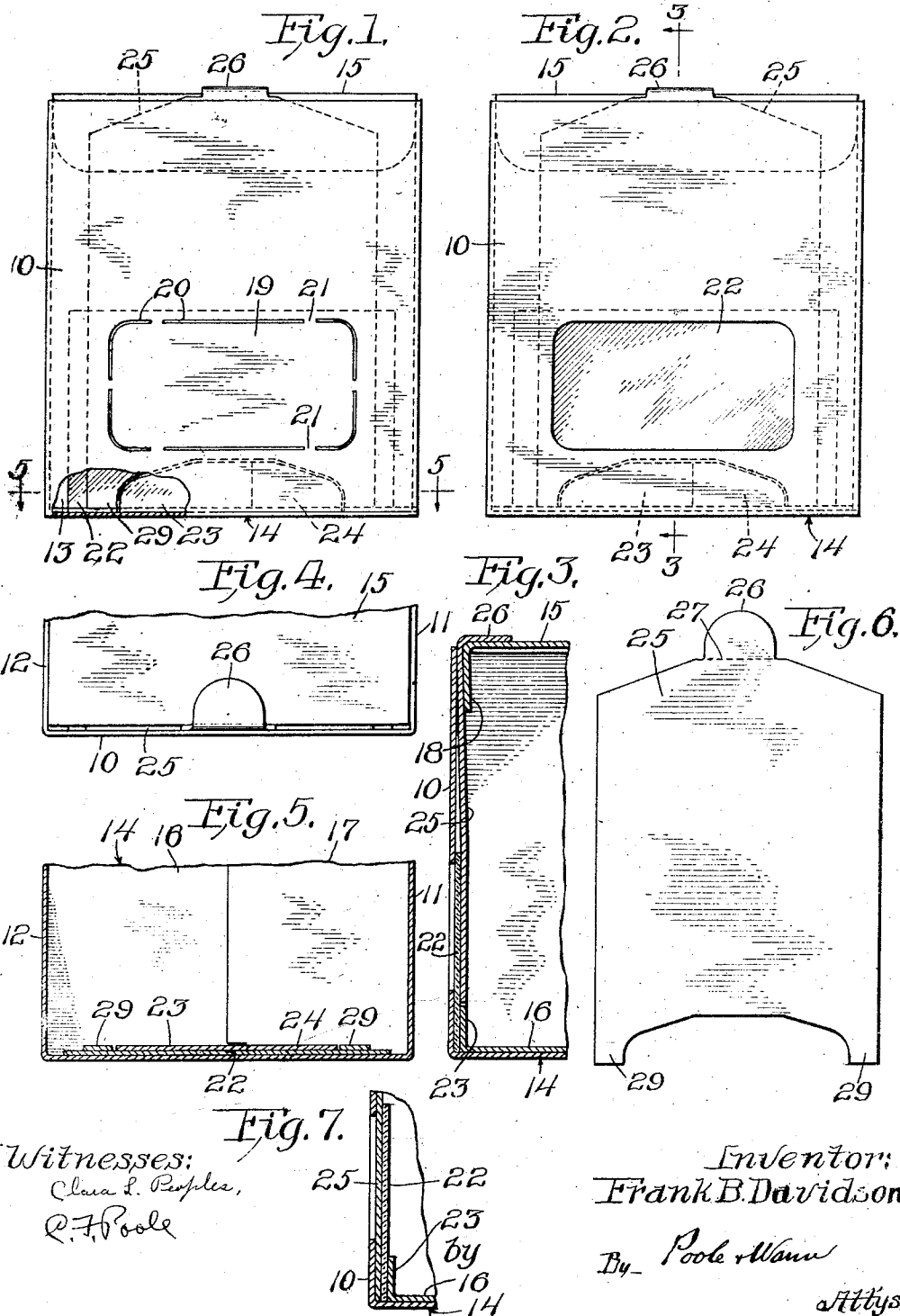


F. B. DAVIDSON.
CONTAINER.
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1,150,852.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CONTAINER.

