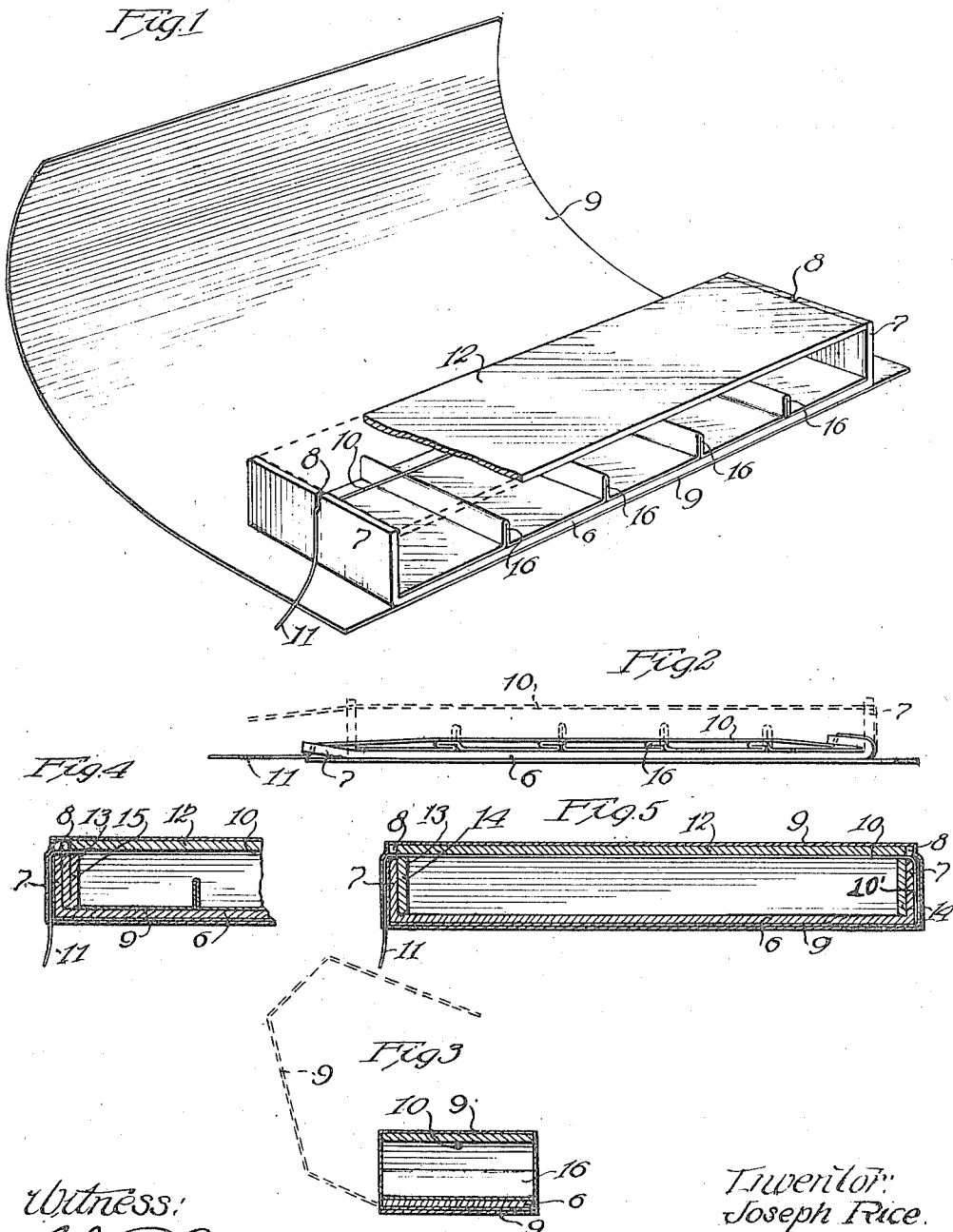


J. RICE.
CONTAINER AND OPENER.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 23, 1915.

1,249,498.

