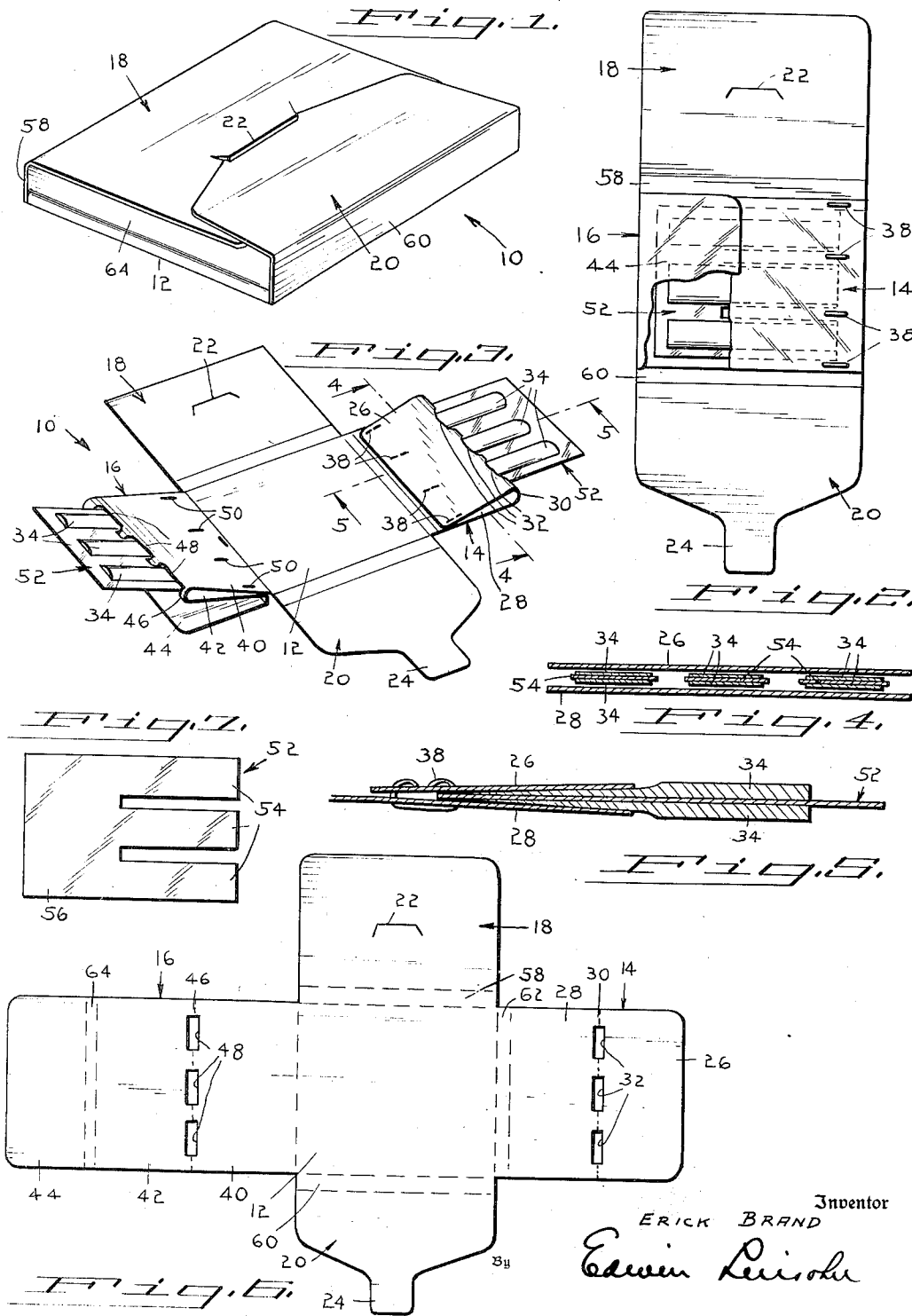


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CONTAINER

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## CONTAINER

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9 Claims. (Cl. 206—1)

The present invention relates to containers and packages and more particularly to containers for packaging reeds of musical instruments.

