F. EBERHART.

SHEET METAL TOBACCO BOX.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 11, 1908.

928,951. Patented July 27, 1909.

Fig. 1

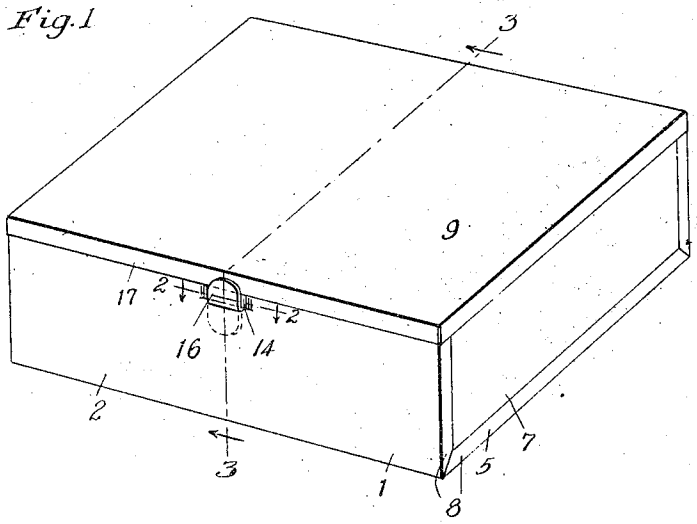


Fig. 2

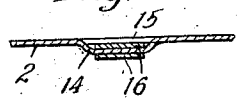


Fig. 3

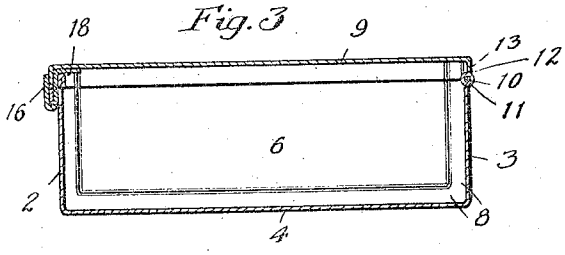


Fig. 6

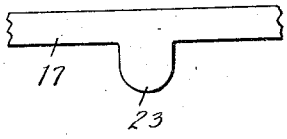


Fig. 4

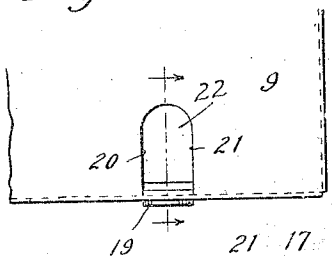
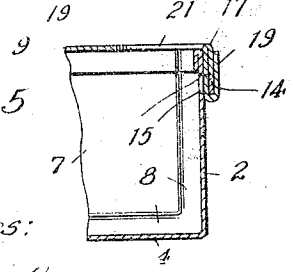


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FELIX EBERHART, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO AMERICAN CAN COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

SHEET-METAL TOBACCO-BOX.

No. 928,951 Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 27, 1909.

Application filed January 11, 1908. Serial No. 410,411.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FELIX EBERHART, a citizen of the United States, residing in New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sheet-Metal Tobacco-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in sheet metal boxes for holding tobacco, cigarettes, cigars and other articles.

The object of my invention is to provide a sheet metal box of a strong, simple and durable construction, having a hinged cover and capable of being cheaply manufactured, and having means for securely locking or holding the hinged cover in its closed position, and which at the same time will permit of its being readily, conveniently and repeatedly opened and again securely closed.

My invention consists, essentially, in a sheet metal box having on the front of the body near the upper edge thereof opposite the hinge of the cover, an integral outwardly projecting loop or keeper through which a flexible tongue, depending from the front flange or rim of the cover, may pass as the hinged cover is closed and then be outwardly and upwardly bent about such lock or keeper so as to securely hold or lock the cover in its closed position, while at the same time adapting the box to be readily, conveniently and repeatedly opened by simply again straightening out the upwardly and outwardly bent flexible tongue.

My invention further consists in the novel construction of parts and devices and in the novel combinations of parts and devices herein shown and described.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sheet metal box embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a horizontal section through the body on line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a vertical section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a detail plan and Fig. 5 is a detail vertical sectional view illustrating a modification, in which the flexible bendable tongue on the cover is made integral therewith; and Fig. 6 is a detail view illustrating a further modification in which the tongue is integral with the cover.

