

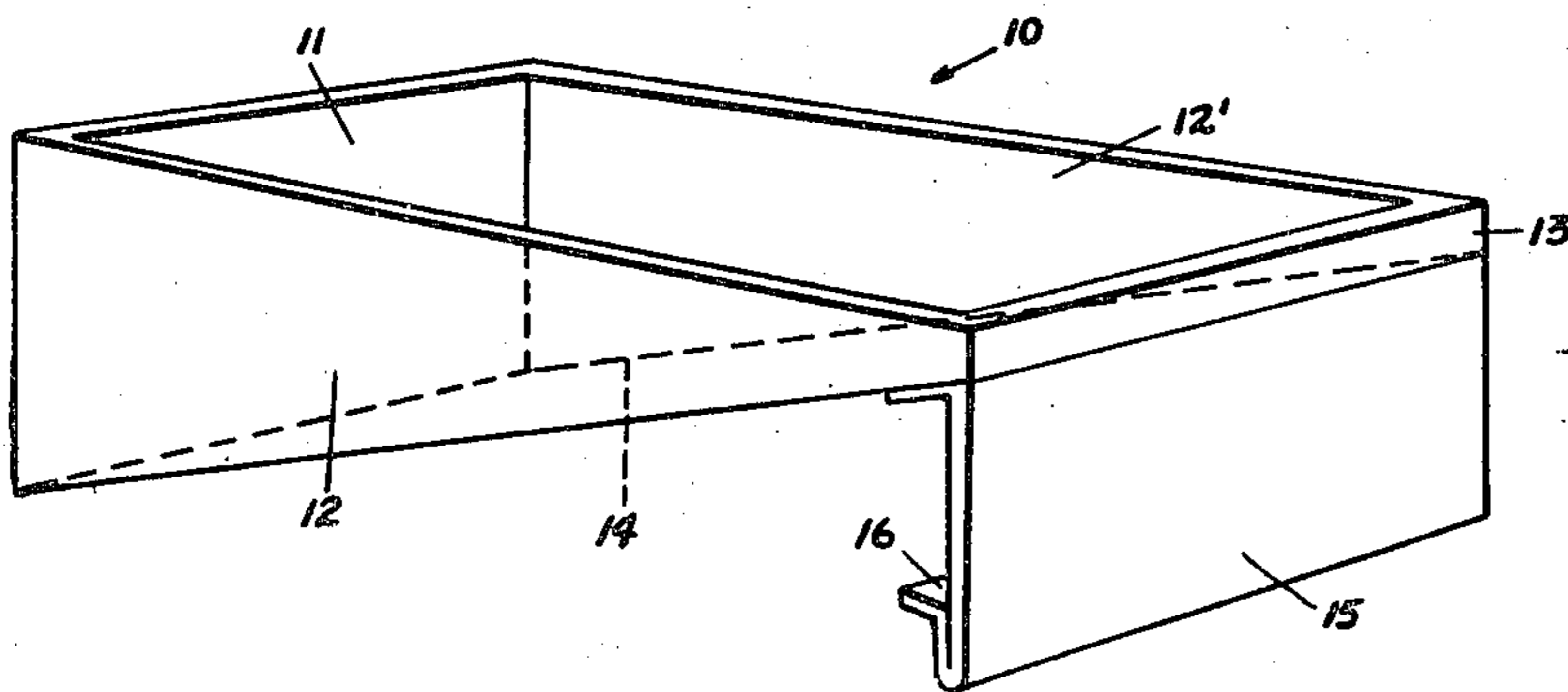
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L. P. TOUCHETT

