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A. L. & O. L. BARSTAD.
MEANS FOR HOLDING EGGS DURING TRANSIT.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 16, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

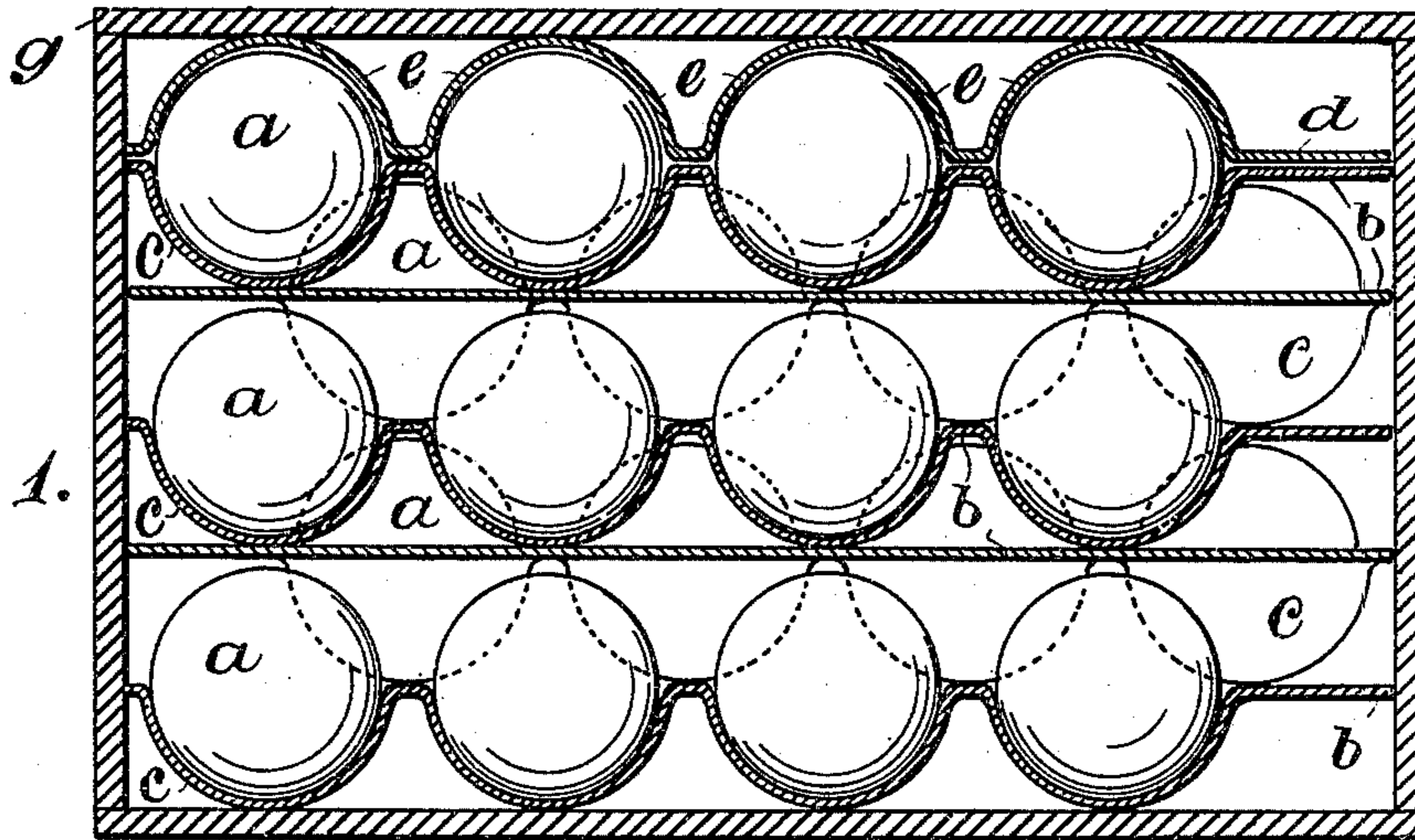


Fig. 2.

