Dec. 29, 1959 E. L. ARNESON 2,919,050

ARTICLE CARRIER

Original Filed Oct. 29, 1953 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

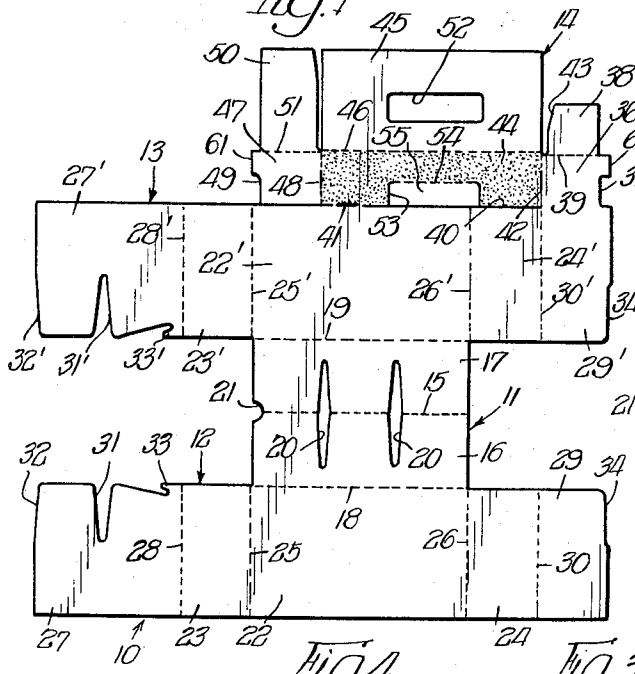


Fig. 2

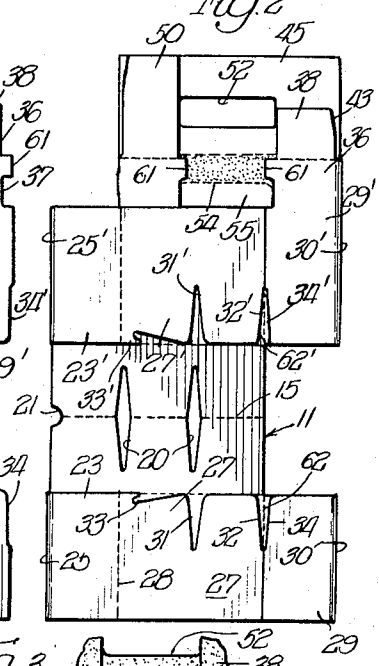


Fig. 4

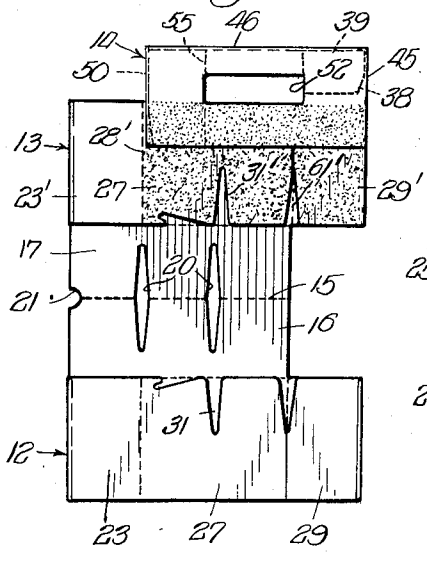


Fig. 3

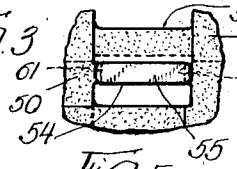
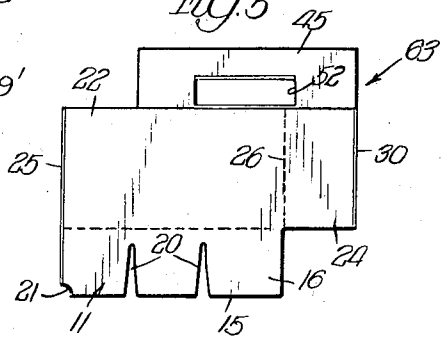


Fig. 5



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ARTICLE CARRIER

Original Filed Oct. 29, 1953 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 6