One object of the invention is to provide a container of the character described which can be produced at low cost, which is constructed and arranged to contain a plurality of articles in such manner as to form a compact package, and which is easy to open and close for access to the articles contained therein.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container constructed and arranged to contain a plurality of reeds of musical instruments in such manner that said reeds are held in spaced relation from each other and otherwise in such manner as to protect the reeds against injury.

A yet further object of the invention is generally to improve the construction of containers of the class described.

The above objects of the invention and other objects which might hereinafter appear will be best understood from the following description considered in connection with the drawing.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective rear view of a container embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the container partly opened;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the container fully opened;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the blank from which the container is made;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of a partition and backing member forming a part of the container.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the container 10 here shown as designed for packaging a plurality of reeds for musical instruments is made of any suitable sheet material preferably cardboard and comprises a front portion 12 to which a plurality, here shown as four, flaps 14, 16, 18 and 20 are foldably connected preferably in integral relation. Flaps 14 and 16 are article-holding members, while flaps 18 and 20 are closure flaps and constitute means for releasably securing the article holding flaps in folded position at the back of front portion 12. For this purpose said closure flaps are provided with interengaging means, here shown as slot 22 in flap 18 and a tab 24 on flap 20 which engages flap 18 in its slot 22 for releasably holding said flaps

in closed position overlying the article-holding flaps 14 and 16.

Article-holding flap 14 has an inwardly folded portion 26 which overlies the outer portion 28 of said flap forming a folded outer end portion 30. Said end portion 30 is provided with spaced slots 32 through which the reeds 34 are inserted. Flap portions 26 and 28 are secured together adjacent the inner edge 36 of flap portion 26 by suitable fastening means here shown as a plurality of spaced wire staples 38 arranged in line with the material of end portion 30 between slots 32. Said staples besides constituting means for securing said flap portions 26 and 28 together provide means for subdividing the receptacles constituted by said folded flap portions into compartments for receiving the individual reeds or other articles.

The other article-holding flap 16 comprises flap portions 40, 42 and 44. Flap portion 42 is folded outwardly over flap portion 40 forming an end portion 46 which like the end portion 30 of flap 14 is provided with spaced slots 48 through which the reeds of other articles are inserted and removed. Said flap portions 40 and 42 are secured in folded relation by wire staples 50 arranged in the same manner as the staples 38 of flap 14 and having the same function as said last mentioned staples. Flap portion 44 is provided as a cover flap for closing one end of the package as illustrated in Fig. 2. In this connection it will be observed that in closing the package, flap portions 40 and 42 of flap 16 together with the articles contained therein are folded as a unit to overlie front portion 12 of the container at the back thereof, then flap 14 together with the articles contained therein are folded into position overlying flap portion 42 and the articles contained therein. Finally, flap portion 44 of flap 16 is folded over the articles carried by flap 14.

Each article-holding flap is provided with a partition plate and backing member 52 composed of cardboard or other relatively stiff sheet material and of the form illustrated in Fig. 7. As here shown, member 52 comprises spaced portions 54 in integral relation with a continuous portion 56. Members 52 are assembled with flaps 14 and 16 by projecting the spaced portion 54 thereof through the slotted ends 30 and 46 of flaps 14 and 16, respectively, in such manner that the spaced portions 54 are disposed completely within said flaps between the folded portions thereof, being received between adjacent staples 38 and 50 respectively. The continuous portions 56 of members 52 project outwardly beyond the folded ends

portions of the flaps whereby in addition to constituting partition members, said members 52 provide backing members or plates for the reeds or other articles received in said article-holding flaps. It will be observed that members 52 serve to separate from each other the reeds which are projected into said flaps through the same slots. It will be understood that the width of slots 32 and 40 is such, that a pair of reeds 34 received therein together with the interposed projecting portion 54 of partition member 52 are frictionally held in position though readily removed when desired. Said reeds also taper longitudinally toward the ends projected through said slots and on this account they are, when properly projected into said article holding flaps firmly gripped between partition member 52 and the adjacent portion of the closure flap.

