D. MacVICAR.

COOP.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 28, 1917.

1,240,467.

Patented Sept. 18, 1917.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

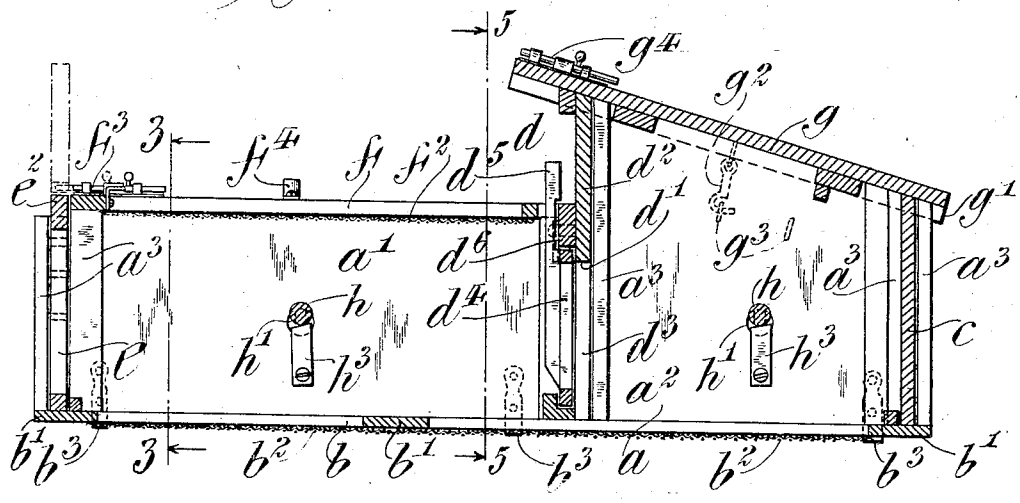
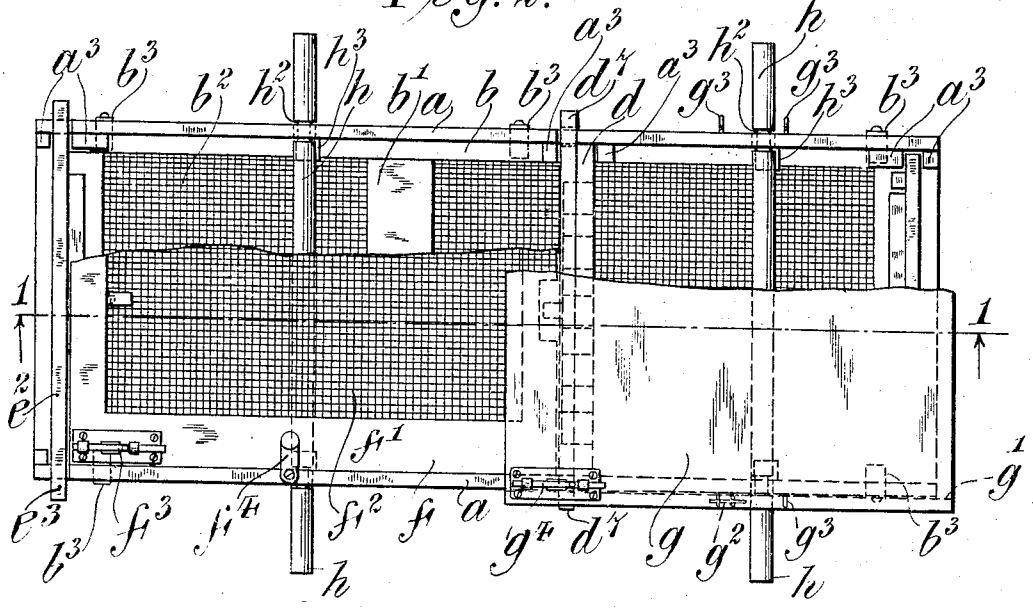


Fig. 2.



WITNESS:

Geo. Schmeltz.

INVENTOR

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

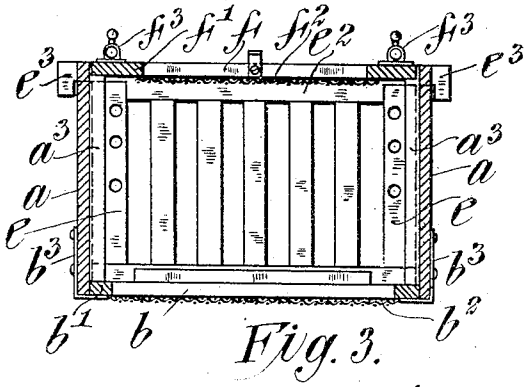


Fig. 3.

