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2,628,907

METHOD OF PACKAGING MATERIAL

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FIG. 1.

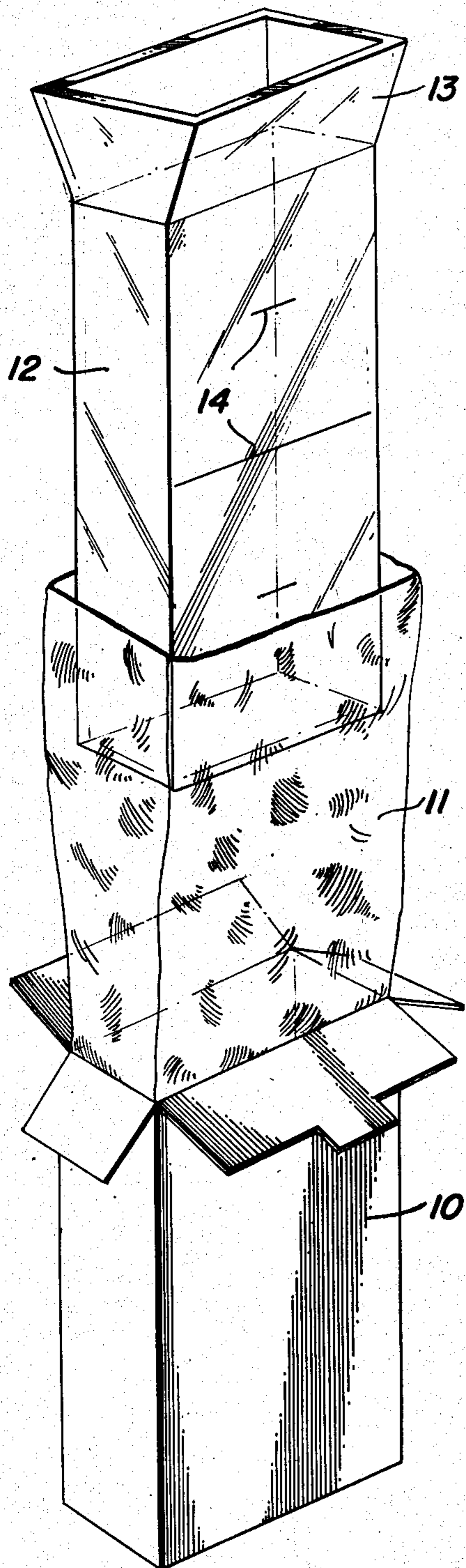


FIG. 2.

