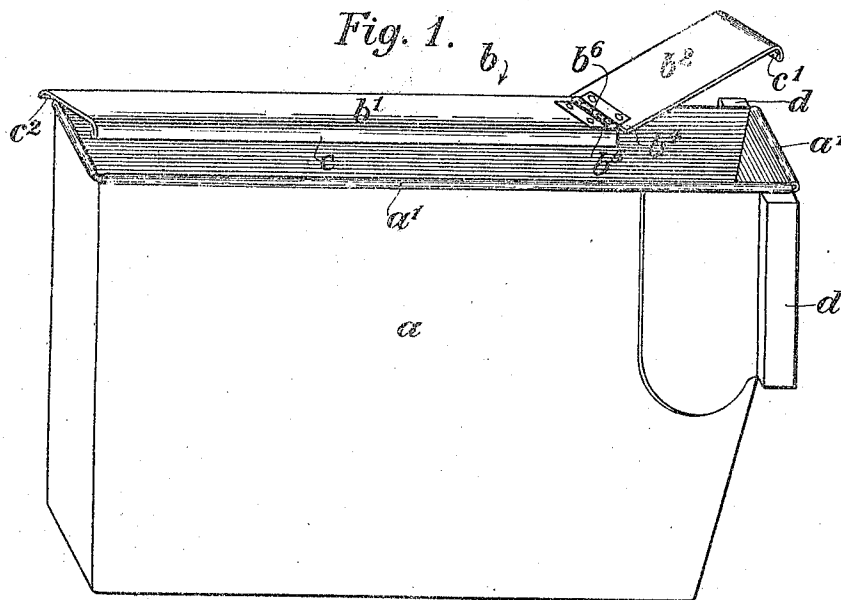
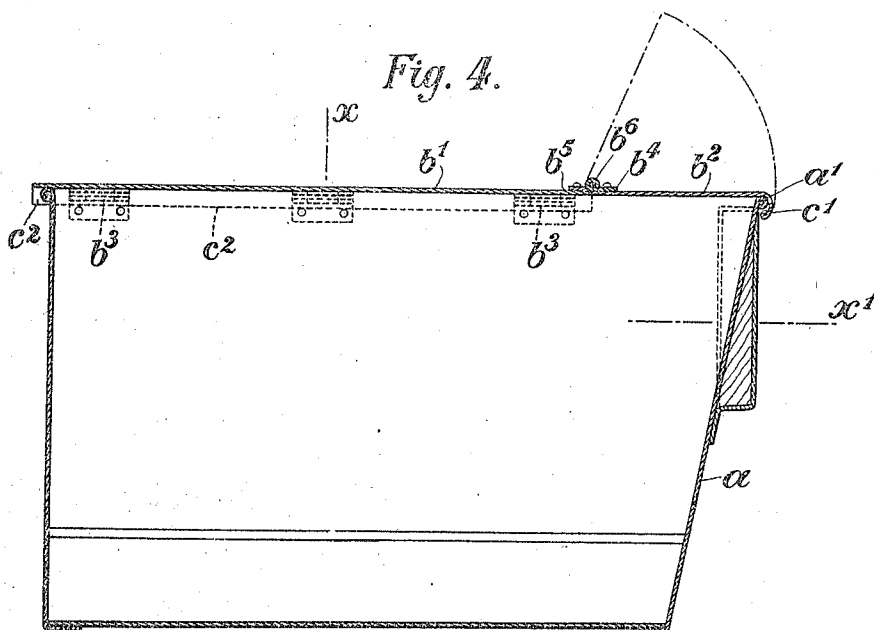


H. R. NORTHOVER,
METAL BOX OR CONTAINER FOR THE FEED BELTS OF MACHINE GUNS,
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 22, 1916.

1,234,072.

