

Feb. 25, 1941.

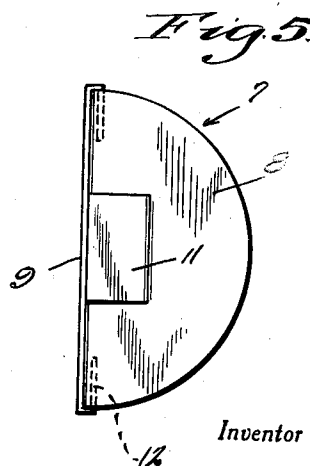
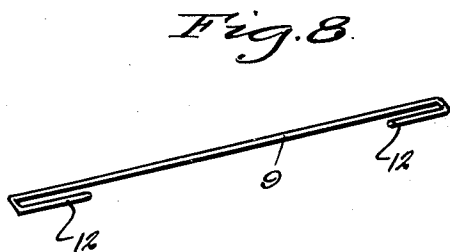
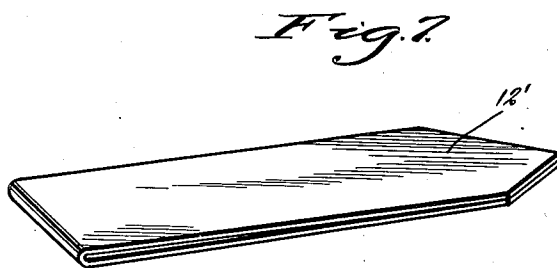
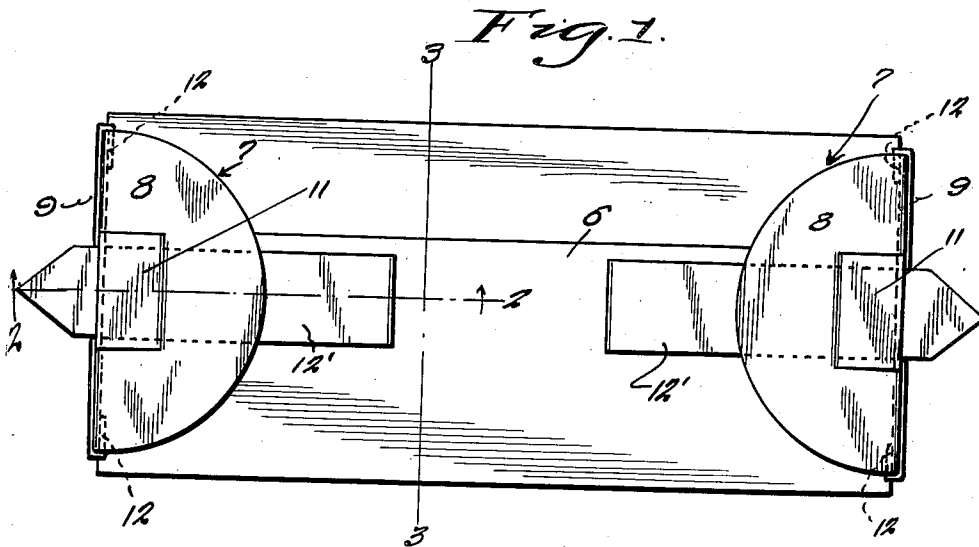
I. ARPEN

2,232,676

FASTENER FOR BOXES OR CONTAINERS

Filed March 15, 1940

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Irene Arpen

By *Clarence A. O'Brien*
and *Hyman Berman*
Attorneys

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 2.

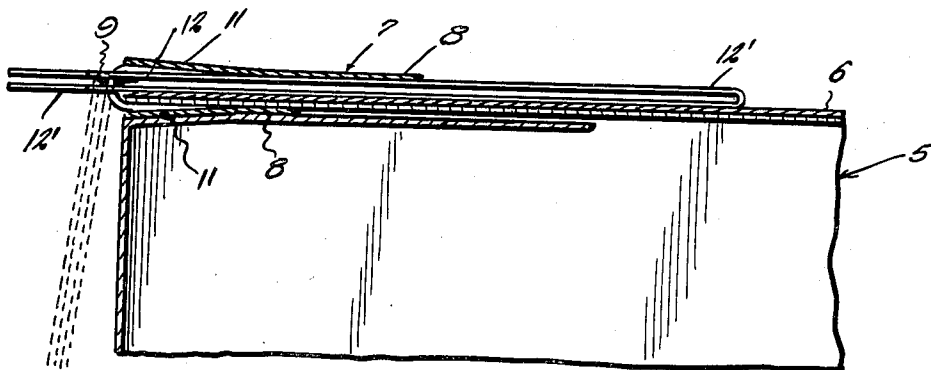


Fig. 3.

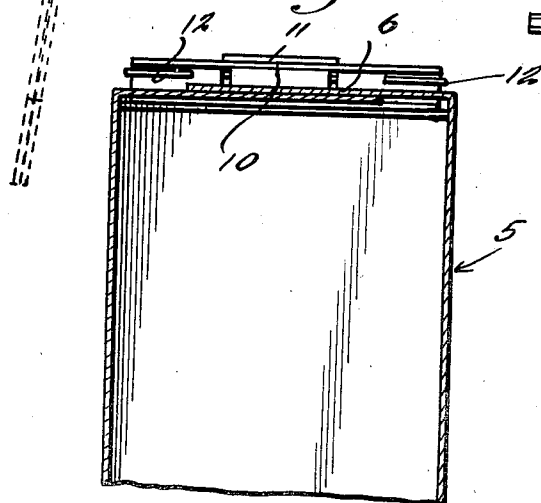


Fig. 4

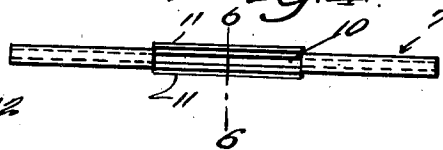
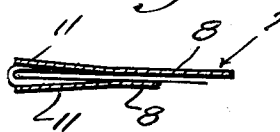


Fig. 6



Inventor

Irene Arpen

 B_y

By *Clarence A. O'Brien*
and Hyman Berman
Attorneys

and Hyman Berman.

