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1,441,125

E. M. SEIFERT.  
COVER FASTENER FOR CONTAINERS.  
FILED JAN. 21, 1922.

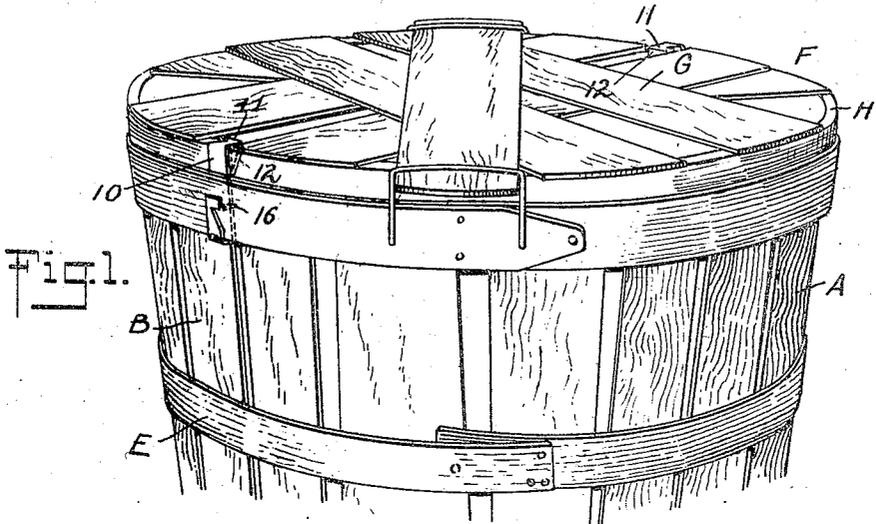


Fig. 1.

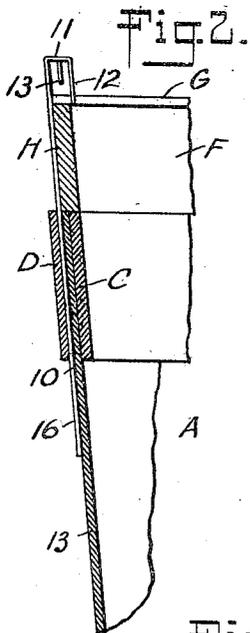


Fig. 2.

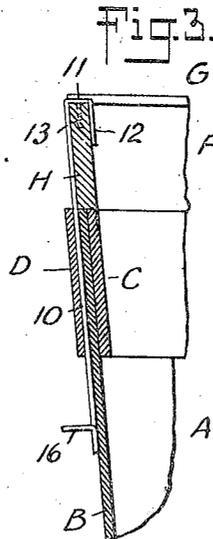


Fig. 3.

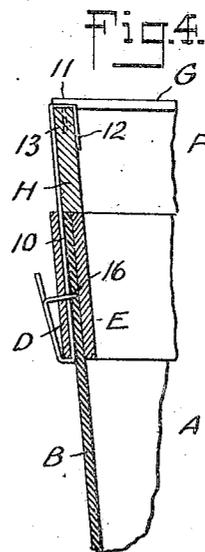


Fig. 4.

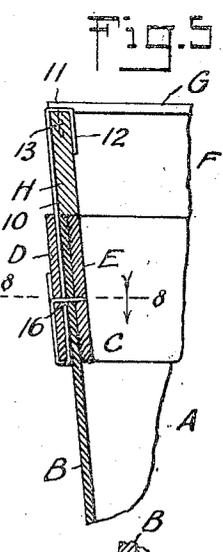


Fig. 5.

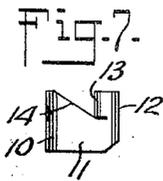


Fig. 7.

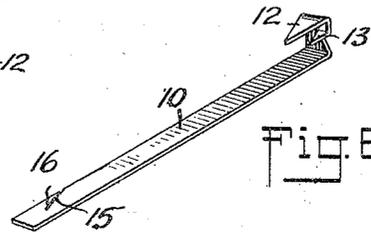


Fig. 6. EDWARD M. SEIFERT  
BY *Wm. L. ...*  
ATTORNEYS

WITNESSES  
*William P. Loebel,*  
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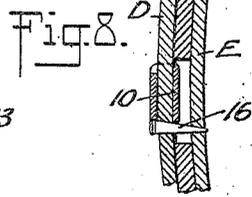


Fig. 8.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD M. SEIFERT, OF RUTHERFORD, NEW JERSEY.

COVER FASTENER FOR CONTAINERS.

Application filed January 21, 1922. Serial No. 530,841.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD M. SEIFERT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Rutherford, in the county of Bergen and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Cover Fastener for Containers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention has relation to fastening elements and refers more particularly to a fastener for securing the covers of fruit baskets in position.

The invention contemplates in addition to the usual bail and handle attaching means a simple, effective and inexpensive auxiliary means for fastening the covers of fruit baskets to the basket proper without injury to the contents, and at the same time to preclude any possibility of separation of the same therefrom when in transit.

As a further object the invention aims to produce an auxiliary fastening element which may be readily released to permit of the removal of the cover from the basket when desired without mutilating either the cover or the basket.

The invention furthermore contemplates a fastening device of the character set forth which may be manually applied without resorting to the use of hammers or other tools or implements which might tend to injure the contents of the basket.