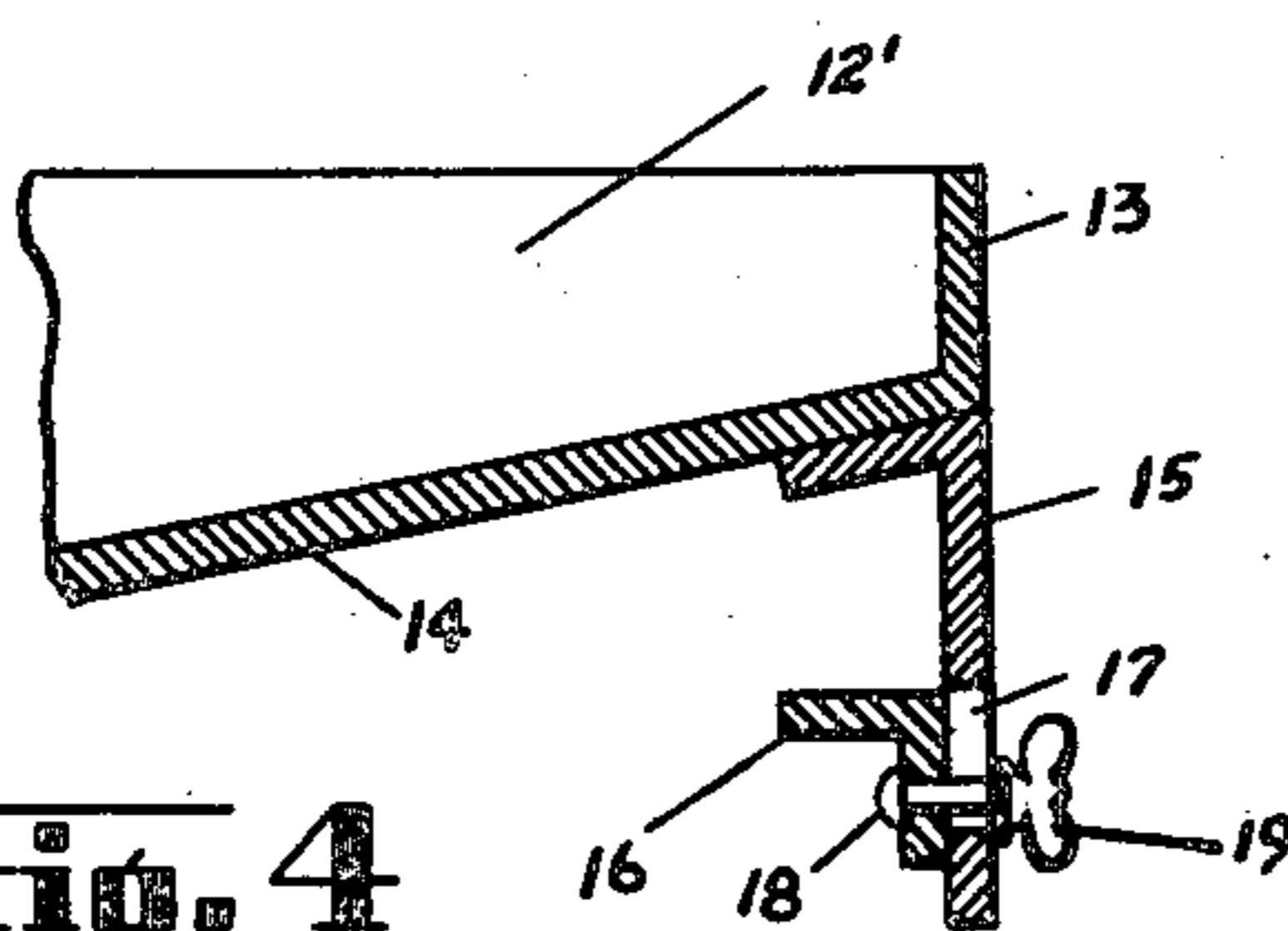
2,444,584

SLOPING BOTTOM TRAY AND SUPPORT STRUCTURE