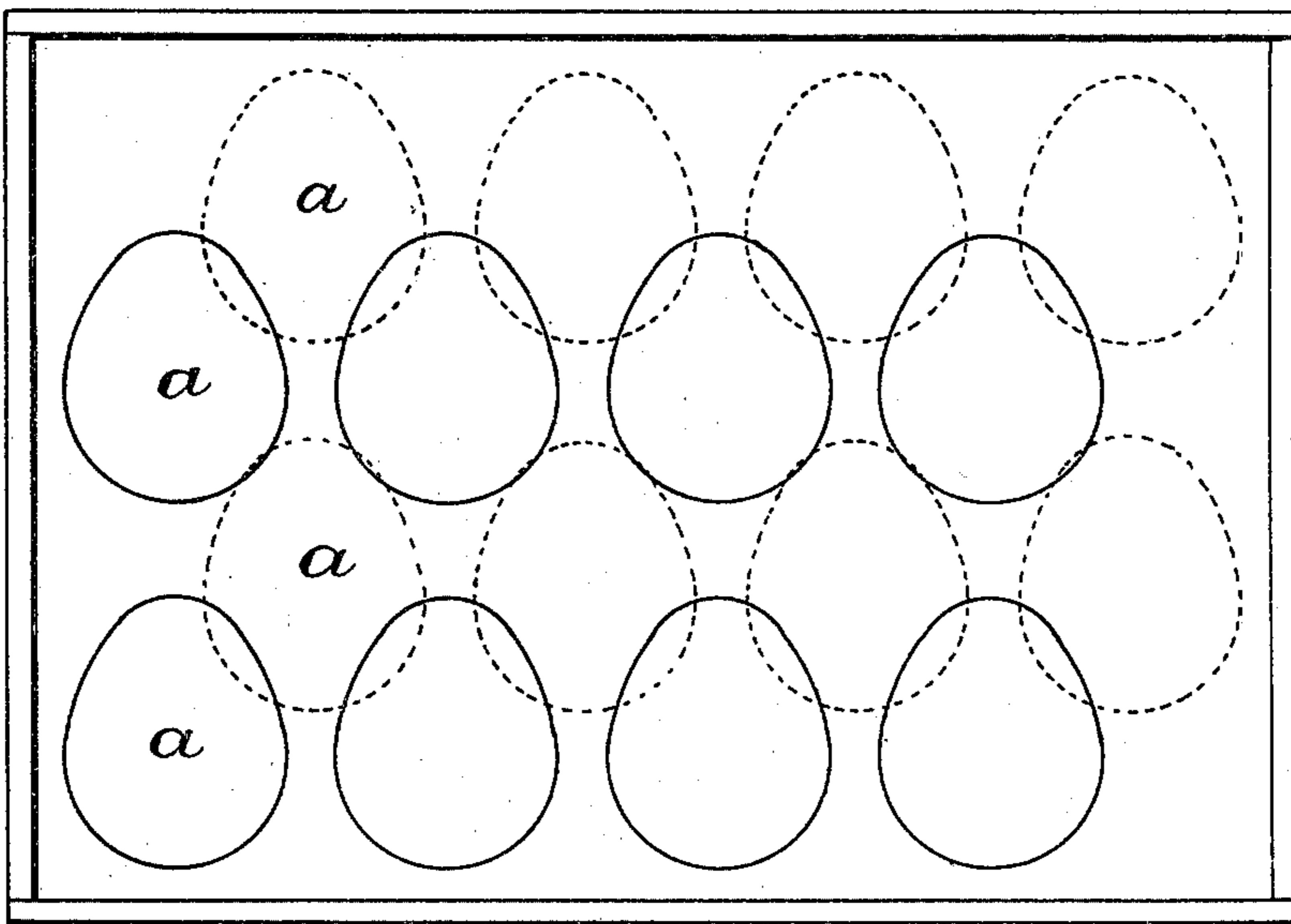
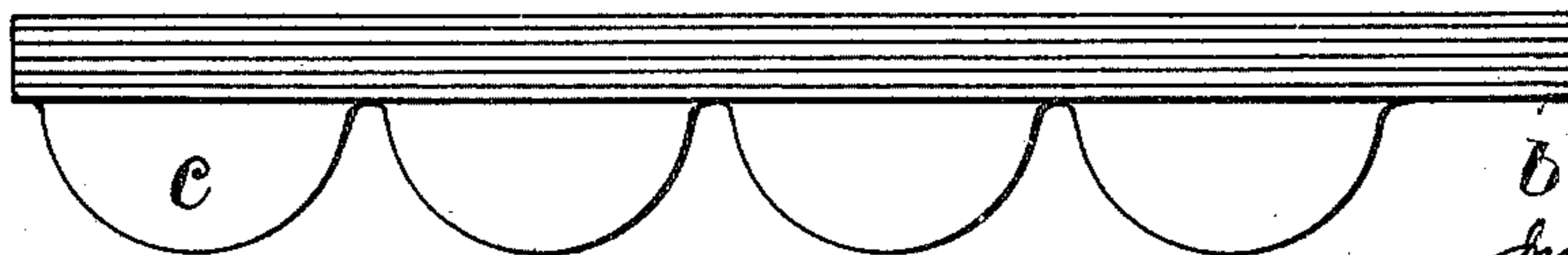


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Peter
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MEANS FOR HOLDING EGGS DURING TRANSIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 755,434, dated March 22, 1904.

