Dec. 14, 1926. 1,610,834

M. L. WEBSTER

COMPARTMENT DISPLAY AND SHIPPING CASE

Filed August 6, 1925

Fig. 1.

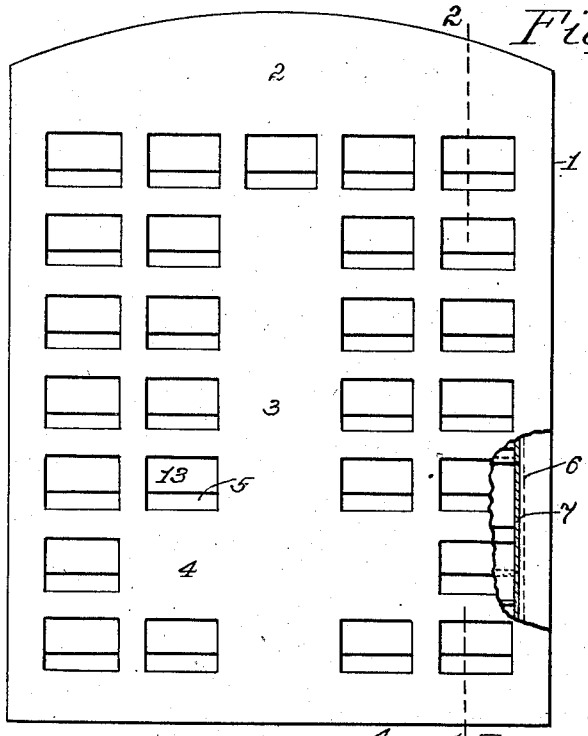


Fig. 2.

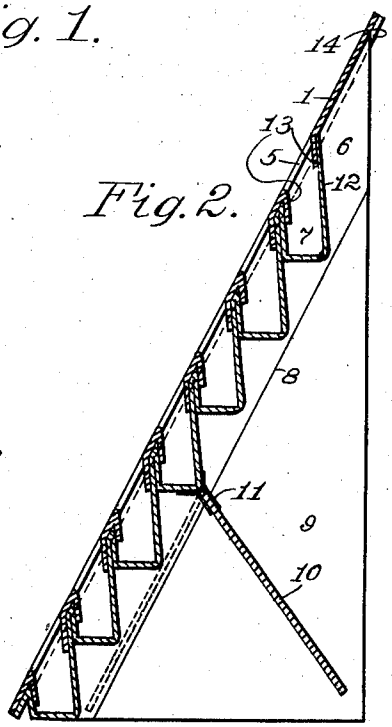


Fig. 3.

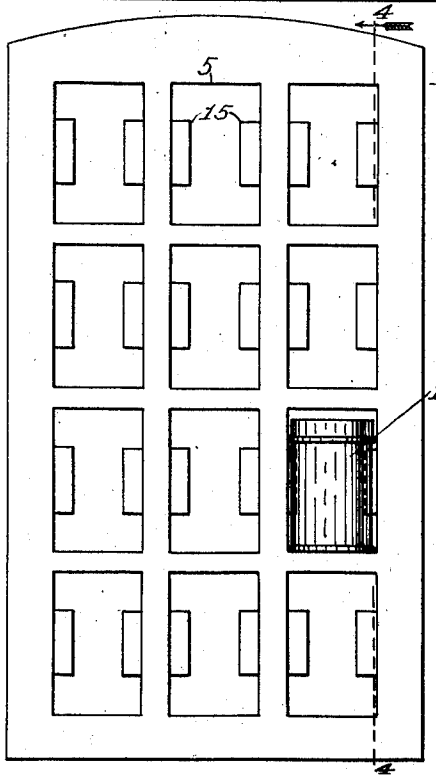
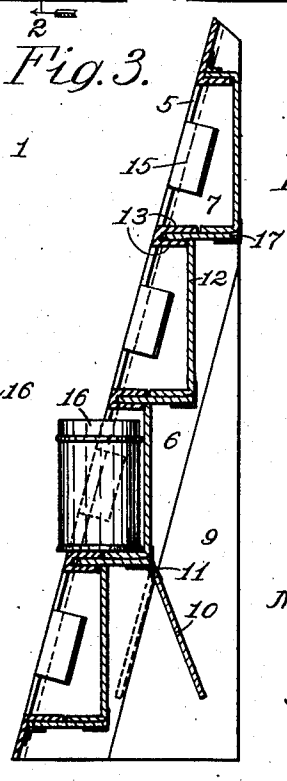


Fig. 4.