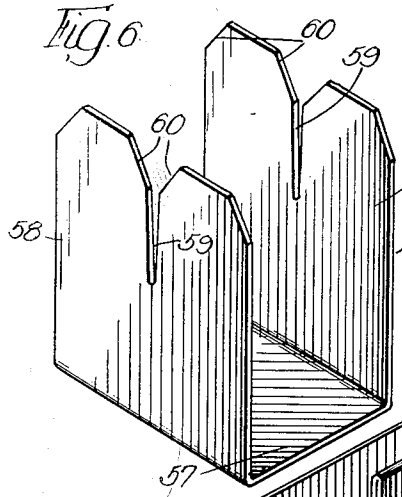


Fig. 7

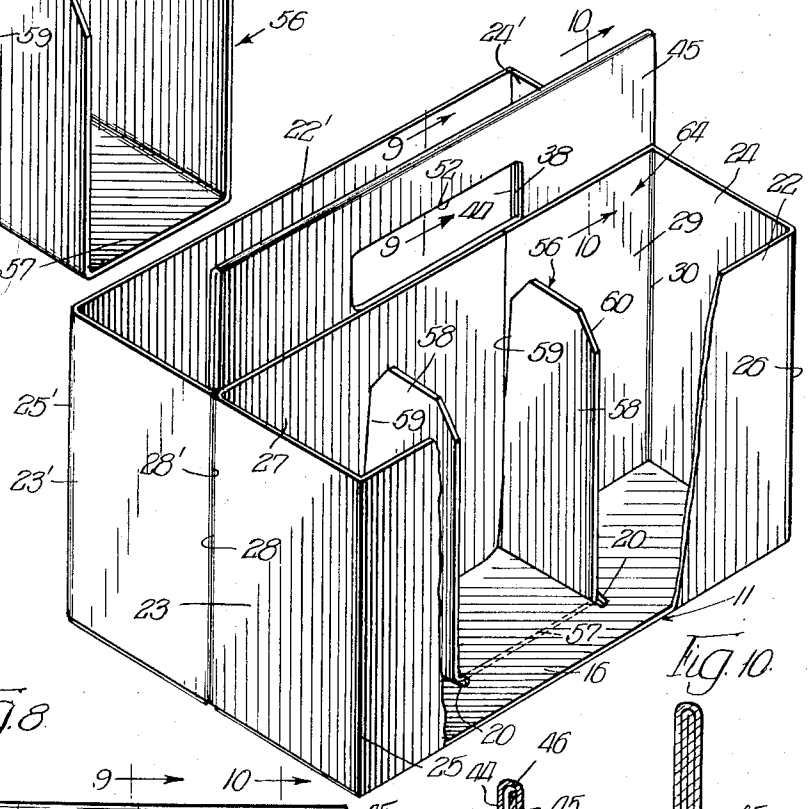


Fig. 8

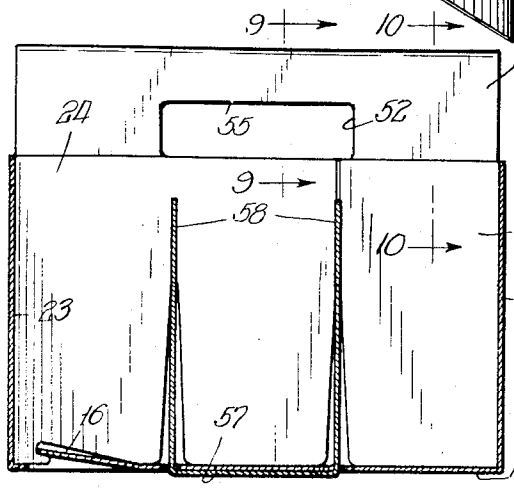


Fig. 9

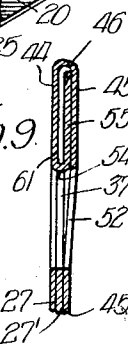
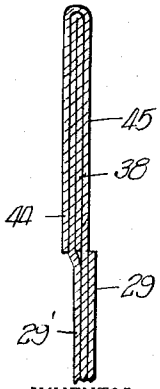


Fig. 10



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United States Patent Office 2,919,050
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2,919,050

