Dec. 28, 1926. **1,612,660**

A. S. SPEER

CONTAINER

Filed Oct. 3, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

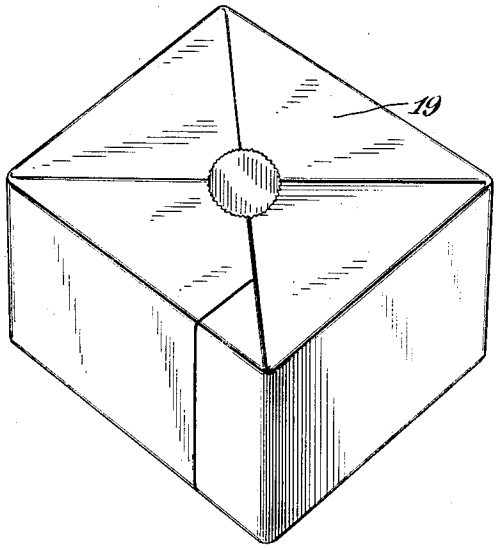
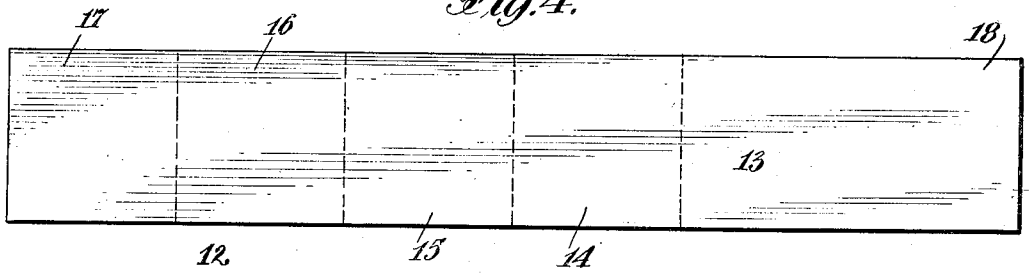


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 2.

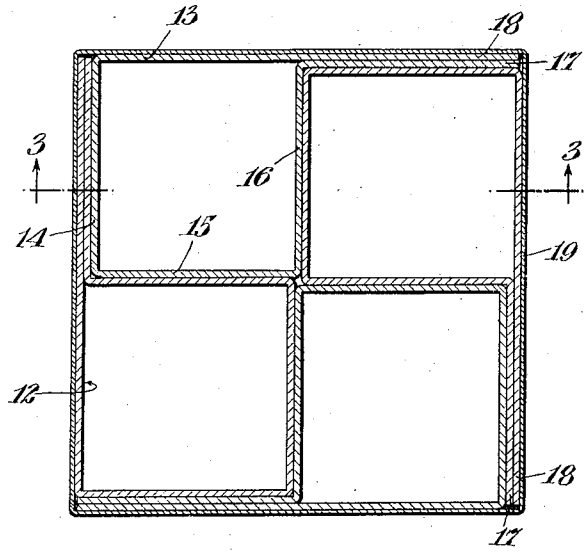
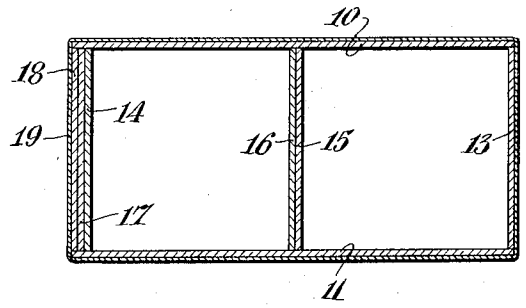


Fig. 3.



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1,612,660

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER S. SPEER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

CONTAINER.

Application filed October 3, 1925. Serial No. 60,245.

This invention relates to cartons or containers of paper, cardboard and like materials adapted particularly for the transportation and service of various products including foodstuffs such as ice cream, butter, jelly and the like.

Various products intended to be retailed or served in relatively small portions are now shipped in bulk and the portions are removed from the bulk by unsanitary spoons, knives or similar means. Ice cream for example, is usually transported in metal cans from which small portions are scooped as required. The practice is objectionable because the product is repeatedly exposed to contamination. Nevertheless it has persisted because of the lack of suitable containers permitting individual wrapping of relatively small portions of the product.

It is the object of the present invention to provide an inexpensive container for various products having individual and independently removable compartments or cells consisting of simple strips of paper or the like but ensuring the complete separation of the several portions.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent as it is better understood by reference to the following specification and accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a complete container embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan section of the container showing a plurality of compartments.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is an elevation of one of the strips employed in forming the compartments.

The invention can be embodied in containers having various arrangements of the compartments or cells formed by the strips. Preferably an even number, for example, four cells are assembled in a single carton having top and bottom covers in a suitable wrapping. Each cell is formed by a strip of paper or like material folded to provide the sides thereof. The cells may be rectangular or otherwise. The strips may be sufficiently long so that the ends can be brought into abutting position to provide an extension of one of the cell walls. When a plurality of cells are assembled the extensions on each will overlap the next adjacent cell and assist in holding the cells in assembled relations to form the container. The top and bottom covers are independent and are held in place by the material packed or by the wrapping.

Referring to the drawings 10 and 11 indicate the top and bottom covers between which the cells are assembled. Each cell consists of a strip 12 of paper or the like folded to form side walls, 13, 14, 15 and 16. Extensions 17 and 18 may be provided on the strips serving as handling means for the cells. These extensions when brought together will overlie one side of the adjacent cell and stiffen the container as well as hold the several cells in assembled relation. The container is completed by a wrapper or envelope 19 of paper or other suitable material which can be sealed in any desirable way. When the cells are filled and the top and bottom covers have been applied a serviceable and neat container is formed which is adapted for handling and shipping without contamination of the contents.

To serve one or more portions from the container the wrapper may be broken. The cells can then be removed one by one, those remaining being protected by the top and bottom covers and the wrapper until needed. The contents of each cell are exposed by grasping one end of the cell wall and peeling the strip from the material contained therein. Each cell contains a uniform quantity of the product and service is facilitated accordingly. Waste in serving, and losses by contamination of the product are avoided. The consumer is moreover assured that the product is served in a sanitary condition.

The container is simple in construction, requiring no complicated machinery in its manufacture, is consequently inexpensive and provides nevertheless a reliable and efficient receptacle for various products. The attractive and sanitary appearance of the container makes it particularly desirable for packing ice cream but it may be used for other articles of food and other numerous different products.

Various changes can be made in the form, dimensions and arrangement of the cells and the other features of the container without departing from the invention or sacrificing the advantages thereof.

Having described one embodiment of my invention, I claim:

1. In a sanitary container a plurality of independently separate cells, each provided with an extension overlapping the next adjacent cell, arranged side by side with tops and bottoms in the same planes.

2. In a sanitary container a plurality of independently separate cells, each provided with an extension overlapping the next adjacent cell, arranged side by side with tops and bottoms in the same planes and means for holding the cells in assembled relation.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ALEXANDER S. SPEER.