G. W. SMITH.

SHIPPING CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 16, 1914.

1,173,752. Patented Feb. 29, 1916.

FIG. 1.

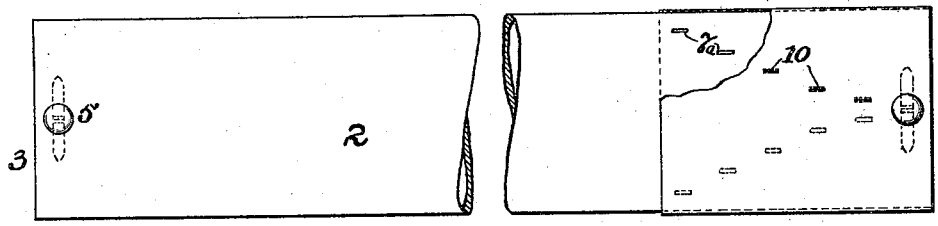


FIG. 2.

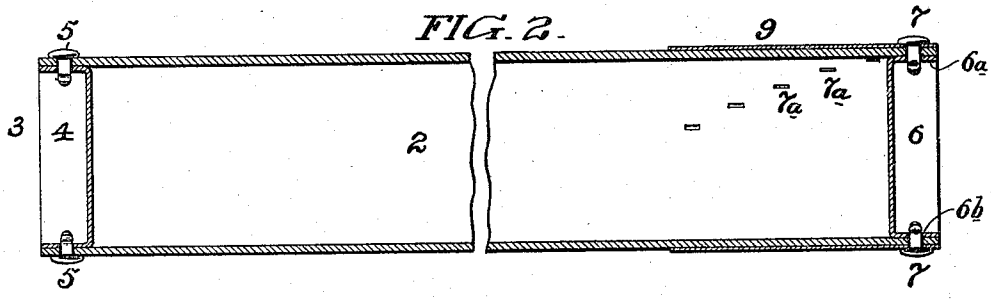


FIG. 3.

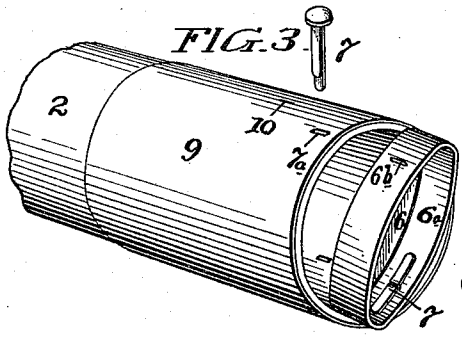


FIG. 4.

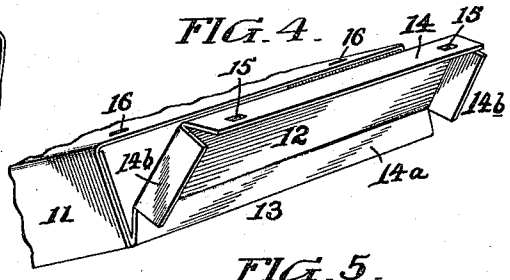


FIG. 5.



FIG. 6.

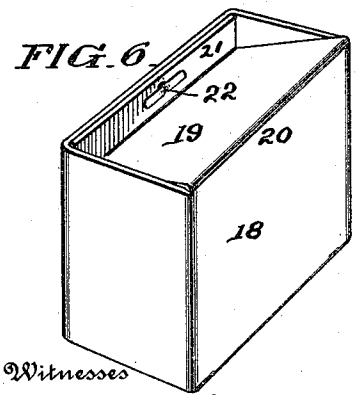
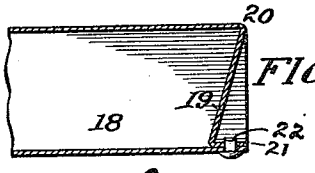


FIG. 7.



Witnesses

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SHIPPING-CONTAINER.

1,173,752. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 29, 1916.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Shipping-Containers, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a construction of case or container which is especially adapted for mailing purposes under the parcels post regulations, wherein goods must be so wrapped or covered as to permit examination thereof; and more particularly, my object is to provide an inexpensive container of paste-board which shall have definite shape, and furnished with a cover portion arranged to be so detachably connected in sealed position that the sealing or locking means will form no obstruction or projection upon the package, and yet permit an easy removal for releasing the cover for examination of the interior contents.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a container body or case with a sealing cover suitably attached thereto, and flanged in such manner as to be depressed within the boundary walls of the case or container, and combined with metallic locking means extending through the outer wall of the case or container and the flanged portion of the cover, and projecting into the space between the cover and the outer boundary edge of the case or container, whereby the said fastener is shielded and so located as not to be unintentionally detached during the ordinary handling of the package in its transmission, the metallic fastener being of such construction that it may readily be withdrawn for allowing the cover to be lifted for purposes of examining the contents, and then easily replaced to positively seal the package.

My invention also consists in providing the case or container in tubular form with sealed ends, one of said ends being sealed by a detachable cover held in position by detachable metallic fasteners and attachable at different depths within the container, said metallic fasteners passing through apertures in the side walls of the container and in outwardly flanged portions of the cover.

My invention also comprehends details of construction, which together with the features above specified, will be better understood by reference to the drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a container embodying my invention (with a portion broken away); Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the same; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one end of the container and its cover, showing the latter in a raised condition for exposing the interior; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modification of my invention in an open condition without the presence of the metallic fasteners; Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the construction shown in Fig. 4 with the cover in sealed condition; Fig. 6 is a perspective view of another modified form of my invention, and Fig. 7 is a sectional view of the same adjacent to the cover end.

