Dec. 26, 1922. 1,440,233.

J. M. NOEL.

PARCEL POST CONTAINER.

FILED MAY 20, 1921. 3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

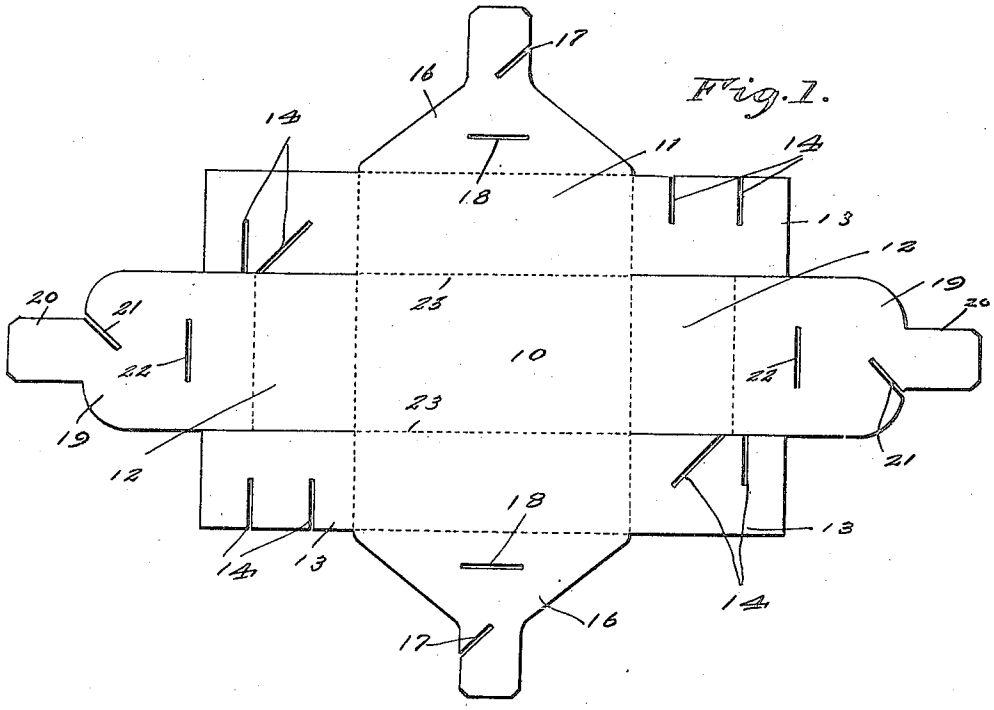


Fig. 2.

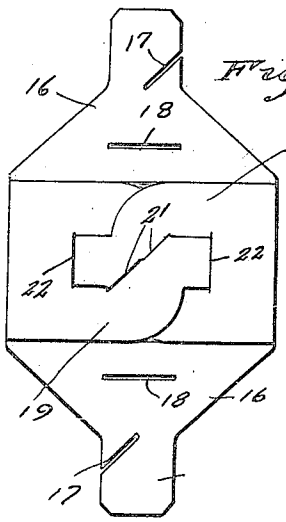
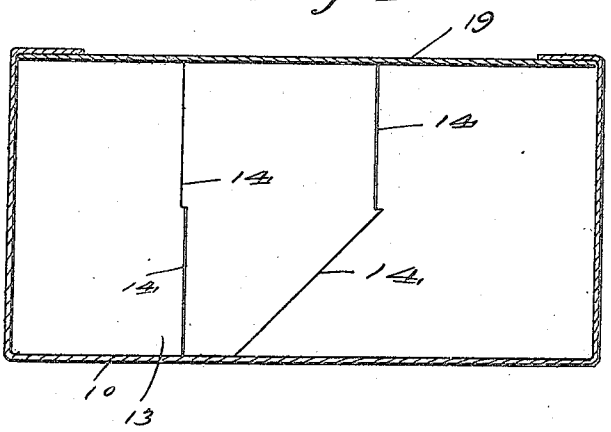


Fig. 4.



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FILED MAY 20, 1921. 3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

