March 16, 1965 C. S. CURTIS 3,173,464

CONTAINER

Filed Jan. 23, 1963

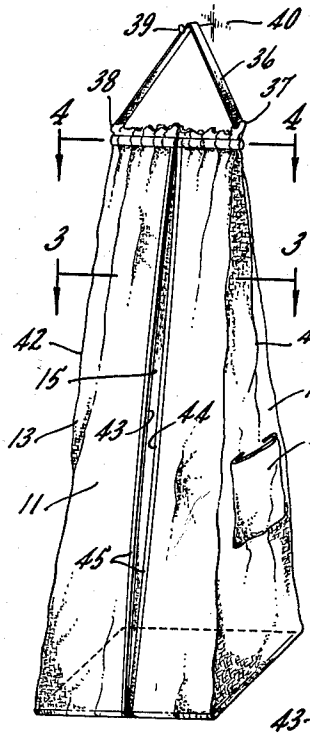


Fig. 1.

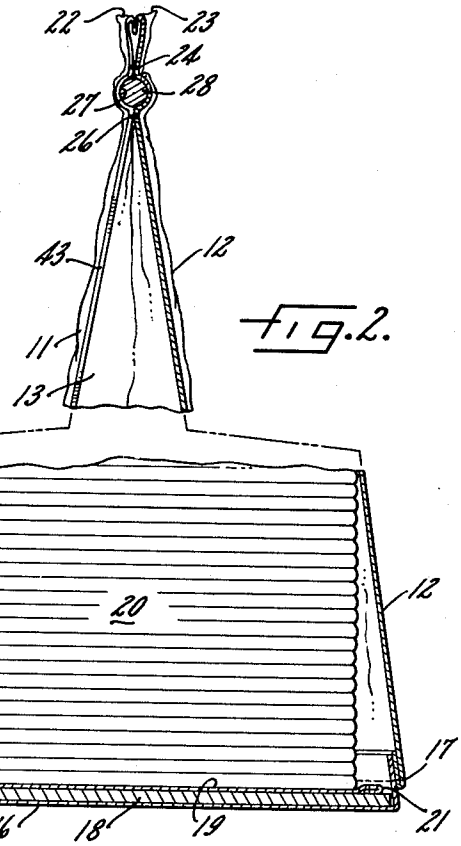


Fig. 2.

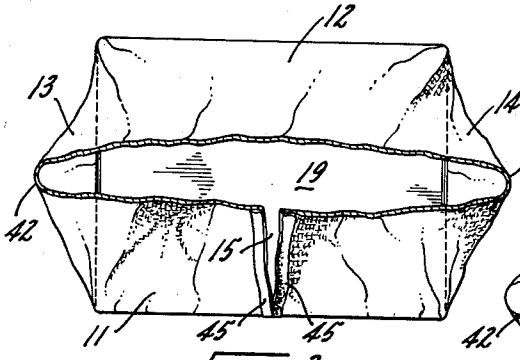


Fig. 3.

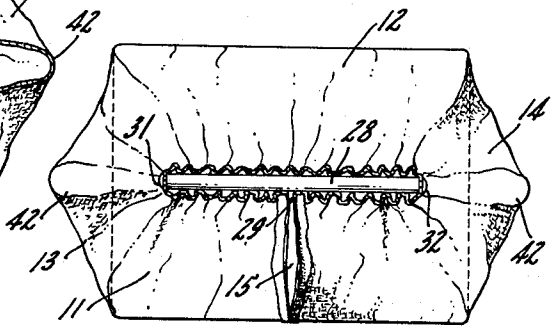


Fig. 4.

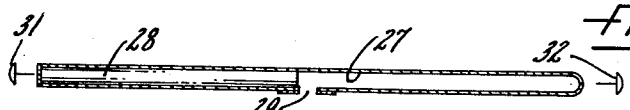


Fig. 5.

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United States Patent Office 3,173,464
Patented Mar. 16, 1965

3,173,464

CONTAINER

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Filed Jan. 23, 1963, Ser. No. 253,443
4 Claims. (Cl. 150—1)

This invention relates generally to containers and more particularly to a container well suited to storage of articles such as unsoiled diapers for example.

Heretofore, various means have been used for the storage of unsoiled diapers. Examples are cabinets, dressers, shelves, and tables. After completion of the present invention, and prior to the preparation of this patent application, a search was conducted and revealed an additional device for the storage of diapers. This device is shown and described in the patent to Mary F. Swinney, issued October 28, 1952.

Yet, all of the known means have important shortcomings and leave much to be desired.

It is, therefore, a general object of this invention to provide improved means for the storage of diapers and other articles.

A further object is to provide means well suited to convenient mounting at any desired location in a room.

A further object is to provide means of extremely nominal cost and which is well adapted to contributing a decorative effect wherever employed.

A further object is to provide means achieving the foregoing objects and which can be readily laundered.

The full nature of this invention will be understood from the accompanying drawings and the following description and claims:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a typical embodiment of the present invention mounted upon a wall.

FIG. 2 is a vertical cross section through the container of FIG. 1 taken at a plane located equidistantly from the sides of the container, with the central portion of the container being omitted to conserve space in the drawing.

FIG. 3 is a section taken along the line 3—3 in FIG. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrows.

FIG. 4 is a section taken along the line 4—4 in FIG. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrows.

