June 6, 1939. A. B. BARNES 2,160,816

CONTAINER

Filed Oct. 14, 1936

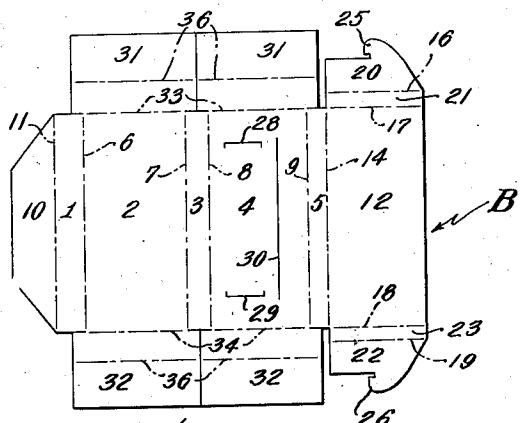


Fig. 1.

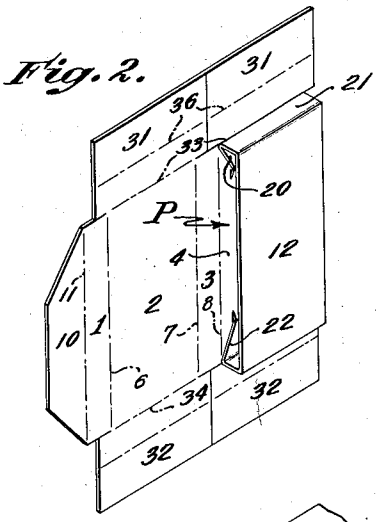


Fig. 2.

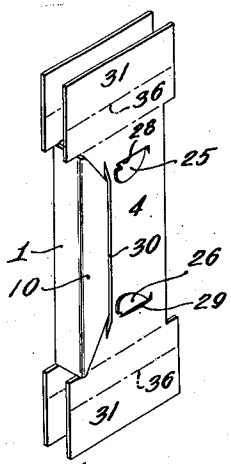


Fig. 3.

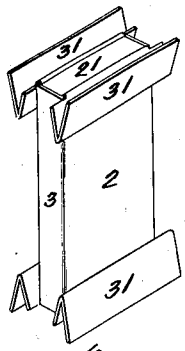


Fig. 4.

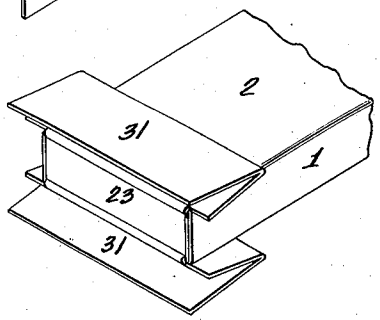


Fig. 5.

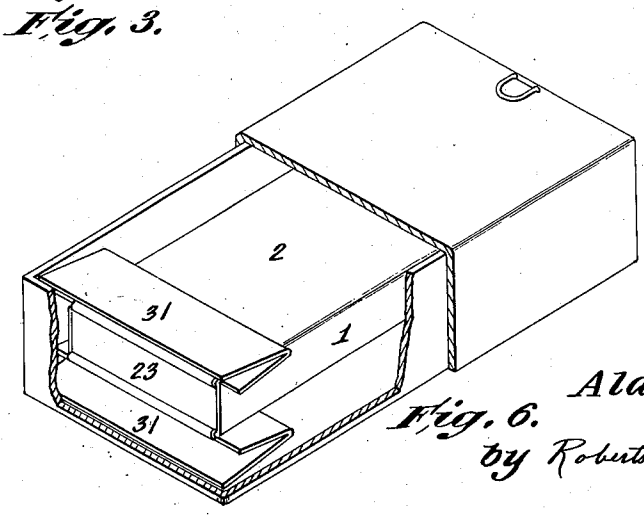


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,160,816

CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 229—14)

This invention relates to containers, and more particularly to a container adapted to hold eyeglasses or other fragile articles within a shipping carton so as to avoid breakage or damage thereto.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a container of the aforementioned type, which is of simple construction, inexpensive to manufacture and easy to assemble, and which is so constructed that it may be supported within a carton so that its walls are spaced from those of the carton, thereby overcoming any danger of breakage or damage to its contents when the carton is subjected to the shocks and impacts encountered in transit.

Further objects will be apparent from the following description and accompanying drawing, wherein

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a blank used in making a container in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a partially formed container;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the completed container, but showing the supporting flaps before being folded inwardly;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, but showing the supporting flaps folded inwardly;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the arrangement of the supporting flaps with relation to the container proper; and

Fig. 6 is a perspective view, with parts broken away and shown in section, showing the manner in which the container is supported in a carton.

The particular embodiment herein shown is designed for holding eyeglasses and accordingly its shape is such as to provide a shallow pocket adapted snugly to receive a pair of eyeglasses or other similarly shaped article, but it is to be understood that the shape of the container may be varied in accordance with the particular type of article to be carried thereby.