1,150,852.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK B. DAVIDSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Marseilles, in the county of La Salle and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Containers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to boxes or containers, in which are packed for shipment and transportation crackers, biscuits or like bakery products, as well as other articles of merchandise in bulk, and such containers are designed for use both in shipping such articles to the retail merchant and as a receptacle in which such articles may be kept while in the shop of the latter, and from which the articles may be conveniently removed from time to time when delivered or dispensed to the customer. Containers of the type to which my invention is applicable are those that are provided with sight openings, through which the articles packed in the containers may be viewed and displayed without opening the same. In a container of the kind referred to, a sheet of transparent material is placed over the sight opening thereof.

Among the objects of my invention is to provide a protector for the transparent sheet, so as to prevent the transparent sheet from being damaged or injured by being forced outwardly through the sight opening by the contents of the container, and from being forced inwardly by a pressure being applied externally thereagainst; and, further, to improve the construction of the protector, so that the same will be held against sidewise or lateral shifting within the container, and, moreover, to provide a protector that may be readily and easily withdrawn or removed from the packed container without opening the container.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a container provided with a sight opening in its front wall, the removable panel forming the con-

ter of such opening being shown as left in position; said figure also shows a protector constructed in accordance with my invention placed over the transparent sheet covering said sight opening; Fig. 2 is a similar view of the container, with the panel removed; Fig. 3 is a fragmentary, vertical, sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary top plan view of the container; Fig. 5 is a fragmentary, transverse, sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 1; Fig. 6 is a view in front elevation of the protector embodying the features of my invention; and Fig. 7 is a fragmentary, vertical, sectional view showing the protector inserted between the container wall and the transparent sheet, instead of being located back of the transparent sheet as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

In the accompanying drawings, I have shown a box or container, known as a "caddy," for containing crackers, biscuits or other like bakery goods, as well as other articles of merchandise in bulk, and which is adapted for use both in shipping such articles and as a receptacle in which the articles may be kept while in the store of the retail merchant. Said container is preferably made of sheet material, such as heavy paper-board, straw-board, or the like, and is formed from a flat blank made from a sheet of such material. As illustrated, said container is of tubular form and comprises four connected upright walls: a front wall 10, side walls 11 and 12, a rear wall 13, a bottom wall 14, and a top wall 15. The bottom wall 14 may be constructed in any manner desired, but, as shown in the drawings, said bottom wall embraces a plurality of interfolded flaps made integral with the upright walls of the container. The two flaps 16, 17 are connected, respectively, to the side walls 11, 12, and, when interfolded to form the bottom wall of the container, said flaps 16, 17 overlap each other along their meeting margins. The top wall 15, as shown, is in the form of a lid, preferably hinged to the rear wall 13, so that the container may be readily opened and closed. Said lid 15 is provided on its front margin with a depending flange 18, adapted, when the lid is closed, to overlap the upper portion of the front wall of the container.

In order that the articles contained in the

container may be viewed and displayed, without opening the container, the latter is provided in one of its upright walls with a sight opening, over which is placed a sheet of transparent material, such as a gelatin sheet, transparent celluloid, or the like.

The sight opening is formed by cutting out or removing a portion of the wall. As shown in the drawings, the sight opening is provided in the front wall 10 of the container, but it is to be understood, of course, that said sight opening may be formed in any of the other upright walls thereof.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings, the sight opening is formed by providing a removable panel 19 in the front wall 10 thereof. Said panel 19 is formed by a portion of the wall itself, and is partially severed at or around its margins from the said wall, in such a manner that said panel may be detached therefrom. The panel 19 is partially severed from the wall 10 by means of a plurality of slits 20, 20, so constructed as to leave between their ends short connecting tongues 21, 21, sufficient in number to suitably support and integrally connect the panel with the said front wall. Said tongues 21, 21 may be easily cut by a knife or the like, when it is desired to remove the panel from the wall; the opening left by removing the panel forming the sight opening. The sight opening thus formed is covered by a transparent sheet 22. Fig. 2 shows the container after the panel has been entirely removed from the front wall 10. As shown, said transparent sheet 22 is larger than the sight opening, and is applied against an inner face of the front wall 10. The transparent sheet entirely covers the sight opening, and is held in such position by flaps 23, 24, formed on the bottom wall 14 of the container. Said flaps 23, 24 extend upwardly and overlap the lower margin of the transparent sheet. The lower marginal portion 45 of the transparent sheet is inserted between said flaps and the front wall 10. (See Fig. 3.) As illustrated, said flaps 23, 24 are provided on one of the side margins of said flaps 16, 17 forming the bottom wall of the container.