ARTICLE CARRIER

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Original application October 29, 1953, Serial No. 389,059, now Patent No. 2,811,279, dated October 27, 1957. Divided and this application March 5, 1957, Serial No. 644,006

7 Claims. (Cl. 220—113)

The present invention deals with improvements in flexible paper board carriers for bottles and similar articles of like size and shape, in which soft drinks and beer are commonly sold. More particularly, the invention provides an improved carrier featuring, in general, a carton-like carrier body having a longitudinal central partition connected at its ends to a pair of opposed end walls and extending parallel to opposed side walls, which side walls are connected at their lower margins by a bottom forming panel, together with a separate divider unit which subdivides the space in the body on each side of the longitudinal partition into individual cells. The bottom forming panel and longitudinal partition of the carrier body are provided with vertically aligned slots in which upstanding legs of the divider unit are disposed, with the legs upwardly straddling or nesting onto the longitudinal partition and with a connecting panel of the unit in engagement with the bottom panel. An article carrier of this general description is illustrated and described in the patent to Holy 2,576,179 of November 27, 1951.

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 389,059, filed October 29, 1953, now Patent No. 2,811,279.

It is an object of the present invention, in one phase thereof, to provide improved means to define in the longitudinal central partition the above described upwardly extending slots by which to obtain straddling or nested engagement of the separate divider unit with the partition, whereby a substantial saving in the cost of manufacture of the carrier is made possible. This is done by forming the longitudinal partition of two constituent panels, one being wider than the other and having a single upwardly extending slot notched therein and the other panel having an edge margin so shaped that when it is brought into edge juxtaposition relative to the first panel, a second upwardly extending slot will be outlined at the joint of the panels. A considerable reduction is thus effected in the size of the paperboard blank required for the body of the carrier, with a corresponding reduction in its cost of production, as compared with the alternative procedures of forming two slots in a single panel or a single slot in each of two constituent partition panels.

As a further refinement of the improved carrier features, the invention contemplates the provision of a strongly reinforced handle construction for the carrier, of multi-ply construction throughout the length and height thereof. Parts of this handle serve as locking means joining the two edge-abutted partition panels as components of a well reinforced, unitary longitudinal partition and suspending assembly. In order to do this, outer and inner plies of the handle structure are adhesively secured to the panels of the longitudinal partition, so as to hold the same in proper edge to edge relationship as the paperboard blank progresses through a folding and gluing machine; and upon completion of the folding operations on the carrier body the constituent panels of the partition are firmly anchored, with slots produced by the provisions described above positioned to register vertically with correspondingly spaced slots in the bottom of the carrier body when the same is erected. Upon upward insertion of a separate U-shaped divider unit into the registered slots, the completed carrier is strongly held in box-like erected condition, being a very stable unit well suited for loading by automatic loading equipment at a bottle manufacturing or bottling establishment.

Another general object of the invention is to provide an improved carrier handle construction of the character described in the preceding paragraph in which the outer plies are finished, hence well adapted to be printed or ornamented. These plies nest over the other plies of the handle, including the upper part of the panels of which the longitudinal partition is composed, entirely concealing the same from view.

More specifically, an object of the invention is to provide an improved article carrier of the above sort in which an integral handle unit is formed of a pair of internal end flap members folded inwardly toward one another to coplanar relation and each terminating on its inner edge in a laterally projecting shoulder. A pair of external plies or panels are nested downwardly over the thus infolded flaps, and one of the external panels is provided with a hand hole aperture adjacent which a depending hand hole tab is integrally connected by a horizontal crease. This tab is folded upwardly 180° about said crease and about the end shoulders of the inturned flaps, being then secured in position so as to anchor the flaps during and after the ensuing operations on the carrier body. In one of these the other outer panel of the handle unit is folded 180° downwardly and secured in covering relation to the flaps and tab, thus effectively locking the flaps and the tab. The downfolded panel is also secured to the pair of edge abutted longitudinal partition forming panels described above, of one of which one of the flaps is an integral part, so that the locking means for the handle elements additionally locks the longitudinal partition panels in intended edge to edge relation, to provide a pair of upwardly extending slots in the bottom of the resultant longitudinal partition.

