

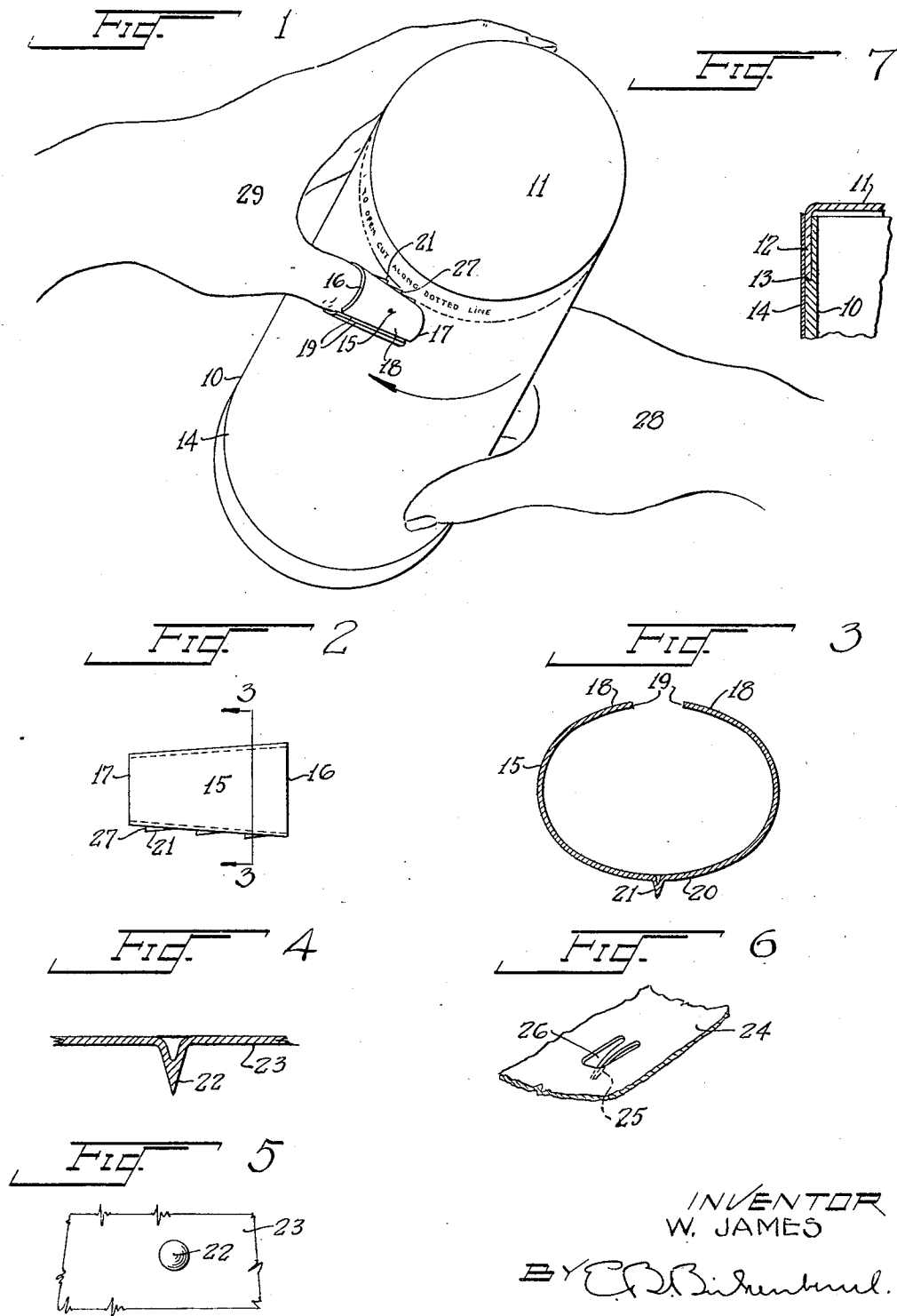
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W. JAMES

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SEAL CUTTER

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INVENTOR
W. JAMES

BY *E. B. Bicknell*
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM JAMES, OF PORTLAND, OREGON, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHALMERS HALL,
OF PORTLAND, OREGON

SEAL CUTTER

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This invention relates generally to devices for cutting seals on boxes and cartons, and particularly to means for cutting paper seals.