Inventor

M. L. Webster

by

G. C. Kennedy.

Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELVIN L. WEBSTER, OF INDEPENDENCE, IOWA.

COMPARTMENT DISPLAY AND SHIPPING CASE.

Application filed August 6, 1925. Serial No. 48,551.

My invention relates to improvements in compartment display and shipping cases, and the object of my improvement is to combine with a device of this class of a collapsible nature and having a plurality of stepped compartments, an apertured face plate for segregating in each compartment articles to be displayed therein and for convenient removals and replacements.

This object I have accomplished by the means which are hereinafter described and claimed, and which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar numerals denote corresponding parts throughout the several views, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In said drawings, Fig. 1 is a front elevation of my device with a portion broken away, and Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof taken on the broken line 2—2 of said Fig 1. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a modified form of my invention, and Fig. 4 is a vertical section thereof taken on the broken line 4—4 of said Fig. 3.

This invention constitutes an improved combination of my device patented in the United States on June 26, 1923, Number 1,460,185, a contractible display and shipping case.

The cases illustrated are of fiber board or other suitable light but relatively rigid material, capable of being bent at certain places to shape the parts appropriately. Side walls 6 spaced apart and of triangular shape are creased in parallel with the hypothenuse edge of each at 8 to provide a hinged flap 9 to be swung to and from each other. The said side walls are rigidly connected by a stepped compartmental structure also of fiber board, made up of bent plates 12 shaped with a number of transverse stepped pockets or compartments between front ledges and rear wall parts, the ends of the compartments having end closures 7 partially separated and bent to be glued on the said side walls.

I have incorporated an easel type of supporting means for this device, in which is included a fiber board flap or spacer 10 flexibly hinged to an angle of the stepped structure 12 at 11 so as to be swung between the corner parts 9 to hold them apart, whereby the device is stood stably in an upright position. When the flap 10 is swung forwardly to clear said side wall parts 9, the parts 9 may be swung inwardly toward each other and into the same plane, whereby the device may be contracted in volume, so as to occupy a minimum space for storage or shipping.

The numeral 1 denotes a fiber board face plate of any desired shape or dimensions, having a number of apertures 5. The plate 1 may be rigidly mounted upon the stepped structure 12 by gluing it upon outturned flaps bent from the forward inclined margins of the side wall parts 6.

The apertures 5 may be of any shape, but preferably rectangular, with parts of the plate partially separated to provide flaps at 13 which are turned over inwardly and glued to the double thickness ledges of the structure 12 as shown in Fig. 2. Pockets of this kind may hold packets of seeds or other articles for display and sale, standing upright.

The device illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 is identical in principle to the other device, but the stepped structure may be made up of glued parts such as shown at 12 and 17, with glued flaps 13 from the face plate 1, but other flaps 15 may be bent over inwardly from the side edges of the apertures 5, and these flaps may be allowed to extend loosely into the pockets angularly as shown if desired, or to project straight back, in the former position contacting with cans 16 mounted in the pockets 5 as shown in dotted lines, tending to center the cans in the pockets. The pockets 5 of Figs. 3 and 4 are caused to open forwardly rather than upwardly, and thus reverse the positions of the pockets of the Figs. 1 and 2.

Blank spaces 2, 3 or 4 appear on the plate 1 of Fig. 1, which may be utilized to contain inscriptions or advertising matter. This renders the device very attractive visually as a display case.

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

1. A device of the character described, comprising a stepped structure, and a face plate mounted over the steps thereof having a plurality of apertures opening into the

hollows of the steps provided by partially separated portions which extend into the hollows and are mounted upon the steps as connecting reinforcements.

2. A device of the character described, comprising a stepped structure whose steps have raised front ledges providing upwardly opening containers, and a face plate mounted over said ledges and having apertures opening into said containers provided by partially separated flaps which extend into the containers and are secured thereto.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MELVIN L. WEBSTER.