Jan. 6, 1953 A. AMSTUTZ 2,624,311

POULTRY FEEDER

Filed July 31, 1951 2 SHEETS--SHEET 1

Fig. 1

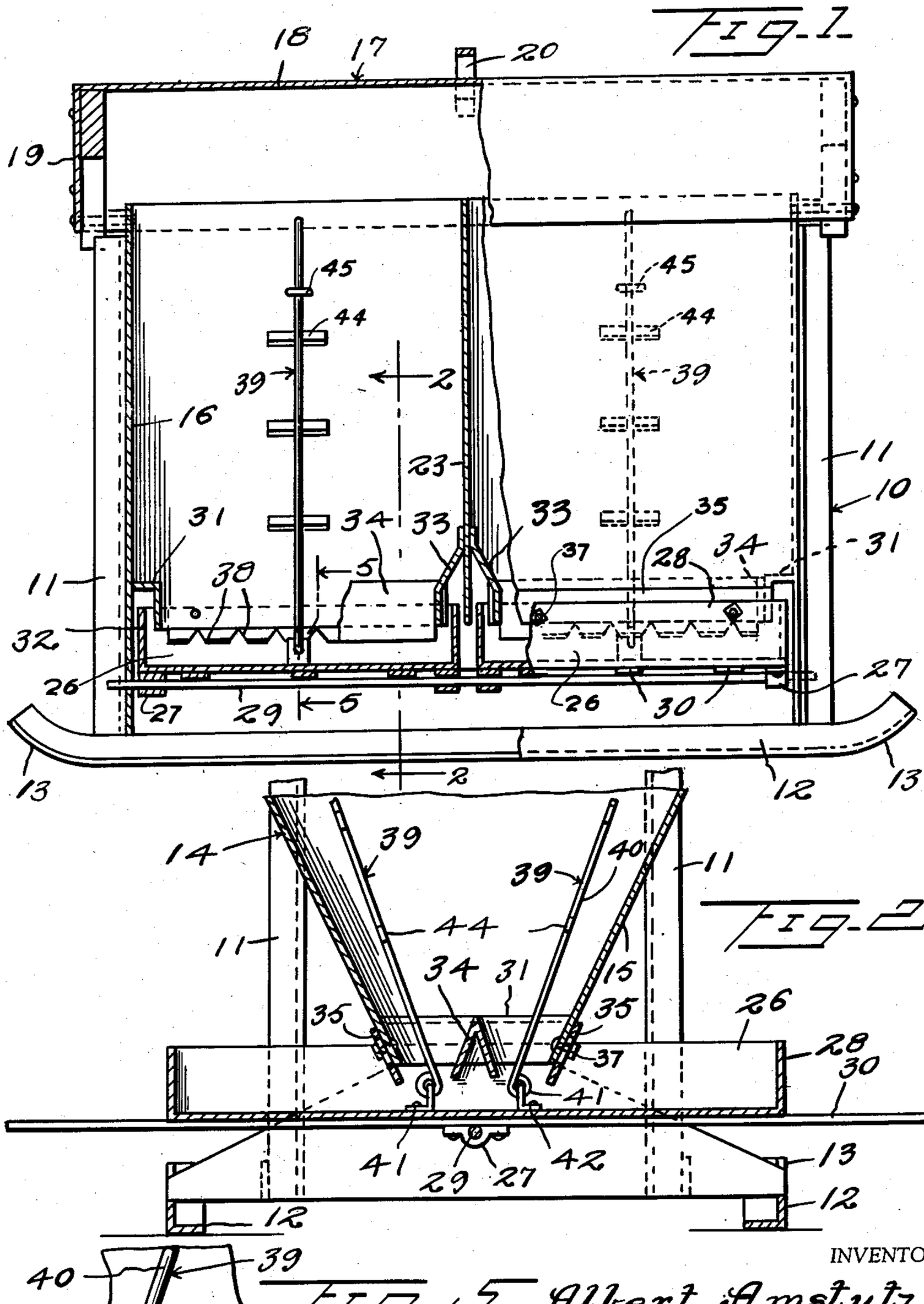

Fig. 2

Fig. 5

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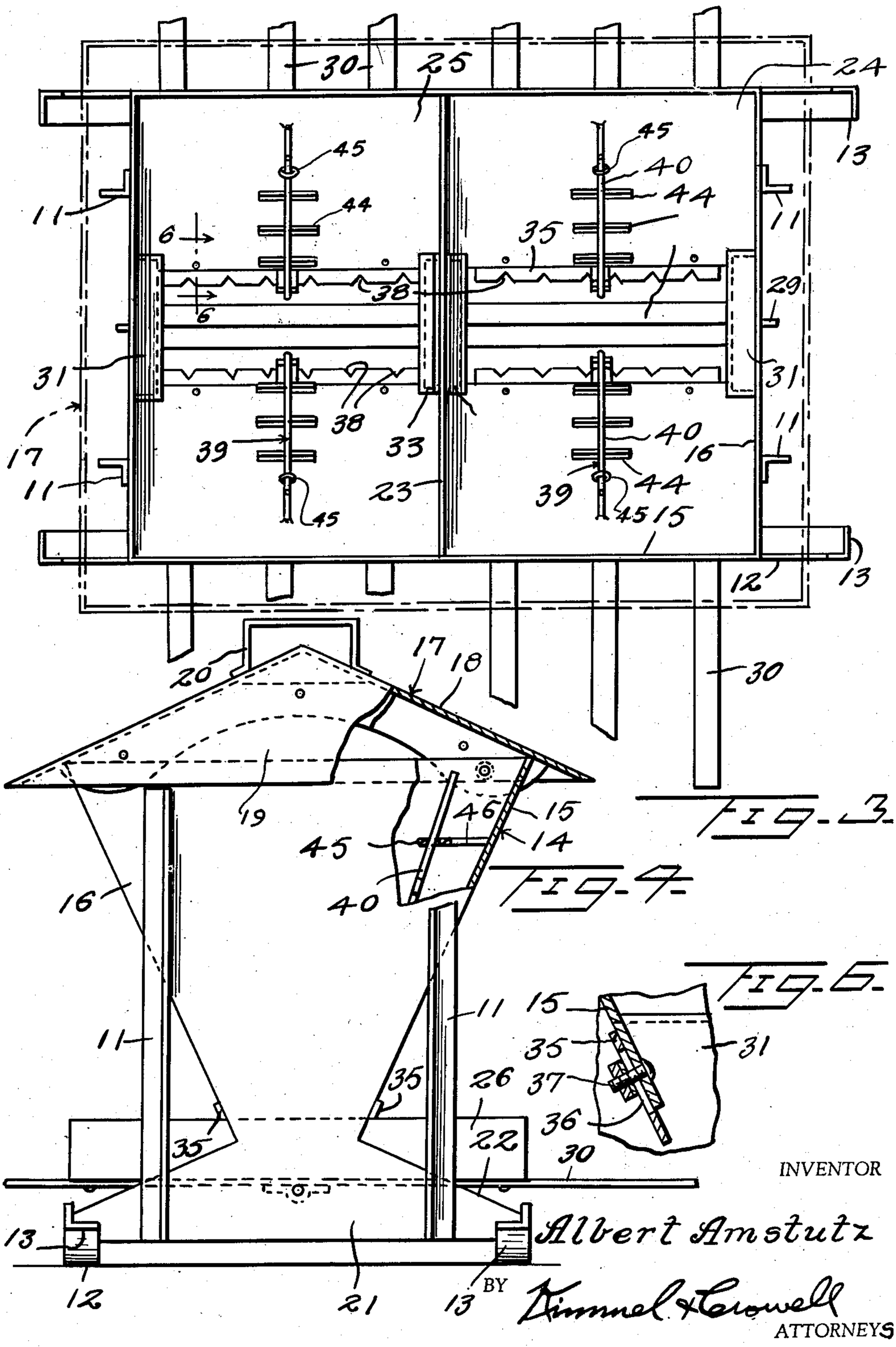

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 6.

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POULTRY FEEDER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 119—53.5)

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This invention relates to a poultry feeding device.

An object of this invention is to provide a poultry feeding device of the magazine type wherein the feed is automatically discharged into a feeding trough or pan, the device including adjustable regulating means for regulating the discharge of the material into the trough or pan.

Another object of this invention is to provide a poultry feeding device having a stationary magazine or hopper, and one or more feeding troughs or pans beneath the hopper, the troughs being rockably mounted beneath the magazine so that the feed will flow into the troughs or pans as the latter are rocked by weight of the fowl standing on the troughs or pans or on supports projecting from the latter.

A further object of this invention is to provide in a device of this kind, means whereby the feed will be agitated with rocking of the troughs or pans in order to assure the flow of feed from the magazine to the troughs or pans.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a detailed side elevation partly broken away and in section of a poultry feeder constructed according to an embodiment of this invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a plan view partly broken away of the device with the roof or top removed.

Figure 4 is a detailed end elevation partly broken away and in section of the device.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 10 designates generally a frame structure which is formed of pairs of upright angle members 11 secured at their lower ends to a pair of horizontally disposed runners 12 having upturned opposite ends 13 forming skids whereby the device may be dragged over the ground to an appropriate location. The frame structure 10 has secured between the end angle members 11 a hopper or magazine generally designated as 14.

The hopper or magazine 14 is formed of downwardly convergent side walls 15 and vertically disposed end walls 16, the latter being secured in

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any suitable manner to the upright frame members 11.