In order to protect the transparent sheet from injury, either by being forced or bulged outwardly through the sight opening by the outward pressure thereon of the articles contained in the container, during transportation of the same from the packer to the retail merchant, I provide a protector 25, adapted to be placed within the container to cover that portion of the transparent sheet extending over the sight opening. As illustrated, the protector 25 consists of a sheet of paper-board or the like, of suitable thickness, and of sufficient dimensions to extend completely over at least that portion of the transparent sheet cov-

ering the sight opening. The protector may be inserted, either between the transparent sheet and the front wall of the container, or between the transparent sheet and the articles in the container. In either case the protector extends beyond the margins of the sight opening. Whether inserted between the front wall of the box and the transparent sheet, or between the latter and the articles in the box, the protector closes the sight opening, and serves to prevent the transparent sheet from being forced outwardly through the sight opening by the contents of the container. As shown, the protector 25 is of a sufficient length to extend the full depth of the container, and extends upwardly between the front wall 10 and the flange 18 on the lid of the box. To facilitate removal of the protector 25 from the container, said protector is provided on its upper margin with a pull tab 26, which projects beyond the body of the protector and is divided therefrom by a score or fold line 27, along which the flap may be folded to occupy a position at right angles to the body of the protector. The lower margin of the protector 25 is cut away, intermediate its ends, to provide a recess 28, adapted, when the protector is applied against the inner face of the transparent sheet 22, to receive the upright flaps 23, 24 on the bottom wall of the container. (See Figs. 1, 2 and 3.) The portions 29, 29 on each side of the recess rest on the bottom wall of the box at each side of the flaps 23, 24. The opposed side margins of said parts 29, 29 abut laterally against the adjacent margins of the flaps 23, 24, and the protector is held from moving sidewise or shifting laterally. The protector 25, when inserted between the articles in the container and the transparent sheet 22, is removably held against the latter by such articles, and the pull tab 26 lies flatwise against the outer face of the lid 15 or beneath the lid when closed on the tab. When the packed container is received by the retail merchant, the pull tab 26 is grasped and, by an upward pull thereon, the protector withdrawn from the container, thereby uncovering the sight opening. The transparent sheet 22 is not disturbed. The articles in the box may then be viewed without raising or lifting the lid thereof.

When the removable panel 19 is left in the wall of the container and the latter is used as the shipping receptacle, the protector 25 may be inserted between the panel and the transparent sheet 22, and the protector will prevent the transparent sheet from being cut or damaged by the knife or other implement used in severing or cutting the tongues 21, 21 upon removing the panel.

The parts 29, 29 on the protector 25 and the

flaps 23, 24 on the bottom wall of the container constitute coacting parts on the protector and container, which coacting parts serve to hold the protector against sidewise movement.

5 By providing such coacting parts, the protector need only be made wide enough to entirely cover the sight opening, or, in other words, that portion of the transparent sheet extending over the sight opening. Should
10 the coacting parts be omitted, the protector need be made wide enough to cover the sight opening, even though the protector be moved far enough to one side to contact with one of the side walls of the container.

15 When the protector is applied against the inner face of the transparent sheet, said protector serves in effect as the front wall of the container and protects the transparency from injury during the packing of
20 the container.

Whether the protector is inserted between the box wall and the transparent sheet, or located between the latter and the contents of the container, said protector serves both
25 as a protector and as a closure for the sight opening, and thereby enables a container with the center of the sight opening entirely removed in the first instance being used with satisfactory results as a shipping receptacle.
30 The protector herein shown and described may be readily applied and removed from the container, and serves its purpose efficiently as a protector for the transparency.

