May 27, 1941. B. HUGGINS 2,243,157

COLLAPSIBLE CRATE HINGE

Filed Jan. 30, 1940

Fig. 1.

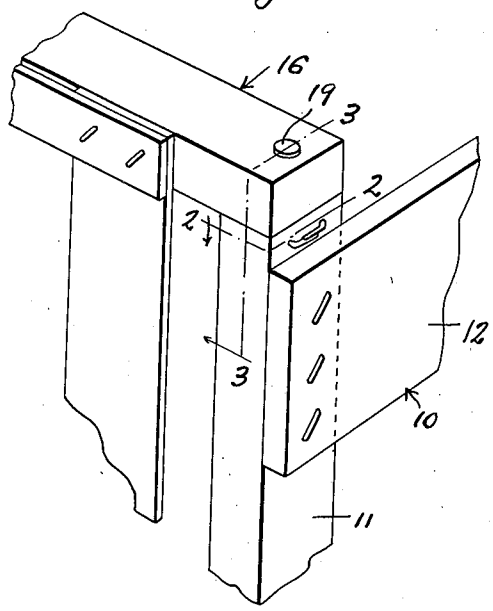
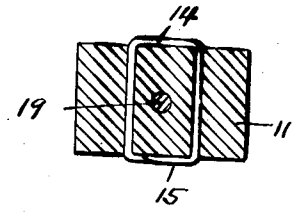


Fig. 2.



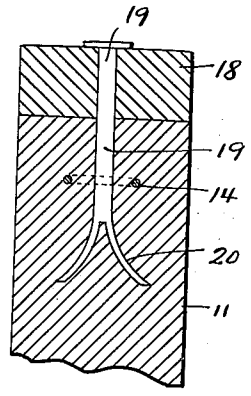


Fig. 3.

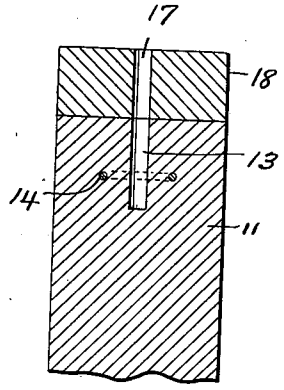


Fig. 4.

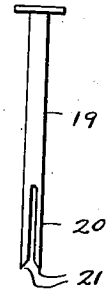


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,243,157

COLLAPSIBLE CRATE HINGE

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Application January 30, 1940, Serial No. 316,420

1 Claim. (Cl. 217—43)

The present invention relates to collapsible crates and more particularly to a hinged joint structure for the side walls and end walls of a collapsible crate and has for its primary object to provide a device of this character wherein the crate may be folded with a minimum of susceptibility to breakage at the hinged joints.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a hinged joint structure which will be simple in construction, strong, durable and reliable in use, and which may be constructed at low cost.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a study of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein like characters of reference designate corresponding parts, throughout the several views, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a crate embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view similar to Figure 3 shown before the pintle is driven home.

Figure 5 is an elevational view of the pintle.

Referring now to the drawing, in detail, it will be seen that the reference numeral 10 designates generally a portion of the side wall of a wooden crate comprising a side corner post 11 to which the side member 12 is secured. The corner post 11 has a small vertical bore 13 therein. A staple 14 extends through the corner post intermediate the ends of the bore 13 and spaced therefrom and has its ends bent as at 15 to secure it in position as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

To secure the end wall 16 to the side wall 10 an opening 17 is formed in the cross bar 18 through which the pintle 19 passes. The pintle 19 then enters the bore 13 and is hammered into the post 11 at which time the split end 20 of the pintle 19 is caused to spread due to the bevel cut 21 of the split end of the pintle 19, as shown in Figure 3 of the drawing, and securely hold the end and side walls together.

The staple 14 reinforces and prevents splitting of the corner post 11.

It is thought to be obvious that a collapsible crate joint constructed as described and shown will provide a hinged joint which will be strong and will withstand rough usage.

Although I have shown and described herein a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be definitely understood that I do not desire to limit the application of the invention thereto, and any change or changes may be made in the structure and arrangement of parts, within the spirit of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:

In a device of the character described, a collapsible crate hinge including a side member having a vertical bore therein, an end member having a vertical aperture therein in registration with said bore in said side member, a headed pintle having a bifurcated portion extending through said aperture and engaged in said bore with said bifurcated portion expanded and anchored in said side member below said bore, and a staple extending laterally through said side member and having its free ends bent towards one another to completely encircle said bore and reinforce said side member intermediate the ends of said bore.

BEMIS HUGGINS.