The foregoing statements are indicative in a general way of the nature of the invention. Other and more specific objects will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon a full understanding of the construction and operation of the improved carrier.

A single embodiment of the invention is presented herein for purpose of illustration. It will be appreciated that the invention may be incorporated in other modified forms coming equally within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a flexible paperboard blank from which the box-like body of the improved carrier is fabricated, illustrating the manner in which the same is initially died out, creased and preliminarily glued;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank following initial folding operations;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view in plan illustrating the next folding operation, whereby certain handle parts are locked in position, the view also indicating a subsequent application of adhesive;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the partially completed article following a still further fold, another ensuing application of adhesive being indicated by stippling;

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the completed article carrier body in a flat, knocked-down condition thereof;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing a separate divider unit which is a component of the completed and erected carrier;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view, partially broken away, illustrating the carrier locked in completed and erected condition;

Fig. 8 is a view in longitudinal vertical section through the carrier of Fig. 7, being along a vertical plane immediately to one side of the central longitudinal partition of the latter; and

Figs. 9 and 10 are, respectively, fragmentary views in vertical transverse section along lines corresponding to lines 9—9 and 10—10 of Figs. 7 and 8.

Referring to Fig. 1, showing a paperboard blank **10** from which a centrally partitioned, box-like body of the improved carrier is fabricated, the same consists of a sheet of stock died out to provide a bottom forming panel **11** having a first wall and partition forming section **12** hingedly articulated to one side margin thereof, a second wall and partition forming section **13** similarly articulated integrally to the opposite side margin of panel **11**, and a handle forming unit **14** integrally articulated to section **13** adjacent the right hand end of the latter. Wall and partition forming sections **12**, **13** are very similar in character, hence parts and relationships of the latter which correspond to those of the former will be designated by corresponding reference numerals, primed, and repeated description thereof will be dispensed with.

Bottom panel **11** is subdivided by a medial longitudinally extending crease **15** into a pair of like panel sections **16**, **17**, the former of which is integrally hinged to section **12** by a longitudinal crease **18** paralleling crease **15**, and the latter of which is integrally hinged by a parallel crease **19** to wall and partition section **13**. A pair of longitudinally spaced, transversely extending slots **20** are formed in bottom panel **11**, extending equidistantly on opposite sides of crease **15**. These slots are located alike from one another and from opposite end margins of panel **11**. An end locking notch **21** is formed in one of these margins at the end of crease **15**.

First wall and partition forming section **12** comprises a rectangular side wall panel **22** having end wall panels **23**, **24** integrally hinged to opposite margins thereof by transverse creases **25**, **26**, respectively. These creases are in transverse alignment with the end margins of bottom panel **11**.

A primary longitudinal partition forming panel **27** is integrally hinged by a transverse crease **28** to end wall panel **23** and a secondary longitudinal partition forming panel **29** of less width is similarly hinged by crease **30** to end wall **24**. Panel **27** is approximately twice the width of the panel **29**, in the longitudinal direction in which the various panels **22**, **23**, **24**, **27** and **29** are connected. It is notched on an inner, bottom defining edge at the approximate midpoint thereof to provide an outwardly directed slot **31** extending about midway of the panel, and its extreme outer end edge is relieved or trimmed back somewhat at **32**, again from the approximate midpoint of that edge, for a purpose to be described. A locking hook **33** is cut in the inner margin of panel **27** adjacent its hinge **28** to end wall **23**.

The extreme outer end edge of secondary partition panel **29** is also relieved at **34**, it being intended that the trimmed edge portions coact with one another to outline a slot similar to slot **31** when the two panels **27**, **29** are placed in edge to edge juxtaposition, as will be further described.

The second wall and partition forming section **13**, in addition to structural features corresponding to those of section **12**, as described above and designated by corresponding reference numerals, primed, is provided with an outer extension **36** on its secondary partition panel **29'**, which is in effect an integral flap ultimately becoming a part of the handle structure of the carrier body. Flap **36** has an inwardly notched recess **37** in its outer end edge which is adapted to partially outline a hand hole in the handle when the carrier body is completed. Flap **36** also has a reinforcing element **38** integrally hinged to its upper margin, as viewed in Fig. 1, by means of a longitudinal crease **39**.

