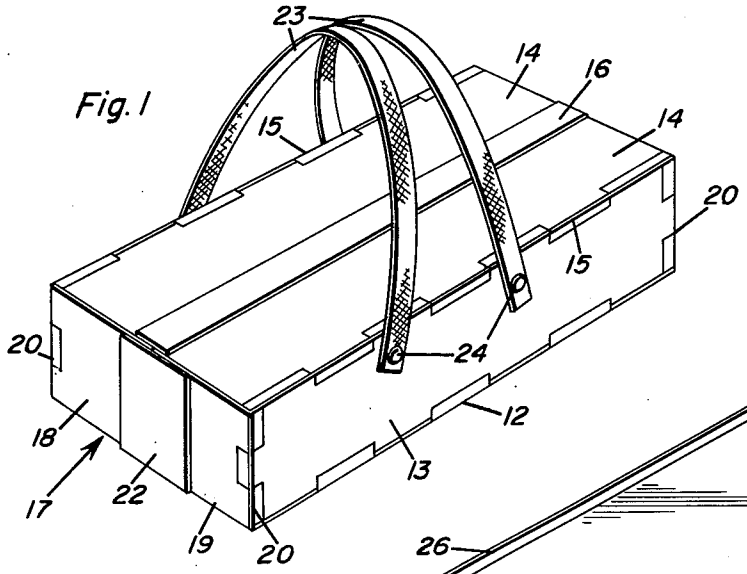
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FOLDING PICNIC BASKET

