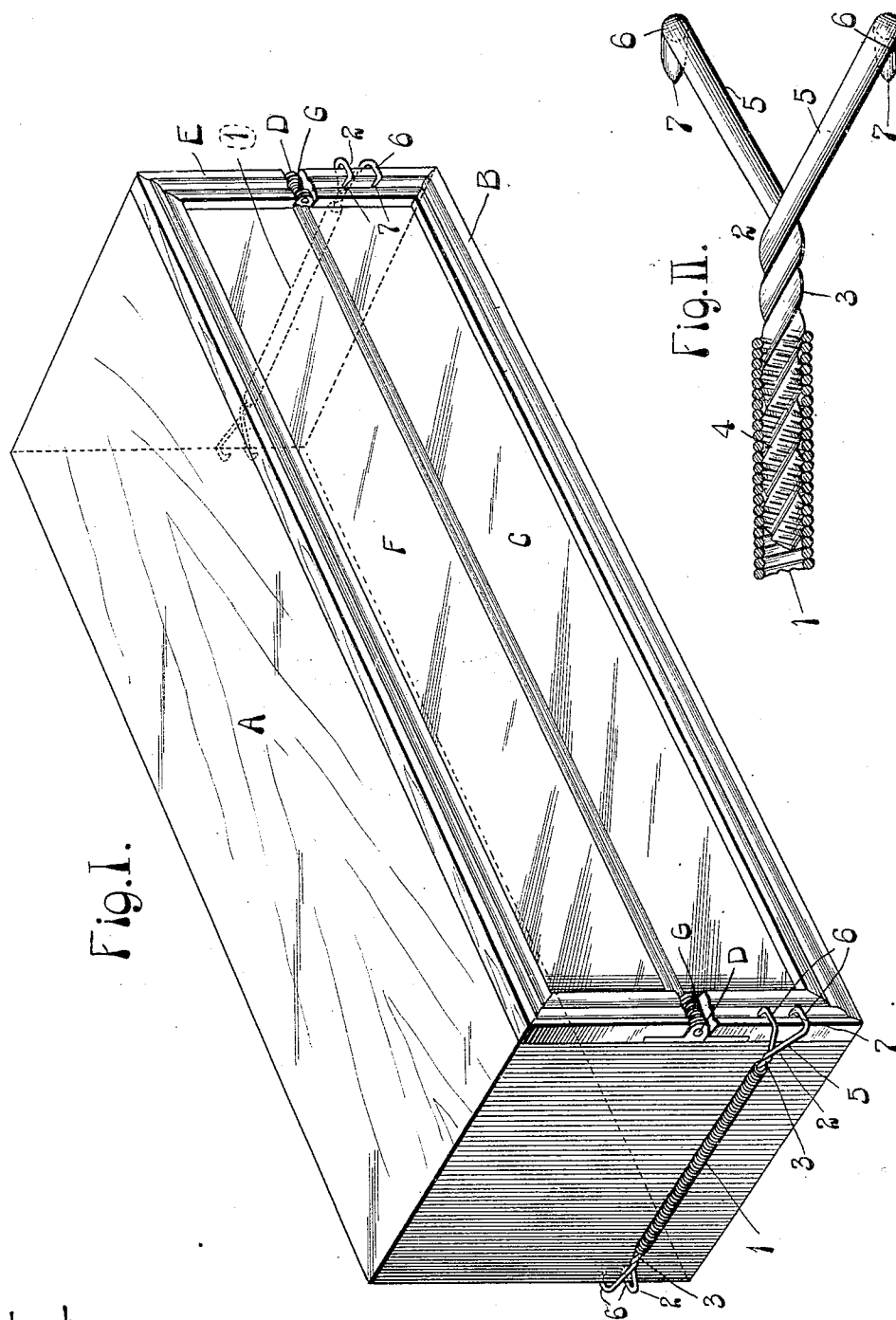


A. F. URBAN.
FASTENER FOR DISPLAY BOX FRONTS.
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955,563.

Patented Apr. 19, 1910.



Attest
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FASTENER FOR DISPLAY-BOX FRONTS.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT F. URBAN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Highland, in the county of Madison and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fasteners for Display-Box Fronts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to a fastener more particularly intended for use in detachably connecting the glass fronts of display boxes in which crackers, or other commodities, are offered for sale and it has for its object the production of fasteners of this description that may be quickly put in place to hold the box front to the body of the box without the use of screws or other similar means of fastening commonly utilized for the performance of the office my improvement is intended to perform.

