

No. 840,558.

PATENTED JAN. 8, 1907.

J. W. DENMEAD.

EGG CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 29, 1905.

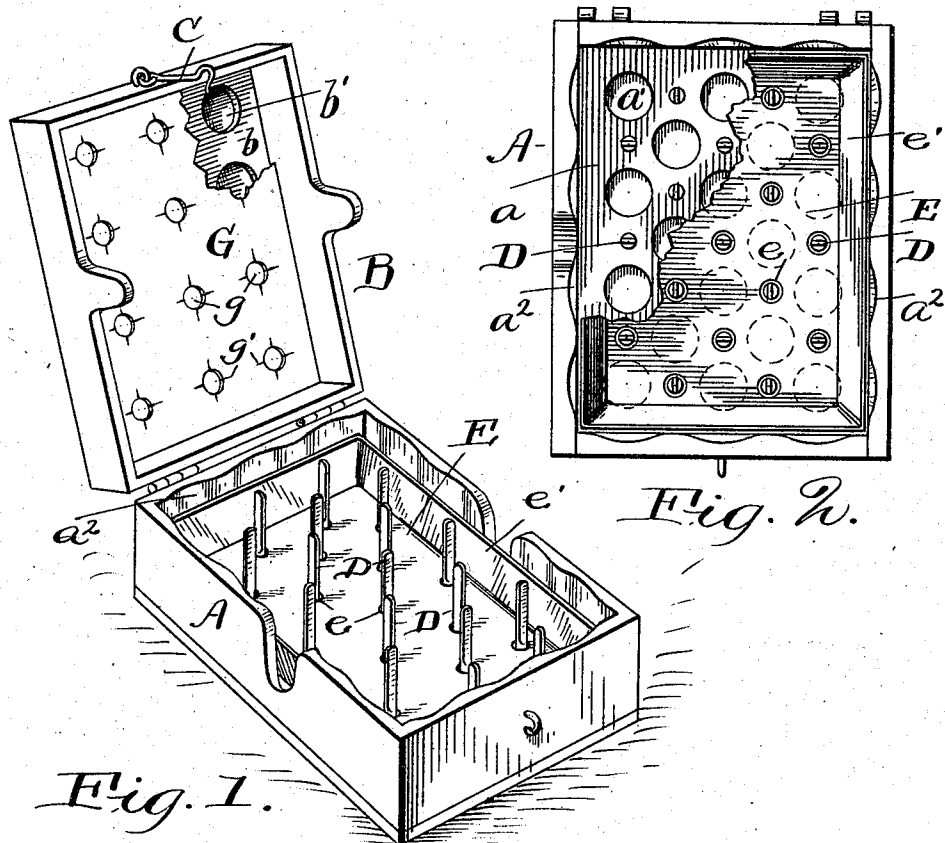


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

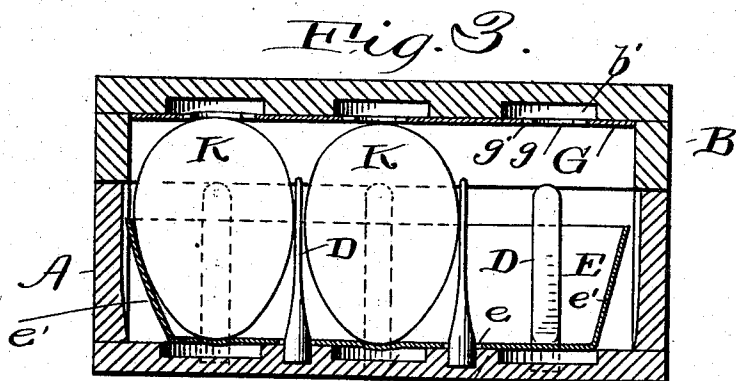


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
E. B. Gilchard
H. L. Brennan.

Inventor:
John W. Denmead
by his attorneys
Thurston Bates & Woodward

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. DENMEAD, OF AKRON, OHIO.

EGG-CARRIER.

No. 840,558.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 8, 1907.

Application filed September 29, 1905. Serial No. 280,572.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. DENMEAD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Egg-Carriers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of the invention is to provide for the use of retail dealers in eggs a carrier in which the eggs may be transported to customers without danger of breakage and which shall include a suitable cheap receptacle, such as a strawboard tray, removable from the carrier with the eggs in it for delivery to the customer.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete carrier in its best form. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the carrier with the cover and a part of the tray removed, and Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the carrier when the cover thereof is closed.

The carrier includes an ordinary wooden box A and its cover B, which may be hinged to it, and a suitable catch, as the hook C, may be provided for holding the cover closed. The inside height of the box when the cover is closed should be a little greater than the length of an egg.

Rising from the bottom *a* of the box are a plurality of partition-pieces, preferably in the form of pegs D. These peg-shaped partition-pieces are so arranged, substantially as shown, that compartments are formed for the reception of eggs, said compartments being of such size, due to the placing of the pegs, that they severally are adapted to receive an egg standing on end and to prevent it from tipping much out of the vertical position and to hold it out of contact with eggs in the other similarly-formed compartments.