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Fig. 1



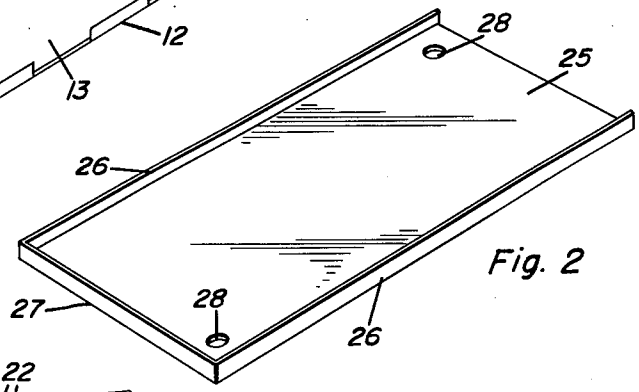


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

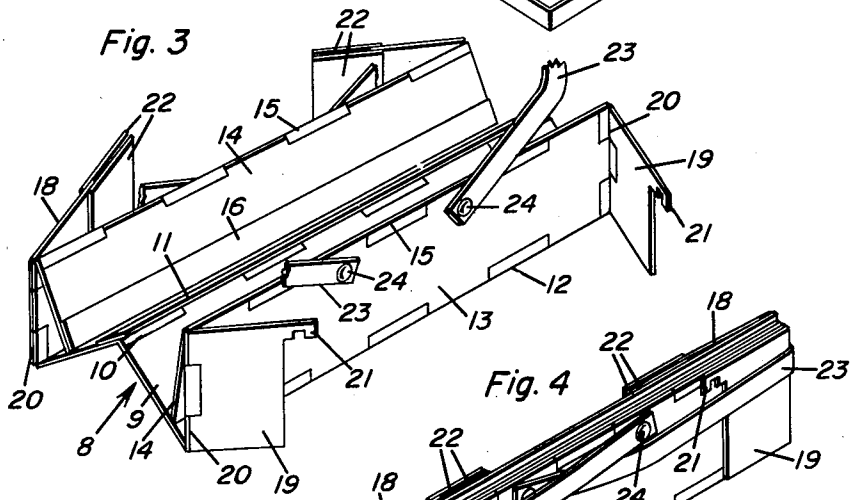


Fig. 4

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Fig. 5

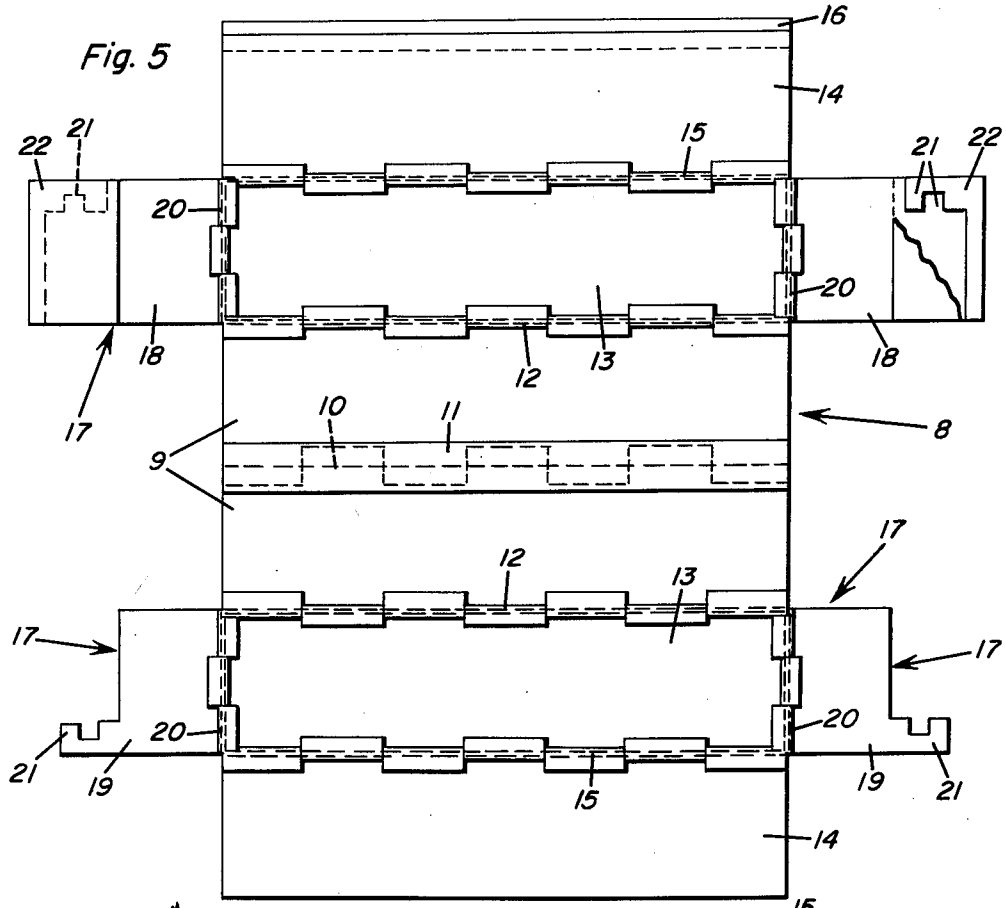


Fig. 6

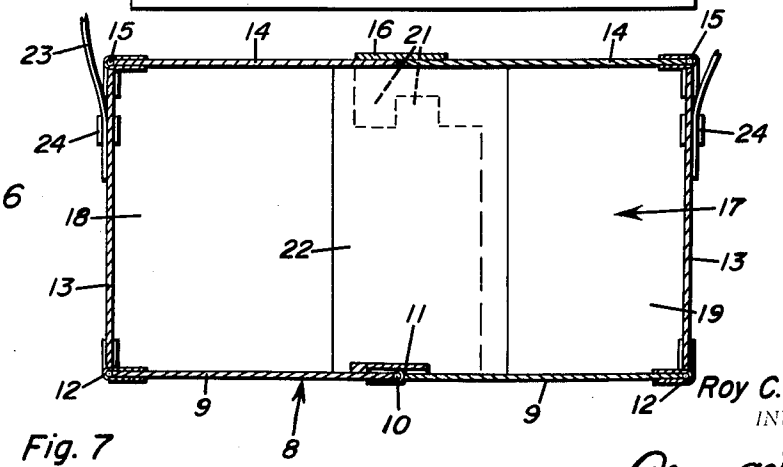
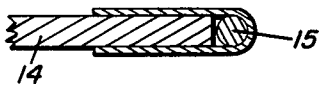


Fig. 7



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3,032,230

FOLDING PICNIC BASKET

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Filed May 19, 1960, Ser. No. 30,343
5 Claims. (Cl. 220—6)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in picnic baskets and has for its primary object to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a receptacle of this character which, when it is not in use, is adapted to be expeditiously and compactly folded or collapsed for storage.

Another very important object of the present invention is to provide a basket of the aforementioned character comprising common means for carrying the open basket and for securing the same in folded position.

Still another important object of the invention is to provide, in a folding picnic basket comprising end walls each of which includes a pair of complemental flaps, novel means for detachably connecting the free ends of said flaps when the basket is opened for use.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a folding picnic basket of the character set forth which is comparatively simple in construction, strong, durable, compact, of light weight and which may be manufactured at low cost.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a folding picnic basket constructed in accordance with the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a bottom perspective view of the removable tray or false bottom;

FIGURE 3 is a perspective view showing the device partially folded with portions of the handles broken away;

FIGURE 4 is a perspective view showing the basket completely folded;

FIGURE 5 is a top plan view showing the device opened and lying flat;

FIGURE 6 is a view in transverse section through the open basket; and

FIGURE 7 is an enlarged detail view in section through one of the hinges.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, it will be seen that the embodiment of the invention which has been illustrated comprises a substantially rectangular bottom of suitable material which is designated generally by reference character **8**. The bottom **8**, which may also be of any desired dimensions, comprises a pair of complemental half-sections **9** having their inner longitudinal edges hingedly connected at **10**. A laterally projecting cover strip **11** (see FIGURE 6) is provided on one of the bottom sections **9** for the hinge **10**.