A protector embodying the features of
35 construction set forth, may be variously modified with respect to the details, and I do not therefore desire to be limited to the specific construction illustrated except as pointed out in the appended claims.

40 I claim as my invention:

1. A container, having one of its walls made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed therein by removing a portion of said wall, a sheet of transparent material located in a position to cover the sight opening formed in said wall, and a protector for said transparent sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn therefrom, said protector, when
45 in said container, being removably applied against said transparent sheet and completely covering the portions thereof extending over said sight opening.

2. A container, having one of its walls made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed therein by removing a portion of said wall, a sheet of transparent material larger than said sight opening and located in said container in a position to
50 cover said sight opening, and a protector for said transparent sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn therefrom, said protector, when located in said container, being removably
55 applied against the inner face of said trans-

parent sheet and completely covering the portion thereof extending over said sight opening.

3. A container made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed in one of its walls by removing a portion of said wall, a transparent sheet larger than the sight opening, applied against the inner face of said wall and extending over the said sight opening formed therein, and a protector for
60 said transparent sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn therefrom, said protector, when located in said container, being removably applied against the inner face of said transparent sheet and completely covering the
65 portion thereof extending over said sight opening.

4. A container made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed in one of its walls by removing a portion of said wall, a transparent sheet larger than the sight opening, located in said container in a position to cover the sight opening formed in said wall, means for holding said transparent
70 sheet in position to cover said sight opening, comprising a flap on one of the walls of said container and located in a position to overlap one of the margins of said transparent sheet, and a protector for said transparent
75 sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn therefrom, said protector, when located in said container, being removably applied against said transparent sheet and completely covering the
80 portion thereof extending over said sight opening.

5. A container made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed in one of its walls by removing a portion from said wall, a transparent sheet larger than the sight opening, applied against the inner face of said wall and extending over the sight opening formed therein, and a protector for said transparent sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn therefrom, said protector, when located in
85 said container, being removably applied against the inner face of said transparent sheet and completely covering the portion thereof extending over said sight opening, said protector being narrower than the wall against which said transparent sheet is applied, and said protector and one of the walls of the container having coacting parts adapted to prevent lateral shifting of the protector relatively to the transparent sheet.

6. A container made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed in one of its walls by removing a portion of said wall, a transparent sheet located in position in said container to extend over the sight opening formed in said wall, and a protector for said transparent sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn
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therefrom, said protector, when located in said container, being removably applied against said transparent sheet and completely covering the portion thereof extending over said sight opening, said protector being provided with a tab adapted to be grasped for withdrawing the protector from the container.

7. A container made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed in one of its walls by removing a portion of said wall, a transparent sheet applied against the inner face of said wall and extending over said sight opening formed therein, and a protector for said transparent sheet located in said container and adapted to be completely withdrawn therefrom, said protector, when located in said container, being applied against the inner face of said transparent sheet and completely covering the portion thereof extending over said sight opening, said protector being narrower than the wall against which said transparent sheet is applied, and said protector and the bottom wall of the container having coacting parts adapted to prevent lateral shifting of the protector with respect to the transparent sheet.

8. A container made of sheet material and having a sight opening formed in one of its upright walls by removing a portion of said wall, a transparent sheet larger than the sight opening, applied against the inner face of the said wall in a position to cover the sight opening formed therein, means for holding said transparent sheet in position against said wall, comprising a flap made integral with the bottom wall of said container and located in position to overlap the lower margin of said transparent sheet, and a protector removably applied against the inner face of said transparent sheet and completely covering that portion thereof extending over the sight opening formed in said upright wall, the lower margin of said protector being in contact with said bottom wall and having a recess formed therein to receive said flap.

In testimony, that I, claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses, this 26th day of March A. D. 1915.

FRANK B. DAVIDSON.

Witnesses:

A. L. JORDAN,
G. C. DAVIDSON.

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