Application filed September 16, 1903. Serial No. 173,450. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALBERT LARSEN BARSTAD and OLAF LARSEN BARSTAD, merchants, both of Stavanger, Norway, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Holding Eggs during Transit; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to means of packing eggs in boxes or cases for transit. For this purpose we propose to employ plates of a stiff material, such as cardboard, in which are pressed, stamped, or otherwise formed pockets or recesses adapted to receive the eggs. These plates rest upon each other in such a way that the eggs held therein will lie perfectly steady and at the same time be exposed to the possibly lightest pressure. To secure this result, the pockets or recesses are thus formed and situated in the successive plates, lying one upon the other, so that the recesses of one plate will rest upon the plane sections remaining between the recesses of the underlying plate, the whole forming in this way a perfectly self-supporting cell structure.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating our invention, Figure 1 is a vertical cross-sectional view of a case holding five layers of eggs; Fig. 2, a top plan view of the same, and Fig. 3 a side view of a number of nested supporting-plates.

The eggs rest, as above mentioned, on plates *b*, having pockets *c*, capable of receiving about one-half of an egg when it is laid therein. These plates, with the eggs held in their pockets, are laid one upon another in the box or case, the contents of which will form in this way a compact steady structure in which each egg will not be exposed to more pressure or shock in case of careless treatment during transport than what is due to its own weight. The lowermost plate in the box will rest with the under side of its pockets upon the bottom of the case. The following plate has its pockets disposed in

such a way as to abut against the plane sections between the pockets of the first plate. The third plate in its turn has its pockets resting with their under side upon the second plate and vertically alined, or nearly so, with the eggs of the first plate. Measures may be provided, if desired, to prevent the weight of the eggs in the third layer being transferred directly to the eggs of the first plate or layer by allowing for a narrow space or interval above the eggs, as indicated in the drawings. In this way each layer of eggs will not have to bear any weight from above, the weight of the overlying layers being received by and distributed throughout the cardboard plates. Beneath the lowermost plate in the box it is preferable to place at the bottom of the latter a layer of cotton or similar fibrous yielding material in order to provide a yielding support also for the eggs of this layer. Over the uppermost layer of eggs we preferably lay a plate of the same form as the supporting-plates and having pockets *e* formed in it to receive the upper half of the eggs in the uppermost layer. Such a covering-plate may, if desired, be placed upon each successive layer, whereby all the eggs will be perfectly inclosed.

The supporting-plates in which the pockets or recesses are formed consist, preferably, of cardboard or a similar stiff material and may be produced in various ways—for instance, by pressing or stamping them out of paper-pulp. In the drawings the eggs are shown in a lying position; but the recesses might, of course, also be arranged so as to hold the eggs in an upright position. The whole set of supporting-plates may be made exactly alike, so that they can be put together and form a solid package, as indicated in Fig. 3. The first row in each direction is given a greater distance from the edge than the last row, so that upon turning every other plate one hundred and eighty degrees the pockets will come out of correspondence with each other and the structure of cells be formed.

The packing arrangement described is particularly simple and cheap and affords great security during transit, because it permits, in spite of the compact packing, of securing a

certain elasticity in the cellular structure. The eggs are protected everywhere by at least a double layer of cardboard. This packing arrangement besides offers the advantage that
5 the packing as well as the unpacking of the eggs may be effected readily and conveniently in such a way as to avoid any risk of breakage during this work. The employment of this packing method, moreover, permits of
10 simultaneously sorting the eggs, the recesses in the cardboard plates offering convenient measures for this purpose.

We claim—

15 Nesting-plates for packing eggs, each formed of a single sheet of material having pockets formed therein closed at their bottoms and arranged in rows, the rows of pockets along two adjacent edges of each plate being

a greater distance from said edges than the rows of pockets on the other two edges, said
20 pockets being sufficiently distanced from one another and of such depth that when one plate is turned one hundred and eighty degrees with respect to the plate next below, the bottoms of the pockets of the upper plate
25 will rest on the plane surface of the plate next below and between the pockets therein without touching the eggs in said plate, substantially as described.

It witness whereof we have hereunto set our
30 hands in presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT LARSEN BARSTAD.

OLAF LARSEN BARSTAD.

Witnesses:

JACOB B. JOHNSEN,

BERTR. CHRISTIANSEN.