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W. C. DEAN

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POULTRY COOP OR CRATE

Filed Sept. 21, 1928

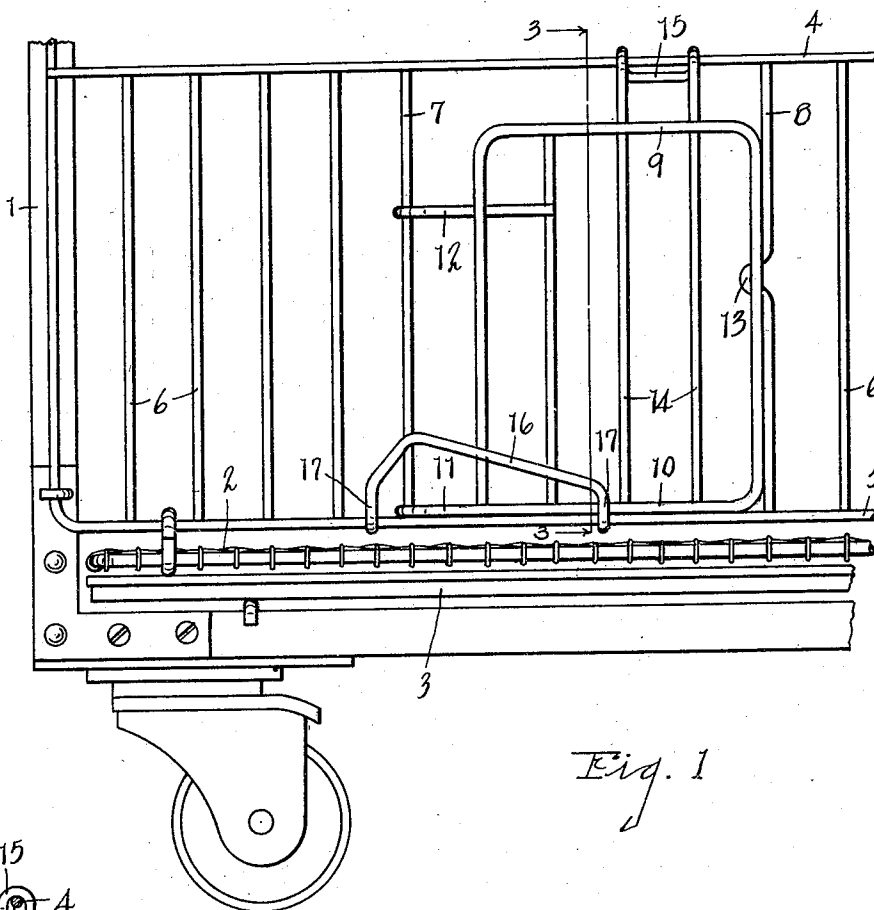


Fig. 1

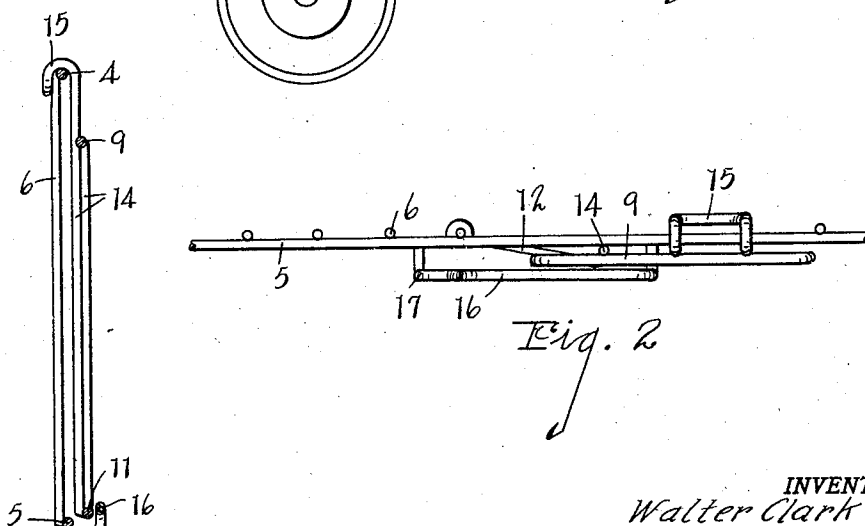


Fig. 2

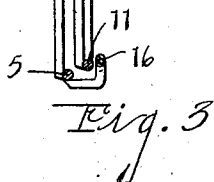


Fig. 3

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POULTRY COOP OR CRATE

Application filed September 21, 1928. Serial No. 307,528.

The main object of this invention is to provide in a structure of the class described an improved door structure which is automatically secured in closed position so that it is quite impossible for the birds confined to disengage the same, and at the same time may be very quickly and easily released to afford access to the crate or coop.

Objects pertaining to details and economies of my invention will definitely appear from the description to follow. The invention is defined in the claims.

A structure which embodies the features of my improvements is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a detail front elevation of a poultry crate or coop of the feeding battery type embodying the features of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary top view of one of the wall panels.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawing, 1 designates the main frame of the crate, 2 the foraminated bottom of one of the compartments and 3 the pan below the same.

Each compartment is provided with a wall panel consisting in the embodiment illustrated of top and bottom longitudinal members 4 and 5 and vertical slats 6. The vertical slats 7 and 8 are spaced to provide a door opening.

The door consists of top and bottom horizontal members 9 and 10 and upright slats secured thereto. The doors are preferably formed of wire and are provided with hinge members 11 and 12 terminating in eyes engaging the slat 7 for pivotal and sliding movement thereon. The slat 8 has an offset 13 providing a door stop.

The vertical slats 14 of the door are formed of one piece and extended at their upper ends above the top member 9 of the door, the loop ends of the slats being bent rearwardly and

downwardly providing a hook 15 adapted to engage the top horizontal panel member 4 when the door is closed.

The door is retained in closed position at the bottom by means of the retaining and elevating member 16 which is preferably formed of wire bent into a bail-shape, the arms 17 of the member 16 being welded to the bottom panel member 5. The bight portion of this member 16 is inclined forwardly so that as the door is swung on its hinge members it is elevated to clear a trough or the like, the trough not being illustrated herein, and also so that when the door is swung to its closed position the hook 15 is automatically engaged with the top panel member 4 as the door falls or drops behind the member 16.

The door is thus secured at the top and bottom so that it is quite impossible for it to jar open in transportation, as any jarring movement merely tends to hold it in place, and yet it may be easily disengaged by lifting upward and swinging on the member 16, which, as stated, elevates the door so that the feed trough cannot be dislodged by pulling the door against the same. The member 16 constitutes a guard preventing the feed trough being accidentally dislodged.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a structure of the class described, the combination of a wall panel comprising horizontal top and bottom bars and vertical slats secured thereto and disposed to provide a door opening, a door comprising top and bottom members and vertical slats, one pair of said slats being formed integrally and connected at their upper ends by a loop, said loop being conformed to provide a hook adapted to engage the top horizontal member when the door is closed, said door being mounted on one of the slats for swinging and vertical movement, and a door retaining mem-

ber behind which the bottom longitudinal member of the door engages when the door is closed.

2. In a poultry crate, the combination of
5 a wall provided with a door opening, a door mounted for swinging and vertical movement, a hooked retaining member at the top of the door and adapted to engage with a
10 coacting part on the wall when the door is swung to closed position, and a retaining member at the bottom of the door with which the door is engaged and disengaged with a vertical movement thereof.

15 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

WALTER CLARK DEAN.