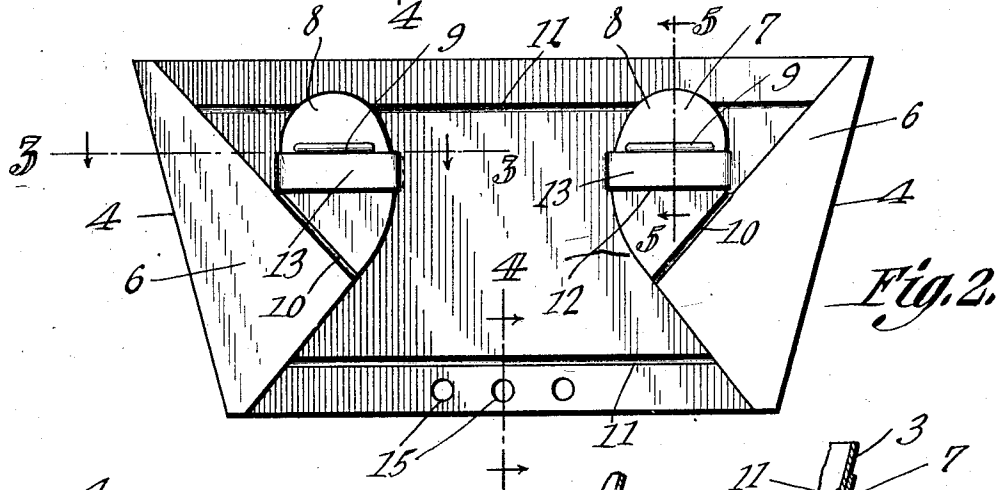


Fig. 2.

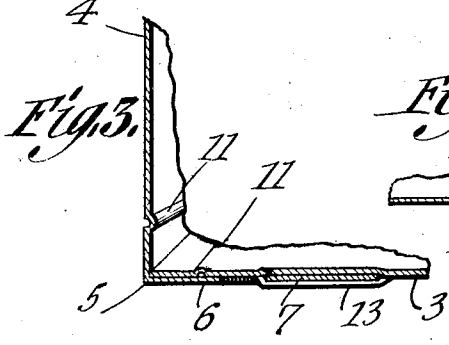


Fig. 3.

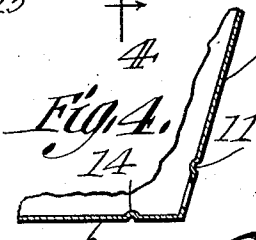


Fig. 4.

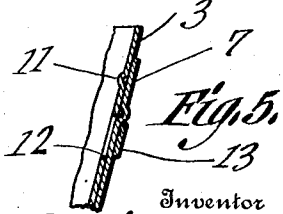


Fig. 5.

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Patented Dec. 13, 1927. 1,652,251

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUTH M. OLIVER AND GEORGE R. PENN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNORS, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO GENE G. OLIVER, OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS, AND DANIEL D. KRODER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BERRY BASKET.

Application filed June 16, 1924. Serial No. 720,336.

This invention relates to baskets of that type generally known as "berry baskets", one of the objects being to provide a device of this character which is formed in one piece of paper board, it being possible to produce the entire blank by one operation.

A further object is to provide a berry basket which conforms in outline with the splint basket ordinarily used in the produce trade.

A still further object is to provide an inexpensive and efficient basket of this character, the construction of which insures standardization of the cubical contents.

A still further object is to construct a basket of paper board whereby it can be so cheaply produced as to permit "single service" and not necessitate returns of empty baskets. This constitutes an important hygienic feature not found in baskets which are repeatedly used by different persons.

A still further object is to provide a basket having ample space for containing advertisements, it being possible, by the use of paper board of different colors to produce baskets of different distinctive colors designed to display their contents to the best advantage.

A still further object is to provide a knock-down basket having novel means for securely locking together the corner portions without distorting the basket.

A still further object is to provide means whereby the basket is reinforced in the direction of the length and height of its walls and wherever else desired.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawings

Figure 1 is a plan view of the blank for producing a berry basket.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged elevation of a berry basket formed from the blank.