Patented Dec. 11, 1917.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witness:
L. J. Dumas.

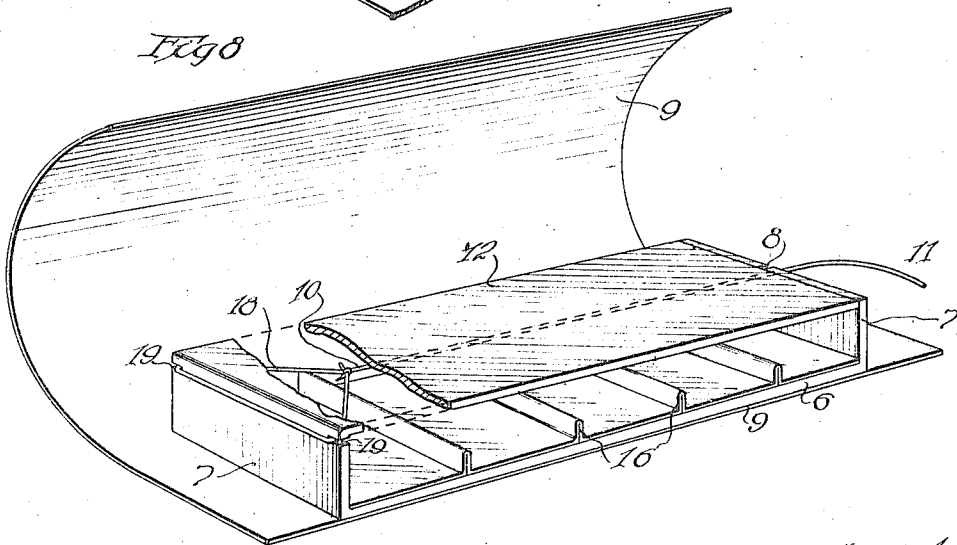
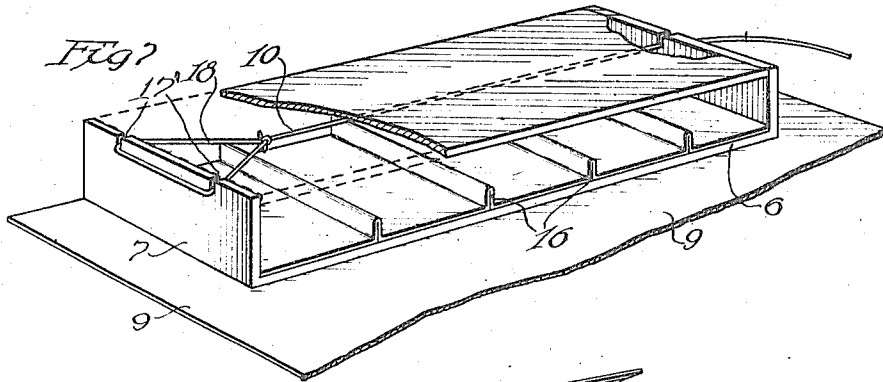
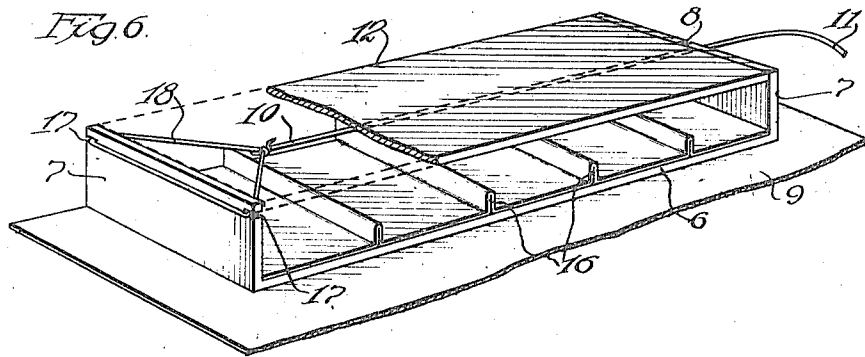
Inventor:
Joseph Rice.
By Brown, Nissen & Sprinkle Attys.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witness:
Leo. D. Shaw.