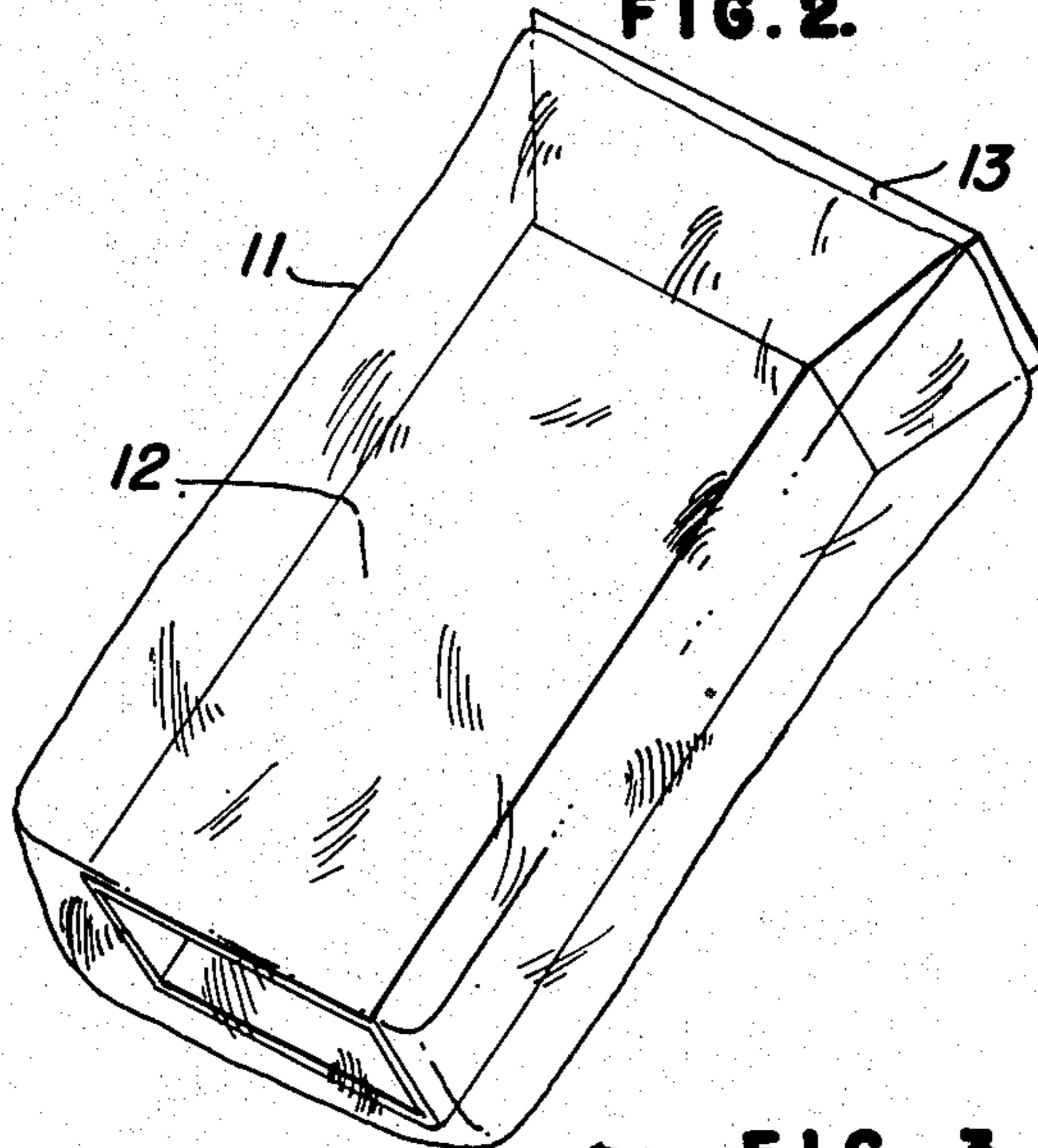
