April 26, 1927. 1,625,882

C. D. CONVERSE

CONDUIT SWITCH BOX

Filed Oct. 26, 1925

Fig. 1.

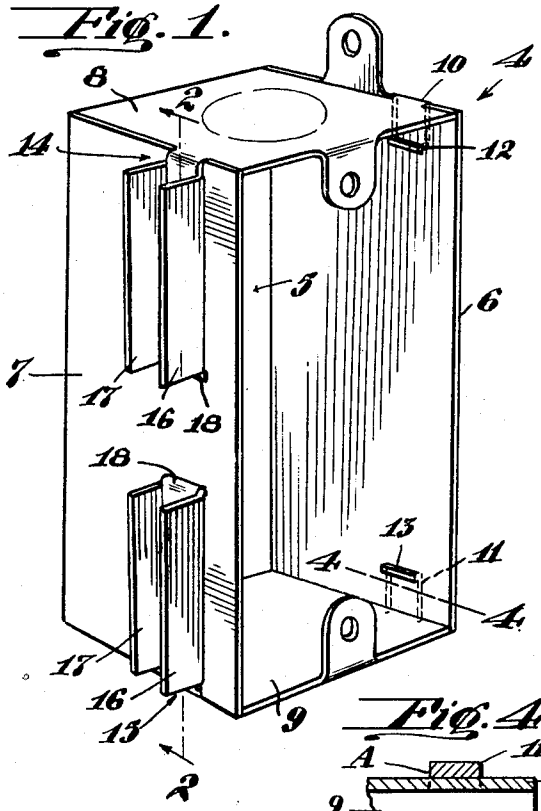


Fig. 2.

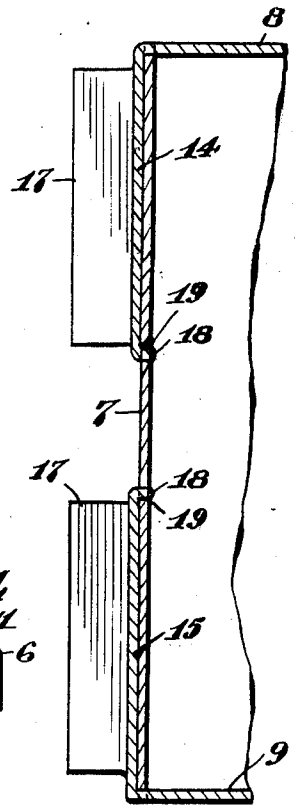


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.

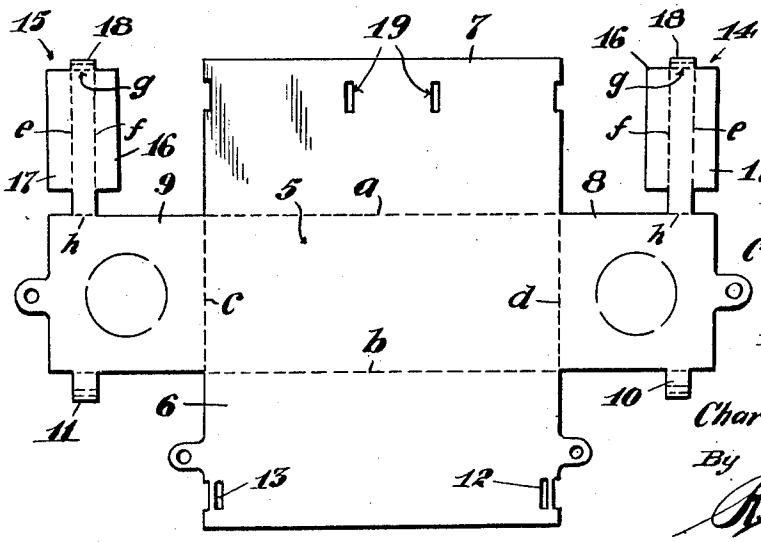
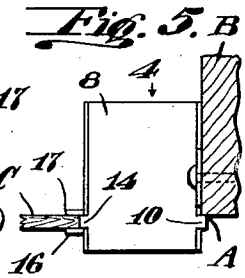


Fig. 5.



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CONDUIT SWITCH BOX.

Application filed October 26, 1925. Serial No. 64,739.