Hingedly secured at **12** on the longitudinal edges of the bottom **8** is a pair of side walls **13**. A pair of cover sections **14** are hingedly mounted at **15** on the side walls **13**. A strip **16** is secured longitudinally on one of the cover sections **14** and overlies the corresponding portion of the other of said cover sections when the basket is unfolded for use.

End walls **17** are mounted on the side walls **13**. Each end wall **17** comprises a pair of complemental flaps **18** and **19** which are hingedly mounted as indicated at **20** on the ends of the side walls **13**. Formed integrally with the free ends of the flaps **18** and **19** are interlocking hooks or lugs **21** for detachably connecting said flaps. When thus connected the flaps **18** and **19** are aligned

with the free ends thereof in opposed, abutting engagement. Mounted on the free end portions of the flaps **18** and projecting therefrom are spaced strips or sheets **22** defining grooves or channels for the reception of the free end portions of the flaps **19**. The hooks or lugs **21**, when interlocked, are also between the elements **22**.

Reference character **23** designates a pair of loop-type carrying handles or straps of suitable flexible material having their end portions secured as indicated at **24** to the side walls **13** at longitudinally spaced points.

A false bottom or tray for the basket is indicated at **25** in FIGURE 2 of the drawing. The false bottom or tray **25** includes depending side walls **26** and a single end wall **27**. Thus, the false bottom or tray **25** is open at one end. Finger holes or openings **28** are provided to facilitate removing the false bottom or tray **25** from the basket.

It is thought that the use of the device will be readily apparent from a consideration of the foregoing. Briefly, with the basket in open position for use as shown in FIGURES 1 and 6 of the drawing, the hinged cover sections **14** may be conveniently raised for permitting full access to be had to said basket. The false bottom or tray **25** fully protects pies, cakes, etc., which may be placed in the basket on the bottom **8** thereof. The interlocking hooks or lugs **21** and the elements **22** firmly but detachably secure the end flaps **18** and **19** in open position. To collapse the basket, the flaps **18** and **19** are disconnected and folded outwardly against the outside of the side walls **13** in the manner shown in FIGURE 3 of the drawing, the cover sections **14** are folded inwardly and downwardly against said side walls **13**, the bottom sections are folded upwardly against said cover sections and said side walls are pushed together. Then, the flexible carrying handles **23** are crossed and looped over the ends of the basket for securing the same in folded position. When not in use the folded basket may be stored in the false bottom or tray **25** which, of course, has been previously removed from said basket.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A folding picnic basket comprising a substantially rectangular, collapsible bottom including a pair of hingedly connected sections, side walls hingedly mounted on the bottom, cover sections hingedly mounted on the side walls and foldable between said side walls and said bottom sections, end walls comprising pairs of flaps hingedly mounted on said side walls and means detachably connecting the free ends of said pairs of flaps.

2. A folding picnic basket in accordance with claim 1, together with common means for carrying the basket in open position and for securing said basket in folded position, said means including flexible straps having their end portions secured to said side walls and of a length to be looped over the ends thereof when said basket is in said folded position.

3. A folding picnic basket comprising a substantially rectangular, collapsible bottom including a pair of hingedly connected sections, side walls hingedly mounted on the bottom, cover sections hingedly mounted on the side walls and foldable between said side walls and said bottom sections, end walls comprising pairs of flaps hingedly mounted on said side walls and means detachably connecting the free ends of said pairs of flaps, said means

comprising complemental, interlocking hooks on said free ends of said pairs of flaps.

4. A folding picnic basket comprising a substantially rectangular, collapsible bottom including a pair of hingedly connected sections, side walls hingedly mounted on said bottom, cover sections hingedly mounted on the side walls, end walls comprising pairs of flaps hingedly mounted on the ends of said side walls, spaced strips projecting from the free ends of certain of the flaps for receiving the free end portions of the other flaps therebetween, and means for detachably connecting the ends of said pairs of flaps.

5. A folding picnic basket comprising a substantially rectangular, collapsible bottom including a pair of hingedly connected sections, side walls hingedly mounted on said bottom, cover sections hingedly mounted on the side walls, end walls comprising pairs of flaps hingedly mounted on the ends of said side walls, spaced strips projecting from the free ends of certain of the flaps for receiving the free end portions of the other flaps therebetween, and means for detachably connecting the ends of said pairs of flaps, said means comprising complemental, interlocking hooks on said free ends of said pairs of flaps engageable with each other between said strips.

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