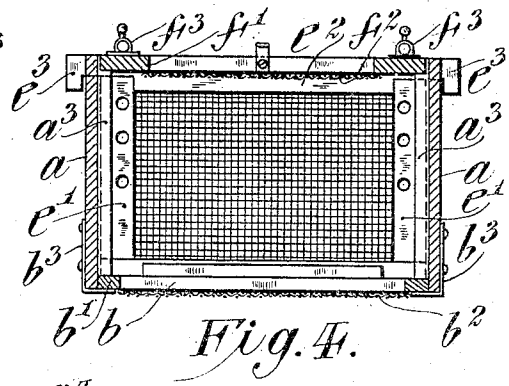


Fig. 4.

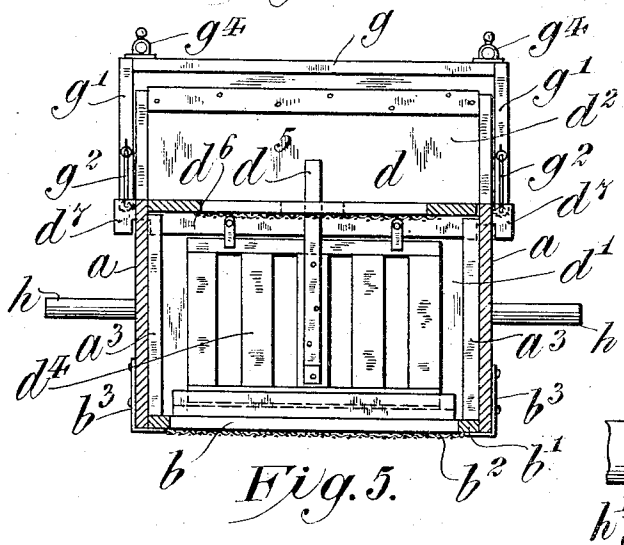


Fig. 5.

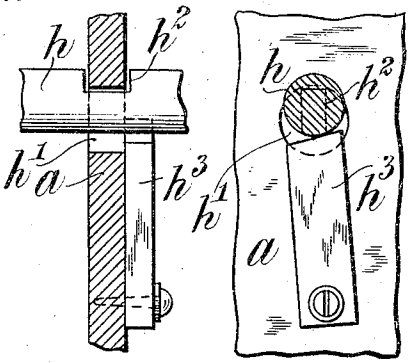


Fig. 7. Fig. 8.

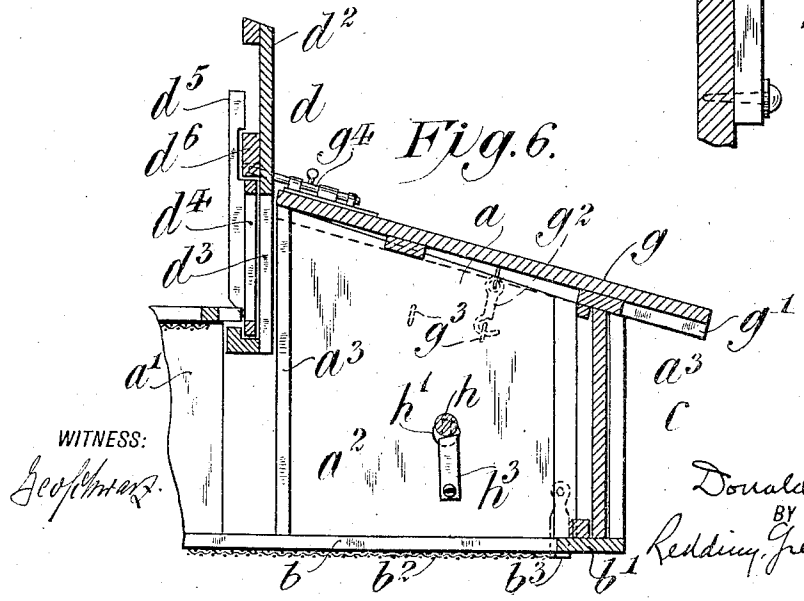


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DONALD MACVICAR, OF NORFOLK, CONNECTICUT.