It represents a receptacle which is preferably a tray made of strawboard or some analogous flexible material, which, however, must be stiff and strong enough to substantially retain its shape when removed from the box and full of eggs. It has through its bottom a plurality of holes *e*, through which the pegs D freely pass when the tray is in the box A, resting upon the bottom thereof. In other respects the tray is of familiar form, having slightly-flaring sides *e'*, which may touch the sides and ends of the box. When this tray is in the box, as shown, the flexible bottom of

the tray covers the recesses *a'* in the box-bottom. When this tray is in the box, the eggs K are placed in the described compartments between the pegs and in the tray at the same time. They rest upon the unsupported parts of flexible tray-bottom directly over the recesses *a'*, wherefore they are not liable to be broken either in dropping them into the compartments or in handling the carrier.

In the inner face of the box-cover top *b*, directly over the compartments when the cover is closed, are countersunk recesses *b'*, and in the cover is secured a sheet G of flexible but rather stiff paper or paper-board which covers these recesses. This sheet G is a permanent part of the carrier and is not, like the tray, used once only. It is required, therefore, that it be durable, wherefore it is preferably made of a very good quality of Manila board. To increase the flexibility of this sheet, holes *g* are formed through it concentric with the recesses *b'*, but of smaller diameter, and still greater flexibility is given to this sheet by slits or notches *g'*, extending from said holes outward a short distance, as shown. The purpose of this sheet is to prevent the eggs from coming in direct contact with the box-cover when it is closed. The holes *g* and slits *g'* are formed not alone to increase the flexibility of the sheet, but to adapt the carrier for eggs of all ordinary sizes. The large eggs may project their ends into the holes *g* and may even bend the sheet G a little without coming in contact with the top *b* of the cover. There are, additionally, certain minor features of construction which contribute much to the practical efficiency of the carrier.

The pegs are arranged in rows and are staggered in respect to each other, and they are flattened so as to make them somewhat flexible. The flat sides of alternate rows are turned toward the sides of the box, and the flat sides of the intermediate rows toward the ends of the box. The compartments for the eggs are those spaces bounded by the flat sides of the pegs or between said flat sides and the sides and ends of the box. The pegs are placed so close together that eggs of ordinary size cannot go into the spaces bounded by the thin edges of said pegs. With this arrangement the eggs cannot be placed in the carrier so that they can touch each other. They should be so placed, of course, but the described construction prevents the acci-

dental placing of the eggs in any other way. These pegs are preferably made of wood, but that is not essential. It will be noticed that the sides (including the ends) of the box form a part of the wall of some of the compartments. The sides of the tray will ordinarily keep the eggs from direct contact with the sides of the box; but for greater security against breakage the sides of the box adjacent to the compartments may be grooved out, as at a^2 , and the sides of the tray extending across these grooves not only hold the eggs out of contact with the box sides but also form a flexible wall or lining against which the eggs rest.

When eggs, one or more, are placed in the described carrier and the cover is closed and latched, the eggs are completely protected from any external blows. They are in a very large measure insured against breakage through shaking, striking, or jarring the box by the fact that they touch only the flexible bottom and sides of the tray, the flexible cover-sheet G, and the flexible pins. When the eggs reach their destination, the cover is opened, and the tray with the eggs in it is removed and delivered.

While the so-called "pegs" are shown with substantial circular bases and narrow flat body portions, it is obvious that they may be of other shapes, and particularly that the body portions of said pegs may be very much wider than they are shown to be in the drawings without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim—

1. In an egg-carrier the combination of a box and a plurality of pegs which are severally secured to and project upward from the bottom of said box, with a removable tray having upwardly-projecting marginal walls and a bottom in which are holes through which said pegs project when the tray is resting upon the bottom of the box, said tray being made of material which is so stiff and strong that when filled with eggs and re-

moved from the box it will substantially retain its shape.

2. In an egg-carrier, the combination of a box having countersunk recesses in its bottom, and a plurality of upwardly-projecting pegs which are secured to the bottom of said box and are arranged in groups around said countersunk recesses, with a tray which is removably seated in said box and is made of flexible material and has holes in its bottom through which said pegs pass when the tray rests upon the bottom of said box, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In an egg-carrier, the combination of a box, and a plurality of flattened pegs which are secured to and project upward from the bottom of said box, said pegs being arranged in parallel rows, and the pegs in alternate rows having their flat sides faced in the same directions and the pegs in the intermediate rows being staggered in respect to the pegs in the alternate rows and having their flat sides faced in a direction at substantially right angles to the direction in which the flat sides of the pegs of the other rows face, with a removable tray in said box resting upon the bottom thereof and having holes through which said pegs loosely project, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. In an egg-carrier, the combination of a stiff box, and upwardly-projecting pegs secured to the bottom of said box, the vertical walls of said box having internal vertical grooves a^2 , with a removable tray made of flexible material and having holes in its bottom through which said pegs project, and having flexible sides which engage with the walls of said box and span the grooves a^2 therein, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. DENMEAD.

Witnesses:

E. B. GILCHRIST,
E. L. THURSTON.