The main object of this invention is to provide an exceedingly simple and efficient form of seal cutter especially adapted for the opening of paper cereal containers with special reference to those in cylindrical form.

The second object is to provide a seal cutter which will be simple to manufacture and operate and which will readily lend itself to the use as an advertising medium.

The third object is to so construct the cutter that it can be worn on the thumb and can easily be fitted to any size of thumb.

These, and other objects, will become more apparent from the specification following as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the device in operation.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the device.

Figure 3 is a transverse section along the line 3—3 in Fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a section through an alternative form of cutter point.

Figure 5 is a plan of Fig. 4.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a modified form of cutter point.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary section through the sealed portion of the box.

Similar numbers of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring in detail to the drawings, there is shown the ordinary form of cylindrical container 10 which is made of cardboard and is provided with a closure or cap 11 whose outer portion 12 is flush with the outer portion of the container 10 and leaves a little crack 13 between the end of the portion 12 and the shoulder formed on the container 10 (as shown in Fig. 7). The crack 13 is concealed by means of a paper label or seal 14 which encircles the container 10, usually to its full height, including and also covering the portion 12 of the cap 11.

Turning now to my invention it will be seen to consist of a metallic thimble 15 having open ends 16 and 17 and preferably having the side 18 open, that is, with the edges 19 not

fastened to each other in any way for the purpose of permitting a change in the size of the thimble by bending the metal thereof. In the closed side 20 are formed one or more cutting elements 21. These may either be knife shaped (as shown in Figures 2 and 3) or pointed (as shown in Figures 4 and 5) in which the point 22 is merely punched out of the metal 23.

In the form shown in Fig. 6 the metal 24 is actually pierced and the point 25 is bent outwardly providing an enlarged opening 26 which will prevent the point 25 becoming fouled with bits of paper.

Obviously, any other form of cutting device could be employed without departing from the spirit of this invention.

It will be noted in Fig. 1 that the knife edges 21 are so positioned with their relation to the thimble and to the direction of the container 10 that the cutting ends 27 are toward the tip—that is, the movement of the container will tend to hold the thimble on the thumb.

The operation of the device is as follows: When using same it is only necessary to place the thimble on the thumb (as shown in Fig. 1) and then place same against the container with the cutting edges 21 in the crack 13, then rotating the container by means of the hand 28, allowing it to slip through the hand 29, during which time the cutters 21 remain in the crack 13. Obviously, one revolution of the container 10 will completely break the seal without marring the appearance of the container or endangering the hand of the operator in any way. The manufacturer, on the other hand, is enabled through this contrivance to secure some excellent advertising, inasmuch as they can be furnished at an extremely low cost and the name of the advertiser may be easily and permanently affixed to the thimble.

Another advantage in leaving one side of the thimble open is to permit the cutting edge of one thimble to lie in the slot or open side of the next thimble for nesting purposes.

I claim:

1. A seal cutter consisting of a somewhat cylindrical thimble adapted to be worn on

the finger, said thimble having a plurality of radial cutting points longitudinally disposed along one side of said thimble in a radial plane passing through the axis of the
5 thimble.

2. A seal cutter consisting of a somewhat cylindrical, tapering thimble having one open side and two open ends and having disposed along the length thereof opposite said
10 open side a plurality of cutting points lying in a longitudinal plane passing radially through the axis of said cylinder.

3. A seal cutter consisting of an elongated, tapering thimble having a plurality of
15 cutting points disposed along the length of one side thereof in a plane passing radially through the axis of the thimble whereby the cutting action of said points will urge said thimble to remain in position on the finger.

20 4. A seal cutter consisting of an elongated thimble slightly tapering toward its point and having a longitudinal row of points projecting from the side thereof in the direction of the thimble point and lying in a plane pass-
25 ing through the longitudinal axis of the thimble.

5. A seal cutter consisting of an elongated thimble having open ends and one open side and having the side of said thimble opposite
30 said open side provided with a series of cutters occupying a plane approximately passing through the longitudinal axis of the thimble, the cutting action of said cutters serving to retain the thimble on the finger.
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WILLIAM JAMES.

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