The handle forming unit **14** of blank **10** is separated, in the main, from the remainder of the blank by means of a longitudinally extending slit **40** which defines the upper or outer side edge of end wall panel **24'** and side wall panel **22'**. However, it may be desired to leave unit **14** rupturably connected at this line, as by means of a small nick **41**, for the purpose of better controlling the blank as it passes through a folding and gluing machine. Otherwise, handle unit **14** is integrally connected to the remainder of the blank only by a transverse crease **42** hinging the same to the left hand margin of partition flap **36**, the crease **42** being, in effect, an outward extension of crease **30'**. Reinforcing element **38** on flap **36** is separated from unit **14** by a slot **43** extending outwardly from the end of crease **39**.

Handle unit **14** comprises a first outer finish panel **44** immediately adjoining wall panels **22'**, **24'**, to the former of which it is weakly connected by nick **41**, and extension **36**, to which it is integrally connected by crease **42**. A second outer finish panel **45** of substantially greater transverse width is integrally connected to panel **44** by a crease **46** longitudinally paralleling slit **40**, and a handle reinforcing flap **47** is integrally hinged to the outer end of panel **44** by a transverse crease **48** similar to crease **42**. Flap **47**, like flap **36**, is notched at **49** to provide an end recess which partially defines a hand hole in the handle when the carrier body is completed. Flap **47** also has an outwardly extending element **50** integrally connected thereto by a longitudinal crease **51**, which is in alignment with crease **39** and slightly inward of crease **46**.

Further hand hole provisions are made in handle unit **14**, in the form of an elongated rectangular aperture **52** within panel **45** and an aperture in panel **44** located in transverse alignment with aperture **52**. The aperture in panel **44** is defined by a pair of short parallel slits **53** extending outwardly from separating slit **42** and a longitudinal crease **54** joining the outer ends thereof, thus providing a swingable tab **55** which has an important locking function in the manufacture and use of the carrier.

A second component of the improved carrier, in the illustrated embodiment thereof, is a separate divider insert which is illustrated, per se, in Fig. 6 and is generally designated **56**. It comprises a piece of generally rectangular paperboard or corrugated board stock bent in U-shaped outline to provide a bottom engaging base panel **57** having upstanding, cell defining leg panels **58** integrally connected to opposite margins thereof. Panels **58** have medial slots **59** extending downwardly from the upper extremities thereof, and the upper corners and center of the legs are diagonally cropped at **60** to facilitate subsequent insertion of divider **56** in the erected carrier body.

In completing the carrier body from the blank **10** of Fig. 1, adhesive is first applied, as indicated by stippling, to the panel **44** of handle unit **14**, whereupon the opposed sets of end wall and longitudinal partition panels of the blank, one set comprising end wall panels **23**, **23'** and primary partition panels **27**, **27'**, and the other set comprising end wall panels **24**, **24'** and secondary partition panels **29**, **29'**, are folded inwardly as units about the creases **25**, **25'** and **30**, **30'**, respectively. Handle flap **47** and flap element **50** may be simultaneously folded inwardly with the first set, so that as the result of these manipulations this flap will be adhesively secured to the upper surface of handle panel **44**, as will opposite flap **3**, the sets of partition and end wall panels **23**, **27** and **23'**, **27'** will overlie side wall panels **22**, **22'**, respectively, the secondary partition panels **29**, **29'** will overlie the respective end wall panels **24**, **24'**, and handle flap elements **38** and **50** will overlie handle panel **45**, leaving the blank in the condition illustrated in Fig. 2.

It will be noted in the position last described, the flaps **36** and **47** present inwardly directed shoulder extremities

61, defined by notches 37, 49, adjacent the ends of hand hole tab 55. These shoulders are employed as elements for locking the infolded parts in the initially folded position shown, and this is taken care of by the simple ensuing expedient of folding hand hole tab 55 180° upwardly about its hinge crease 54, adhering the same to the exposed glued surface of panel 44 and leaving the further perfected carrier body in the condition illustrated in Fig. 3. Tab 55 wraps around the shoulders 61, as illustrated in Fig. 3, with the result that the reinforcing flap 36, 47, as well as the secondary partition panel 29' of which the former is a part, are firmly anchored in place. This holds the blank in unitary, readily controlled condition as it passes further through the gluing machine.

