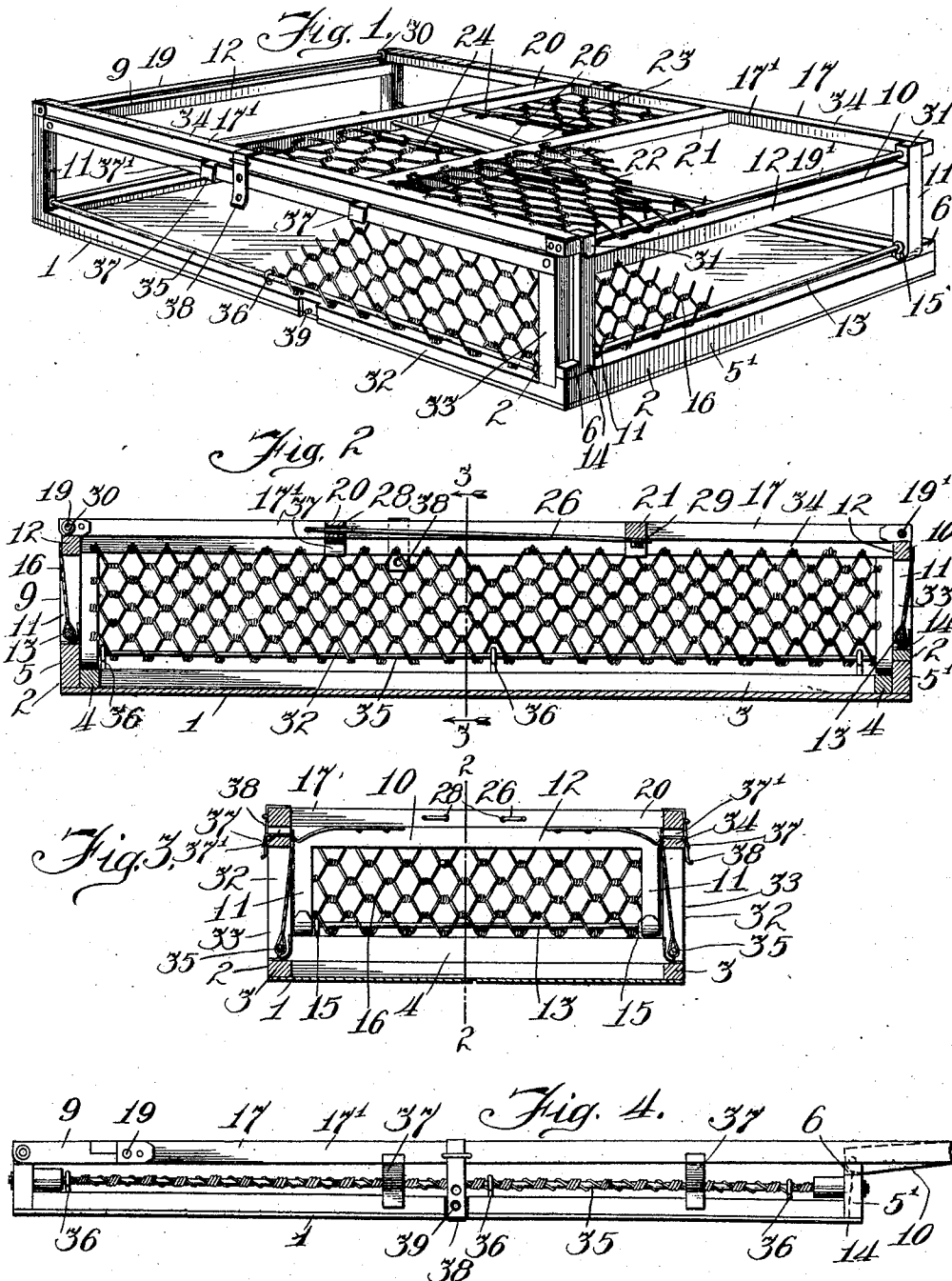


F. D. BERGMAN.
COLLAPSIBLE COOP.
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987,281.

Patented Mar. 21, 1911.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK D. BERGMAN, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

COLLAPSIBLE COOP.

987,281.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK D. BERGMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Milwaukee, county of Milwaukee, and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Coops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in collapsible coops and refers more particularly to a device adapted for use in shipping poultry and the like.

Among the salient objects of the invention are to provide a construction the folding parts of which are so arranged, when in extended position, as to brace each other, and in which the folding side members, when in extended position, lock the ends and top against collapsing; to provide a construction the various parts of which are automatically locked in extended position, and which when collapsed occupies a relatively small space; to provide a construction in which the sides, ends and cover members are so hinged or connected to the floor as to form in effect a unitary structure, thus preventing the misplacing or loss of any of the parts; to provide a simple door construction which permits of ready access to the coop; to provide a construction the major portion of which is formed from skeleton frame members inclosed by wire netting, thereby reducing cost of manufacture and at the same time securing a light portable device; and in general to provide an improved construction of the character referred to.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings;—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the coop in extended position; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the same, taken approximately on lines 2—2 of Fig. 3; Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken approximately on lines 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the coop, but showing same in a collapsed position.