In Fig. 6 there is illustrated the blank from which container 10 is formed. The various parts of the container and the corresponding portions of the blank here shown are indicated by the same reference numerals and the dotted lines shown in Fig. 6 will be recognized as lines of fold for the several parts of the container. It will be observed that closure flaps 13 and 20 have intermediate portions 58 and 60 which provide upstanding end walls when the package is closed, thereby providing space for the folding of the article-holding flaps 14 and 16. Article-holding flap 14 is provided with an intermediate portion 62 adjacent its union with front portion 12 to provide an end wall which conceals the outer ends of reeds 34 and plate 52 when the article-holding flap 16 is in folded position. Flap 16 has an intermediate portion 64 forming an end wall which conceals the ends of reeds 34 and the partition member 52 associated with flap 14 when the latter is in folded position.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention it will be understood that the latter may be embodied otherwise than as here shown. It will also be understood that while the present container is intended primarily for packaging reeds for musical instruments it may be used for other purposes. Further, it will be understood that the container may vary in size and also in the number of compartments whereby the number of reeds or other articles contained in the package may vary. Thus, for example, the container may be designed for packaging a larger or smaller number of reeds than shown herein. Finally, it will be understood that the container may be varied in numerous other ways as to details of construction and arrangement of parts, without departing from the invention. Therefore, I do not wish to be limited precisely to the present construction except as may be required by the appended claims considered with reference to the prior art.

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

1. A container of the character described comprising a front portion having opposed walls providing means for holding articles therein, said member having a folded end portion provided with a plurality of slots for the insertion and removal of said articles, and means for securing said opposed walls together at points spaced from said folded end portion, said member being foldably connected to an edge of said front portion, and means foldably connected to other edges of said front portion for releasably holding said member in folded position.

2. A container of the character described comprising a front portion provided with flaps foldably connected thereto, said flaps being movable from folded positions overlying the back of said front portion to unfolded positions extending from edges of said front portion, at least one of said flaps having a folded and slotted end portion for holding a plurality of articles in spaced relation, and means including one of the other flaps for releasably securing said article-holding flap in said folded position overlying back of said front portion.

3. A container of the character described comprising a folded member having opposed walls and a slotted end portion for holding a plurality of articles in spaced relation, and a partition member having spaced portions projecting into said slotted portion between said opposed walls.

4. In a container of the character described, a member having a folded and slotted end portion for holding a plurality of articles in spaced relation, and a partition member having spaced portions projecting into said slotted portion and a portion extending outwardly beyond said slotted portion constituting a backing for the articles received in said slotted portion and projecting outwardly therefrom.

5. A container of the character described comprising a front portion provided with flaps foldably connected thereto, at opposite edges, two of said flaps having means for holding articles therein and foldable over each other at the back of said front portion, one of said article-holding flaps having a foldable portion adapted to cover the outer end of the other article-holding flaps, said foldable flap portion being foldable over said other article-holding flap to a position overlying the latter.

6. A container of the character described comprising a front portion, a member having folded overlying portions secured together along spaced lines adjacent one end thereof and having a plurality of spaced slots at the other end thereof for the insertion of articles between said overlying portions, said member being foldably connected to one edge of said front portion and movable from folded position overlying the back of said front portion to unfolded position projecting outwardly from said edge of the front portion, and means foldably connected to opposite edges of said front portion for releasably holding said member in said folded position.

7. A container of the character described comprising a member having folded overlying portions secured together along spaced lines adjacent one end thereof and having a plurality of spaced slots at the other end thereof for the insertion of articles between said overlying portions, and a partition member having spaced portions projecting through said slots into the space between said folded portions.

8. A package of the character described comprising a container having a front portion, a flap joined to said front portion and foldable to a position overlying the back of said front portion, said flap having folded portions and spaced slots at one end thereof, reeds for musical instruments projecting through said slots and positioned in spaced relation in said flap between the folded portions thereof, said flap being movable from said position to unfolded position, and means for releasably retaining said flap in folded position at the back of said front portion.

9. A package of the character described comprising a container having a front portion, a

flap joined to said front portion and foldable to a position overlying the back of said front portion, said flap having folded portions and spaced slots at one end thereof, reeds for musical instruments projecting through said slots and positioned in spaced relation in said flap between the folded portions thereof, a second flap joined to said front portion and foldable to a position over said front portion and overlying said first flap, said second flap having folded portions

and spaced slots at one end thereof, reeds for musical instruments projecting through said slots in the second flap and positioned in spaced relation therein, one of said flaps having a foldable portion adapted to overlie the reeds in the other flap when said flaps are folded over the back of said front portion, and means for releasably securing said flaps in said folded relation.

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