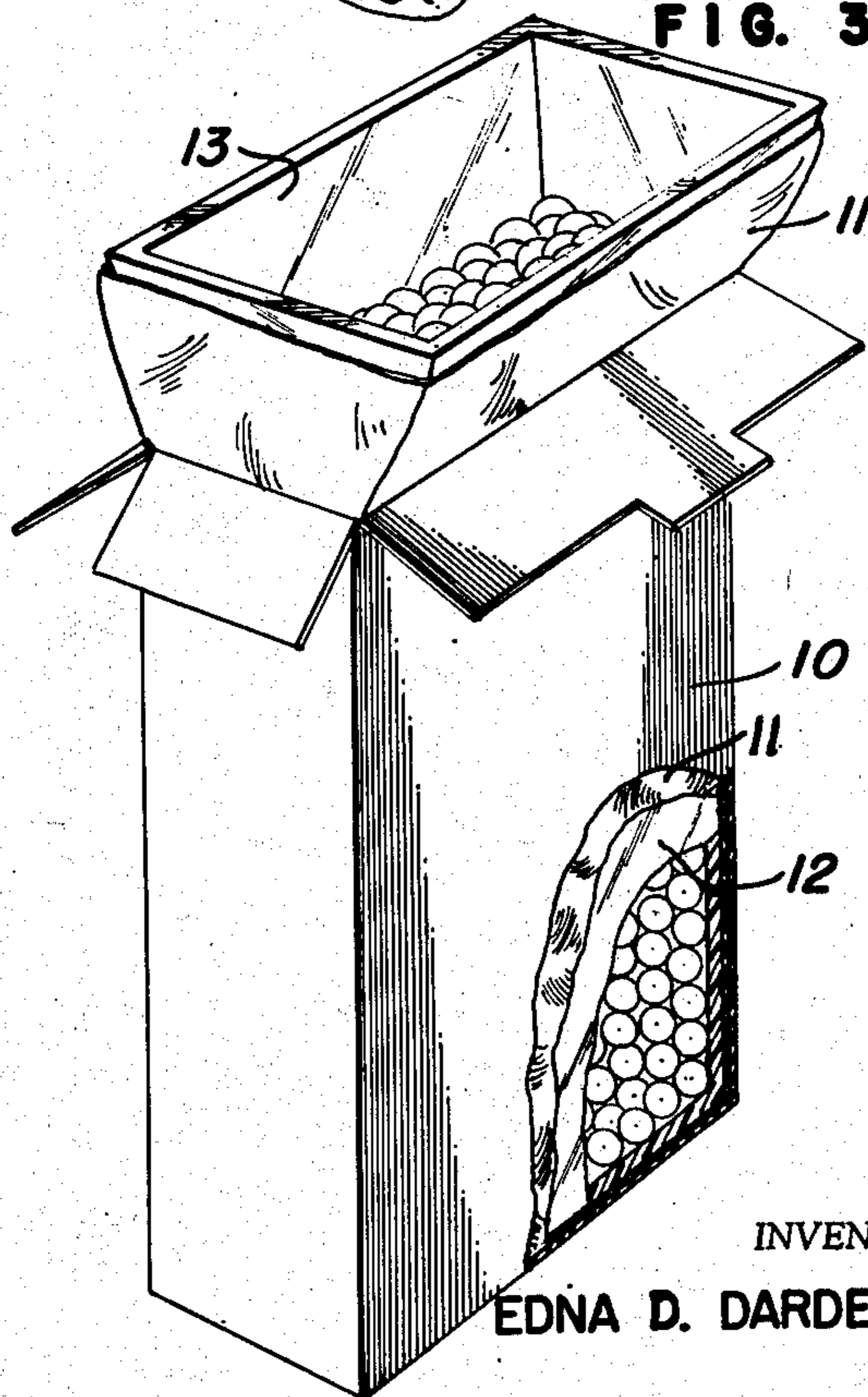