Referring to Fig. 1, the blank B is cut, stamped or otherwise formed from a suitable piece of sheet material, such as fiber board, so as to provide areas 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 separated by score lines 6, 7, 8 and 9. The outer longitudinal edge of the area 1 is provided with an integral locking flap 10 defined by a score line 11, and the corresponding edge of the area 5 is provided with a flap 12 defined by a score line 14. The opposite ends of flap 12 are divided by score lines 16, 17, 18 and 19 into areas 20, 21, 22 and 23, the areas 20 and 22 being formed with locking tongues 25 and 26. The areas 2 and 4 are of the same size and shape and constitute opposite outer walls of the container, whereas the areas 1, 3 and 5 are of gradually decreasing width and constitute the intervening side walls. The area 12 is of slightly less width than that of areas 2 and 4 and constitutes an inner wall, whereas the areas 21 and 23 are of the same size and shape and constitute the end walls of the container.

The area 4 is formed with spaced transverse slits 28 and 29 adapted to receive the tongues 25 and 26, and a longitudinally extending slit 30 adapted to receive the flap 10. The opposite ends of areas 2 and 4 are provided with supporting flaps 31 and 32, separated from the ends of these areas by score lines 33 and 34. Each of the flaps 31 and 32 extends transversely beyond the score lines defining the longitudinal edges of areas 2 and 4 and each is provided with a score line 36 so that it may be easily folded upon itself, thereby to define a spring-like supporting element integral with one of the side walls, as shown in Figs. 4 and 6.

In assembling the container the flaps 20 and 22 are folded inwardly along the lines 16 and 19 and the end walls 21 and 23 are folded inwardly along the lines 17 and 18. The inner wall 12 and side wall 5 are then folded inwardly toward the bottom wall 4 along the lines 14 and 9, respectively, and the tongues 25 and 26 are then inserted in the slits 28 and 29, respectively, thereby forming a pocket P for the reception of eyeglasses or other similarly shaped article, as shown in Fig. 2.

After having inserted a pair of eyeglasses or other fragile article within the pocket P, the areas 1, 2 and 3 may then be folded inwardly along the lines 6, 7 and 8 so that the areas 1 and 2 overlie the areas 5 and 12, respectively, and when thus disposed the flap 10 may then be inserted into the slit 30 in the bottom wall 4, as shown in Fig. 3, and the supporting flaps 31 are folded upon themselves along the line 36, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

When the container is inserted within a shipping carton C (Fig. 6), having a length preferably slightly greater than that of the container and in width substantially equal to that of the supporting flaps 31, the top, bottom and side walls of the container are held in spaced relation to the corresponding walls of the carton C by the supporting flaps 31 which engage the junctions of the top, end, and bottom walls of the container. As these flaps obviously are more or less resilient, the entire container is yield-

ingly supported so that shocks and impacts received by the carton C are not transmitted to any great extent, if at all, to the container and its contents. Moreover, as the supporting flaps hold the walls of the container spaced from those of the carton C, the latter may be crushed appreciably without danger of subjecting the walls of the container to crushing forces.

In the embodiment herein shown the flaps 10, 25, 26, etc., are provided to hold the parts in folded position, this particular form being advantageous in that all parts of the container may be formed from a single blank, but it is to be understood that the use of interlocking tongues, flaps, etc., may be dispensed with and the parts held in position by any suitable means such as a gummed tab, wire staples or the like. Furthermore, although the supporting flaps preferably are integral with the walls of the container, it is to be understood that, if desired, they may be separately formed and attached to or assembled about the container in any suitable manner so as to provide a supporting means for holding the container in spaced relation to the walls of the carton, as illustrated in Fig. 6.

I claim:

1. A container for a fragile article, adapted to be inserted within the carton, said container comprising an enclosed tubular member for holding said fragile article, and a pair of oppositely disposed flaps integral with each end of said tubular member, each of said flaps being folded upon itself so as to define a spring-like element having free end portions extending transversely beyond and projecting outwardly of the longitudinal edges of said tubular member, said flaps being engageable with the adjacent walls of said carton so as yieldingly to support said tubular member in spaced relation to said walls.

2. A container for a fragile article, adapted to be inserted within the carton, said container comprising an enclosed tubular member for holding a fragile article, and a pair of oppositely disposed flaps integrally joined to each end of said tubular member, each of said flaps being folded upon itself so as to define a spring-like element having free end portions projecting transversely beyond and outwardly from the end of said tubular member, said flaps being engageable with the adjacent walls of said carton so as yieldingly to support said tubular member in spaced relation to said walls.

3. A container for a fragile article, adapted to be inserted within the carton, said container consisting of a single piece of sheet material folded to provide integral side and end walls and resilient flaps integral with opposite side walls, each of said flaps being folded upon itself and projecting transversely beyond and outwardly of the ends of said side walls, said flaps being engageable with the adjacent walls of said carton so as yieldingly to support said side walls in spaced relation to those of said carton.

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