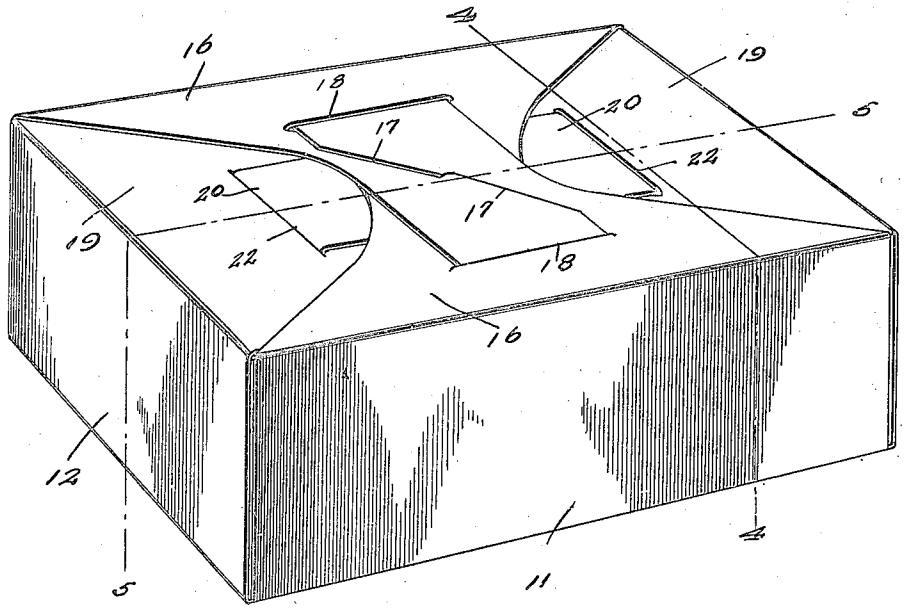
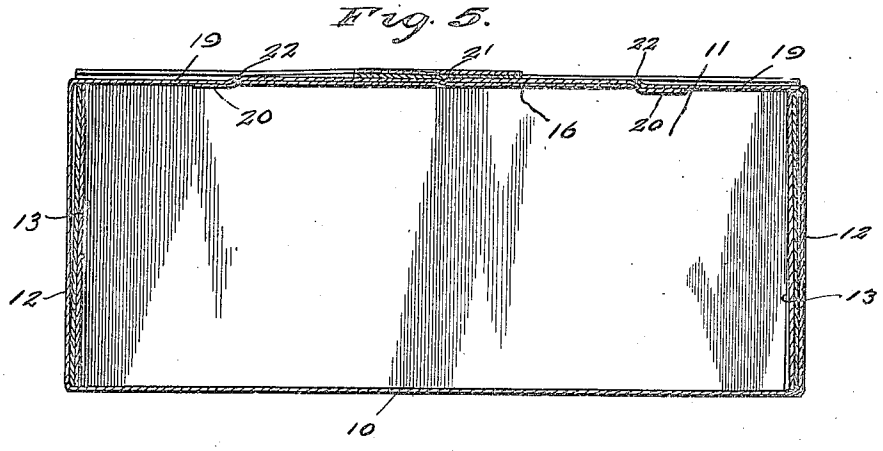


Fig. 5.



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FILED MAY 20, 1921. 3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

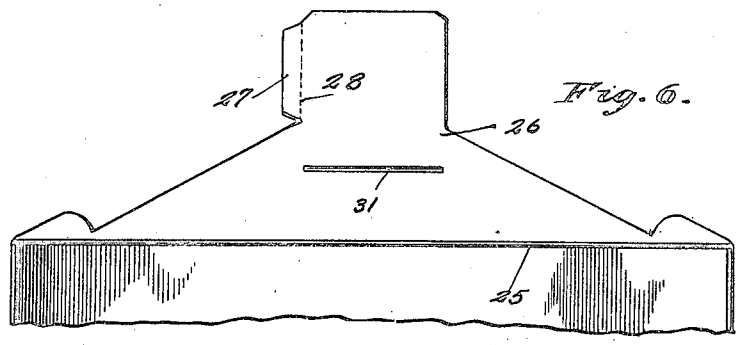


Fig. 6.

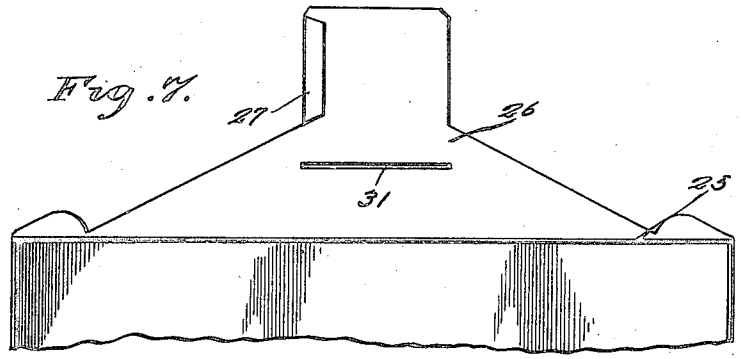


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

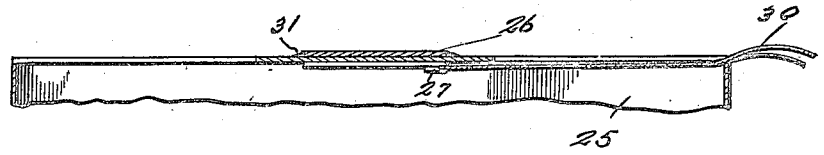
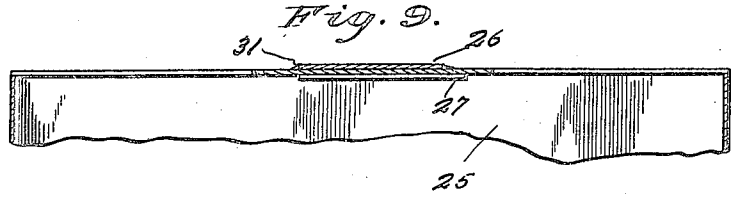


Fig. 9.



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Patented Dec. 26, 1922. 1,440,233

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. NOEL, OF HANNIBAL, MISSOURI.

PARCEL-POST CONTAINER.