Adhesive is next applied to the exposed upper surface of flap element 50 on flap 47, on flap element 38 of flap 36, and on the remaining exposed surface of handle panel 45, as indicated by stippling in Fig. 3. This conditions the body for the ensuing 180° folding of handle panel 45 inwardly about its articulating crease 46, accompanied by corresponding folding of the flap elements 38, 50 about their creases 39, 51, respectively, and the result is that the three members are adhesively secured to the outer exposed surfaces of partition forming panels 27' and 29'. The condition referred to is illustrated in Fig. 4.

It will be noted by reference to Figs. 2 and 4, that the infolding of the longitudinal partition panels 27, 27' and 29, 29' brings the free end extremities thereof into immediate edge to edge juxtaposition. The relieved end margins 32, 32' and 34, 34' diverge relative to one another and thereby form slots 62, 62' in the respective composite longitudinal partition members defined by the panels. They are so located with reference to the other pair of slots 31, 31' that each pair will overlie vertically a bottom slot 20 when the carrier is erected to operative condition.

The carrier body is completed from the condition of Fig. 4 to a flat, knocked-down condition by simply folding the halves of the blank upon one another about medial bottom crease 50, following a suitable application of adhesive to the exposed surface of one half, as shown by stippling in Fig. 4. The finished carrier body is shown in Fig. 5.

The carrier body, generally designated 63 in Figs. 5 and 7–10, inclusive, is erected to an operative condition by simply spreading the side walls 22, 22' relative to one another, in well known fashion, and by engaging the end locking hooks 33—33' at one end wall in the notch 21 of bottom panel 11. This brings the slots 31, 31' and 62, 62' into approximate vertical alignment with the bottom slots 20. Divider insert 56 is now thrust upwardly through the last named slots, its upwardly facing slot 59 nesting with the slots in the longitudinal partition, with the base 57 of insert 56 coming into surface engagement with the bottom of carrier body 63. This effectively braces the body in a truly rectangular outline, imparting great stability to the unit and making it ideally suited for gravity loading by automatic bottle loading equipment, either in the plant of a bottle manufacturer or in a bottling establishment.

The carrier features a full length, full depth longitudinal partition, generally designated 64 in Fig. 7, this being due to the fact that the provisions for slotting the same involve an edge abutment relationship of its component panels 27, 27' and 29, 29'. These panels are rigidly locked in a unitary relationship by the adhesion thereto of handle panels 44 and 45 and the flaps and flap elements associated therewith, a locking which is further enhanced by the positive interlock of the hand hole tab 55 with the flaps 36, 47. The handle is rigid and board-like, as best illustrated in Figs. 9 and 10, and partition 64 is additionally braced and rigidified by its nested interfit with the bottom insert 56.

A substantial saving is made in the cost of production of the improved carrier due to the economy made possible by the use of the blank 10 shown in Fig. 1, preliminarily manipulated and secured in the fashion shown in Fig. 2. The production of a second pair of insert-receiving notches or slots similar to the notches or slots 31, 31' by abutting panels 29, 29' edgewise against panels 27, 27', with relieved lower edge portions constituting the notches or slots in question, signifies that a blank of substantially less horizontal or longitudinal dimension can be employed than would be possible if both sets of notches were formed within the ends of the material of panels 27, 27' or panels 29, 29', the sets of panels then being secured in coplanar relation. While the saving in the case of each blank is small, indeed, the aggregate saving in the production of carriers in the millions is substantial and, moreover, a material factor in the cost and selling price of article carriers of this type, which are marketed at a very small profit margin.

