To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. LEIGHTON, a citizen of the United States, residing in South Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sardine-Cans, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates in general to hermetically sealed containers having a tear-off bottom, as for example, sardine cans and the like, and as the invention is hereinafter described in connection with a sardine can it will be manifest that it has a much wider application and can be used effectively and efficiently in containers for numerous other materials.

A principal object of this invention is the provision of a can for sardines and the like which may be effectually and economically constructed with a double seam at the top, obviating thereby the necessity of closing the filled can with a soldered seam.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a container of this character which will have a tear-off bottom instead of a tear-off top.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a container having a body of drawn sheet metal, a part of which has been cut away and re-secured in place by a frangible seal.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent as it is better understood from the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing illustrating a preferred embodiment thereof.

On the drawing:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a container body before the bottom of the same has been cut away in accordance with my invention;
Fig. 2 is a section through the same;
Fig. 3 is a top plan view after the bottom part has been cut away;
Fig. 4 is a section through the same;
Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the edges about the cut-away bottom bent inwardly slightly;
Fig. 6 is a similar view showing the edges bent in completely to provide a flange upon which the cut-out bottom may be seated and soldered;
Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view showing the bottom placed upon the turned edges;
Fig. 8 is a central section through the same;
Fig. 9 is an enlarged detail section taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 7; and
Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the can and showing the key in place.

In accordance with my invention a sardine can body having side and end walls 21 and 22 and bottom wall 23 is drawn in the usual manner, an outwardly extending flange 24, later to be formed in a double seam, being provided. The bottom wall is depressed through its central part at 25, the edge of said depression being spaced inwardly an appreciable and even distance from the adjacent side and end walls except at one corner at 20, where the edge of the depression is spaced farther inwardly toward the can center. The entire bottom is first cut away as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4 and this cutaway bottom is later secured in place by a frangible connection, as will now be described. The bottom edge 30 of the body 28 thus left is bent inwardly first, as indicated in Fig. 5 at 29, and then as indicated in Fig. 6 at 31, to provide finally a flat inwardly extending flange about the opening formed in removing the bottom. The provision of this flange materially reduces the size of opening so that the bottom may be laid upon these flanges, as indicated at 32 in Fig. 8. One lower corner of the body 28 is pressed inwardly at 33 and the flange 31 extends about the entire opening including this inwardly pressed corner, the parts being finally so constructed that the depression 25 fits in the space formed within the flange. The point indicated at 20 in Fig. 1 of the bottom, rests inwardly at the depression 33, the corner of the cut away bottom at this point forming a tongue 34 adapted for engagement by a key 35, as will be apparent from the drawing. The parts so formed are soldered together to form a frangible seal, the solder 36 being laid upon the flange 31 and the bottom held thereupon to secure it in place. The top 37 is seamed at 38 on the flange 24 at the top, the top having an appropriate flange 39 for engaging the flange 24.

It will be manifest that the can thus con-
structured and embodying my invention may be made by the can maker and shipped to the packer who need only apply the cover with a double seamer when the filled cans are ready for this operation.

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

I claim:

1. A drawn sheet metal container for sardines and the like, having a sealing flange at its open top edge and an inwardly extending bottom flange, and having its bottom soldered to said bottom flange of the body, a portion of the body wall being bent inwardly near the bottom to allow a portion of said bottom to project in the form of a tongue, for ripping off said bottom to open the filled and closed can.

2. A drawn sheet metal container for sardines and the like, having a sealing flange at its open top edge and an inwardly extending bottom flange, and having its bottom formed with an inset panel fitting within the edge of the bottom flange of the body and being soldered to said bottom flange, a portion of the body wall being bent inwardly near the bottom to allow a portion of said bottom to project in the form of a tongue, for ripping off said bottom to open the filled and closed can.

3. A drawn sheet metal container for sardines and the like, having a sealing flange at its open top edge and an inwardly extending bottom flange, and having its bottom formed with an inset panel fitting within the edge of the bottom flange of the body and the part of the bottom outside of said panel being soldered to said bottom flange, a corner of the body wall including portions of two side walls being bent inwardly near the bottom to allow a corner of said bottom to project in the form of a tongue, for ripping off said bottom to open the filled and closed can.

4. A sardine can having a drawn body, one end of said body being flanged outward and the other end being flanged inward, a bottom secured to the inwardly flanged end having an area equal in extent to the opening in said body before it is inwardly flanged, and a portion of the body wall being bent inwardly to permit a portion of said bottom to project in the form of a tongue.

Signed in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE A. LEIGHTON.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH SMITH,
L. PURCELL.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the “Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C.”