

F. C. HODKINSON.
CONDUIT FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 16, 1912.

1,055,173.

Patented Mar. 4, 1913.

Fig. 1.

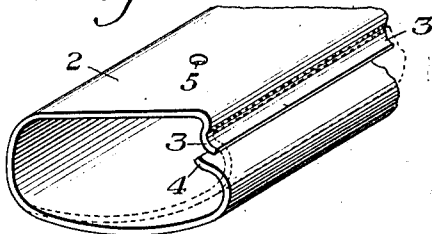


Fig. 2.

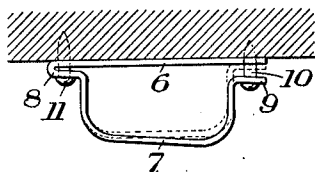


Fig. 4.

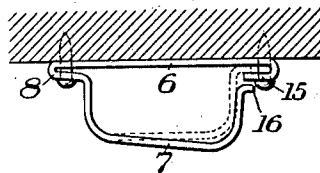


Fig. 3.

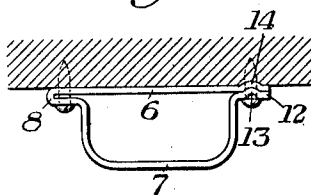
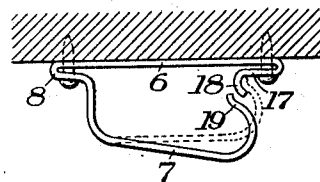


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CONDUIT FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.

1,055,173.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 4, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK C. HODKINSON, a resident of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Conduits for Electric Wires, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a portion of one form of my improved conduit; Figs. 2, 3, 4 and 5 are end views showing different modifications thereof.

My invention has relation to conduits for electric wires, and more particularly to conduits designed for interior use in carrying wires along the outside of a wall or ceiling. The object of my invention is to provide a conduit of this character which can be manufactured at a relatively low cost and which can be quickly installed.

Referring first to that form of my improved conduit which is shown in Fig. 1, the numeral 2 designates a piece of sheet metal which is bent to form the hollow structure shown, the free edges of the sheet being brought into position adjacent each other at one side of the structure and formed, respectively, with the ribs 3 and 4, which are adapted to be sprung or snapped into engagement with each other. The conduit can be attached to the wall or ceiling by screws or the like, inserted through screw seats 5.

In the modification shown in Fig. 2, the conduit is also formed of a single piece of sheet metal, bent or shaped to form the base portion 6 and the cap portion 7, the latter being connected to the base portion at one side by the bend or fold 8, and at its free edge having the outwardly extending lip 9, which is substantially parallel with the base portion and is adapted to be secured thereto by screws 10, placed at suitable intervals. Other screws 11 are used at the opposite side, passing through the fold or bend at 8, and through the base.

The form shown in Fig. 3 is similar to that shown in Fig. 2, except that the lip 12 of the free edge portion of the cap part of the structure is formed with a rib or bead 13, adapted to interfit with a groove 14 of

complementary form in the base portion of the structure.

In the modification shown in Fig. 4, the free edge of the base portion has an inwardly turned lip 15, and the free edge of the cap portion has an outwardly turned lip 16, the latter being adapted to be sprung into engagement with the lip 15, as indicated in dotted lines.

In the modification shown in Fig. 5, the free edge of the base portion is not only formed with an inwardly turned lip 17, corresponding to the lip 15 of Fig. 4, but its free edge is again bent outwardly to form the secondary lip 18. The free edge portion 19 of the cap part of the structure is normally given a bend inwardly with respect to the lip 18, which is adapted to be sprung outwardly into engagement with said lip, as shown in Fig. 5.

My invention provides a conduit for interior use which can be readily and cheaply manufactured from a single piece of sheet metal which can be readily secured in place and which can be readily closed after the wires have been placed therein. The engaging edges can also be readily sprung out of engagement with each other to permit access to the interior of the raceway for inspection or other purposes, without removing the conduit or any part thereof from the place where it is installed.

I do not desire to limit myself to the exact forms of my invention which I have shown and described, since it will be obvious that the uniting edges of the structure may be specifically formed in various other ways so as to be sprung into securing engagement with each other.

I claim:

1. A conduit section of the character described, formed from a single piece of sheet metal bent upon itself to form a laterally closed structure, the free edges of the metal being brought together and formed with inter-engaging hooks, the bend of the metal opposite the hooks affording spring means which tend to maintain the engagement of the hooks; substantially as described.

2. A conduit section of the character described, formed from a single piece of sheet metal bent upon itself to form a laterally

closed structure of oblong form, and having one flat side, the free edges of the metal being brought together and formed with inter-engaging hooks, the bend of the metal opposite the hooks affording spring means which tend to maintain the engagement of the hooks; substantially as described.

3. A conduit section of the character described, formed from a single piece of spring metal bent upon itself to form a laterally closed structure of oblong cross-section and having one side flat, the metal having a reverse inward bend at one end of said flat side, said reversed bend constituting a spring member, the action of which tends to separate the top and bottom portions of the structure; substantially as described.

4. A conduit section of the character described, formed from a single piece of spring metal bent upon itself to form a laterally closed structure of oblong cross-section and having one side flat, the metal having reverse inward bends at the ends of

said flat side, said bends forming laterally extending attaching projections and one of said bends also acting as a spring member, together with means for positively but detachably securing together the free edges of the metal; substantially as described.

5. A conduit section of the character described, formed from a single piece of metal bent upon itself to form a laterally closed structure having a flat base and a body portion inset inwardly from the edges of the base by reverse bends to form laterally extending attaching projections, the edges of the sheet having means for securing them together; substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand.

FRANK C. HODKINSON.

Witnesses:

G. M. VIERS,
H. M. CORWIN.