I claim:

1. A paperboard article carrier construction comprising a box-like body having a suspending handle unit extending longitudinally and connected to opposed ends thereof, said unit comprising a pair of handle panels integrally connected to one another by a top forming crease and disposed in face-to-face depending relation therefrom, reinforcing flaps integral with opposite ends of one of said handle panels and foldable inwardly along vertical edge fold lines, said reinforcing flaps being disposed between said handle panels with the inner edges thereof in confronting relation, said reinforcing flaps each having a hand hole formation cut therein, one of said handle panels having a hand hole opening in transverse alignment with the hand hole formations in said reinforcing flaps and being provided with a tab hinged to a top margin of said hand hole opening, said tab being folded upwardly and secured between said handle panels with portions thereof in overlying, upwardly extending engagement with longitudinally spaced inner marginal portions of said handle reinforcing flaps.

2. A paperboard article carrier construction comprising a box-like body having a suspending handle unit connected to opposed ends thereof, said unit comprising a pair of handle panels integrally connected to one another by a top forming crease and disposed in face-to-face relation, reinforcing flaps integrally hinged to opposite ends of one of said panels and disposed between said panels, said reinforcing flaps each having a hand hole formation cut therein, one of said handle panels having a hand hole opening in alignment with the hand hole formations in said reinforcing flaps and being provided with a tab hinged to a margin of said hand hole opening, said tab being folded upwardly past said reinforcing flaps and secured between said handle panels in overlying, upwardly extending engagement with portions of said reinforcing flaps, one of said reinforcing flaps being integral with one of a pair of longitudinal partition panels which are connected to an end wall and extend beneath said handle unit within said carrier body, there being a pair of further longitudinal partition panels connected to the opposite end wall of said body which extend in coplanar relation to said first mentioned longitudinal partition panels, with said second mentioned longitudinal partition panels having their inner edges in juxtaposed relation with the inner edges of said first mentioned longitudinal partition panels and forming therewith substantially solid longitudinal partition members extending substantially the full length of the carrier.

3. A paperboard article carrier of one piece construction comprising a box-like body having a suspending handle unit connected to opposed ends thereof, said unit comprising a pair of handle panels integrally connected to one another by a top forming crease and disposed in face-to-face relation, integral reinforcing flaps disposed between said handle panels at opposite ends thereof, at least one of said reinforcing flaps having a hand hole formation cut therein, one of said handle panels having

a hand hole opening in transverse alignment with the hand hole formation in said last mentioned reinforcing flap and being provided with a tab hinged to a margin of said hand hole opening, said tab being folded upwardly past said last mentioned reinforcing flap and secured between said handle panels in overlying, upwardly extending engagement with a portion of said last mentioned reinforcing flap, one of said reinforcing flaps being integral with one of a pair of longitudinal partition panels which are connected to an end wall and disposed within said carrier body beneath said handle unit, there being a pair of further partition panels connected to the opposite end wall of said body and disposed in the latter in coplanar relation to said first pair of longitudinal partition panels, said second mentioned pair of said longitudinal partition panels having their inner edges in juxtaposed relation with the inner edges of said first mentioned longitudinal partition panels and forming therewith substantially solid longitudinal partition members extending substantially the full length of the carrier.

4. A paperboard article carrier of one piece construction comprising a box-like body having a suspending handle unit connected to opposed ends thereof, said unit comprising a pair of handle panels integrally connected to one another by a top forming crease and disposed in face-to-face relation, one of said handle panels being of greater depth than the other to provide a downwardly extending marginal portion, integral reinforcing flaps disposed between said handle panels at opposite ends thereof, at least one of said reinforcing flaps having a hand hole formation cut therein, one of said handle panels having a hand hole opening in transverse alignment with the hand hole formation in said last mentioned reinforcing flap and being provided with a tab hinged to the upper margin of said hand hole opening, said tab being folded upwardly past said last mentioned reinforcing flap and secured between said handle panels in overlying, upwardly extending engagement with a portion of said last mentioned reinforcing flap, one of said reinforcing flaps being integral with one of a pair of longitudinal partition panels which are connected to an end wall and disposed within said carrier body beneath said handle unit, there being a pair of further partition panels connected to the opposite end wall of said body and disposed in the latter in coplanar relation to said first pair of longitudinal partition panels, said second mentioned pair of said longitudinal partition panels having their inner edges in oppositely disposed relation with the inner edges of said first mentioned longitudinal partition panels and said longitudinal partition panels being secured togeher with said downwardly extending marginal portion of said one handle panel secured between the top portions thereof.

