Dec. 19, 1922. 1,439,450.

C. E. SCOTT.

INTERLOCKING JOINT FOR CONTAINERS.

FILED AUG. 19, 1921.

Fig. 1.

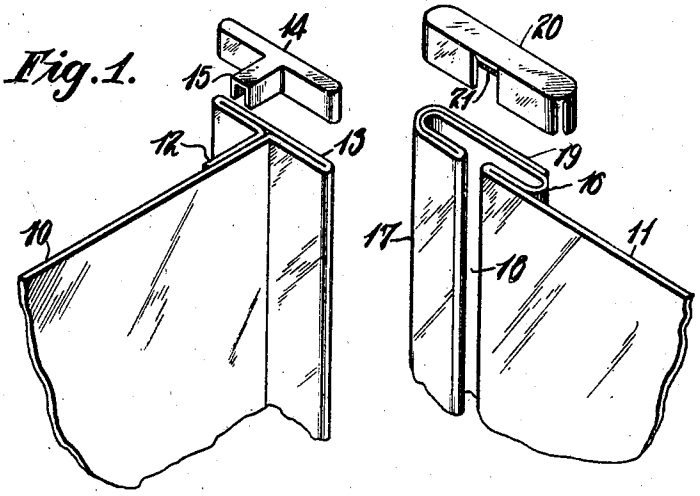


Fig. 2.

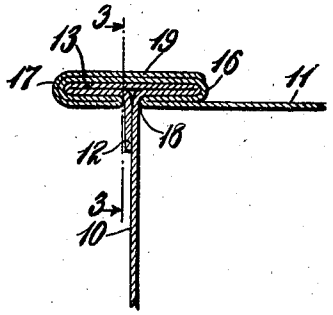
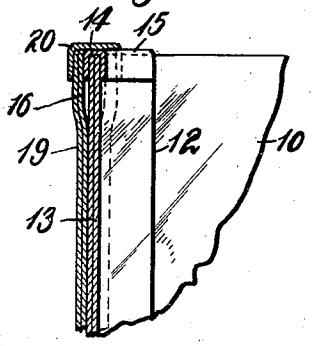


Fig. 3.



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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. SCOTT, OF DERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

INTERLOCKING JOINT FOR CONTAINERS.

Application filed August 19, 1921. Serial No. 493,633.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. SCOTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Derry, in the county of Derry and State of New Hampshire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Interlocking Joints for Containers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to improvements in containers and particularly to the manner of construction of sectional containers.

The primary object and purpose of the invention is to provide improved means of joining together a number of container sections to form a receptacle, the said sections being so joined as to be separable, one from another to permit the taking apart of the container for convenience in packing and shipping.

An additional object is to provide a container of separable sections adapted to be joined together by a slot and slide arrangement at the joints whereby, when assembling, the sections may be telescoped one within the other, to provide a substantially firm, leak-proof joint.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the above character that is simple in construction, strong and durable and which it is believed may be manufactured at a reasonably low cost.

Various other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the continuance of the following description.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view disclosing the manner of applying the invention, the parts being shown in separate and disconnected relation.

Figure 2 is a horizontal cross section through a corner or joint of a receptacle constructed in accordance with the invention, and,

Figure 3 is a vertical cross sectional view through the corner or joint of the receptacle.

In the drawings, 10 and 11 respectively designate the end and side walls of a container which may be constructed of any suitable material, preferably metal, best adapted for the purpose in view.

While only one end of each wall of the container has been illustrated in the drawing it is to be understood that both ends are similarly constructed and hence the following description applies to the construction of the joint of each corner or adjacent ends of the container section.

A T-head is formed at each end of container section 10 preferably by folding end portion 12 to provide the laterally extending wings 13 extending vertically on opposite sides of the section and at one end as shown in Figure 1. To retain the folds of the T-head in place, a retaining cap or holding member 14 is provided which consists in an elongated head member adapted to fit down over the lateral extensions and carrying a centrally projecting portion 15 which fits over end 12 of the section and the adjacent portion of the latter as shown in Figure 3 of the drawings. This cap is held in place by frictional engagement with the section-flap and also by the resiliency of the latter which tends to keep them expanded against the inner walls of the folding member, thereby securely retaining the latter in place thereon.

Section 10 has its opposite end provided with oppositely disposed folded portions 16 and 17 extending transversely of the section and spaced apart by an opening 18 whereby a T-slot is provided to receive the T-head of section 10. One end of section 17 is extended rearwardly of the T-slot, as shown at 19, and serves as a reinforcement for the slot-forming fold which is obvious.

When assembling the sections together, the T-heads at the end sections are inserted in the T-slots of the side sections and slid downwardly therein until the top and bottom edges of the two sections are mutually flush.

Each end section has the cap 14 attached thereto prior to being inserted in the slots of the side sections and after being relatively positioned, the sections are ultimately locked together by means of an outer hood or cap 20 constructed as shown in Figure 1 and designed to fit down over and around the T-slots for holding the T-heads firmly therein. The outer cap or hood is slotted as indicated at 21, which slot is in alignment with opening 18 of the T-slot and enables the outer cap to fit down over central portion 18 of the inner cap for retaining member 14.

It will thus be seen that the sections are relatively locked by a slot and slide arrangement and that the joints are so formed as to preclude any possibility of leakage through or around the joined sections.

For convenience in packing or shipping the containers in large quantities, they may

be easily dismantled into their component parts by simply removing outer cap 20 from each joint and subsequently disengaging the sections by sliding the T-head upwardly of the slot. The sections may then be packed in convenient bundles and in large quantities without occupying an undue amount of shipping space.

From the foregoing it is believed that the advantages and novel features of my invention will be readily understood and therefore further detailed description is deemed unnecessary.

What is claimed is:

1. A sectional container embodying sections adapted for relative engagement, some of said sections having end portions folded upon themselves to provide laterally extending folds adjacent opposite ends of the sections to provide T-heads thereon, the other of said sections having opposite end portions folded upon themselves to provide T-slots for the reception of the T-heads of the other sections, a retaining cap engageable over the folds of the T-heads and serving to retain the latter as folded, and an outer or locking cap insertable over the folds of the T-slots for locking the T-heads therein.

2. In a container, end walls respectively provided with a T-head at each vertical edge, side walls respectively provided with a T-slot at each vertical edge, a retaining member slidably engaged in each T-slot and presenting a centrally projecting portion fitting over the T-head of an end wall to provide a joint between the said end and side walls, said retaining member being held in place by frictional engagement with wall of the slot, and a locking member at each slot or joint presenting a hood arranged to fit over and around the T-slot of the joint for holding the T-head firmly therein, said hood being slotted to accommodate the said centrally projecting portion of the said retaining member.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES E. SCOTT.