Figure I is a perspective view of a box with a display front applied thereto and held by a pair of my fasteners. Fig. II is in part an enlarged elevation and in part a longitudinal section of one end of my fastener.

In the accompanying drawings:—A designates a merchandise box with one of its walls removed and to which a display front is applied. The display front shown comprises a lower section B in which is mounted a transparent plate C and to which is hinged at D an upper section E containing a transparent plate F. The hinges at D preferably have associated with them springs G by which the upper section E of the box front is returned to a vertical position after it has been drawn downwardly for access to the box, while the lower section B remains in position against the merchandise box, due to its being held by my fasteners, as will hereinafter appear.

My box front fastener comprises an expansible and contractible spring 1, which is preferably of coiled type and end grip, or claw, members 2 that are secured to spring 1 at its ends. Each grip or claw member is preferably produced from a single piece of wire bent centrally of its ends and formed into a twisted shank 3 that extends from the fold of the wire to a point intermediate between said fold and the free ends of the wire. The shanks 3 are inserted

into the spring 1 at its ends to be held therein by the engagement between the coils of the spring and the twisted shank, and to render the engagement of the coils with the shank more perfect, I preferably groove each shank spirally, or produce screw threads thereon, as seen at 4, Fig. II, in which the coils of the spring 1 become seated when the shanks 3 are introduced into the spring. The free ends of the gripping or claw members 2 which extend beyond the shanks 3 are bent laterally from the shanks, thereby producing diverging arms 5. At the outer ends of the diverging arms 5 are claws 6, each of which is bent at a right angle to the body of the arm by which it is carried, and is then bent backwardly to produce a prong 7 that extends parallel with the spring 1. It will be noted that this construction provides a pair of claws with backwardly extending prongs in each gripping or claw member and that, when the spring 1 is extended and then allowed to relax, the prongs will be caused to move toward each other by the contraction of the spring, with the result that the prongs of each gripping or claw member will move toward the other members of the gripping or claw member.

When my box front fastener is to be put into service, it is only necessary to place the display front, such as that shown in the drawings, of a merchandise box at the upper side of the box, then place one of the gripping or claw members in engagement with the rear wall of the box, or the portion of the box front that is to be held to the box, after which the other gripping or claw member is moved into engagement with the rear wall or display front, a movement that is permitted by expansion of the spring 1, and upon the force utilized to expand said spring being relaxed, the spring, by contraction, causes the gripping members to be drawn into firm engagement with both the rear wall of the box and the box front to hold the box front to the box. It will be apparent that inasmuch as the prongs of the gripping members are pointed, said prongs are caused to become embedded in the parts against which they fit, and consequently there is no liability of slippage of the gripping members relative to said parts, after the fastener has been put in place.

I claim:

1. A box front fastener, comprising a spring and a pair of gripping members se-

cured in the ends of said spring and each provided with a pair of claws.

2. A box front fastener, comprising a spring, and a pair of gripping members secured in the ends of said spring and each provided with a pair of claws, the claws terminating in backwardly extending prongs.

3. A box front fastener, comprising a coiled spring, and a pair of gripping members having shanks seated in the ends of said spring and terminating in claws.

4. A box front fastener, comprising a spring, and a pair of gripping members, each having a shank seated in an end of said spring and having diverging arms extending from said shank and provided with claws.

5. A box front fastener, comprising a spring, of a pair of gripping members, each having a shank seated in an end of said spring and having diverging arms extend-

ing from said shank and provided with claws; the claws being provided with rearwardly extending prongs.

6. A box front fastener, comprising a coiled spring and a pair of gripping members each comprising a twisted shank seated in said spring, and a plurality of gripping arms extending from said shank and having claws extending at angles from the bodies of the arms.

7. A box front fastener, comprising a coiled spring and a pair of gripping members, each comprising a shank seated in said spring and having a screw thread engaged by the coils of said spring, and a pair of claw arms extending from said shank.

ALBERT F. URBAN.

In the presence of—

LOUIS KNOEBEL,

CHAS. G. HAGNAUER.