Jan. 3, 1950 W. A. HEILMANN 2,493,580

HINGE STRUCTURE

Filed Nov. 13, 1947

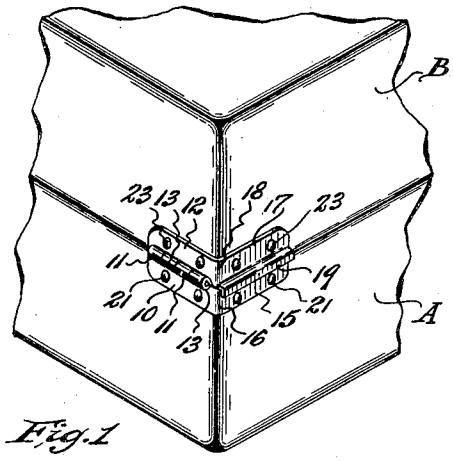


Fig. 1

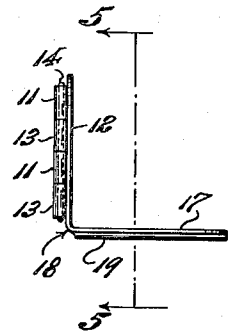


Fig. 3

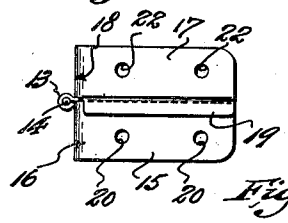


Fig. 4

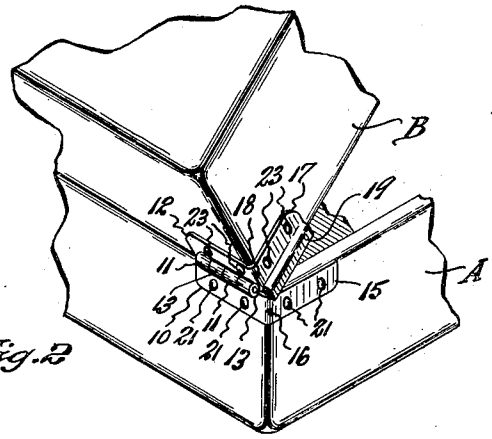


Fig. 2

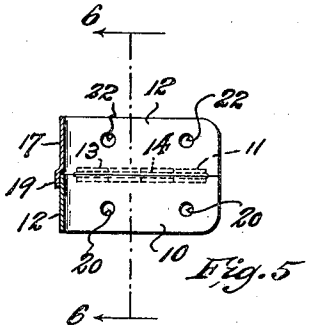


Fig. 5

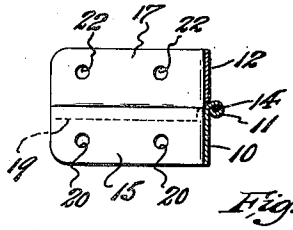


Fig. 6

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HINGE STRUCTURE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 16—167)

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This invention relates to improvements in hinge structures for pivotally connecting the bodies and covers of containers, and especially of containers of the luggage type.

The invention has for an object to provide novel hinge means adapted to pivotally join the body and cover of a container at corners thereof, whereby not only to furnish the desired hinging connection between these parts, but also to serve as corner reenforcements for said body and cover parts, and thus contribute to the strengthening and durability of the container.

Other objects of this invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be understood from the following detailed description of the same.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a container equipped with a corner hinge structure of this invention, the container being shown in closed condition; and Fig. 2 is a similar view, with the container shown in open condition.

Fig. 3 is a top edge elevation, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a corner hinge according to this invention.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5—5 in Fig. 3; and Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on line 6—6 in Fig. 5.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

The novel hinge structure of this invention comprises a lower hinge leaf 10 having hinge knuckles 11 spaced along its upper inner longitudinal edge, and an upper hinge leaf 12 having like hinge knuckles 13 spaced along its lower or inner longitudinal edge, but in staggered relation to the knuckles 11 of the hinge leaf 10 so as to interfit therewith in axial alignment for the reception of a hinge pin or pintle 14, whereby said lower and upper hinge leaves are operatively joined in pivotally interconnected relation.

Formed integrally with the lower hinge leaf 10, to extend rearwardly from an outer end thereof at right angles to the rear face plane of said lower hinge leaf, is a side plate 15. Said hinge leaf 10 and side plate 15, as thus right angularly related and joined provide a unitary lower corner piece 16.

In like manner, formed integrally with the upper hinge leaf 12, to extend rearwardly from its outer end at right angles to the rear face plane thereof, is a side plate 17. Said hinge leaf 12 and side plate 17, as thus right angularly related

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and joined provide a unitary upper corner piece 18.

Provided in connection with the lower or inner margin of the side plate 17 of the upper corner piece 18, preferably as an integral portion thereof, is an outwardly offset and dependent lap flange member 19, which, when the hinge structure is closed, overlaps the outer face of the side plate 15 of the lower corner piece 16, with both seam covering and hinge structure reenforcing effect.

The hinge leaf 10 and side plate 15 of the corner piece 16 are each provided with openings 20 for the reception of fastening means 21, such as rivets, screws or the like, for attaching this one member of the hinge structure to the body A of a container; and, in like manner, the hinge leaf 12 and side plate 17 of the corner piece 18 are each provided with openings 22 for the reception of like fastening means 23 for attaching this other member of the hinge structure to the cover B of a container (see Figs. 1 and 2).

The hinge structures, formed as above described, are furnished in pairs, constituting right and left corner hinges to be respectively mounted upon and secured to opposite corners of the body and cover parts of a container to be served thereby.

It will be obvious from an inspection of Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings that not only will the novel corner hinge structures of this invention pivotally unite the body and cover parts of a container but will, at the same time, also strongly reenforce said parts against relative displacement, and in resistance to injury when the container is transported. The interlocking of the side plates 15 and 17 of the hinge structures by the lap flange members 19 provide additional reenforcing and strengthening of the body and cover parts of the container when the latter is closed.

In addition to the above noted practical advantages of the novel corner hinge structures of my invention, the same also is of novel and attractive appearance when operatively mounted on a container to be served thereby.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

Corner hinge means for pivotally joining cover and body parts of a container comprising a lower corner piece consisting in right angularly disposed unitary hinge leaf and side plate elements, and a complementary upper corner piece also consisting in right angularly disposed unitary hinge leaf and side plate elements, said hinge leaf elements of said corner pieces having hinge knuckles mutually interengaged in axial align-

ment, a hinge pintle extending through said hinge knuckles, and the side plate of said upper corner piece having an outwardly offset dependent lap flange member coextensive with the length thereof and formed with an internal shoulder to abut the upper edge of the outer face of the side plate of said lower corner piece when the hinge means is closed to dispose the lap flange member in overlapped relation to said latter side plate.

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