A roof 17 removalby engages over the upper end of the hopper magazine 14 and is formed of upwardly convergent plates 18 having end members 19 secured thereto and a bail 20 secured to the roof 17 midway between the ends thereof. The magazine 14 also includes lower base plates 21 having upwardy convergent edges 22 and the base plates 21 which are integral with the end walls 16 are secured to the inner sides of the frame members 11.

A partition or dividing wall 23 is secured within the magazine 14 midway between the ends thereof so as to divide the magazine 14 into a pair of feed receiving chambers 24 and 25, Fig. 3. The magazine 14 is open at the bottom and one or more pans or troughs 26 are disposed below the magazine 14.

The troughs or pans 26 have a bearing 27 between the opposite side walls 28 thereof, and a rod or shaft 29 extends through the bearing 27 and through the lower walls 21 so that the pans 26 will be rockably mounted beneath the open lower end of the magazine 14. Each pan or trough 26 has secured to the bottom thereof a plurality of bars 30 which project beyond the walls 28 and provide means whereby the fowl may rest during the feeding from the pans or troughs.

The magazine 14 at each end thereof has secured thereto an inwardly projecting inverted L-shaped shield 31 which engages over the end walls 32 of the pan 26 so that the feed moving downwardly in the magazine 14 will not flow outwardly over the end walls 32 of the pan 26.

The partition 23 has secured to the opposite sides thereof a pair of shields or deflectors 33 which project in offset relation into the pan or trough 26. An inverted V-shaped divider 34 is secured between the shields or deflectors 31 and 33 and is disposed at the lower open end of the magazine 14 so that the feed will be directed in opposite directions into the trough or pan 26.

In order to provide a means whereby the amount of feed moving downwardly by gravity into the pan 26 may be regulated, I have provided a pair of plates 35 secured one to each of the side walls 15 at the lower edges thereof, and each plate 35 is formed with a pair of elongated slots 36 through which a securing bolt 37 engages, Fig. 6.

The plate 35 is formed with a plurality of V-shaped notches 38 in the lower edge thereof to provide for an additional quantity of feed flowing into the pan 26.

The feed which is within the magazine 14 is adapted to be agitated as the pan or trough 26 is rocked under the weight of fowl resting on the supporting bars 30 by means of a pair of upwardly divergent agitating members generally designated as 39. Each agitating member 39 is formed of an elongated rod 40 which is formed with an eye 41 at the lower end thereof and an L-shaped member 42 having an opening 43 therein is adapted to receive the eye 41 so as to move the agitating member 39 upwardly and downwardly as the pan or tray 26 is rocked. The rod or bar 40 has projecting therefrom a plurality of vertically spaced apart agitating blades 44 which are adapted to agitate the feed as the bar 40 is moved endwise.

The upper end portion of the bar 40 loosely and slidably engages through a guide eye 45 which is carried by an inwardly projecting bracket 46 secured to the side wall 15 adjacent the upper end portion of the side wall Fig. 4.

In the use of this device the feed is discharged into the magazine 14 from the upper end thereof, the top 17 being removed. The feed will gravitate downwardly through the magazine 14 into the pan or trough 26. When the poultry is feeding from the pan or trough 26, the pan will be rocked downwardly by weight of the poultry or fowl, and as pan 26 rocks downwardly at one side thereof the agitating members 39 will move in opposite directions to each other.

Movement of the agitating members 39 will agitate the feed in the lower discharge end of the magazine so that there will be an adequate supply of feed in the pan or trough 26. The inverted V-shaped divider 34 will spread the feed to the opposite sides of the pan 26, and the amount of feed which is discharged into the pan 26 is regulated by the vertical adjustment of the feed regulating plates 35.

This feeder may be used on the range or in a poultry house and will provide a feeder which will prevent undue scattering of the feed and undue waste of the feed.

What is claimed is:

1. A poultry feeder comprising a frame, a magazine carried by said frame, said magazine being open at the lower end thereof and having downwardly convergent side walls, a feed pan disposed beneath the open lower end of said magazine and having sides extending above the surrounding said magazine lower end, horizontal pan supporting pivot means centrally supported below said open lower end, a pair of agitating members disposed one on each side of said pivot means, the pivot means carrying the lower end of each member to said pan, said members extending upwardly into said magazine, each spaced from and substantially parallel to a convergent wall, and guide means engaging said members and carried by said magazine.

2. A poultry feeder as defined in claim 1, and a divider fixed in the lower end of said magazine, said agitating members respectively extending upwardly between the divider and the respective convergent walls of the magazine.

3. A poultry feeder as defined in claim 1, and regulating plates respectively connected to the respective convergent side walls of the magazine for adjustment with respect thereto and depending respectively into the pan, whereby to regulate the amount of feed flowing from said magazine into said pan.

4. A poultry feeder as defined in claim 1, and bar means connected to the pan and projecting beyond the respective opposite walls of the pan on which the fowl may be supported while feeding from the pan.

ALBERT AMSTUTZ.

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