July 11, 1933. E. D. PHINNEY 1,917,541

CONTAINER

Filed Dec. 19, 1929

Fig. 1.

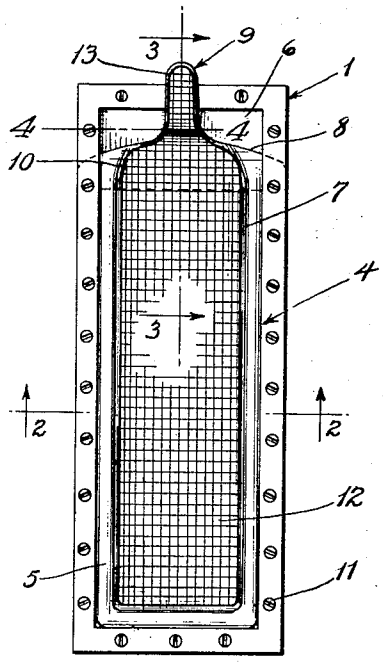


Fig. 3.

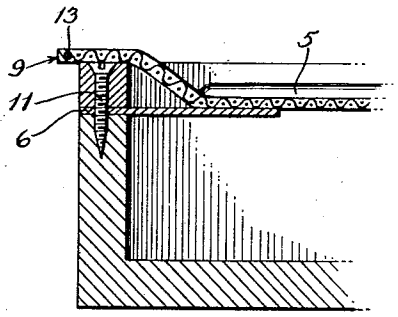


Fig. 4.

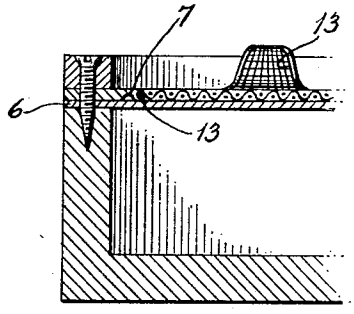
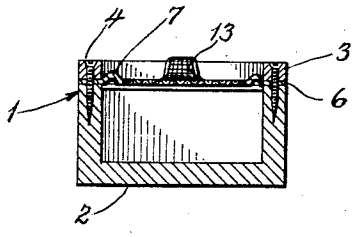


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CONTAINER

Application filed December 19, 1929. Serial No. 415,228.

This invention relates to containers for fire extinguishing apparatus of the type having one side thereof formed with a transparent panel.

It is an object of my invention to provide a container of the type wherein the transparent panel is formed in such a manner and of such material that a fire extinguisher or other emergency equipment may be easily reached without danger to the user.

It is also an object of my invention to provide a container of this type wherein the panel is made of flexible, non-abrasive material having weakening lines thereon, and is provided with a tab in order to allow easy removal of a certain part thereof.

It is a further object of my invention to form a transparent panel of a flexible material having reinforcement intermediate the edges thereof arranged in such a way that when the panel is torn or broken, the part containing the reinforcement will come out in one piece, thus leaving an opening of such a size that the fire extinguisher or other emergency equipment displayed in the container may be easily reached.

According to my invention I provide a fire extinguisher box of the usual type having a frame cooperating therewith, adapted to be tightly secured to one side of the box by screws or other suitable means. This frame serves to clamp a transparent panel against the cooperating part of the box.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention the transparent panel is constructed in two parts, the main part having the same dimensions as the box in one direction and smaller dimensions than the box in the other direction. This panel is narrowed to form a tab at one side in the direction in which its dimensions are smaller than those of the box. On the other three sides it is scored adjacent the point of contact with the frame. The main part may also conveniently be made with reinforcing material intermediate its edges in which case the scoring lines may or may not be made as is found desirable. Secured to the end of the main part on which the tab is formed, but in such a manner as to leave the tab free, is another piece of the same material in order to give the panel the same dimensions in that direction as those of the box.