FIG. 3.



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## METHOD OF PACKAGING MATERIAL

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1 Claim. (Cl. 99—171)

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This invention relates to packaging and has more particular reference to a novel method of and apparatus for packaging material in a container.

One object of the present invention is to provide a novel method and apparatus for easily and efficiently packaging material in a container employing a separate liner in which the material is to be sealed.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel method of and apparatus for packaging material, as characterized above, in which a measured amount of material may be packaged in the container.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel method of and apparatus for packaging material, as above described, in which the material is packaged in the container without bulging the side walls thereof.

A further object of the invention is to provide apparatus for packaging material including a container and an over-sized liner, both having the same shape, and an open-ended measuring device over which the liner is adapted to be telescoped before being inserted in the container.

A more specific object of the invention is to provide an open-ended relatively rigid rectilinear measuring device having a funnel mouth.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following specification when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective exploded view showing a rectilinear carton and the component parts of a preferred embodiment of the apparatus;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the carton liner slipped on the combined measuring and filling device; and

Fig. 3 is a perspective view, with parts broken away, showing the rectilinear carton with the liner and measuring device mounted therein.

The present invention provides a novel method of and apparatus for packaging food or the like and, in general, comprises a container or carton, preferably made of paper, a separate flexible, over-sized impervious liner in which the food is to be sealed, and a relatively rigid open-ended measuring device adapted to be telescoped into the carton and having a funnel mouth. When using the apparatus for packaging food, the liner is slipped over the measuring device until the bottom end of the device engages the bottom of the liner, then the measuring device with the liner on it, is telescoped into the carton until it touches the bottom thereof; next, food is poured

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into the measuring device to fill it to a desired height, which may be indicated by indicating lines marked on the measuring device; next, the measuring device is withdrawn from the carton; the open end of the liner is sealed; and the open end of the carton closed to complete the package.

While the method and apparatus may be used in packaging various kinds of material, it is particularly adapted to packaging foods such as peas, beans or corn, and the like, for subsequent freezing and storage in a deep freezer unit. Accordingly, the particular embodiment of the invention hereinafter described and illustrated will be shown as being employed to package peas for storage in a deep freeze unit.

Referring now to the drawing, there is shown, in Fig. 1, a preferred embodiment of the apparatus for carrying out the method of the invention. As there shown, the apparatus comprises a container or carton 10, a liner 11, and a measuring device 12.

While the carton 10 may be of any suitable shape and made of any suitable material, preferably, and as shown, the carton is rectilinear and is made of cardboard.

The liner 11 is of the same shape, rectilinear, as the carton, but is over-sized, having its linear dimensions larger than the internal linear measurements of the carton. The liner may be made of any suitable, flexible, impervious material. Preferably, and as shown, it is made of a plastic material which may readily be hermetically sealed by pressing the free ends together with a hot iron.

The measuring device 12 is made to the same shape, rectilinear, as the carton, and is provided with integrally formed upwardly and outwardly flared flanges along its upper edges which form a funnel mouth 13 for the device. While the measuring device may be made of any suitable relatively rigid material, preferably, and as shown, it is made of a clear plastic material. The device may be provided with one or more indices or scale lines 14 for measuring purposes.

The manner in which the apparatus is employed in carrying out the novel method of the invention is as follows:

First, the liner is slipped on or telescoped over the measuring device until the bottom of the measuring device engages the bottom of the liner, as shown in Fig. 2; next, the measuring device, with the liner telescoped thereon, is inserted into the carton until the bottom of the device engages the bottom of the carton, the liner being interposed between the measuring device and the bot-

tom and side walls of the carton, as shown in Fig. 3. It should be noted that the liner is sufficiently over-sized as to have its upper end portion protrude from the carton and envelop the funnel of the measuring device. After the liner and measuring device have been telescoped into the carton, as above described, the peas are poured into the funnel until they fill the measuring device up to the desired height, as indicated by a scale line which will indicate the measured quantity of food, such as a pint or quart, for example; next, the measuring device is withdrawn, then the free end of the liner is suitably sealed as by the use of a hot sealing iron to hermetically seal it, or by twisting the free end and tying the twisted portion with a string or rubber band, and then the open end of the carton is closed to complete the package.

Preferably, and as shown, the cross sectional dimensions of the measuring device are made sufficiently smaller than the internal cross sectional dimensions of the carton to permit it, with the liner thereon, to be freely telescoped into the carton. The measuring device, being made of relatively rigid material, will prevent the side walls of the carton from bulging while it is being filled.

From the foregoing, it readily will be seen that there has been provided a novel method of and apparatus for packaging material, which is especially adapted for packaging foods in cartons for subsequent storage in a deep freezer.

Obviously, the invention is not restricted to the particular embodiment thereof herein shown and described.

What is claimed is:

In the method of packing food in a carton, wherein the food is hermetically sealed within a liner enclosed in the carton, the improvement which comprises telescoping a flexible, impervious liner of the same shape as but of larger size than the carton over a relatively rigid measuring device of the same shape as but of slightly smaller size than the carton and provided with a funnel mouth; inserting the measuring device with the liner telescoped thereon into the carton to seat the liner on the bottom of the carton; filling the measuring device up to a desired height with the food; withdrawing the measuring device from the liner and carton; sealing the free end of the liner; and closing the top of the carton.

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