Patented July 17, 1917.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

M. E. McAuley.
C. J. Hester

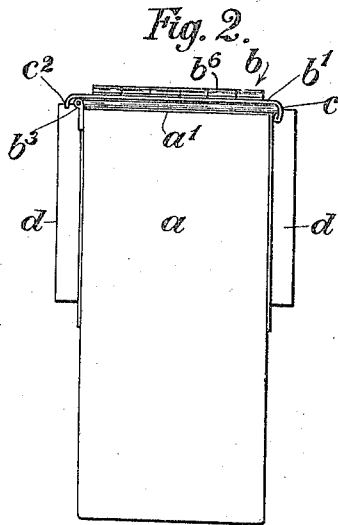
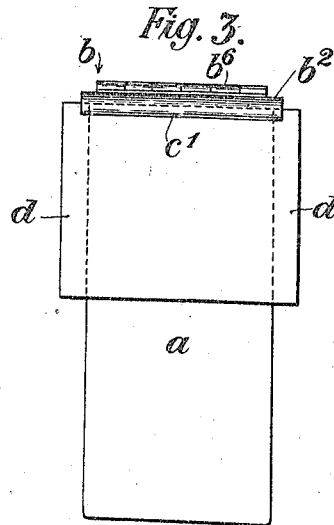
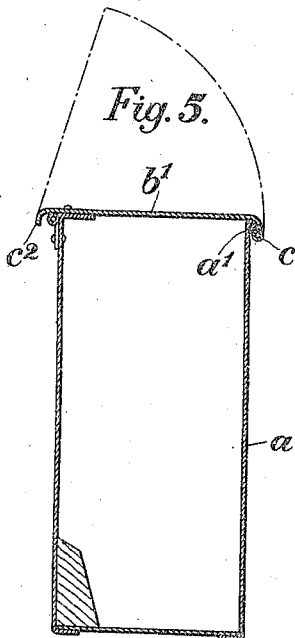
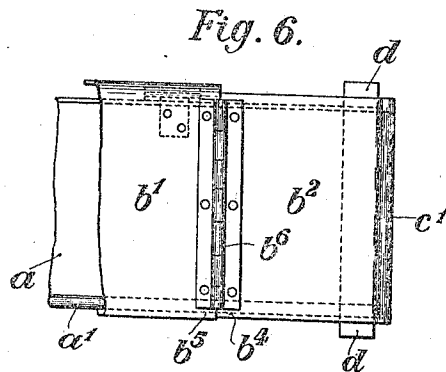
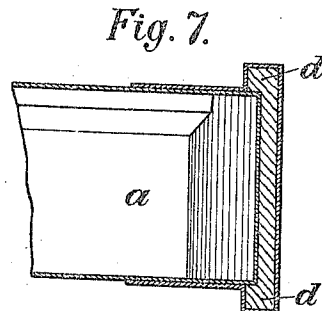
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WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY ROBERT NORTHOVER, OF WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA.

METAL BOX OR CONTAINER FOR THE FEED-BELTS OF MACHINE-GUNS.

1,234,072.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 17, 1917.

Application filed August 22, 1916. Serial No. 116,392.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY ROBERT NORTHOVER, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at 217 Graham avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, in the Dominion of Canada, gunsmith, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metal Boxes or Containers for the Feed - Belts of Machine - Guns, of which the following is a specification.

10 The boxes ordinarily used for containing and transporting machine-gun feed-belts are made entirely of wood, and are therefore not damp-proof, and may easily become damaged by exposure to weather or by
15 rough treatment under active service conditions. Moreover, when it is required to run a belt from the box into a gun, the lid has to be thrown back to such an extent that it leaves the contents of the box completely
20 unprotected.

The present invention consists in an improved feed-belt box which, in addition to being stronger and more weather-proof than the ordinary wooden box, is so constructed
25 as to provide for the protection of the contents of the box from rain and dust when the belt is being run out.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawing represents a perspective view of a cartridge-belt box constructed in accordance with my invention.

30 Fig. 2 is an elevation of one end of same, and

Fig. 3 is an elevation of the other end.

35 Fig. 4 is a longitudinal vertical section showing the lid entirely closed.

Fig. 5 is a transverse, vertical section of Fig. 4 on the line x .

40 Fig. 6 is a plan of that end of the box from which the belt is withdrawn.

Fig. 7 is a horizontal section on the dotted line x^1 , Fig. 4.

The body and lid of the improved box are constructed from stout sheet metal and the whole of the joints in the body are reinforced and sealed by overlapping extensions (see Figs. 4 and 5) which are soldered in place with the object of rendering said body perfectly damp-proof and water-tight.

50 The edges of the body a , except along the side to which the lid-hinge is fitted is furnished with a wired or solid beading a^1 and the corresponding edges of the lid b are formed with curved spring lips c , c^1 , which
55 snap over said beadings when the lid is shut, thereby serving both to fasten the closed lid

and as protective "eaves" which render it difficult for any rain or moisture to work its way into the interior of the box. Similar overhanging "eaves" c^2 may be provided 60 along the hinge side of the lid to prevent the entrance of moisture through the joints between the hinge-knuckles.