2 is the body of the case or container and is shown as formed of a card-board tube which may be made in any suitable manner. This tube is sealed at one end by a flanged disk 4 which may be secured in position in any suitable manner, either by paste or by detachable fasteners 5, such as are known as "McGill" fasteners. This part 4 constitutes the bottom of the container and may be detachably or otherwise formed in any suitable manner, as under ordinary circumstances its removal is not necessary for legal inspection of the contents. The opposite end of the container is provided with a cover 6 which is provided with an outwardly directed flange 6^a, so that when in position within the end of the cointainer, it provides a shallow chamber or space within the maximum length of the package. This cover is detachably secured in place by the McGill fasteners 7 which extend through slots 7^a in the container, and through suitable slots 6^b in the cover. The heads of the McGill fasteners are preferably arranged upon the outer surface of the container, while the shanks extend into the shallow space within the cover and may be bent laterally, as indicated in Fig. 3, to secure the cover in position. If it is desired to examine the contents of the case, it is only necessary to withdraw one of these McGill fasteners and lift the edge of the cover, as indicated in Fig. 3; after which the cover may be replaced and refastened with the same metallic fastener without the least inconvenience. If, for any reason, it is desirable to withdraw the contents, the other metallic fastener may also be removed and the entire cover withdrawn so as to expose the full entrance into the container. As indicated, I have shown a number of apertures 7^a, and to prevent weaken-

ing of the container body by arranging them in the same straight line, I have arranged them on a diagonal, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, so that the cover may be placed to different depths within the container to suit the goods packed and prevent undue looseness. In the more preferred construction, I prefer to cover the end of the container with a paper band 9 pasted in place and having thereon printed marks 10 to indicate the positions of the apertures 7a, so that they may be located in applying the fastener. The use of this paper is a refinement of the general invention, as is also the employment of a plurality of apertures 7a to permit various positions of the cover within the container.

While this container is shown as a cylinder and is more cheaply made in that form, where considerable strength is required, I do not restrict myself to any particular cross section, as will be evident by reference to Figs. 4 to 7 inclusive, showing other forms of my invention. In Figs. 4 and 5, for example, the container 11 is rectangular in form and may be made of paste-board and with the cover 12 so shaped as to be provided with the flanges 14, 14a and 14b, the flange 14a being in this instance shown as integral at 13 with the side of the container, so that it is in effect hinged thereto. The flange 14 is provided with two apertures 15 which aline with the apertures 16 in the side of the container. When the cover 12 is pushed into the open end of the container, the flanges fit up against the sides and ends of the container; and metallic fasteners 17, similar to those before referred to, are pushed through the apertures and the prongs of the fasteners spread to seal the cover in position. In this case, the fasteners are all at one side, but it is manifest that these fasteners may also be applied at other places around the cover, if so desired.

In the particular illustration in Fig. 6, I have shown a construction very closely approximating that of Figs. 4 and 5, but in this case the flanges 14a and 14b have been dispensed with. More specifically referring to Figs. 6 and 7, 18 is a rectangular case or container and 19 is the cover thereof. This cover is an extension of one side of the box and hinged thereto, as at 20. The free end of the cover is turned upwardly to form a flange 21, and this flange is fastened in place against the side of the case or container by a metallic fastener 22 as in the previous cases. By removing the fastener, the cover may be turned upward to expose the interior and may be readily replaced and fastened.

In all of these examples of my invention, the container or body is sealed with a detachable cover which fits down into the body in such manner as to provide one or more outwardly extending flanges and a space outside of the cover and within the external boundary of the container into which the prongs of the metal fasteners may project and be clenched, and thereby shield it against being caught in other packages or bent during transportation so as to release the cover. Broadly considered, I am providing a container with a cover portion having an outwardly directed flange fitting against the side wall of the container and through which side wall and flange a detachable metallic fastener is employed for detachably securing the cover is position; and in all cases, the flange of the cover acts as a shield for the prongs of the metallic fastener. While it is desirable to employ as few fasteners as are necessary, I do not restrict myself to the number of fasteners employed, as one or more may be used as found most convenient and satisfactory to suit the praticular size or character of the package.

While I prefer the well known construction of "McGill" fasteners as the metallic fastening devices, I do not restrict myself to these particular metallic devices, as the metallic means of fastening may be considerably varied to suit the requirements of my invention. In the preferred form, they are means which extend through the flange of the cover and body and are capable of being bent into locking position. Such devices may be made in any suitable manner.

While I have shown my invention in the form which I have found most satisfactory in commercial usage, I do not restrict myself to the minor details, as these may be modified without departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a container for transporting merchandise and permitting its ready examination during transportation, consisting of a body portion having an open end, combined with a cover formed of a transverse part outwardly flanged and said flange fitting against the inner face of the side wall portion of the container, said cover hingedly connected to said side wall portion and of shallow depth so as to be capable of being turned outwardly at one side for examining the contents of the body without disconnecting it, and a separate metallic fastening device extending through the side wall portion of the container and the flanged portion of the cover at a distance from the hinge part of the cover, and bent transversely against the inner face of the flange of the cover to detachably connect this portion of it to the container and normally

hold it against inward and outward movement, said metallic fastening device being located wholly in a transverse plane within the outer boundary of the flange of the cover and end of the container.

2. In a shipping container, a body portion of tubular construction having its side walls formed with a plurality of apertures arranged at different distances from the end, combined with a cover slidably arranged within the container body and having integral outwardly arranged flanged portions fitting against the inner side walls of said container, and detachable metallic fastening devices extending through the apertures in the container body and the flanged portions of the cover and adapted to any of the plurality of apertures for holding the cover in detachable relation within the container body with capacity for adjustment to different depths therein.

In testimony of which invention, I hereunto set my hand.

GEORGE W. SMITH.

Witnesses:
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E. W. SMITH.

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