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary section taken at the same location as that of FIG. 4 but illustrating the condition of the cloth portion of the container prior to gathering on a support member.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the illustrated embodiment of the container includes a front wall **11**, rear wall **12**, left-hand side wall **13** and right-hand side wall **14**. All four of these walls are formed from a single homogeneous sheet of material with the left-hand edge of the sheet facing the right-hand edge thereby forming a slit **15** in the front wall. While a variety of materials may be used, a decoratively-printed broadcloth is quite acceptable. A floor **16** is provided which also may be of broadcloth secured to the lower margins of the walls **11–14** by means of stitching such as at **17** (FIG. 2). A rectangular board **18** is mounted on the floor **16** and provides the lateral support resulting in the formation of the four walls. Means other than a board may be employed for providing lateral support to produce the four walls.

A covering for the board **18** can be provided in the form of a cloth piece **19** which is preferably secured to the lower margins of the walls by the stitches **17** at the same time the floor **16** is secured thereto. By avoiding stitching or only loosely stitching the rear margin **21** of the piece **19** to the floor or rear wall **12**, installation and removal of the board **18** is facilitated. In this instance, the floor **16** and piece **19** form a pocket for the board **18**. Where the container is to be used for diapers **20**, a rectangular board 8½ inches by 11 inches, for example, may be used.

Adjacent the upper margins **22** and **23** of the front and rear walls respectively, these walls are secured together by two rows of stitches **24** and **26**. They, therefore, provide a passageway **27** to accommodate a supporting member which is typically provided in the form of a wood rod or bar **28**. The slit **15** in the front wall provides a break **29** in the front wall of the passageway. The bar **28** may conveniently be made of a length somewhat less than one-quarter of the distance around the perimeter of the board **18**. It will be seen, therefore, with the help of FIG. 5, that the bar **28** can be inserted through the break **29** in the front wall **11** and into the left-hand side or portion of the passageway **27**. The point of the thumb tack **31** can then be pressed through the cloth and into the end of the bar **28** to secure the cloth to the bar at the end of the bar. The vertical location of the bar with respect to the material is controlled by the two rows **24** and **26** of stitches.

When the bar has thus been secured at its left-hand end, the material to the right thereof can be gathered toward the left-hand end. Likewise, the material to the right of break **29** can be gathered onto the bar thereby moving bar **28** into the right-hand portion of the passageway **27**. The material of the bag can then be secured to the right-hand end of the bar by the thumb tack **32** in the same manner as was done at the left-hand end. When thus assembled, the appearance in the region of the bar is substantially as shown in FIG. 1 and in the section of FIG. 4.

The strap **36** may then be attached directly at points **37** and **38** to either the front or rear wall of the container adjacent the upper margin. The strap, which may be made of cloth, may be used to support the container on a picture hook **39** or any other hook mounted to a wall **40** or a door. When the container is hanging, the side walls bow outwardly slightly as indicated at **42** in FIGS. 1, 3 and 4 presenting a gently curved outline when viewed from the front.

The edges **43** and **44** of the single sheet of material forming the four walls of the container may be hemmed if desired, though this is not at all necessary. A decorative border material **45** may be secured to the material at the slit **15** if desired. The slit **15** not only provides access to the interior of the container but also facilitates installation and removal of the bar **28**. Accordingly, no holes need be located and punched in the material to allow insertion of the rod.

The great simplicity of construction of the present invention not only permits its production at a low cost and with conventional equipment and unskilled personnel, but also permits the container to be very attractive, durable and easily laundered. It can be made to hold any number of diapers. If desired, pockets may be provided on the container to hold talcum powder and other items. An example is pocket **46** in FIG. 1.

It will be readily recognized that many types of materials and colors of fabrics with a wide variety of decorative prints can be used with the present invention. This is facilitated because the four walls can be made of a single sheet of material, thereby avoiding any problem of matching of patterns.

A waterproof material can be used, such as plastic with welded rather than stitched seams. The slit can be closed and welded for a desired distance up from the floor. The container thereby is suitable for soaking soiled diapers.

While the invention has been disclosed and described in some detail in the drawings and foregoing description, they are to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, as other modifications may readily sug-

gest themselves to persons skilled in this art and within the broad scope of the invention, reference being had to the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A container comprising: a front wall, a rear wall, a left-hand side wall and a right-hand side wall, all of said walls being formed by a single homogeneous sheet of material; a floor joining said walls; support means adjacent the upper margin of said walls to support said front and rear walls; a pocket forming piece located adjacent said floor and joined to said floor to form a pocket; and a board disposed in said pocket thereby laterally supporting said front and rear and side walls, substantially all of said board being enclosed by said pocket.

2. A container comprising: a front wall, a rear wall, a left-hand side wall and a right-hand side wall, all of said walls being formed by a single homogeneous sheet of material; a floor joining said walls; a rod adjacent the upper margin of said walls to support said front and rear walls, said front wall meeting and being secured to said rear wall along two lines adjacent said rod, one line being above said rod and the other line being below said rod,

the portions of said front and rear walls between said lines thereby forming a passageway for said rod.

3. The container of claim 2 wherein said rod is penetrable by a metal tack and said sheet is gathered on said rod, and metal tacks having portions piercing said sheet and embedded in the ends of said rod secure said sheet in gathered condition on said rod.

4. The container of claim 3 wherein said front wall has a slit therein, said slit extending from the lower margin of said wall through a point below said rod and through a point above said rod to the upper margin of said wall and thereby providing a break in said passageway, said break accommodating removal of said rod from said passageway.

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