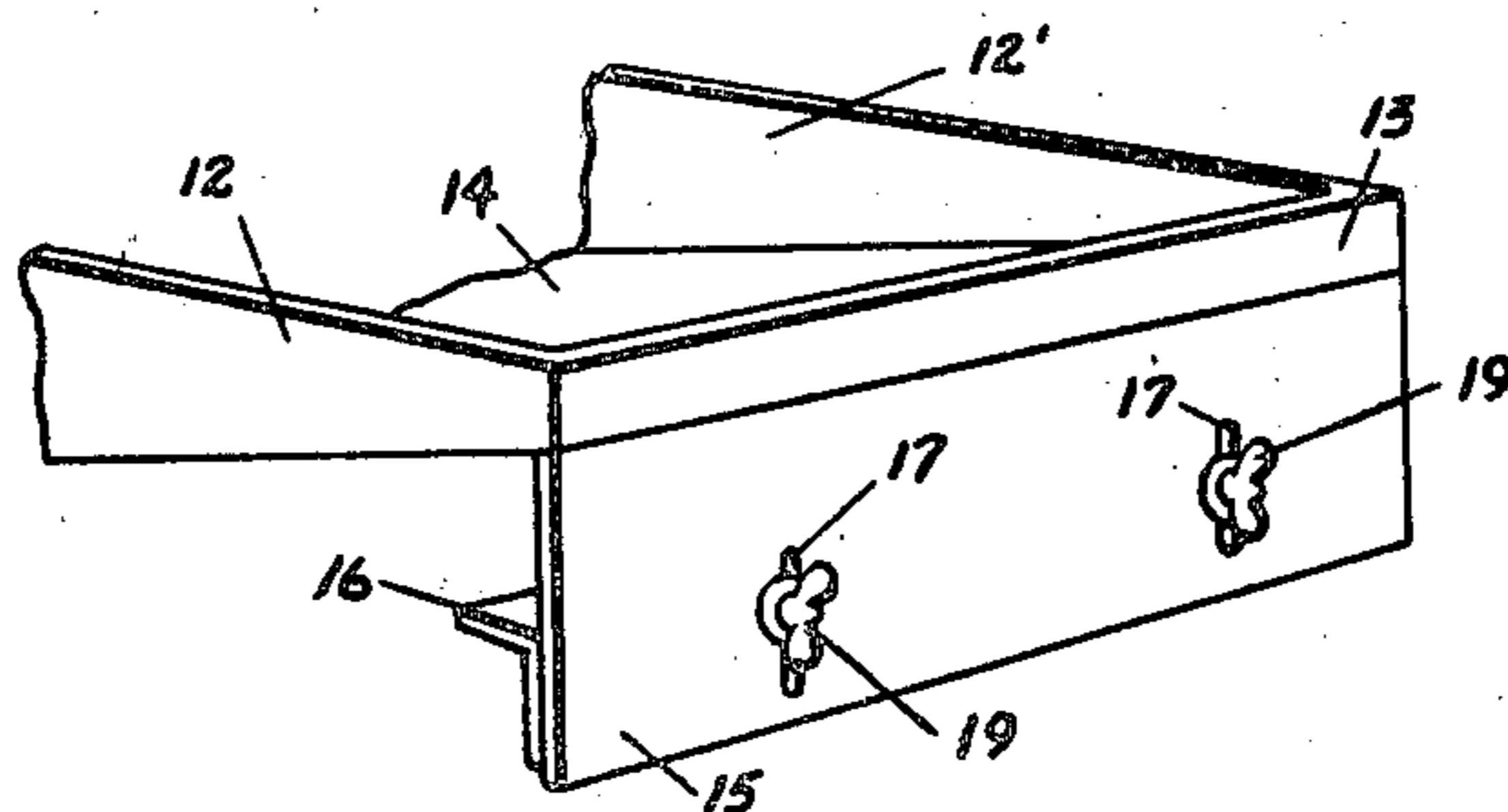
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**Fig. 1**

