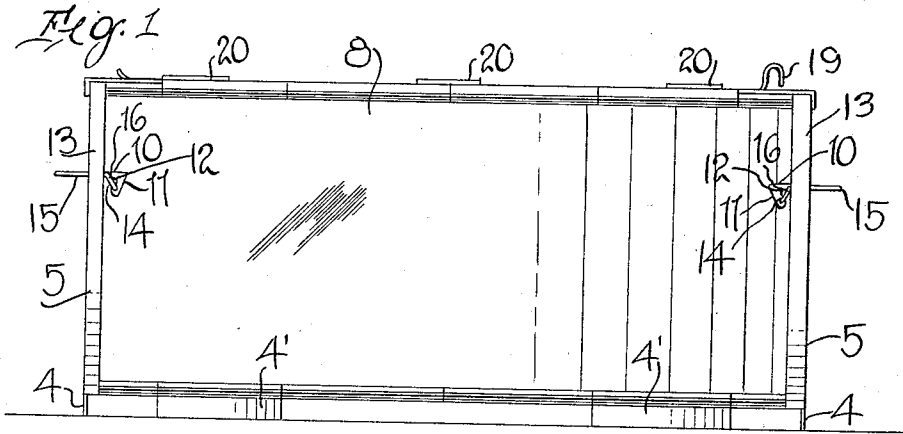
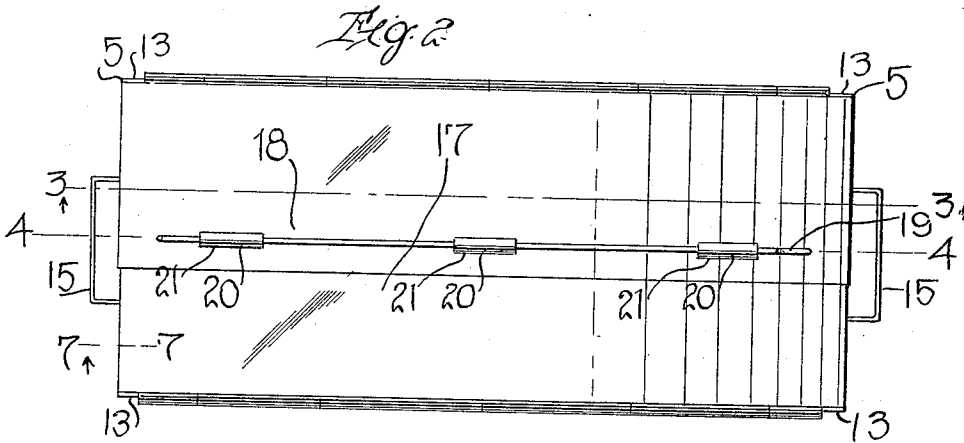
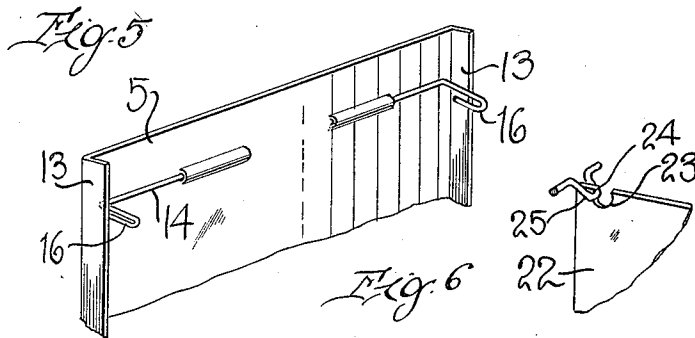


F. W. ROBERTSON.
FOLDING EGG CRATE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 29, 1914.

1,134,557.

Patented Apr. 6, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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A. J. Hunt

