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H. GERHARD

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CONTAINER FOR BEER AND OTHER PRODUCTS

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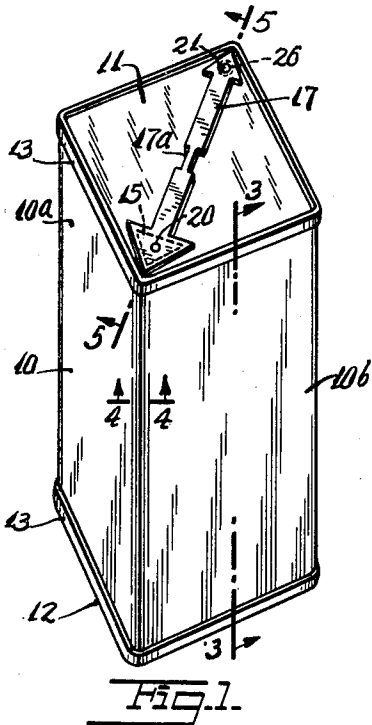


Fig. 1.

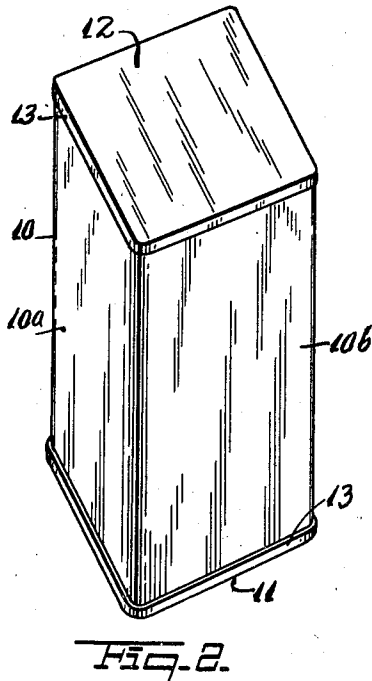


Fig. 2.

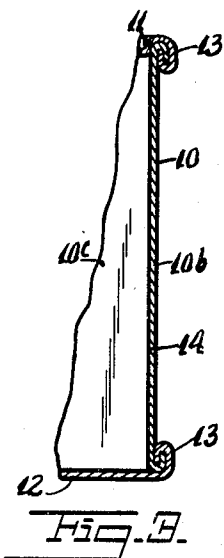


Fig. 3.

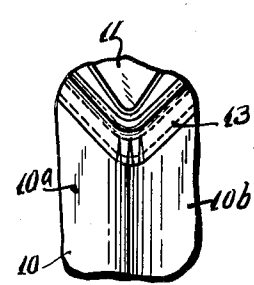


Fig. 4.

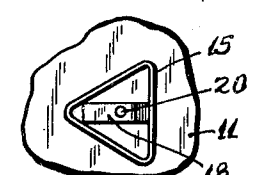


Fig. 6.

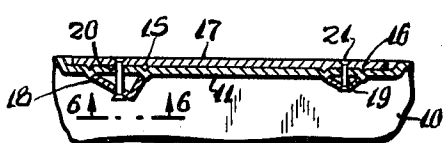


Fig. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,294,292

## CONTAINER FOR BEER AND OTHER PRODUCTS

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Application March 1, 1940, Serial No. 321,646

4 Claims. (Cl. 220—53)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a container for beer and other products.

More specifically, the invention proposes the construction of a container constructed with a sheet metal body having sections at right angles to each other forming a container having square or rectangular sides in a manner to permit the containers to be packed in close proximity to each other for conserving space in storing and shipping said containers.

Still further it is proposed to provide a sheet metal top member and a sheet metal bottom member attached to the top and bottom ends of said body in a manner to hermetically seal the said container to prevent the leakage of the product contained therein.

Still further it is proposed to provide the interior surface of the container with a non-metallic ductile coating in a manner to prevent material placed within the container from coming in direct contact with the metal from which the container is formed.

Still further it is proposed to provide the top member with a scored area at one corner adapted to form a pouring opening, and a scored area remote from said first mentioned area in a manner to form a vent opening for permitting the liquid to freely pass from the pouring opening.

Still further it is proposed to provide a novel means for sealing and covering these areas and which means is adapted to be used in a manner for removing the scored areas when it is desired to empty the contents of the container.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective top view of a container for beer constructed according to this invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective bottom view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view looking in the direction of the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a view looking in the direction of the line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

The container for beer and other products, according to this invention, includes a sheet metal

body 10 having sections 10<sup>a</sup>, 10<sup>b</sup>, etc., extending at right angles to each other in a manner to form the walls of a rectangular container. A sheet metal top member 11 is extended and attached across the top end of the body 10 in a manner to close the top end. A sheet metal bottom member 12 is extended across and attached to the bottom end of the body 10 to close the bottom end of the container. These members and body are preferably attached to each other by means of a double seam joint 13 for hermetically sealing the container to prevent the contents from leaking through these portions. The interior surface of the body 10 and the members 11 and 12 are provided with a non-metallic ductile coating 14. This ductile coating is of the type generally used in containers for preventing the contents thereof from coming in direct contact with the metal from which the container is formed.