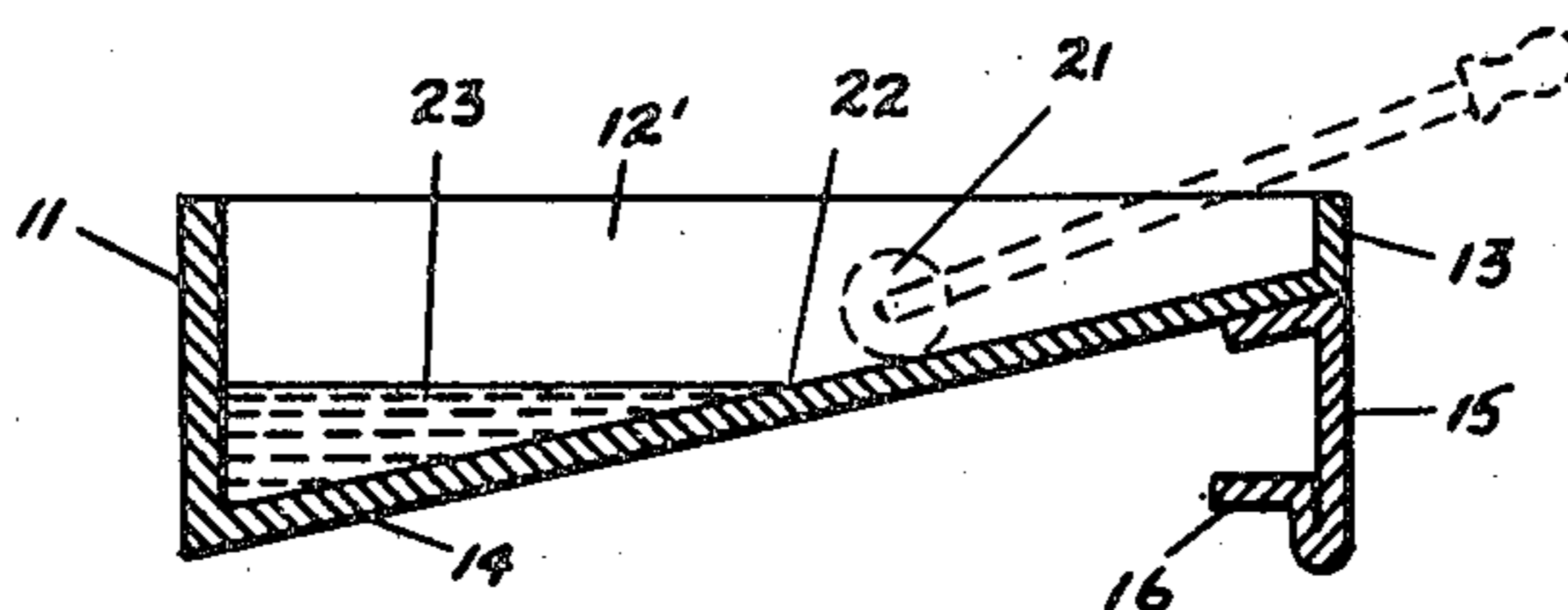


**Fig. 4**

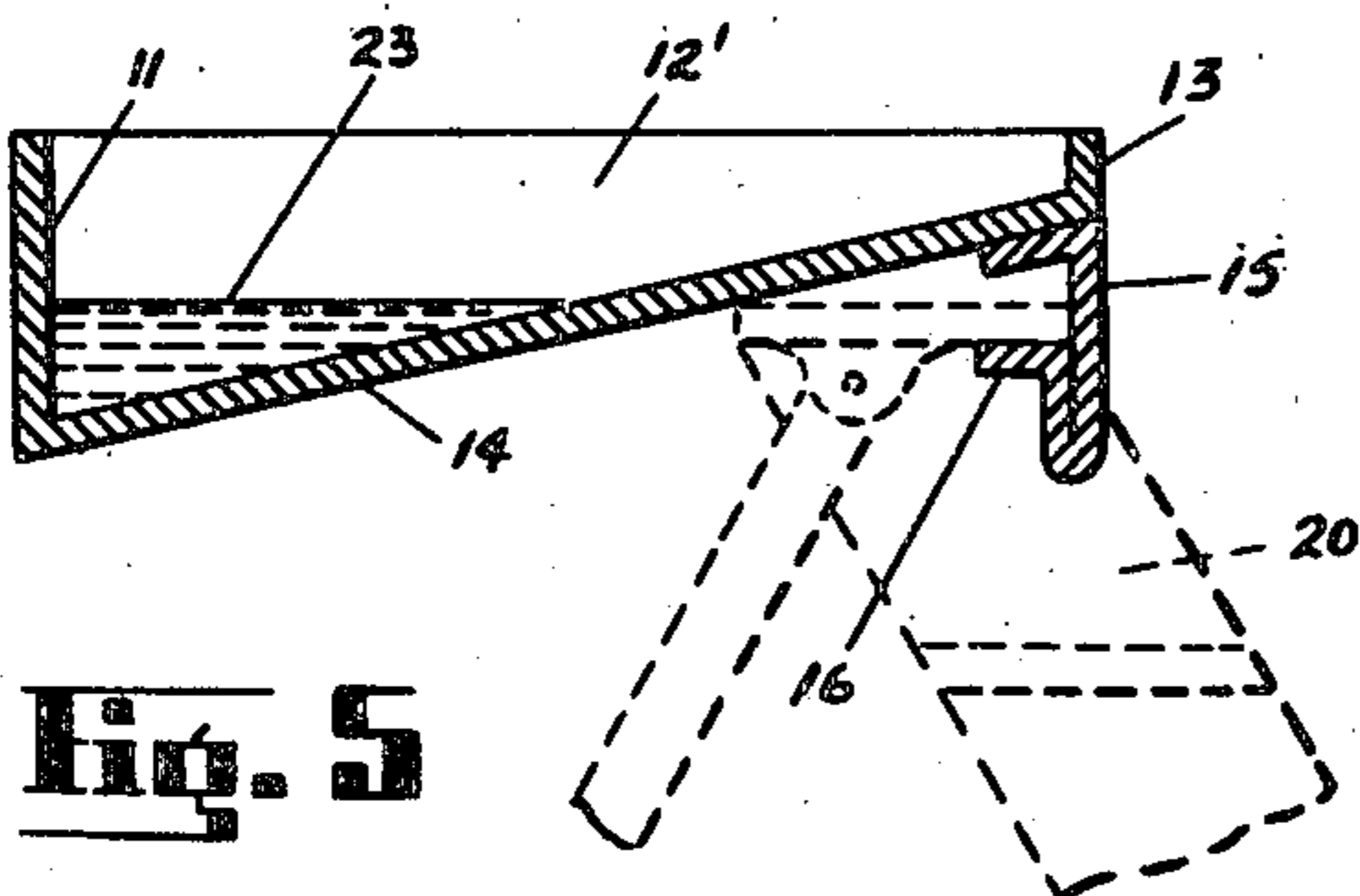


**Fig. 2**

**Fig. 3**



**Fig. 5**



INVENTOR.  
LAWRENCE PAUL TOUCHETT

BY  
*Christian R. Nelson*  
ATTORNEY.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SLOPING BOTTOM TRAY AND SUPPORT  
STRUCTURELawrence Paul Touchett, Fond du Lac, Wis., as-  
signor to E Z Paints Corporation, a corporation  
of Wisconsin

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3 Claims. (Cl. 220-1)

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My invention relates to trays, and more particularly to a type of tray that may be employed to supply paint when used in connection with a conventional type of paint roller.

When paint is to be applied to the surface being coated by means of a roller instead of a brush, it is quite necessary to provide a vessel or container that will provide even distribution of the paint over the peripheral surface of the roller.

The object of my invention is to provide a means of supplying paint or the like evenly over the entire peripheral surface of a roller without the inconvenience of surplus material dripping from the roller during the application.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the character described that may be supported from the rung of a ladder in a manner to afford convenience for the operator.