With the above recited and other objects in view, the invention resides in the novel construction set forth in the following specification, particularly pointed out in the appended claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, it being understood that the right is reserved to embodiments other than those actually illustrated herein to the full extent indicated by the general meaning of the terms in which the claims are expressed.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the fastener in applied position on the basket.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view illustrating the initial step in the application of the fastener.

Fig. 3 is a similar view illustrating the second step of its application.

Fig. 4 is a similar view illustrating the third step in the application of the fastener.

Fig. 5 is a similar view illustrating the fastener in its final and applied position.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the fastener removed.

Fig. 7 is a plan view of the same.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view taken approximately on the line 8—8 of Fig. 5.

Referring to the drawings by characters of reference A designates a fruit basket of ordinary construction which includes the vertically circumferentially spaced slats B, the upper rim consisting of the inner and outer hoops C and D, and the intermediate hoops E. The closure F of the basket which is of the raised cover type includes the crossed slats G and the annular rim H depending therefrom to which the crossed slats are secured.

The fastening element which constitutes the invention and affords means for rigidly securing the cover in position on the basket consists of a strip of material preferably of cold rolled steel of approximately one-thirty-second of an inch in thickness and one-quarter of an inch wide. The same is provided at its upper end with a right angularly disposed head 11 having a depending pointed terminal 12 and an intermediate pointed terminal 13, the latter being formed by angularly slitting the head 11 as at 14 and bending said slitted portion downwardly at a right angle or parallel to the major portion of the strip. At its lower adjacent extremity the strip is slitted inwardly and downwardly at an angle as at 15 to provide a bendable spur 16 which normally lies in the same plane with the strip prior to its association with the basket.

To apply the fastening device, after the basket is filled, the cover is arranged thereover and the lower extremity of the strip is inserted between the inner and outer hoops C and D with the head 11 disposed inwardly. The pointed terminal 12 is then passed between the crossed slats and behind the inner periphery of the rim H of the cover, while the pointed terminal 13 is embedded in the rim F. The strip is of a sufficient length to cause the lower extremity to project an appreciable distance below the lower edge of the basket rim. The bendable spur 16 is then bent outwardly at substantially a right angle to the strip whereby the same projects radially from the basket. The lower exposed extremity of the strip projecting below the lower edge of the outer hoop D is then bent upwardly and inwardly over the

outer periphery of the hoop D and the spur is forced through the hoop and past the edge of the portion of the strip lying between the inner and outer hoops C and D, the terminal thereof being finally anchored in the inner hoop C as clearly illustrated in Figs. 5 and 8. When it is desired to remove the cover the operation is reversed, thereby retracting the bendable spur 16 and straightening the lower extremity of the strip and the spur 16 to permit of the withdrawal of the strip from between the hoops C and D. It will thus be seen that a simple, convenient and strong fastener for retaining the top of a basket and the cover in rigid relation has been devised which may be easily and quickly opened for the purpose of display or inspection and for replacing without sacrificing the original security of the same.

I claim:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a cover fastening element for fruit baskets consisting of a strip of material, an angularly disposed head at its upper end and spaced parallel prongs depending from said head, said strip having a slit extending inwardly and downwardly from one of the side edges of its lower end to provide a bendable spur for normally occupying the same plane as the strip.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a fastening element of the character set forth consisting of a strip of material having an angularly disposed head at one extremity, a pointed terminal bent in the same direction as the major portion of the strip, said head having a slit extending angularly and inwardly from one edge, said slitted portion being bent in the same direction as the pointed terminal to provide an anchoring spur, and said strip having a slit extending inwardly from one of its side edges adjacent the opposite end thereof to provide a bendable spur.

3. A basket cover fastening element comprising a strip having an angularly disposed head at one extremity provided with anchoring spurs adapted to connect the head with the cover, the opposite extremity of said strip being insertable through the basket

rim and bendable outwardly and upwardly over said rim, said extremity having a slit extending inwardly from one of its side edges toward said end to provide a bendable spur for anchoring said extremity to the rim.

4. A basket cover fastening element comprising a strip having an angularly disposed head at one extremity provided with anchoring spurs adapted to connect the head with the cover, the opposite extremity of said strip being insertable through the basket rim and bendable outwardly and upwardly over said rim, said extremity having a slit extending inwardly from one of its side edges toward said end to provide a bendable spur for anchoring said extremity to the rim, said spur normally occupying the same plane as the extremity of the strip to permit of the insertion of said extremity through the basket rim.

5. The combination with a fruit basket having circumferentially spaced slats and an upper rim consisting of inner and outer hoops between which said slats are received and a raised cover including crossed slats and an annular depending rim, of a fastening element for securing the cover in position on the basket comprising a strip of material having its upper end bent inwardly at an angle to provide a head to overlie the upper portion of the cover, depending laterally spaced inner and intermediate spurs adapted to pass between the crossed slats, the former to lie parallel with the inner periphery of the rim and the latter to be anchored within the same, the lower extremity of said strip being inserted through the space between the inner and outer hubs of the rim of the basket and between adjacent slats, said lower end having a slit extending inwardly and downwardly from one of the side edges to provide a bendable spur normally occupying the same plane as the strip, said lower extremity of the strip extending beyond the lower edge of the outer hoop and bendable outwardly and upwardly to overlie the same, said bendable spur being bent and inserted through and anchored in said hoops.

EDWARD M. SEIFERT.