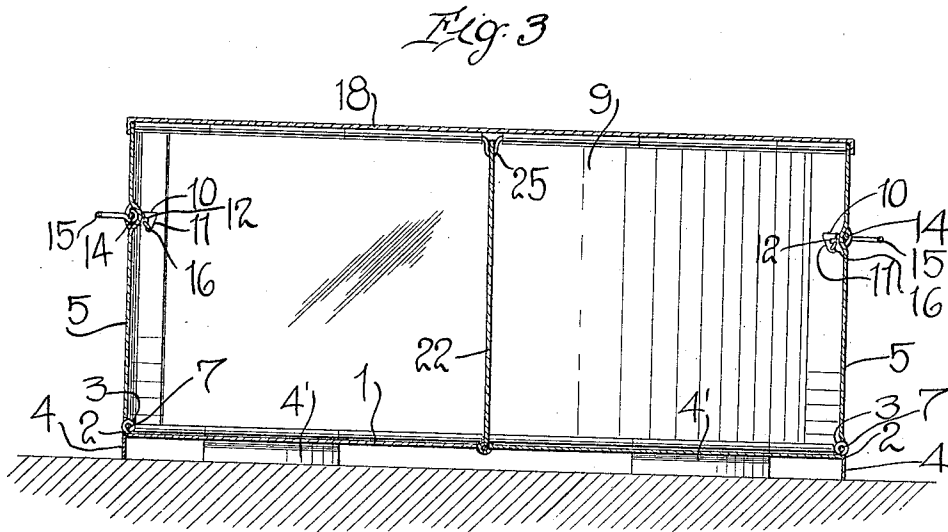
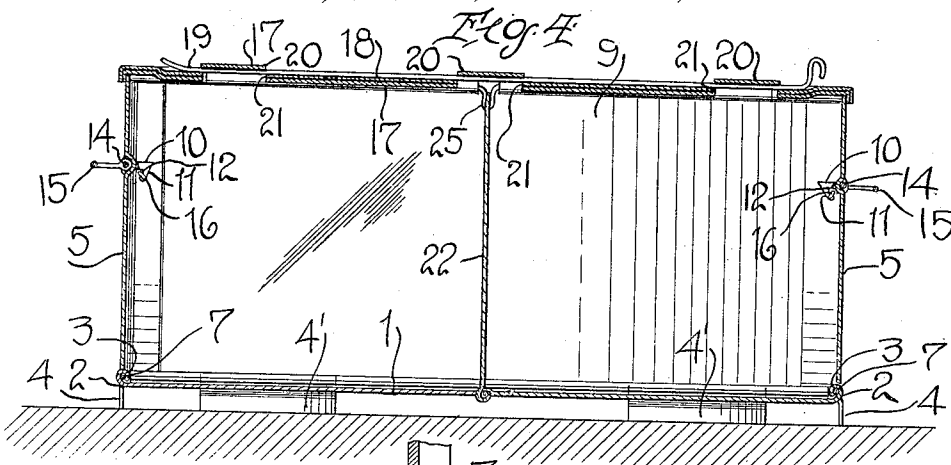
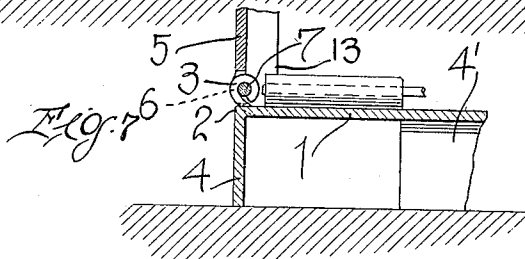
By *Watson E. Coleman*
Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK W. ROBERTSON, OF OROSI, CALIFORNIA.

FOLDING EGG-CRATE.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 6, 1915.

1,134,557.

Application filed June 29, 1914. Serial No. 848,004.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK W. ROBERTSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Orosi, in the county of Tulare and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Egg-Crates, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in metallic shipping cases and more particularly to what is known as a folding metallic shipping case, the main object of the present invention being the provision of a folding metallic shipping case particularly adapted for use in shipping eggs and merchandise of a like character by express or freight and is so constructed that when set up ready for use, it is securely locked against folding movement and, at the same time, when not in use or when ready for return shipment, can be quickly and readily folded into compact form so as to occupy minimum space.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the above character which will possess advantages in points of efficiency and durability, is inexpensive to manufacture and, at the same time, is simple in construction and operation.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter referred to and more particularly pointed out in the specification and claim.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this application, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a folding receptacle constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 3—3, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 4—4, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view illustrating the manner of constructing the end fasteners. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view illustrating the manner of fastening the central section in position; and Fig. 7 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 7—7, Fig. 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 indicates the bottom of my improved receptacle, the ends of which are provided with suitable flanges 2 having portions thereof bent upon themselves to form sleeves

3, while the material between said portions are bent downwardly and extended beyond the lower face of the bottom member 1 to form supporting feet 4. Hingedly connected to the ends of the bottom member 1, are the end pieces 5 having sleeves 6 formed upon the lower ends thereof and adapted to be arranged between and in alinement with the sleeve 3 upon the bottom to receive the pivot pin 7, thus pivotally connecting the end portions 5 with the bottom member 1 so that they will readily fold inwardly thereon.