This invention particularly pertains to a conduit switch-box of the type employed in encasing side wall switches in the electrical wiring systems of buildings. Switch-boxes of this character are ordinarily nailed to studding with their outer open portions projecting beyond the plane of lath carried by the studding and arranged with their margins extending substantially flush with the surface of plaster applied to the lath, and accordingly, it is necessary to provide some means for supporting the ends of lath terminating adjacent the side of the switch-box facing away from the studding to which it is applied. This is accomplished by forming the side wall of the switch-box with a pair of spaced parallel vertically extending flanges arranged to extend astride the terminations of lath to hold the latter against lateral displacement.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a construction whereby the switch-box may be formed of sheet metal and the lath-holding flanges formed integral therewith and without forming the switch-box with objectionable side openings.

A further object is to provide a switch-box including lath-engaging flanges which is formed in one piece from a sheet metal plate.

With the foregoing objects in view, together with such other objects and advantages as may subsequently appear, the invention resides in the construction and arrangement hereinafter described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the switch-box;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail in vertical section, as seen on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the sheet metal blank from which the switch-box is fabricated;

Fig. 4 is a detail in section as seen on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a plan view illustrating the application of the invention.

Referring to the drawings more specifically, 4 indicates generally the switch-box which embodies a back wall 5, side walls 6 and 7, and end walls 8 and 9, and which walls are formed integral from a blank of sheet metal as shown in Fig. 3; the blank embodying a central rectangular portion indicated by the dotted lines *a*, *b*, *c* and *d*, which portion constitutes the back wall 5 and from the margins of which project rectangular portions adapted on being bent perpendicularly to the portion 5 to form the side and end walls of the box. The end walls 8 and 9 are formed with side tongues 10 and 11 which are bent into engagement with slots 12 and 13, respectively, in the side wall 6 to tie this side wall and the end walls together; the tongues projecting outwardly beyond the outer surface of the side wall 6 to form shoulders A spaced inwardly from the front edge of the box, as shown in Fig. 4, and which shoulders are adapted to abut against the outer face of a studding B to determine the extent of the projection of the box beyond the studding, as shown in Fig. 5.

The essence of the present invention resides in providing the box with integral lath-engaging flanges on the outer face of the wall 7, and is carried into effect by forming the end wall portions 8 and 9 of the sheet metal blank with lateral extensions as indicated at 14 and 15, each of which embodies an elongated central portion defined by the dotted lines *e*, *f*, *g* and *h* and includes side marginal portions 16 and 17 spaced from the juncture of the extensions with the end panel portions, and includes an end tongue 18. The lateral extensions 16 and 17 are bent to extend parallel to each other at right angles to the central portions of the extensions, and the latter are bent to extend over and abut against the outer face of the side wall 7 so that the flanges 16 and 17 will project outwardly therefrom at right angles thereto, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The tongues 18 on the outer ends of the extensions are bent to engage margins of openings 19 formed in the side wall 7, as particularly shown in Fig. 2, thus firmly holding the extensions 14 and 15 in their overlapped positions on the outer face of the wall 7 and at the same time effecting a connection between the end walls 8 and 9 and the side wall 7 and tying these walls together.

It will be seen that when the switch-box is completed the extensions 14 and 15 will project toward each other, and that their respective out turned flange portions 16 and 17 will be arranged in alignment. The side wall 7 is thus formed with two pairs of spaced outwardly projecting flanges, which flanges are laterally spaced such distance as

to form a gap to receive lath C with the flanges extending in close proximity to the opposite sides of the lath disposed therebetween, as shown in Fig. 5.

In order to inset the lath-engaging members relatively to the outer margin of the box the point of junctures of the extensions 14 and 15 with the end panels 8 and 9 are spaced inwardly from the end margins of the panels, as particularly shown in Fig. 3.

I claim:—

1. In a switch-box, an end wall, a side wall, an extension projecting from said end wall overlying the side wall and spaced out-turned flanges on said extension projecting substantially at right angles from the side wall forming a lath-receiving member, said extension being formed with an end tongue and said side wall being formed with an opening to receive said tongue.

2. In a switch-box, an end wall, a side wall, an extension projecting from said end wall overlying the side wall and spaced out-turned flanges on said extension projecting substantially at right angles from the side wall forming a lath-receiving member, and means for connecting the end portion of said extension to said side wall.

3. In a switch-box having a bottom wall, side walls and end walls; said walls being formed of sheet metal; extensions formed on the side margins of each of said end walls projecting over the outer face of one of the side walls having end tongues engaging said side walls, and a pair of spaced parallel flanges formed on each of said extensions and projecting outwardly from the outer face of said side walls with the flanges on one of said extensions arranged in alignment with the flanges on the other extension.

In testimony whereof, I have affixed my signature.

CHARLES D. CONVERSE.