COOP.

1,240,467. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 18, 1917.

Application filed April 28, 1917. Serial No. 165,103.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DONALD MACVICAR, a subject of the King of England, and residing in Norfolk, county of Litchfield, in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

This invention has for its object generally to provide an improved coop for the breeding and rearing of young pheasants, etc. One object particularly in view is to provide a coop adapted for the general purpose which can be collapsed or knocked down so as to be shipped readily from place to place and to be stored, when not in use, without taking up excessive space. Another purpose has been to improve the construction of coops of this general character so that the brooding hen and the chicks can be readily controlled. Various novel features of construction, lending to the utility of the coop, will be called to attention hereafter. The invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which it is illustrated in a convenient embodiment thereof. In said drawings,—

Figure 1 is a view in longitudinal central section of a coop constructed in accordance with the invention, the plane of section being indicated by the broken line 1—1 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 2 is a top view of the coop partly in horizontal section.

Fig. 3 is a view in section on the plane indicated by the broken line 3—3 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but showing a wire screen substituted for the slat screen shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a view in section on the plane indicated by the broken line 5—5 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 6 is a partial longitudinal section, on the plane indicated by the broken line 1—1 of Fig. 2, but with the partition between the two compartments raised.

Figs. 7 and 8 are detail views on a larger scale than the other figures of the drawings, illustrating the manner in which the roosting bars are utilized to hold the sidewalls of the coop together.

The two side walls *a a* of the coop, conveniently made of light lumber and having suitable length and height, each side wall preferably having its forward part *a'* substantially rectangular and its rearward part a^2 somewhat higher and given a suitable pitch to support a roof.

The bottom *b* preferably consists of a frame *b'* and a wire screen b^2, which prevents rats and mice from entering the coop by burrowing under the bottom and also permits the coop with the chicks and hen to be shifted from place to place as may be desired. The bottom *b* preferably fits between the side walls *a*, at their lower edges, and may be held from dropping out of place, when the coop is raised from the ground, by metal clips b^3 which are secured to the side walls and lap under the bottom.

At each end and at the middle each side wall *a* is provided on its inner face with guides a^3 to receive freely a rear end wall *c*, a middle partition *d* and a front end wall *e*, of slat construction, as shown in Fig. 3, or a front end wall *e'* consisting of a suitable frame and wire screen, as shown in Fig. 4. Each of these walls and the middle partition is freely movable vertically in its respective guides so that it can be slipped readily in place when the coop is set up, or withdrawn when the coop is to be knocked down or the wall or partition is to be replaced by another.

The slat construction of the wall *e* permits the chicks to run in and out, while the wire screen wall *e'* prevents the chicks from running out while permitting free ventilation.

The partition *d* preferably comprises a main part *d'* with a tight upper portion d^2 and a slatted lower portion d^3, and a horizontally sliding, slatted gate d^4, provided with a handle d^5 which projects upwardly through the top of the forward compartment, whereby the gate can be shifted to permit or prevent the passage of the chicks through the partition. The forward end has its upper cross-bar e^2 provided with hooked ends, as shown at e^3, to lap the forward ends of the side walls *a a* and the middle cross-bar d^6 of the middle partition likewise has hooked ends d^7 to lap the side walls. The side walls are thus firmly held along their upper edges.

The forward compartment is preferably provided with an open top *f*, formed of a frame *f'* and wire screen f^2. It is laid between the forward portions *a'* of the sides *a* and is supported upon the upper ends of the guides for the forward end and for the

middle partition. It may be provided at its forward end and at each side with a bolt f^3 for the purpose of holding the forward end e or e' in elevated position when desired, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. Latches f^4 may also be provided to retain the top in position.

The rear compartment is covered by a tight roof g provided at each edge with a strip g' to lap the corresponding side wall. The roof may be held in position by a hook g^2 at each side adapted to engage one or the other of two eyes g^3 on the corresponding side, for the purpose of holding the roof either in the forward position shown in Fig. 1 or in the rearward position shown in Fig. 6, the roof having the latter position when the middle partition d is to be raised, as shown in Fig. 6, the middle partition being then held in its raised position by bolts g^4 on the roof.