Another embodiment of my invention the panel is made in one piece and reinforced intermediate its edges. The reinforcing material is narrowed at one end to form a tab which projects from the panel. When the tab is grasped and pulled the reinforced part of the panel will come out as a unit.

The invention will be more fully explained by reference to the drawing in which:

Fig. 1 shows a front elevation of a fire extinguisher box constructed according to my invention.

Fig. 2 shows a horizontal section along the lines 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 shows a vertical section along the lines 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 shows a horizontal section taken along the lines 4—4 of Fig. 1 and shows a slight modification of my invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, 1 shows a container for fire extinguishing or other emergency equipment comprising the main part or enclosure 2 and the cooperating frame 3. The flexible transparent panel 4 is secured between the main part 2 and the cooperating frame 3 by means of screws 11. This panel may be made of some suitable flexible and transparent material, which when it is secured to the box will form a frangible side therefor and which when broken will form non-abrasive edges. The panel 4 consists of two parts 5 and 6. The part 5 has weakening lines 7 thereon and is narrowed at 8 to form a tab 9. The part 6 is cemented or otherwise secured to the inside of the part 5 at the narrowed portion 8 thus giving the panel the required width for the whole length of the box 1. Tab 9 projects slightly beyond the end of the box 1 in order that it may be easily grasped. The weakening lines 7, which may be made in the form either of embossed ridges as shown in Fig. 2 or of score lines in the material as shown in Fig. 4, extend preferably substantially parallel to and a short distance from the inside edges of the box 1 and approach each other

as shown at 10 in order to facilitate tearing or breaking of the panel. When the tab 9 is pulled away from the box 1 the panel will tear along the lines 7 and leave an opening through which the equipment therein may be easily reached.

The part 5 of the panel may be reinforced with some suitable material such as wire mesh 12 embedded therein. If the reinforcing material consists of wire mesh the outside wire 13 thereof may extend parallel and in close proximity to the weakening lines 7 and continue around the tab 9. The edge of the reinforcing material will then be defined by the wire 13 which may be of a slightly greater diameter than the other wires of the mesh in order to weaken the panel along this line to a greater extent. If then the tab 9 is pulled, the panel will tear along the line defined by wire 13. If reinforcing material is used, the weakening lines 7 may be provided or not as desired. This will depend to a certain extent on the thickness of material used.

Because the panel is of flexible material such as celloglass, cellophane or the like, there will be no sharp corners left on the torn edges thereof, to cut or abrade the hands of the operator. The fire extinguisher may therefore be secured very quickly and without danger of cuts from jagged edges of broken glass. A result is that the entire box may be made very small and still be safe to operate. Furthermore, no hammer or other tool is necessary to break the panel.

What I claim is:

1. In a container for emergency equipment, a side formed of a flexible transparent material, weakening lines in said material placed in proximity to the inside edges of said side and a tab near one end of said side to permit easy tearing of said side.

2. A frangible panel for a container comprising a sheet of flexible transparent material having a projecting tab intermediate its edges, and weakening lines running from each side of said tab toward the opposite end of said panel, the area between said weakening lines being reinforced by wire.

3. A closure of flexible transparent sheet material comprising a first part having a second part cemented thereto, said second part having an uncemented tab projecting therefrom, and a portion adapted to hold said second part at one side of said tab so that when said tab is pulled back upon itself said second part separates from said first part and tears itself along a line between said portion and said tab.

4. A closure of flexible transparent sheet material comprising a first part having a second part cemented thereto, said second part having an uncemented tab projecting therefrom, means for holding said second part at one side of said tab, and a weakening line between said means and said tab, so as to insure easy tearing of said second part by a pull on said tab.

5. A container having one side formed of flexible transparent material having wire mesh embedded therein, said embedded wire mesh terminating a short distance from the edges of said side, a tab on said material whereby it may be torn along the parts which are free of wire mesh.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification this 18th day of December 1929.

EDWARD D. PHINNEY.