In the drawing 1 represents the body of the box, the same comprising, preferably, two upright sides 2, 3, integral bottom 4, said sides 2, 3 and bottom 4 having integral right angle flanges 5 at the ends thereof, and two separate piece upright sides 6, 7 fitting within the integral flanges 5 on the upright sides 2, 3 and bottom 4.

The separate piece sides 6, 7 are preferably secured to the integral bottom 4 and upright sides 2, 3 by interfolding the meeting edges into seams 8.

9 is the hinged cover secured to the upright side 3 by a pintle 10 which extends through integral hinge ears 11, 12 on the body of the box at the rear, and on the integral flange or rim 13 of the cover 9 at the rear thereof. Except at the hinge edge of the cover the integral flange or rim 13 of the cover overlaps and embraces the upper end of the box body.

The box body at the front or upright side thereof opposite the hinge of the cover is provided near the upper edge thereof with an integral outwardly projecting loop or keeper 14 formed by horizontal slits 15 in said upright front side of the body and outwardly offsetting the narrow strip or portion of the metal between such slits. This outwardly projecting integral loop or keeper 14 thus forms with the upright side of the box body a narrow slot through which a thin flexible tongue may pass which fits outside the upright side of the body and flat and snugly against the same.

The hinged cover 9 at the front edge thereof is provided with a thin flexible sheet metal tongue 16 projecting downwardly or parallel to the depending front rim or flange 17 of the cover and adapted to pass through the integral loop or keeper 14 on the body of the box as the hinged cover is closed. The flexible tongue 16 on the cover after being thus passed through the loop or keeper 14 fits on the outside of the front of the box body, and its lower end may then be readily bent outwardly and upwardly about or around the loop or keeper 14, thus securely locking or holding the hinged cover in place in its closed position, while at the same time binding the upper front edge of the body to the front edge of the cover, so that the one serves to reinforce the other.

The flexible tongue 16 is preferably made in a separate piece from the cover 9 and furnished with a right angle bend 18 soldered, riveted or otherwise secured to the cover on the inside thereof. This enables the flexible

tongue to be made of thinner and more readily and repeatedly bendable sheet metal than that ordinarily desired for use in making the cover 9 of the box. If preferred however the bendable tongue may be made integral with the cover 9, as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 and 6. For example, by cutting it as an integral lip from the upper portion of the cover, as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 of the drawing where the bendable tongue 19 is formed by the slits 20, 21 in the top portion of the cover and the slit portion bent down parallel with the depending front flange or rim 17 of the cover. This leaves an opening 22 in the top of the cover which is useful for purposes of ventilation of the contents of the box in cases where the same is of a character requiring such provision.

In the modification illustrated in Fig. 6 the flexible tongue 23 projects integrally from the lower edge of the front flange or rim 17 of the cover 9.

I claim:

1. A sheet metal box comprising in combination a rectangular body having at the front side thereof near the upper edge two parallel slits, and an outwardly projecting integral keeper loop between said slits, and a rectangular hinged cover having at its front edge opposite the hinge of the cover a depending flange overlapping the front side of the body, and provided with a flexible, bendable tongue fitting within and embraced by said flange and projecting below the lower edge of said flange and fitting outside the body of the box and passing through said keeper loop as the hinged cover is closed, said tongue closing the openings formed by said slits and being outwardly and upwardly bent about said keeper loop to lock and hold the cover in its closed position, substantially as specified.

2. A sheet metal box, comprising in combination a rectangular body having at the front thereof near its upper edge, parallel slits and an outwardly projecting integral loop or keeper, and a hinged rectangular cover having at its front edge opposite the hinge of the cover, a flexible tongue adapted to fit outside the body of the box and pass through said loop or keeper as the hinged cover is closed, and closing the openings formed by said slits, and to be outwardly and upwardly bent about said loop or keeper to lock or hold the cover in its closed position, said flexible tongue being in a separate piece from the cover and secured thereto on the inside of the front rim thereof, substantially as specified.

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