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FASTENER FOR BOXES OR CONTAINERS

Irene Arpen, Jacksonville, Fla.

Application March 15, 1940, Serial No. 324,189

4 Claims. (Cl. 292—288)

This invention relates to fasteners for cereal boxes and other containers, and has for the primary object the provision of an efficient and inexpensive device of this character which may be easily and quickly applied to a box or container after the latter has been once opened to retain the closure flaps thereof tightly shut or closed to conserve and protect the contents of the box or container and which may be readily removed when desiring to again obtain the contents of said box or container.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

For a complete understanding of my invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is an end elevation illustrating a box or container equipped with fasteners constructed in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 2—2, Figure 1, showing how the closure flaps of the box or container are held tightly shut by the present invention.

Figure 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an end elevation illustrating a clamp of the present invention.

Figure 5 is a plan view illustrating the same.

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 4.

Figure 7 is a perspective view illustrating a handle of the clamp which may coact therewith in establishing a wedging action between the clamp and the box or container.

Figure 8 is a perspective view illustrating a hinge rod on the clamp for the handle.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral 5 indicates a fragmentary portion of a box or container frequently employed for cereals and other food products and has end flaps 6 arranged in overlapped relation and suitably sealed together. It is the customary practice to separate the end flaps in order to gain access to the contents of the box or container and after said flaps have been separated it is very difficult to retain them in closed position or tightly sealed together in order to conserve and protect the contents which may be left in the box or container for further use.

It is the purpose of the present invention to provide fasteners which may be readily adapted to the end flaps for retaining them tightly to-

gether after they have been once separated and which fasteners can be easily applied and removed when desired. While I have shown the use of a pair of fasteners on the box or container it is to be understood that the latter may be effectively closed through the use of a single fastener and as each is of identical construction in describing the advantages and construction thereof reference will be made to a single fastener.

A clamp 7 consisting of resilient plate-like jaws 8 is provided with a hinge rod 9 and said jaws are preferably made from a single sheet of resilient metal bent upon itself and slotted, as shown at 10. Portions of the jaws are slightly offset, as shown at 11, to guide the movement of a handle 12' between said jaws and which is hingedly mounted on the rod 9. The ends of the rod are bent back upon themselves, as shown at 12, for fastening the rod onto the clamp by having the ends 12 positioned between the jaws with the major portion of the rod extending across the slot 10.

The handle 12' is constructed of a single length of metallic material which is bent upon itself, as clearly shown in Figure 7, so that the rod 9 may be slid between the folded portions of the handle and come to rest normally at the connected ends of said portions of the handle, thereby efficiently hinging the handle onto the clamp and which will permit the handle to be slid between the jaws of the clamp when desired.

In use, the clamp can be conveniently carried or handled by a person catching hold of the handle 12'. To apply the clamp 7 onto the closure flaps 6 of the box or container 5, the jaws are made to slip over and under the overlapping flaps, as clearly shown in Figure 2. The handle may be allowed to depend downwardly, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 2 if desired, or it may be shoved between one of the jaws and one of the flaps to act as a wedge to increase the gripping action of the jaws on the flaps. The device when applied to the closure flaps of the box or container as described and shown in the drawings will effectively close the box to exclude foreign matter and to conserve the contents therein.

It is believed that the simplicity and advantages of this invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art to which such a device relates, and while I have herein set forth a satisfactory embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that such changes therefrom as fairly fall within the scope of my claims may be resorted to when desired.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a fastener for overlapping closure flaps of a container, a clamp including integrally connected jaws to receive therebetween the flaps of the container, and a combined handle and wedge slidably connected to said clamp to occupy a position outwardly of said clamp and a position between one of said jaws and the flaps to increase the gripping of the clamp on the flaps.
2. In a fastener for overlapping closure flaps of a container, a clamp including jaws and a connecting portion joining said jaws and having a slot therein, and a combined handle and wedge slidably connected to the clamp to occupy a position outwardly of said clamp and movable through the slot to occupy a position between the flaps and one of the jaws to increase the gripping action of the clamp on the flaps.
3. In a fastener, a clamp including plate-like jaws and a connecting portion integral with the jaws and having a slot, a rod paralleling the slot

outwardly of the jaws and secured to the clamp, and a combined handle and wedge mounted on said rod for hinging and sliding movements whereby the combined handle and wedge may be located outwardly of the clamp and may be inserted through the slot to lie between said jaws.

4. In a fastener, a clamp including plate-like jaws and a connecting portion integral with the jaws and having a slot, a rod paralleling the slot outwardly of the jaws and secured to the clamp, a combined handle and wedge including resilient connected portions mounted on said rod for hinging and sliding movements whereby the combined handle and wedge may be located outwardly of the clamp and may be inserted through the slot to lie between said jaws, and guides on said jaws to receive the resilient connected portions of the combined handle and wedge as said portions enter said slot for movement between the jaws.

IRENE ARPEN.