Inventor:
Joseph Rice.
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Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH RICE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CONTAINER AND OPENER.

1,249,498.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 11, 1917.

Application filed December 23, 1915. Serial No. 68,365.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH RICE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Containers and Openers. Therefore, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to containers and openers for opening the same and has for its object the provision of a package or container adapted to hold confections and the like which is sanitary, simple of construction and efficient in use. A further object is the provision of a simple and efficient opener for a container or package. Other objects will appear hereinafter.

An embodiment of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my container showing the cover open and a portion of the top sheet broken away.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the container opened and folded flat.

Fig. 3 is a transversed section of the container in closed condition.

Fig. 4 is a fragmental longitudinal section showing a means for supporting an end of the top sheet.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section of a package having a different form of ledge for supporting the top sheet than that shown in Fig. 4.

Figs. 6 and 7 are fragmental views with portions broken away and showing a different way of applying the string, and,

Fig. 8 is a perspective view showing the base, end walls and top sheet formed integrally.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, I provide a base 6 of relatively stiff material and form an end wall 7 at each end thereof. The base 6 and end walls 7 are preferably a sheet of cardboard with the flat portion forming the base and the end portions bent vertically forming the end walls. The base and end walls may be formed in any other suitable manner when so desired. Between the tops of the end walls, I provide a top sheet 12 which is adapted to prevent the end walls from being moved toward each other. When the container is used for soft candies, and the like, the top sheet 12 pre-

vents the end walls from being pressed inwardly and crushing the articles in the container.

In order to keep the end walls tightly against the ends of the top sheet 12, I provide a string 10 which is adapted to lock the end walls against the ends of the top sheet. In Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, one end of the string is secured to one of the end walls as at 10' in Fig. 5 by means of a suitable adhesive such as glue. The string is passed through slots 8 in the top edges of end walls 7 and has its other end 11 protruding through the cover 9. The notches 8 are sufficiently deep to permit the string to pass under the top sheet 12 and support the latter. The string 10 is slightly larger than the cross section of the slots 8 so that it will be frictionally locked in the notches and prevent the end walls 7 from moving away from the ends of the top sheet 12.

In Figs. 6 to 8 inclusive, a slightly different method of securing the string is shown. This form consists in forming a loop 18 in a portion of the string 10 and disposing this loop around one of the end walls in slots in the latter. The slots are so formed that the string is at a height to support the top sheet 12 in the same manner as that already described in the manner of securing the string in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive. Furthermore the points where the string pass through the slots form three supporting points for the top sheet thereby preventing tipping sidewise of the top sheet. In Figs. 6 to 8 inclusive, one of the end walls is provided with a slot 8 which is slightly narrower than the thickness of the string 10 in order to lock the latter against slipping in the notch. In Fig. 6 the slots 17 in which the loop 18 of the string is disposed are cut in the edges of the end walls 7. In Fig. 7 the notches 17' are cut in the top of the end walls 7 and in Fig. 8 the notches 19 are cut in the vertical edges of the end walls 7. In Fig. 8 the end walls, base and top sheet are formed integrally and preferably of a single piece of cardboard and bent in the manner indicated in this figure.

It is found in some instances where very soft candies or other articles are to be placed in the container that the string alone is not sufficient to hold the top sheet in proper position to prevent crushing the articles in the container. In such instances, I provide ledges 13 on the inner sides of the

end walls 7. These ledges may be the top edges of pieces of cardboard 14 as shown in Fig. 5 secured to the inner sides of the end walls 7 by glue or the like or they may be the edges of redoubled portions of the end walls themselves as shown in Fig. 4. In any instance the ledges 13 are at a height to assist the string in holding the top sheet in proper position to prevent crushing the articles in the package.

