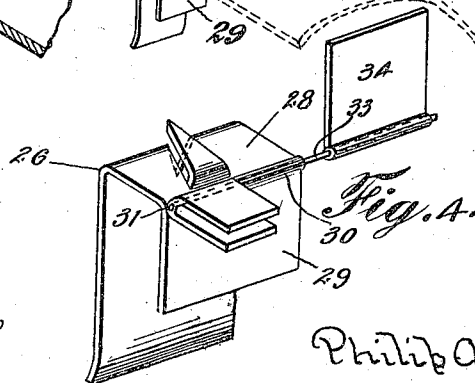
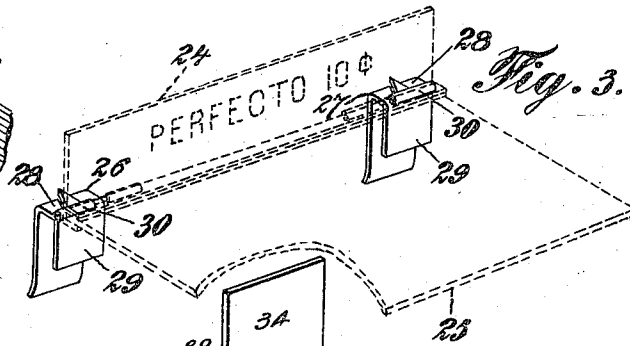
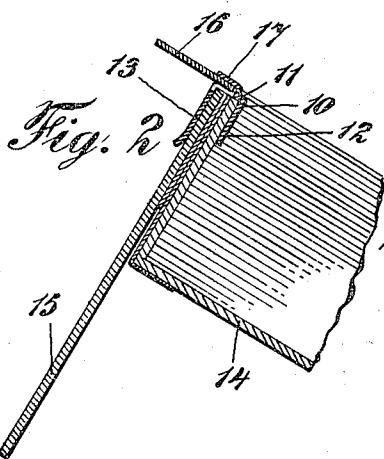
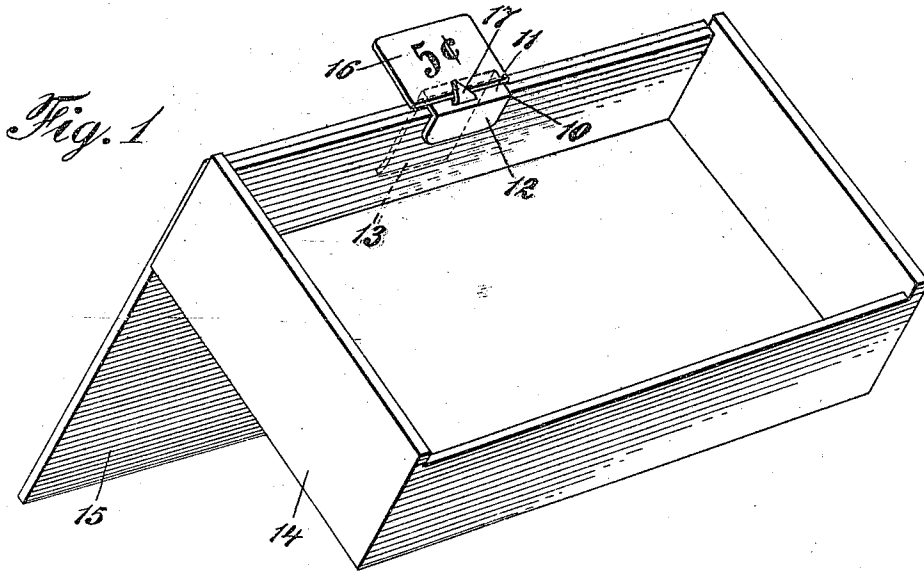


P. A. BECKER.  
 EASEL FORMER,  
 APPLICATION FILED NOV. 13, 1914.

1,237,456.

Patented Aug. 21, 1917.



Witnesses:  
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 By his Attorney  
*H. J. Ciswell.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP A. BECKER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

EASEL-FORMER.

1,237,456.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 21, 1917.

Application filed November 13, 1914. Serial No. 871,957.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PHILIP A. BECKER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Easel-Formers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention relates to a class of devices adapted to be used in conjunction with boxes.

In accordance with the present methods in practice when tobacco products, especially cigars, are displayed for sale it is customary to either remove the lid from the body of the box and place the lid thereunder, or the lid is directed downwardly against the back wall of the box to which it is usually nailed so that the box may be tilted on an incline for display in a show case, or on the top of a counter or the like. When the lid is removed from the body of the box it often becomes accidentally lost, and when the lid is nailed to the body of the box the contents thereof is liable to be damaged by being punctured by the nail.

My invention has for its object primarily to overcome these objections by providing a device, or easel former adapted to be removably applied to a box having its lid disposed downwardly toward the underside thereof whereby the lid will be held in a manner to serve as an easel, and which consists essentially of a straddle bar or an inverted substantially U-shaped body, or plate having a bridging member, and depending from this bridging member are two spaced fingers, or clamping members adapted to engage both the lid and the opposed wall of the box when the plate is guided over the corresponding edges of the box and the lid.

Other objects of the invention are to provide on the straddle bar, or U-shaped plate a clip serving to permit a price tag to be detachably held thereon for display; to form the bridging member of a shape whereby a sign may be fixed thereto; and to provide means adapted to permit a sign and a transparent plate to be hinged thereon.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, the said

invention being more fully described herein- 55  
after, and then pointed out in the claims at the end of the description.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box showing one form of easel former embodying my invention applied 60 thereto.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary sectional view taken through the box and the easel former shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the 65 manner of using a number of the devices when a sign and a transparent plate are hinged thereon, and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged perspective view of the modified form of easel former shown in 70 Fig. 3.

