R. C. PLEINS.

SEAL LOCK.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 12, 1906.

900,121. Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

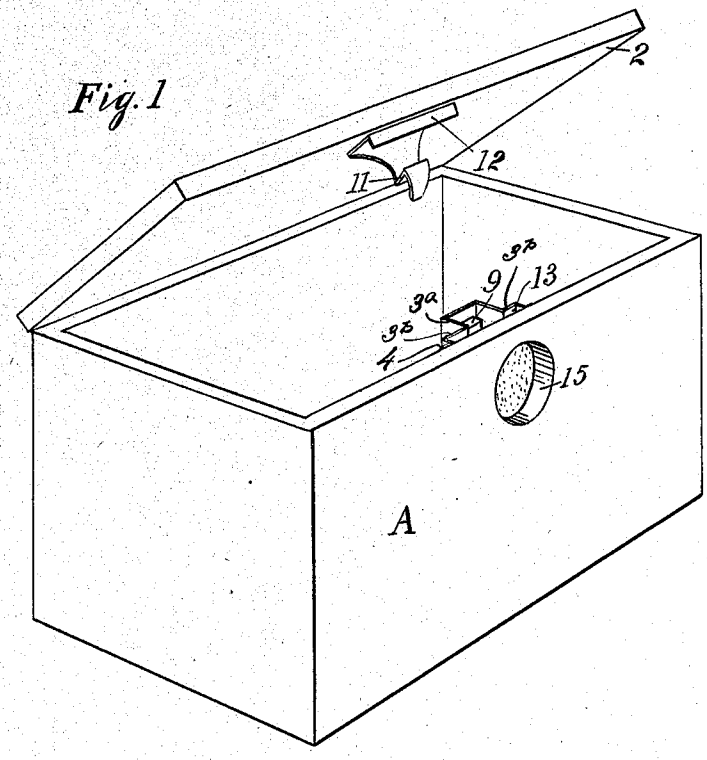


Fig. 2

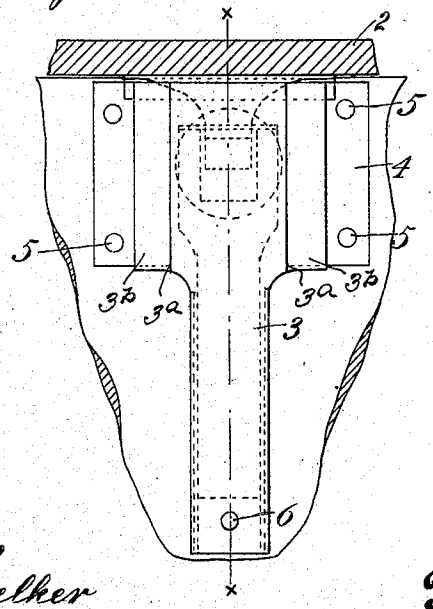
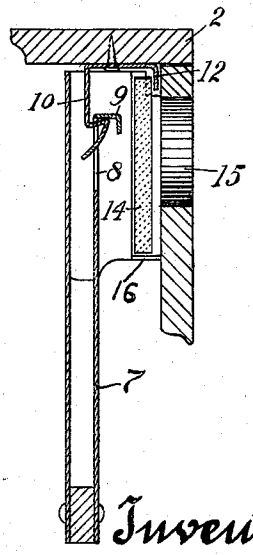


Fig. 3



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4

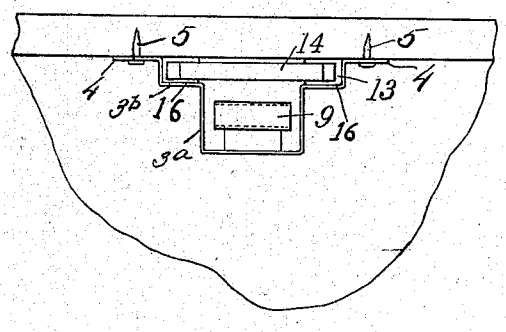


Fig. 5

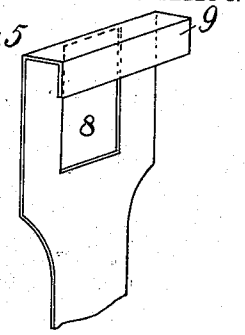


Fig. 6

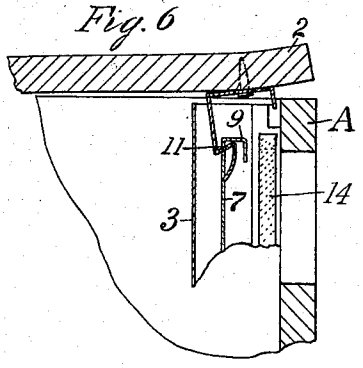


Fig. 7

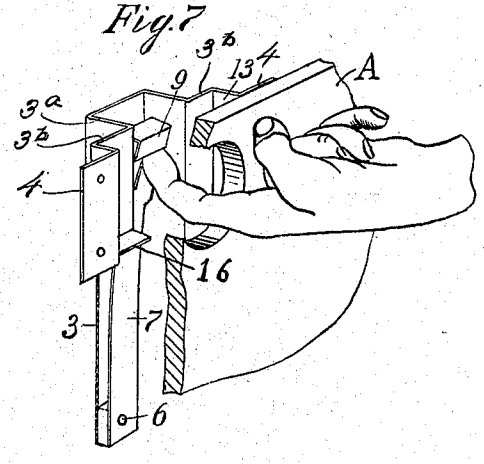
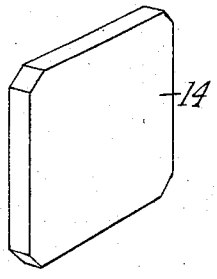


Fig. 8



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUDOLPH C. PLEINS, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

SEAL-LOCK.