The lid, instead of being made in one piece as in the ordinary wooden belt-box is constructed of two sections b^1 b^2 one of which (b^1) is long enough to cover about three-quarters of the top of the box while the other section b^2 is of sufficient dimensions to cover the remainder. The main section 70 b^1 is directly hinged at one of its longitudinal edges to one side of the box by the hinge b^3 while the shorter section b^2 is not hinged to the said box but is jointed at its inner end b^4 to the inner end edge b^5 of the main section b^1 by a transverse hinge b^6 at right angles to the main hinge b^3 . This two-part lid can thus be bodily opened and closed upon the hinge b^3 , while the smaller section is capable of being independently raised 80 upon its own hinge b^6 (when the main lid-section is closed) so as to uncover only that part of the box above which the said smaller section is located. Thus, by bodily lifting or turning up the two sections of the lid collectively on the main hinge, the whole top of the box can be opened to allow a charged feed-belt to be placed therein and on the lid being shut down as shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6 the contents of the box are entirely 90 inclosed and adequately protected. When, however, the box is brought up to or anchored onto a gun in action, the belt can be withdrawn without hinging up the whole of the lid, if the section b^2 is slightly raised 95 on its own transverse hinge, as the belt can be pulled out through the aperture thus provided, while the main section b^1 being still closed and fastened, serves to protect the greater part of the interior of the box and its contents. At the same time, the slightly-raised section b^2 , serves as a cover or hood for the end of the box wherefrom the belt passes to the gun. The hinge b^6 is sufficiently stiff in action to maintain the section b^2 at any angle in which it may be placed relative to the closed section b^1 while the spring lip formed at the end of the section b^2 is adapted to engage over the body-beading a^1 (see Fig. 4) to fasten this 110 part of the lid in its closed position.

To provide for the anchoring of the belt-

feed box directly on to the breech-casing of a gun, so that the box may move with the gun and the belt may move only a minimum distance to travel into the breech, the opposite sides of the delivery end of the said box may be formed or furnished with laterally-projecting upright ribs or feathers adapted to be dropped into engagement with suitably-grooved or channeled attachments on the breech-casing of the gun.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A metal box or container for cartridge feed-belts, wherein the lid is made up of two parts or sections of unequal length; the main or longer section being hinged at one of its longitudinal edges directly to one side of the box body, while the other or smaller section is hinged solely to the inner end edge of said main section so as to swing at right angles to the main section, the arrangement being such that when the main section of the lid is closed and fastened, the smaller section can be raised independently thereof, to admit of a belt contained in the box being withdrawn, substantially as herein described.

2. A metal box or container for cartridge feed-belts, wherein the lid is made up of a longer or main section, which is directly jointed to one side of the body of the box, and another section which is jointed transversely by a stiff hinge to an end of the main section; each section of the lid being provided along one side with a spring lip adapted to engage with and overhang a beading on the body; substantially as herein described.

3. A metal box or container for cartridge feed-belts, having a lid made up of two parts or sections of unequal length; the main or longer section being hinged directly to one side of the box body and being provided with an overhanging "eave" or extension to

prevent moisture working through the knuckles of the hinge; and the other or end section of said lid being hinged solely to the said main section, to permit it to be raised independently thereof.

4. A metal box or container for cartridge feed-belts, having a lid made up of two parts or sections of unequal length; the main or longer section being hinged at one of its longitudinal edges directly to one side of the box body while the other or smaller section is hinged solely to the inner end edge of said main section so as to swing at right angles to the main section, the arrangement being such that when the main section of the lid is closed and fastened, the smaller section can be raised independently thereof, to admit of a belt contained in the box being withdrawn; said sections and box body having inter-engaging parts to prevent the entrance of moisture into the interior of the box.

5. A metal box or container for cartridge feed-belts, having a lid comprising a main or longer section hinged at one of its longitudinal edges directly to one side of the box body, and a smaller section jointed transversely to the inner end edge of the main section by a stiff hinge, the arrangement being such that when the main section of the lid is closed and fastened the smaller section can be raised independently thereof to admit of a belt contained in the box being withdrawn; said smaller section being maintained by its hinge in any position into which it may be moved relative to the closed main section.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HARRY ROBERT NORTHOVER.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR SADLER,
E. J. REEVE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."