On the under side of base 6 is secured one of the longitudinal edges to a cover 9 by means of an adhesive such as glue. The cover is then folded around the end walls and top sheet and secured at its other longitudinal edge to the under side of base 6 or to the first mentioned longitudinal edge of the cover as clearly indicated in Fig. 3. After the longitudinal edges have been secured the ends of the covering 9 are folded over and secured with a suitable adhesive as indicated in Figs. 4 and 5. The end 11 of the string extends through the folded ends of the covering in a manner so that the end portion 11 may be used to sever the cover 9 to open the package. The cover 9 is preferably of thin paper such as waxed paper or the like which can be easily severed by the string 10. In severing the cover the end portion 11 first severs the portion of the end of the cover over the string then the string is drawn out of slot 8 adjacent the end 11 of the string. This upward movement of the string raises the corresponding end of the top sheet thereby permitting the string to be drawn around under the edge of the top sheet to sever the cover adjacent the edges of the top sheet.

In some instances, I prefer to provide partitions 16 on the base 6 as indicated in Figs. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8. In such instances the container may be opened in such a manner as to permit one or more of the candies or other articles to be taken from the package without severing all of the covering thereby locking part of the candies in the package after some of them have been removed. However, any of the forms shown may be constructed without the partitions 16 as clearly indicated in the form shown in Fig. 5 without departing from my invention.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of my invention, I do not desire to be limited to the exact details set forth but desire to avail myself of such variations and changes as come within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A container comprising a relatively stiff base; end walls of relatively stiff material at the ends of the base and having slots in their top portions; a cover inclosing the base and the end walls; and a string extending between the end walls and held in said slots.

2. A container comprising a relatively

stiff base; end walls of relatively stiff material at the ends of the base and having slots in their upper portions; a sheet of material between and engaging the end walls; a cover inclosing all of the aforesaid parts; and a string extending between the end walls under said sheet with portions thereof held in said slots and one end extending from the cover.

3. A container comprising a relatively stiff base; end walls at the ends of the base; a string extending between and supported by said end walls; and a top sheet resting on the string and engaging the end walls.

4. A container comprising a base; end walls at the ends of the base having slots in their upper portions; a top sheet engaging the end walls above said base; and a string engaging said slots, supporting the top sheet and holding one of the end walls against one end of the top sheet.

5. A container having relatively stiff material in and substantially co-extensive with four of its walls, said relatively stiff material comprising a base, end walls at the ends of the base, and a sheet extending from one end wall above the base with one end thereof engaging the side of the top portion of the other end wall; and a cover inclosing the base, end walls and top sheet holding said parts in operative positions and completely forming two of the walls of the container.

6. A container comprising a relatively stiff base; end walls of relatively stiff material at the ends of the base and having slots in their top portions; a top sheet of relatively stiff material between and engaging the end walls spacing the top portions of said end walls apart; and a string extending between the end walls, frictionally locked in one of said slots and holding the tops of the end walls against movement away from each other.

7. A container comprising a frame in and substantially co-extensive with four of the sides of such container made up of an elongated sheet disposed with a portion forming a base, portions at the ends of the base forming upstanding end walls and one end portion of said sheet forming a top sheet disposed above the base with one end of the top sheet engaging the side of the top portion of one of the end walls; and a thin cover inclosing the aforementioned parts and completely forming two of the walls of the container.

8. A container comprising a frame of cardboard made up of a base with end walls at the ends of the base and a top sheet above the base between the end walls, there being slots at the upper end portions of the end walls; a string engaging the slots in one end wall and frictionally locked in the slot to the other end wall, said string being

adapted to hold the last-mentioned end wall
against its adjacent end of the top sheet;
and a thin cover inclosing all of the afore-
said parts except one end portion of the
5 string which protrudes from the cover for
facilitating opening said cover.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification, in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses, on this 20th day
of December, A. D. 1915.

JOSEPH RICE.

Witnesses:

THOMAS COLSON,
K. W. WONNELL.

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