5. A paperboard article carrier of one piece construction comprising a box-like body having a suspending handle unit connected to opposed ends thereof, said unit comprising a pair of handle panels integrally connected to one another along a top forming crease and disposed in face-to-face relation, integral reinforcing flaps disposed between said handle panels at opposite ends thereof, at least one of said reinforcing flaps having a hand hole formation cut therein, one of said handle panels having a hand hole opening in transverse alignment with the hand hole formation in said last mentioned reinforcing flap and being provided with a tab hinged to a margin of said hand hole opening, said tab being folded upwardly past said last mentioned reinforcing flap and secured between said handle panels in overlying, upwardly extending engagement with a portion of said last mentioned reinforcing flap, one of said reinforcing flaps being integral with one of a pair of longitudinal partition panels which are connected to an end wall and disposed within said carrier body beneath said handle unit, there being a pair of further partition panels connected to the opposite end wall of said body and disposed in the latter in coplanar relation to said first pair of longitudinal partition panels, said second mentioned pair of said longitudinal partition panels having their inner edges in oppositely disposed relation with the corresponding inner edges of said first mentioned longitudinal partition panels and forming therewith longitudinal partition members extending substantially the full length of the carrier, the other one of said reinforcing flaps having an extension flap connected to the upper edge thereto which is disposed in face-to-face engagement therewith and has a marginal portion extending downwardly of the handle unit at one end thereof and secured between said second mentioned pair of longitudinal partition panels.

6. A paperboard article carrier of one piece construction comprising a box-like body having a suspending handle unit connected to opposed ends thereof, said unit comprising a pair of handle panels integrally connected to one another along a top forming crease and disposed in face-to-face relation, integral reinforcing flaps disposed between said handle panels at opposite ends thereof, at least one of said reinforcing flaps having a hand hole formation cut therein, one of said handle panels having a hand hole opening in transverse alignment with the hand hole formation in said last mentioned reinforcing flap and being provided with a tab hinged to an upper margin of said hand hole opening, said tab being folded upwardly past said last mentioned reinforcing flap and secured between said handle panels in overlying, upwardly extending engagement with a portion of said last mentioned reinforcing flap, one of said reinforcing flaps being integral with one of a pair of longitudinal partition panels which are connected to an end wall and disposed in face-to-face relation within said carrier body beneath said handle unit, there being a pair of further longitudinal partition panels connected to the opposite end wall of said body and disposed in the latter in coplanar relation to said first pair of longitudinal partition panels, said second mentioned pair of said longitudinal partition panels having their inner edges in juxtaposed relation with the corresponding inner edges of said first mentioned longitudinal partition panels and forming therewith substantially solid longitudinal partition members extending substantially the full length of the carrier, and the other one of said pair of handle panels being of greater depth than the first mentioned one of said handle panels and having the bottom marginal portion which extends below the latter secured between the upper portions of said longitudinal partition members.

7. In a one piece article carrier blank of flexible paperboard stock having two sets of side wall, end wall and longitudinal partition forming panels which are connected by hinge forming transverse creases in the order named, and a bottom forming panel disposed between said side wall panels and integrally hinged thereto on longitudinal creases defining the bottom side edges of the set up carrier, one of said longitudinal partition panels having a portion integral therewith which extends laterally of the blank; a handle forming section hinged on a transverse crease to the inner transverse edge of said laterally extending portion, said handle forming section being separated at least in part by a cut from a top defining margin of the side wall and end wall panels adjoining said one longitudinal partition panel, the outer margin of said handle forming section lying substantially outwardly in the lateral sense of the outer margin of the laterally extending portion of the longitudinal partition panel to which it is hinged, said handle forming section being divided by a longitudinal crease into two handle forming panels with the outer handle forming panel being of substantially greater dimension in the direction transversely of the blank than the inner handle forming panel, said handle forming section having a handle reinforcing panel extending along the transverse edge thereof which is opposite the hinge connection of said handle forming section with said longitudinal partition panel, and said han-

dle reinforcing panel having an integral flap separated therefrom by a longitudinal hinge crease and extending in a direction laterally of the blank, which flap has a larger dimension in the direction transversely of the blank than the corresponding dimension of said handle reinforcing panel.

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