As a convenient means for securing all parts of the coop in their set-up positions, in coaction with the interengaging portions of such parts, roosting bars h are passed through holes h' in the side walls and are notched, as at h^2. Latches h^3, pivoted on the sides and provided with suitably beveled ends, serve to lift the roosting bars and hold their notched portions in engagement with the sides of the coop, as clearly shown in Figs. 7 and 8. The extended portions of the roosting bars form convenient handles by which the coop can be raised from the ground and shifted to a different position.

When the coop is to be knocked down for storage or shipment, the roosting bars are disengaged from the sides and withdrawn, the roof g is released and removed, the top f of the forward compartment is lifted out, the ends and middle partition are withdrawn and the sides are separated from the bottom. All parts may then be packed flat. In setting up the coop the sides and bottom are first assembled; then the roosting bars are put in place and engaged with the sides, the ends and partition are put in place and the top and roof are applied, the latter being secured in position by the hooks. The coop is then ready for use and may be shifted readily from one place to another.

It will be observed that the bottom, the end members and the middle partition are placed loosely in position between the side members, that is, that they are not interlocked therewith or connected thereto in any manner, and that the side members are held in fixed relation, that is parallel with each other, by the notched bars which extend directly from one side member to the other, serving the sole structural purpose of holding the side members in parallel relation. The roof of the rear portion of the coop is provided with hooks merely for the purpose of preventing the roof from being lifted out of place accidentally, as by the wind, but so far as the setting up of the structure is concerned, the hooks serve no function. The construction is such that upon disengaging the notched bars from the side members the entire structure practically falls apart without the exercise of any effort in disengaging one member from another. The structure is, therefore, set up and knocked down with great facility.

The hen may be confined in the rear compartment or permitted to use both compartments. The chicks may likewise be confined in the rear compartment or permitted to use both, or may be permitted to range outside of the coop if the slatted front end is substituted for the screen.

It will be understood that various changes in details of construction and arrangement may be made to suit different conditions of use and the invention, therefore, is not limited to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown and described herein.

I claim as my invention:

1. A coop comprising side members, a bottom placed loosely between the side members, ends placed loosely between the side members, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

2. A coop comprising side members, a bottom placed loosely between the side members, means to hold the bottom in place between the side members, ends placed loosely between the side members, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

3. A coop comprising side members provided with vertical guides, a bottom placed loosely between the side members, ends placed loosely between the side members in the guides thereof, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

4. A coop comprising side members provided with vertical guides at their ends and at an intermediate position, a bottom placed loosely between the side members and a partition and end members placed loosely between the side members in the guides thereof, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

5. A coop comprising side members provided with vertical guides, ends placed loosely between the side members in the guides thereof, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

6. A coop comprising side members, ends

placed loosely between the side members, a top placed loosely between the upper edges of the side members, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

7. A coop comprising side members provided with vertical guides, ends placed loosely between the side members in the guides, a roof provided with depending strips to overlap the upper edges of the side members, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

8. A coop comprising side members provided with vertical guides at the ends and at an intermediate position, ends and an intermediate partition placed between the side members in the vertical guides thereof, the front end and the partition being vertically slidable in the guides, and roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation.

9. A coop comprising side members, ends placed loosely between the side members, roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation, and an intermediate partition placed between the side members the intermediate partition being provided with closable openings.

10. A coop comprising side members, ends placed loosely between the side members, roosting bars extending directly from one side member to the other and detachably engaging the side members to hold them in fixed relation, and an intermediate partition placed loosely between the side members, the intermediate member having a slatted formation and provided with a horizontally movable sliding gate.

11. A coop comprising side members provided with registering openings, ends placed between the side members, and notched roosting bars extending through the registering openings of the side members and engaging the side members in the notches to hold the side members in fixed relation.

12. A coop comprising side members with registering openings, ends placed between the side members, notched roosting bars passed through the registering openings and engaging the side members in the notches thereof, and means to hold the roosting bars in such engagement with the side members to hold the side members in fixed relation.

13. A coop comprising side members provided with vertical guides and with registering openings, a bottom placed between the side members, ends placed between the side members in the vertical guides thereof, and notched roosting bars extending through the openings of the side members and engaging the side members in their notches to hold the side members in fixed relation.

This specification signed this 26th day of April A. D. 1917.

DONALD MACVICAR.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."