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3, Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a section on line 4—4, Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a section on line 5—5, Fig. 2.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference 1 designates the central or bottom portion of the blank separated by score lines 2 from panels 3, and 4 constituting the side and end wall portions respectively of the blank. Each of the side panels 3 is preferably trapezoidal and each of the end panels 4 is preferably formed with diverging score lines 5 extending from the corners of the bottom portion 1 and cooperating with the score lines 2 and the outer edge of the panel 4 to define a trapezoidal end wall. The score lines 5 separate the end walls 4 from the side wings 6 substantially triangular and each of which has a tongue 7 extending from the free corner portion thereof. As shown each tongue has a laterally projecting rounded extension or head 8. If desired this head may be provided with a transverse rib 9 pressed outwardly therefrom and constituting a locking member as hereinafter explained. A depression 10 may also be formed in the neck portion of the tongue whereby the tongue is caused to flex substantially along the line of the outer side edge of the wing.

Each of the end walls or panels 4 is provided with a reinforcing rib 11 extending close to and parallel with the marginal portions of the wall or panel, similar ribs being also provided on the side walls or panels 3. These ribs serve to stiffen the panels and render them less likely to buckle under lateral pressure.

Each of the side walls of panel 3 is provided with spaced pairs of parallel slots 12. These slots are so located that when the blank is set up for use the tongues 7 can be inserted through the slots and will be held firmly against the outer faces of the end walls 4 by the bands 13 formed between the slots. When the tongues are thus located back of the bands, the ribs 9 will slightly overlap the upper edges of the bands, thereby tending to prevent withdrawal of the tongues 7 from the slots. While the tongues are thus interlocked with the slotted end walls, as shown in Fig. 2, the end edges of the side walls are held firmly against the inner faces of the end walls 4. The bottom portion 1 of the blank can be reinforced by means of a continuous rib 14 pressed there-

from and parallel with the margins of said portions. Ventilating openings 15 can be provided in the walls wherever desired.

It will be noted that the blank from which the berry basket is to be made can be produced readily by a single operation, the one operation cutting out the blank, producing the slits therein, and also making the necessary depressions to form the beads and grooves used for reinforcing and locking purposes. The score lines can also be produced at the same time. Furthermore if desired suitable printed matter can be displayed on the bottom portion or on the panels in the spaces surrounded by the reinforcing ribs and this printed matter can be used for advertising, etc.

The blanks are to be shipped flat to the customer who can readily set them up for use simply by bending along the score lines 2 and 5, placing the wings 6 against the outer faces of the sides 3 and inserting the tongues 7 upwardly through the slots 12. Thus the ribs 9 will be forced through the slots and will snap over the upper edges of the bands 13 as shown in Fig. 2, thereby completing an efficient lock. The rounded extensions or heads 8 on the tongues project upwardly when the basket is set up, as shown in Fig. 2, so that the end walls 4 are thus held positively properly assembled with the end walls 4.

Although there has been illustrated a blank for producing a berry basket having a square bottom, it is to be understood that baskets of different shapes and sizes can be produced without departing from the scope of the present invention.

What is claimed is:—

1. A container of the class described formed in a single blank of sheet material having a central bottom portion, marginal panels constituting side and end walls, wings extending laterally from the end walls for lapping the side walls when the blank is set up for use, rounded tongues extending laterally and upwardly from the wings, there being slots arranged in pairs within each side wall, each pair of slots adapted to receive one of the tongues insertable upwardly therethrough to hold said tongue flat against the outer face of the side wall and to maintain the end wall tight against the end of said side wall, and a rib upon the outer face of each tongue and extending thereacross but terminating inwardly from the edges of the tongue for retaining the tongue within its slots.

2. A container of the class described comprising a single blank of sheet material shaped to provide a central bottom portion, side and end panels, integral with the bottom portion, said bottom portion and panels each having reinforced ribs pressed therefrom, there being slots arranged in pairs within the side panels to provide bands between the slots of each pair, wings upon the sides of the end panels and foldable against the outer faces of the side panels and rounded tongues upon the wings, each tongue being insertible inwardly through the lower slot of one pair, and outwardly from the upper slot of said pair, the band between said slots constituting means for holding the tongue flat against the outer face of the side panels and against movement longitudinally of the band, thereby to maintain the end panel against the end of said side panel, and a rib upon one face of the tongue and extending transversely of the tongue but terminating inwardly from the edges of the tongue for engaging a wall of the upper slot to hold the tongue against accidental withdrawal from the slots.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own, we have hereto affixed our signatures.

RUTH M. OLIVER.
GEORGE R. PENN.