No. 900,121. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

Application filed November 12, 1906. Serial No. 343,015.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUDOLPH C. PLEINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Seal-Locks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in seal locks for box covers, its object being particularly to provide an improved combination lock and seal for the hinged cover of a box such as a beer-case, which, in addition to firmly holding the cover in closed position, will constitute an effective guard against tampering.

To this end my invention consists in the features of construction and combination hereinafter particularly described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box embodying my invention, Fig. 2 is a view from the inside of a box showing the rear side of the lock, Fig. 3 is a section on line *x*—*x* of Fig. 2, Fig. 4 is a view looking down upon one member of the lock, Fig. 5 is a detail view of a spring strip forming part of the lock, Fig. 6 is a sectional view on line *x*—*x* of Fig. 2 showing the cover warped, Fig. 7 is a perspective view illustrating the method of unfastening the lock, and Fig. 8 is a detail of a seal forming part of my invention.

In the drawings A represents the front wall of a box, and 2 the cover which may be connected, as by hinges, not shown, with the rear wall of the box. Secured to the inner face of the front wall is a plate or keeper 3 provided with a pair of flanges 3^a that extend at right angles to said plate, and said flanges 3^a, in turn, are bent at right angles to form oppositely-extending wings 3^b, said wings 3^b terminating in attaching flanges 4 by which, through the medium of nails 5, or their equivalent, the keeper is held upon the front wall of the box. The keeper, formed as described, provides a box-like structure open at one side, which open side is closed by the wall of the box when the keeper is applied thereto. Secured to the forward side of the lower end of the keeper as by means of rivets 6 is an upwardly extending spring strip 7. The spring strip 7 is formed at its upper end with an opening 8 and above the opening 8 with a forwardly and downwardly extending flange or finger hold 9. Arranged to coöperate with the spring strip 7 is a latch 10 secured under the free end of the cover and formed at its lower end with a forwardly extending hook 11. The latch 11 is formed at its forward end with a downwardly extending flange 12 for the purpose hereinafter set forth. As best shown in Figs. 1 and 4, the wings 3^b form pockets 13 having interspaced horizontal flanges 16 at their lower ends, said flanges 16 serving to support a sheet 14 of easily breakable material, such as plaster of paris, and this sheet constitutes a seal. The seal 14 when in position stands behind and closes an opening 15 formed in the front wall of the box.

In use, when the cover is closed, the hook 11 will pass into the opening 8, the spring strip 7 yielding sufficiently to allow this to take place. When in closed position the flange 12 will extend in front of the sealing sheet 14, as shown in Fig. 3, and thus if the front end of the cover becomes warped, as illustrated in Fig. 6, the flange 12 will close the space between the cover and front wall of the box, preventing any tool being passed in to open the lock.

In order to unfasten the lock it will be necessary to cut or break away the seal 14 to allow the finger to be thrust through the opening, as shown in Fig. 7. The flange 9 can then be engaged by the finger and sprung forward out of engagement with the hook 11, allowing the cover to be raised in the ordinary manner.

Among the advantages of my construction is the quickness with which the cover may be fastened in closed position and at the same time effectually sealed against tampering. Furthermore, by having the flanges interspaced the seal when broken will drop between the flanges so that another seal can thereafter be placed in the opening 13.

I claim:

1. The combination with a box and a hinged cover therefor, the front wall of the box being formed with an opening near the cover, of a spring strip supported within said box adjacent to said opening, an outwardly extending finger hold carried by the free end of said strip, a latch carried by said cover in position to interlock with said strip when the cover is closed, and means for removably supporting a breakable seal between said strip and opening.

2. The combination with a box and a hinged cover therefor, the front wall of the box being formed with an opening near the cover, of a spring strip supported within said box adjacent to said opening, a latch carried by said cover in position to interlock with said strip when the cover is closed, and inwardly-extending supports for said seal arranged between said strip and the box, said supports being interspaced to allow the seal when broken to drop between the same.

3. The combination with a box and a hinged cover therefor, the front wall of the box being formed with an opening near the cover, of an open bottom keeper supported within said box, a spring strip carried by said keeper adjacent to said opening, a latch carried by said cover in position to interlock with said strip when the cover is closed, and inwardly-extending interspaced flanges carried by said keeper at the bottom of said opening for supporting said seal in the manner set forth.

4. The combination with a box and a hinged cover therefor, the front wall of the box being formed with an opening near the cover, of a spring strip supported within said box adjacent to said opening, a latch carried by said cover in position to interlock with said strip when the cover is closed, means for removably supporting a breakable seal between said strip and opening, and a flange extending downwardly from the free edge of said cover to occupy a position between said seal and the front wall of said cover when the box is closed.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RUDOLPH C. PLEINS.

Witnesses:

H. S. JOHNSON,

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