Referring to the drawings 1 designates as a whole the floor of the coop provided at its edges with a skeleton frame 2 comprising side strips 3 and end strips 4. The frame as a whole is slightly inset from the ends of the floor, and upon the outer sides of the end strips 4 is secured somewhat similar

strips 5', which, however, extend above the upper face of the skeleton frame 2, as shown more clearly in Fig. 2. Each strip 5' is provided at either side with a lug 6 for a purpose hereinafter described.

The end frames 9 and 10 of the coop each consists of a pair of vertical side bars 11, 11, an upper cross piece 12 and a lower rod 13, the latter of which serves the double purpose of forming the lower cross piece of the end frame, and also a pintle or journal for the end frame as a whole. Each of these pintle rods 13 is pivotally supported or hinged in screw eyes 15 seated in the upper face of the side bars 5', respectively. Across each of these end frames is secured a wire netting or mesh 16. It will be noted that the side members of the end frame 5' are slightly inset in order that the upper ends of the cover may be more readily collapsed in the manner hereinafter described. The lower end of each of these vertical strips 11 is slightly round or beveled as shown at 14 so that end frames may fold down into position as shown in Fig. 4.

Describing now the top frame member 17, it consists essentially of side strips 17', end pintle rods 19, 19' and intermediate cross braces 20, 21. Across the top frame as a whole is stretched a wire netting 22, it being noted, however, that that portion of the netting between the cross braces 20, 21, is cut away to form a door opening 23. In the present instance, the inner sides of that portion of the netting which is cut away are secured to wire rods 24 extending between the cross braces 20 and 21. The door opening is normally closed by means of a gate 26, and consists in the present instance of a wire loop, the free ends of which extend through suitable apertures 28 in the cross piece 20 and are confined in position by bending back ends of the wire in an obvious manner. The front end of the loop is adapted to hook over staples 29 upon the lower face of the corresponding strip 21. The top frame as a whole is hinged or pivotally connected to the respective end frames 9 and 10. Accordingly the pintle 19 is pivotally mounted in screw eyes 30 carried by the upper cross piece of the end frame member 9, while the pintle 19' extends through extensions 31 of the side strips 11 of the end frame 10. In order that the cover may fold down, the side strips 17', extend on the outer sides of the end frame member 10, as shown.

The side frames 32 are formed in a generally similar manner. Each consists of vertical end strips 33, upper cross strips 34 and connecting pintle rods 35. The latter
5 are pivotally supported in screw eyes 36 carried by the side strips of the skeleton frame 2. Each of these side frame members is provided with a wire netting and are so arranged as to fold within the end frames 9
10 and 10.

Describing now the manner of locking the extended parts in position, upon the lower face of each cross brace of the cover member is mounted a pair of spring clips 37, which
15 are adapted to engage locking recesses 37' formed in the upper faces of the side frames. These clips are so arranged as to automatically spring into locking engagement with the side frames when the latter are
20 swung to vertical position, as shown more clearly in Fig. 5. Inasmuch as the top and ends are connected together, it is apparent that the coop as a whole may be locked in extended position by simply raising the cover
25 and swinging the sides into locking engagement with the spring clip. In order to collapse the coop it is only necessary to lift up the clips and fold in the side members whereupon the top and ends will fold down
30 by gravity. In order to automatically lock the coop in collapsed position, the sides of the cover member are provided with spring clips 38 adapted to engage pins 39 seated in recesses 40 upon the outer sides of the skeleton frame 2. When the coop is in collapsed
35 position the cover member rests upon the

lugs 6 in such a manner as to prevent the cover from being forced too far downwardly and thus endangering the breaking of any of the parts.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I
40 secure the objects of the invention in a simple and efficient manner. The invention is not limited to the details of construction shown except as set forth in the appended
45 claim.

I claim as my invention:

In a collapsible coop, the combination with the bottom, of end members hinged at their lower edges to the bottom, a top hinged to
50 the upper ends of the respective end members and folding with the latter, side members likewise hinged at their lower edges to the bottom, and folding within the end members, said sides serving as braces to support
55 the ends when the coop is in extended position, spring clips carried by the top member and having down turned locking flanges at their free ends, said clips being adapted to pass through suitable recesses in the side
60 frame to automatically lock the parts in extended position, and means for automatically locking the coop in closed position comprising locking pins carried by the frame
65 and apertured spring clips carried by the cover and adapted to automatically engage said pins when the coop is collapsed.

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