The numerals 8 and 9 indicate the two side walls of the receptacle, the lower longitudinal edges of which are pivotally connected to the flange 2 of the bottom in the same manner as the end members 5, it being understood that the material arranged between the pivot sleeves is bent downwardly upon the longitudinal edges of the bottom to form the side supporting feet 4'. The ends of the side walls 8 and 9 are provided adjacent their upper longitudinal edges with the inwardly longitudinally extending recesses 10 having downwardly extending recesses 11 which are inclined toward the ends of the side walls to form a hook portion 12, the purpose of which will be hereinafter more fully set forth. When the side and end walls are arranged in their upright positions, the side flanges 13 of the end walls are engaged over the ends of the side walls and pivotally mounted within the end walls adjacent the upper ends thereof are the rods 14, the intermediate portions of which are U-shaped in form, as shown at 15, to form the handles which are adapted to be arranged upon the outer sides of the end walls, while the ends thereof are bent upon themselves to form hooks 16 which are adapted to engage over the hook portions 12 of the side walls to retain said side and end walls against movement when in an upright position.

It will be noted that by the construction of the handles and hook members on the rods 14, said hook members will be engaged with the hooks 12 when the handle members are moved outwardly to a substantially horizontal position, so as to retain the side and end walls in their upright positions when conveying the case from place to place. When it is desired to remove the hook members 16 from the hooks 12, the U-shaped portion 15 is folded inwardly against the outer sides of the end walls, whereby said

side and end walls may be quickly and readily folded inwardly on to the bottom member 1, for return shipment. Pivotally connected to the upper longitudinal edges of the side walls 8 and 9 are the sections 17 and 18, which when folded inwardly form the cover for the receptacle, said sections being securely locked in a closed position by means of the longitudinal rod 19 which is passed through the loops 20 formed upon the sections 17, said loops extending up through the openings 21 formed in the section 18 so that after the rod is placed in position within the loops 20, the two cover sections will be securely held in locked position.

Pivotally secured to the bottom of the body member 1, upon the inner side thereof, is a central division plate 22, the upper edge of which is provided at each end thereof with inwardly extending recesses 23 forming points 24 and adapted for engagement thereover, are the loops 25 which are formed upon the central portions of the pivot pins 26, said pivot pins movably connecting the sections 17 and 18 with the side walls 8 and 9. From this it will be apparent that when the side and end walls are arranged in upright position, the division plate 22 will be retained in its upright effective position by means of the loops 25 which are engaged over the pointed or hooked portion 24. It will be apparent that any suitable form of division plates may be used within the receptacle but it is preferable to have the usual form of foldable cardboard cell members.

From the above description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be readily apparent that I have provided a simple and durable metallic shipping case which is preferably used for shipping eggs and various other articles of merchandise. It will also be noted that after the filled case has reached its destination and is emptied, it can be quickly and

readily folded into compact form so as to occupy a minimum space for storage purposes or for return shipment. The device in itself is extremely simple in construction, can be quickly and readily set up for use and rigidly retained in its upright position and, at the same time, can be manufactured and placed upon the market at a comparatively low cost.

While I have shown and described the preferred form of my invention, it will be obvious that various changes in the details of construction and in the proportions may be resorted to for successfully carrying my invention into practice, without sacrificing any of the novel features or departing from the scope of the invention, as defined by the appended claim.

Having thus described this invention, what I claim is:—

A device of the class described including a bottom member, side and end walls hingedly connected thereto, sleeves formed upon the side and end portions of said bottom member, the material arranged between said sleeves being bent outwardly to form supporting legs, movable rods carried by said end walls having U-shaped portions formed intermediate their ends to provide handles, hook portions formed upon the ends of said rods, said side walls having recesses formed in their ends to provide hooks adapted for engagement with the hooks on said rods, whereby to retain said side and end walls in their upright positions, and a sectional cover adapted to be arranged above said side and end walls, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

FRANK W. ROBERTSON.

Witnesses:

H. L. ANDREWS,
H. NELSON.

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