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H. W. JONES

2,024,227

CONTAINER

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Fig. 1

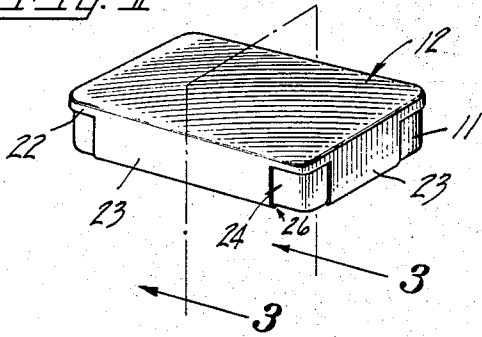


Fig. 2

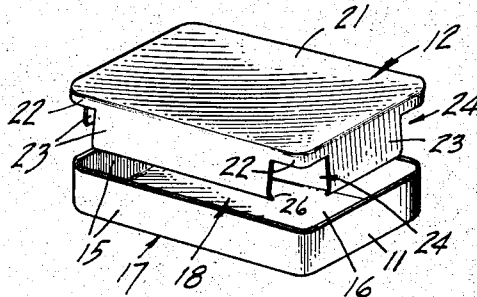


Fig. 3

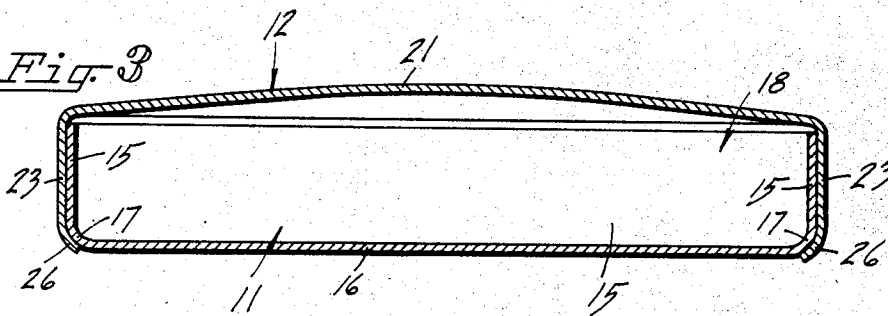
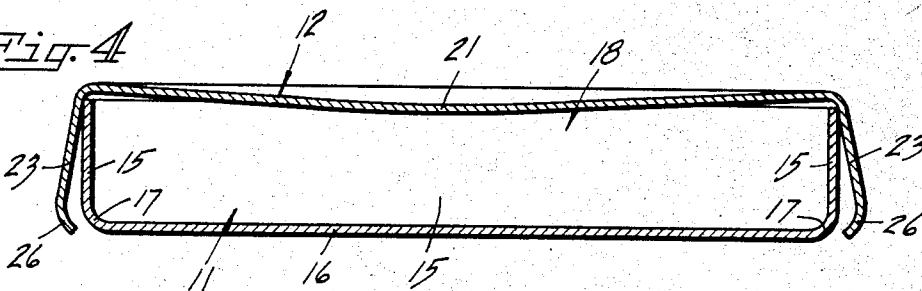


Fig. 4



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CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 220—60)

The present invention relates to containers and has particular reference to snap closure containers of non-circular or rectangular shape.

The invention contemplates the provision of a container or box of rectangular shape having an open mouth which is closed by a snap cover fitting over the mouth and sides and engaging beneath the bottom of the container, the sides of the cover being adapted to be sprung away from the sides of the container to release the cover member for opening of the container.

An object of the present invention is the provision of a rectangular container having a snap closure or cover with a surrounding flange or side wall cut away in part to form flexible fingers for engaging beneath the bottom of the container or box and having a flexible top for springing the fingers into and out of engaging position.

Numerous other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent as it is better understood from the following description, which, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, discloses a preferred embodiment thereof.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a container or box embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 illustrating the parts of the same in released and separated position; and

Figs. 3 and 4 are enlarged transverse sectional views taken substantially along a plane indicated by trace lines 3—3 in Fig. 1, the two views showing the parts in different positions.

The container or box illustrated in the drawing as a preferred exemplification of the present invention comprises a body member broadly designated by the numeral 11 and a cover member generally indicated by the numeral 12.