The device, or easel former has a straddle bar, or an inverted substantially U-shaped body or plate 10 to provide a bridging member 11 and two fingers, or clamping members 75 12 and 13 which depend from spaced parts of the bridging member, all of which may be of any suitable size and shape, though the bridging member 11 is preferably substantially rectangular, as shown. The U-shaped 80 plate 10 may be integrally formed by being stamped or bent from a comparatively stiff spring sheet metal, or other suitable material, and the clamping members 12 and 13 are sufficiently spaced apart to permit these mem- 85 bers to be guided over the opposed edges of the body of a box, as 14, and its lid, as 15, after being directed in a downwardly direction against the body of the box, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The lid will then 90 serve as an easel for supporting the body in a tilted position in a show case, or on a counter and the like for effectually displaying the contents of the box, thus obviating the requirement for nailing the lid to the body 95 of the box as well as enabling the lid to remain attached to the body of the box if desired especially when the device is used in conjunction with cigar boxes.

When the device is applied in this manner 100 to a box the bridging member 11 of the U-shaped plate, or body 10 will be disposed transversely of the edges of the body of the box and the lid, and serving as means to allow a price tag, or sign, or the like, as 16, 105 to be detachably mounted on the device, a clip, as 17, is provided. The clip 17 may be of any desired type, but I prefer to make

this clip in the form of a substantially  
 V-shaped finger or tongue which is provided  
 by stamping it from the bridging member  
 11, and bending the tongue upwardly which  
 5 in turn is reflexed crosswise of the bridging  
 member 11 of the plate so as to be slightly  
 spaced thereabove. The price tag, or sign  
 16 is then removably applied to the clip by  
 inserting the edge thereof under the free  
 10 end of the tongue so as to be held between it  
 and the bridging member 11 of the plate 10.

To permit a metal sign, as 24, and also a  
 transparent plate, as 25, to be detachably  
 applied to a box and its lid through the  
 15 medium of one or a number of the devices,  
 or easel formers 26 and 27, a leaf or knuckle  
 30 of a hinge member is attached or formed  
 integral with each easel former at the junc-  
 tion of the bridging member 28 and the de-  
 20 pending member 29. The leaf 31 of said  
 hinge is substantially U-shaped in cross sec-  
 tion and adapted to receive the glass cover  
 for the box. A pin 33 passes through the  
 knuckle 30 and leaf 31 to provide the cus-  
 25 tomary bearing therefor, and this pin is  
 fixedly secured to the clip portion 32 and  
 has a free end portion projecting beyond  
 the edge of one leaf member. Upon this  
 30 free end is fixedly mounted another leaf  
 member 34 adapted to be attached to the  
 sign 24. It will thus be seen that this form  
 of easel holder comprises essentially the  
 body portion having attached thereto a  
 35 knuckle provided with a pin, two leaf mem-  
 bers being fixedly mounted on said pin, one  
 of said members being adapted to carry the  
 glass lid and the other supporting the metal  
 sign. When the transparent plate 25 and  
 40 the sign 24 together with the devices 26 and  
 27 are applied to a box the devices are re-  
 movably mounted on the body of the box  
 and its lid in the same manner as herein-  
 before explained, and the box will be sup-  
 45 ported by the lid in a tilted position, as  
 shown in Fig. 1. The transparent plate  
 will then be disposed to close the open top  
 of the body of the box, and this plate may  
 be swung to open and closed positions by  
 guiding the sign back and forth accordingly

in the way of serving as a handle for the 50  
 transparent plate.

In the foregoing description, I have em-  
 bodied the preferred form of my invention,  
 but I do not wish to be understood as limit- 55  
 ing myself thereto, as I am aware that modi-  
 fications may be made therein without de-  
 parting from the principle or sacrificing  
 any of the advantages of this invention,  
 therefore I reserve to myself the right to  
 make such changes as fairly fall within the 60  
 scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I  
 claim as new and desire to secure by Letters  
 Patent:—

1. A device of the character described 65  
 comprising a U-shaped clip adapted to  
 straddle the side of a box and having the  
 central portion of the bridging part thereof  
 struck up to form a tongue extending sub-  
 stantially at right angles to the said bridge 70  
 portion, the end of the tongue being bent  
 upon itself until it lies in a plane substan-  
 tially parallel with the said bridge portion.

2. A device of the character described 75  
 comprising a U-shaped clip adapted to  
 straddle the side of a box and having the  
 central portion of the bridging part thereof  
 struck up to form a tongue, a knuckle se-  
 cured to one edge of the bridging part, a 80  
 pin passing through said knuckle, and a  
 U-shaped leaf member fixedly mounted on  
 said pin.

3. A device of the character described  
 comprising a U-shaped clip adapted to 85  
 straddle the side of a box and having the  
 central portion of the bridging part thereof  
 struck up to form a tongue, a knuckle se-  
 cured to one edge of said bridging part,  
 a pin passing through said knuckle, a  
 U-shaped leaf member fixedly mounted on 90  
 said pin, and a hinge leaf also fixedly  
 mounted on said pin.

This specification signed and witnessed  
 this twelfth day of November A. D. 1914.

PHILIP A. BECKER.

Witnesses:

ROBT. B. ABBOTT,  
 M. DERMODY.

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