The top member 11 is provided at one corner with a triangular scored area 15 which is adapted to be torn out for forming a pouring opening. A corner of the top member 11 remote from the corner having the triangular scored area 15 is provided with a circular scored area 16 which is also adapted to be torn out to form a vent opening to facilitate the passage of the liquid through the pouring opening. A seal is provided for covering these areas.

The seal is characterized by a strip of strong metal 17 extended diagonally across the top member and over the scored areas and having a weakened central portion 17<sup>a</sup> which is adapted to be broken. A steel piercing element 18 is located beneath the scored area 15 and a steel piercing element 19 is located beneath the scored area 16. One end of the strip of strong metal 17 is attached to the piercing element 18 by means of a rivet 20 for causing the scored area 15 to be broken away by the piercing element 18 when the same is pulled upwards through the top member 11. Similarly, the other piercing element 19 is secured to the opposite end of the strip of metal 17 by means of a pin 21 for causing the scored area 16 to be broken away when the piercing element 19 is pulled upwards through the top member 11. The strip of strong metal 17 is adapted to be broken at its weakened area 17<sup>a</sup> to permit the ends, formed by breaking the strong strip, to be manually grasped and used for pulling the piercing elements 18 and 19 through the top member 11.

The operation of this device is as follows:

The customer purchasing a can of beer or

other product receives the container as shown in Fig. 1. For opening the container to permit the contents thereof to be poured therefrom it is merely necessary to break the strip of string metal 17 at its weakened area 17<sup>a</sup>. This divides the strip of metal 17 into two halves which are adapted to be manually grasped and pulled upwards for pulling the piercing elements 18 and 19 through the top member 11 to separate the scored areas 15 and 16 from the top member to form a pair of oppositely disposed openings. The triangular opening is adapted to be used as a pouring spout while the circular opening acts as a vent to displace the liquid poured from the container to permit a continuous stream to be poured therefrom.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the class described, a sheet metal top member closing the top of a container, a scored area formed in said top member adjacent the edge thereof and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a pouring spout, a second scored area formed in an opposed portion of said top member remote from said scored area and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a vent opening, a steel piercing element mounted beneath each of said scored areas, and an external means extended through said scored areas for connecting said piercing elements together to cause both of said piercing elements to be pulled upwards through said scored areas for simultaneously tearing each of said scored areas from said top member.

2. In a device of the class described, a sheet metal top member closing the top of a container, a scored area formed in said top member adjacent the edge thereof and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a pouring spout, a second scored area formed in an opposed portion of said top member remote from said scored area and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a vent opening, a steel piercing element mounted beneath each of said scored areas, and an external means extended through said scored areas for connecting said piercing elements together to cause both of said piercing elements to be pulled upwards through said scored areas for simultaneously tearing each of said scored areas from said top member, com-

prising a strip of strong material extended along the top face of said top member and having its ends superimposed upon said scored areas, and means for securely attaching each of said piercing elements to its adjacent end of said strip of strong material.

3. In a device of the class described, a sheet metal top member closing the top of a container, a scored area formed in said top member adjacent the edge thereof and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a pouring spout, a second scored area formed in an opposed portion of said top member remote from said scored area and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a vent opening, a steel piercing element mounted beneath each of said scored areas, and means for connecting said piercing elements together to cause both of said piercing elements to be pulled upwards through said scored areas for simultaneously tearing each of said scored areas from said top member, comprising a strip of strong material extended along the top face of said top member and having its ends superimposed upon said scored areas, and means for securely attaching each of said piercing elements to its adjacent end of said strip of strong material, comprising a rivet extended through the center of each of said scored areas and having its ends securely attached to its respective piercing element and end of said strip of strong material.

4. In a device of the class described, a sheet metal top member closing the top of a container, a scored area formed in said top member adjacent the edge thereof and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a pouring spout, a second scored area formed in an opposed portion of said top member remote from said scored area and adapted to be torn from said top member for forming a vent opening, a steel piercing element mounted beneath each of said scored areas, and an external means extended through said scored areas for connecting said piercing elements together to cause both of said piercing elements to be pulled upwards through said scored areas for simultaneously tearing each of said scored areas from said top member, comprising a strip of strong material extended along the top face of said top member and having its ends superimposed upon said scored areas, and means for securely attaching each of said piercing elements to its adjacent end of said strip of strong material, said strip being formed with a weakened central area, whereby said strip may be broken in half so that each of said scored areas may be separately torn from said top member if desired.

HENRY GERHARD.