The body member 11 is rectangular in shape with rounded corners, is preferably drawn from one piece of sheet material and embodies vertical side walls 15 extending up from the bottom wall 16. Sides and bottom are merged in a rounded edge 17 and the top is open, leaving an open mouth 18.

The cover member 12 is used for closing the box and is of the same rectangular shape as the body 11, being slightly larger to provide for a snug fit when in closing position. This cover 12 consists of a flexible top which is surrounded by narrow depending peripheral or side flanges 22 which merge on the four sides into four fingers 23. The center part of the top 21 has two spring positions, one above and one below a plane extending through the edges of the top wall. In the first

position (Fig. 3) the top 21 is bowed outwardly and the fingers 23 are pulled in. In the second position (Fig. 4) the center part of the top is depressed and the fingers are sprung out. This flexing feature supplies the spring tension for moving and holding the fingers in their box closing or box releasing positions.

There is a finger on each side of the cover flange 22 and spaces 24 at the rounded corners of the cover flange separate adjacent fingers and 10 permit their free movements. Each finger terminates in a curved clamping hook 26 designed to snugly engage the body partially beneath the rounded portion 17 thereof when the box is closed.

When the cover 12 is on the body 11 each finger 15 extends down substantially the full length of its associated body wall 15 and when the cover is in closing position the fingers 23 tightly hug the vertical side walls 15 of the body. In this position the curved hook 26 of each finger clamps 20 around the lower body edge 17 and firmly grips the engaged bottom wall 16, the curvature of the clamping hook 26 of each finger corresponding to the rounded edge 17 of the body as illustrated in Fig. 3.

It will be understood that when the cover 12 is placed on the body 11 its top 21 is depressed and its fingers 23 are in their open position with the hooked edges 26 spread apart, this position being illustrated in Fig. 4. After the parts are assembled the cover is locked on the body by side pressure against opposite fingers 23 which by reason of their spring construction lift or snap the top 21 of the cover from its depressed position into its raised and domed position of Fig. 3. To open the 25 container it is merely necessary to reverse the process, that is, press down on the top 21. This causes the fingers 23 to spring out and their hooked ends 26 to unlock from the body edge 17 thereby releasing the grip of the hooks and placing the cover in position so that it may be easily lifted off of the body.

This construction provides a simple, easily opened or closed container or box of rectangular form and one which may be easily manipulated 45 with one hand, the particular shape of the box being adaptable to certain kinds of contents such as pills, tablets, etc., where conservation of internal space is an important feature.

It is thought that the invention and many of its attendant advantages will be understood from the foregoing description, and it will be apparent that various changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the in- 55

vention or sacrificing all of its material advantages, the form hereinbefore described being merely a preferred embodiment thereof.

I claim:

- 5 1. A container comprising in combination, a rectangular body having side and end walls and a bottom wall, and a cover member for closing the body having a continuous depending peripheral flange enclosing the open end of the body and a series of spaced fingers extending downwardly from said flange adjacent opposite walls of said body and to points below the bottom of the body and having hooked ends adapted to engage beneath said bottom wall, said cover having a flexible center portion for springing said fingers completely out of and into engagement with said bottom wall to permit said cover to be lifted from said body.

- 20 2. A container comprising in combination, a non-circular body having side and end walls and a bottom, and a cooperating cover member having a continuous depending peripheral flange enclosing the open end of the body and a series of depending fingers separated from each other by intervening spaces, each finger extending down-

wardly from said flange along and adjacent a side or end wall of said body and terminating in hooked ends adapted for engagement beneath said bottom, said cover having a flexible center portion for moving said fingers completely out of and into engagement with said body to permit said cover to be lifted from said body.

3. A container comprising in combination, a rectangular body member having side walls, an open top and a closed bottom, and a rectangular cover member having a continuous depending peripheral flange adapted to fit over the open top of said body member to close the container and having a depending finger formed integrally with said flange on each side of said cover member, said fingers depending adjacent and normally closely engaging the side walls and terminating in hooked end portions adapted for gripping beneath said bottom, said cover member having a flexible top portion which when pressed inwardly springs said fingers completely away from the sides of said body member to release their gripping action on said bottom to permit said cover to be lifted from said body.

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