Other and further objects of my invention will become more apparent as the description proceeds when taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the tray, illustrating the manner in which the bottom is inclined and showing an inwardly projecting member at the front for support of the tray on the rung of a ladder.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary, perspective view of the front of the device, showing an adjustable means for arranging the position of the support member.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the device, illustrating the means of retaining the paint at its deepest part and showing the paint roller in phantom.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary, cross-sectional view of the adjustable support member attached to the forward standard, and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary, cross sectional view of the tray applied and supported by a ladder shown in phantom.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and referring now to the same, the character 10 shows a pan open at the top, having a rear wall 11 and two tapered side walls 12 and 12'. The front wall 13 is narrow and the bottom 14 tapers upward toward the forward end from the lower edge of the rear wall 11.

There is a vertical front plate 15 supporting the front end of the pan 10 in a position where the upper edges of the side walls 12 and 12' are in a horizontal plane, and a support member 16 is shown constructed integrally with the plate 15

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in Figures 1, 3 and 5, and as a separate unit in Figures 2 and 4. The member 16 consists of an angularly disposed plate extending from the inner wall of the plate 15 rearward. The front plate 15 is shown provided with elongated slots 17 in Figures 2 and 4 and bolt members 18 extend through the member 16 and the slots 17 in the plate 15, and are supported and fastened by means of the winged nuts 19 to retain the member 16 in frictional contact with the inner face of the plate 15.

In Figure 5, I show the pan 10 supported by the ladder 20, shown in phantom, and the liquid or paint 23 as shown in Figures 3 and 5 is shown retaining a level at the deep end of the pan 10.

It is manifest to anyone familiar with the art that when a paint roller 21, as shown in phantom, is employed, the roller may be submerged partially at the edge of the paint, shown as 22 in Figure 3, and may be rolled over the exposed portion of the bottom 14, thereby permitting even distribution of the paint over the entire surface of the roller.

While I have shown in detail a specific construction of my device, I am fully cognizant of the fact that there may be many changes made in the form and configuration of the various parts without affecting the operativeness of the device, and I reserve the right to make such changes as I may deem necessary and convenient without departing from the spirit of my invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent in the United States Patent Office is:

1. A pan of the character described having a deep rear wall, a shallow front wall, two side walls, a bottom tapered upward from the lower edge of the rear wall to the lower edge of the front wall, said bottom attached to all walls at their lower edge, a vertical standard supporting said pan at its forward end said standard of a height to provide a horizontal alignment of the upper edges of said side walls and an inwardly projecting member attached to the inner face of said standard below said bottom.

2. A device of the character described comprising a rear wall, a front wall, said rear wall of a greater depth than said front wall, a bottom plate extending from the lower edge of said rear wall to the lower edge of said front wall, a pair of side walls extending from said tapered bottom to horizontal edges extending from the top of said rear wall to the top of said front wall, a vertical standard supporting said device at its forward end said standard of a height to place

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the upper edges of all of said walls in a horizontal plane, said vertical standard provided with a longitudinally disposed angular member extending from the inner face of said vertical standard toward and below the bottom of said device.

3. A tray of the character described comprising: a shallow, open-topped substantially rectangular receptacle having a bottom sloping from one end of the receptacle to the other so that one end is deeper than the other; a foot portion secured to the end portion of the receptacle of least depth and projecting downwardly an extent such that the lower edge thereof is vertically spaced from the upper edge of the receptacle a distance substantially equal to the depth of the opposite end portion of the receptacle so that said foot and the opposite end of the receptacle may support the receptacle with the top edges thereof substantially horizontal; and a ledge projecting in from said foot portion to underlie the bottom of the receptacle and form a hook adapted to engage under a support,

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like the step or top of a step ladder, to hold the receptacle thereon with its portion of least depth over the support, and its portion of greater depth projecting therebeyond.

LAWRENCE PAUL TOUCHETT.

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