F. WESTERBECK.

SHEET METAL BOX.

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1,110,661. Patented Sept. 15, 1914.

Fig. I.

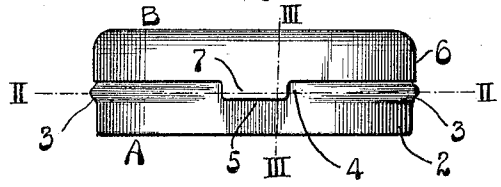


Fig. II.

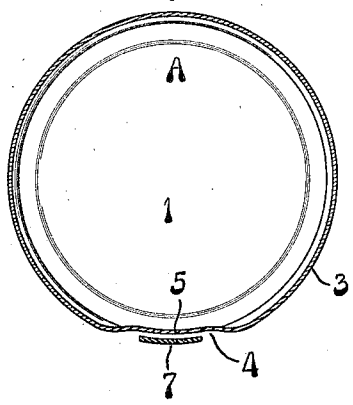
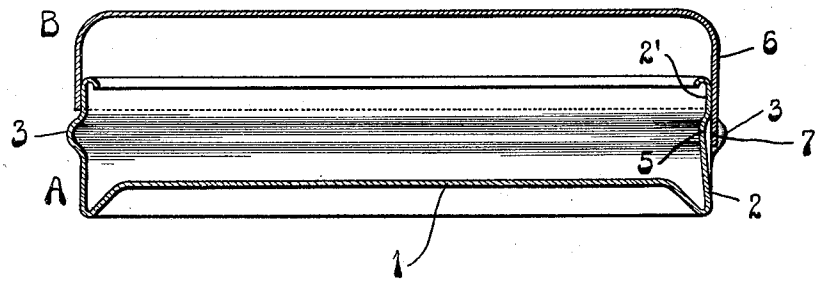


Fig. III.



Attest

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SHEET-METAL BOX.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK WESTERBECK, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sheet-Metal Boxes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to sheet metal boxes such as are commonly used to hold shoe blacking. Boxes of this kind include a cylindrical body and a slip cover having a flange that frictionally engages the wall of the body. The wall of the box body is provided with an outwardly jutting bead which serves to limit the downward movement of the cover flange on the body wall. It is particularly desirable in making such boxes that the wall of the box body and the flange of the cover be made as nearly as feasible of the same diameter, in order that when the cover flange is fitted to the box body wall, a very close joint will be provided between these members, so that air may be excluded from entrance to the interior of the box. Boxes made as closely as possible in accordance with the foregoing have their covers so closely fitted to the box body walls as to render it extremely difficult to remove the covers without injury to the box, the difficulty of removal being pronounced owing to the presence of the stop beads on the box bodies, which, due to their being located immediately beneath the lower edges of the cover flanges, act to prevent the ready introduction and movement of a sharp implement between the cover flange and box body wall to loosen the former from the latter, and permit the removal of the cover.

From the foregoing it will be perceived that it is highly necessary to locate any means serviceable for the removal of its cover beneath the contacting portions of the box body wall and the flange of the cover, and also that it is highly important to have such contacting surfaces in parallel lines, as otherwise the binding engagement between the cover flange and the box wall is imperfect.

The box made in accordance with my present invention is constructed with the object in view of providing all the desirable features necessary to produce a box as nearly as possible air tight, where such box includes a slip cover, the flange of which is secured to the box body wall by frictional engagement only, and provide in such box a construction that permits the ready application of a knife blade, or other sharp implement between the cover flange and the box body wall for the purpose of loosening the former from the latter, in order that it may be easily separated therefrom.

Figure I is an elevation of my sheet metal box. Fig. II is a horizontal section taken on the line II—II, Fig. I. Fig. III is an enlarged vertical section taken on the line III—III, Fig. I.

In the accompanying drawings:—A designates the body of my box and B its cover. The box body comprises a bottom 1, and a wall 2, the portion 2′ of which has an outer face extending strictly in a vertical plane. Between the lower portion of the box body wall and the upper portion 2′ is an outwardly jutting bead 3 that extends circumferentially of the box and is intended to serve as a stop for the flange of the cover B when such flange is fitted to the box body wall portion 2′. The bead 3 does not completely encircle the box body, but is discontinued at a given point to provide a gap 4 between ends of the bead, which latter are inclined inwardly at their terminals where they merge into the box body wall at opposite sides of the gap 4.

The body wall of my box is provided at the location of the gap 4 between the ends of the beads 3 with an indentation 5, the upper end of which is located at the base of the cover flange receiving portion 2′ of the box body wall. This indentation is preferably inclined upwardly and also downwardly from a point about midway of the height of the bead 3, and is adapted to receive the blade of a knife, or other sharp implement, which may be utilized to separate the flange of the cover B from the box body wall.

The flange 6 of the cover B is so made as to conform at its inner face as nearly as possible to the outer face of the box body wall portion 2′, in order that the inner face of said flange will fit snugly against the outer face of said body wall portion and, as a consequence, the cover flange binds tightly against the wall portion 2′, without any detraction from the binding action, such

as would be incurred if the lower edge of the cover flange were curved outwardly to conform to the upper face of the stop bead 3 beneath it.

The flange of the cover B is provided with a downwardly extending straight tongue 7 that enters into the gap 4 between the ends of the bead 3 when the cover is applied to the box body, and which is, therefore, so located as to be protected by the bead; and, furthermore, cause the bead to serve as a guard that will prevent injury to the hands of a person handling the box to open it. It will be obvious that inasmuch as the tongue 7 extends into the gap 4, it also occupies a position directly in front of the indentation 5 in the box body wall. Consequently, a knife blade or other sharp implement may be readily introduced into such indentation back of the tongue, and then readily moved upwardly through the upper end of the indentation to a position between the cover flange and the box body wall portion 2'. The implement is then started in a circular course around the box body and, by coming into contact with the inclined end of the bead 3 toward which it is moved, rides readily onto said bead; and thereafter movement of the implement is continued in a circular course around the box body until the cover has been thoroughly loosened from the body wall portion 2', and may be easily separated therefrom.

I claim:—

In a sheet metal box, a body having a wall provided with a bead extending throughout less than the complete circumference of the box body, an end of the bead being inclined inwardly at the gap between the ends of the bead; and a cover having a flange frictionally engaging the wall of the box body above the bead, the said flange being provided with a depending tongue located in said gap.

FREDERICK WESTERBECK.

In the presence of—

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