Application filed May 20, 1921. Serial No. 471,049.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. NOEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hannibal, in the county of Marion and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Parcel-Post Containers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to collapsible cartons, and comprehends the provision of a carton formed from a single blank of material embodying self locking features, the construction being such as to provide a strong durable carton wherein the parts can be quickly and easily assembled or disassembled as the occasion requires.

The nature and advantages of the invention will be better understood when the following detailed description is read in connection with the accompanying drawings, the invention residing in the combination, construction, and arrangement of parts as claimed.

In the drawings forming part of this application, like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views and wherein:

Figure 1 is a view of the blank from which the carton is formed.

Figure 2 is a view showing the blank partly folded.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the carton.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a similar view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary view of a modified form of the invention.

Figure 7 is a similar view, showing the folded position of the locking strip against the tongue.

Figure 8 is a sectional view showing the locking tongue passed through a slot in the carton, with the locking strip in folded position.

Figure 9 is a similar view, showing the locking strip in its extended position.

Referring to the drawings in detail, and particularly Figure 1, a blank is illustrated from which the carton is formed, the carton including a bottom 10, side walls 11 and end walls 12. The side walls 11 are provided with flaps 13, the flaps of the respective side walls being adapted to be overlapped when the side walls are arranged in parallel relation, constituting a reinforcement for the end walls 12 of the carton. The flaps 13 are slit as at 14, thus providing a construction whereby the adjacent flaps are interlocked as shown in Figure 4. Carried by each side wall 11 is a tongue 16, these tongues being of a length to overlap when the blank is folded to provide a carton, and each tongue is slit diagonally as at 17, the slit of one tongue opening at the side opposite that which the slit opens in the other tongue, so that the tongues can be interlocked as shown. Each tongue 16 is also provided with a slot 18 which receives the free extremity of the other tongue as shown. The end walls 12 are also provided with portions 19 which are arranged at a right-angle to the end walls, the portions 19 being adapted to overlap each other and together with the tongues 16 form a top for the carton. Each portion 19 terminates to provide a locking tongue 20, the tongues being slit as at 21 for interlocking engagement in the manner shown, the free end of each tongue being received by a transverse slot 22 in the other portion 19.

To fold the blank in order to form a carton, the side walls 11 are arranged parallel to each other, and the end walls 12 similarly arranged. The flaps 13 of the side walls are interlocked in a manner above described, these flaps being overlapped and constituting a reinforcement for the end walls 12. The right angularly disposed portions 19 of the end walls are then arranged horizontally in overlapped relation and form a part of the top of the carton, the said angularly disposed portion being interlocked as clearly illustrated in Figure 2 by the slots 21. The tongues 20 are then passed through the slots 22. The tongues 16 of the side walls 11 are then folded toward each other above the angularly disposed portions 19 of the end walls, and the tongues 16 interlock by the slots 17, after which the free ends of the tongues are passed through the slots 18. The construction is such that the blank can be quickly folded for use when desired, or collapsed as the occasion may demand. When folded for use, a substantial and strong carton is produced.

In Figures 6 to 9 inclusive, I have illustrated a modified form of the invention, wherein 25 indicates one of the side walls of the carton above described, the tongue of which is indicated at 26. In this form of the invention, the tongue 26 is provided with a locking strip or element 27 which is

connected with the tongue 26 at one side thereof and is adapted to fold upon the line 28 against one face of the tongue 26 in parallel relation thereto. As shown in Figures 7 and 8, the locking strip 27 is first folded against one face of the tongue, after which the looped end of a flexible element 30 is passed over the locking strip. The tongue 26 is then passed through the slot 31 in the carton in the same manner described in the preferred form of the invention, and after the parts have been positioned in the manner illustrated in Figure 8, the flexible element is drawn out of engagement from said strip, it being understood that the free ends of the flexible element are always maintained exteriorly of the carton for this purpose. When the flexible element is separated from the carton, the locking strip is extended as shown in Figure 9 to lie substantially in the same plane, as that occupied by the locking tongue 26, which prohibits the carton or other container from being opened by unauthorized persons without giving evidence of the fact by mutilating the tongue.

While it is believed that from the foregoing description the nature and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent, I desire to have it understood that I do not limit myself to what is herein shown and described, and that such changes may be resorted to when desired as fall within the scope of what is claimed.

What I claim is:

1. A parcel post container formed from a single blank of material comprising a bottom wall, side and end walls foldably secured to the bottom wall, portions foldably secured to opposite walls and each portion being provided with a slot arranged intermediate of the side edges thereof, a tongue formed on each portion to be inserted through the slot of the opposing portion, and there being an inclined slit provided on each portion adjacent the tongue for interlocking the portions together.

2. A parcel post container formed from a single blank of material comprising a bottom wall, side and end walls foldably secured to the bottom wall, a top wall formed by interlocking members secured to the side and end walls, reinforcement for the end walls including flaps secured to each end of the side walls and some of said flaps being provided with a pair of spaced slits and the remaining flaps being provided with one straight slit and a slot arranged adjacent the straight slit and at an inclination thereto, and said flaps having their respective slits interlocked as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES M. NOEL.