July 2, 1935. R. E. ZERUNEITH 2,006,530

METHOD OF SEALING CARD BOARD BOXES

Original Filed April 23, 1931 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

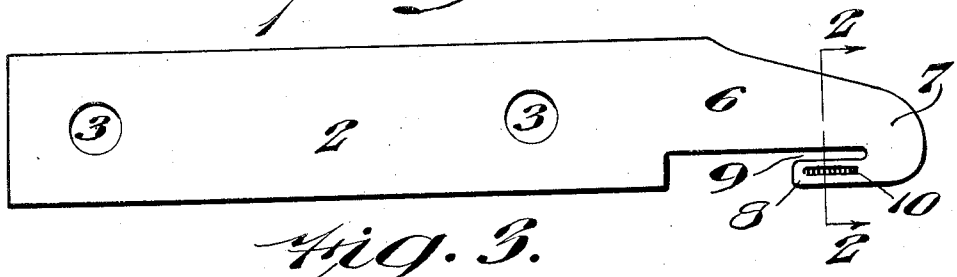


Fig. 3.

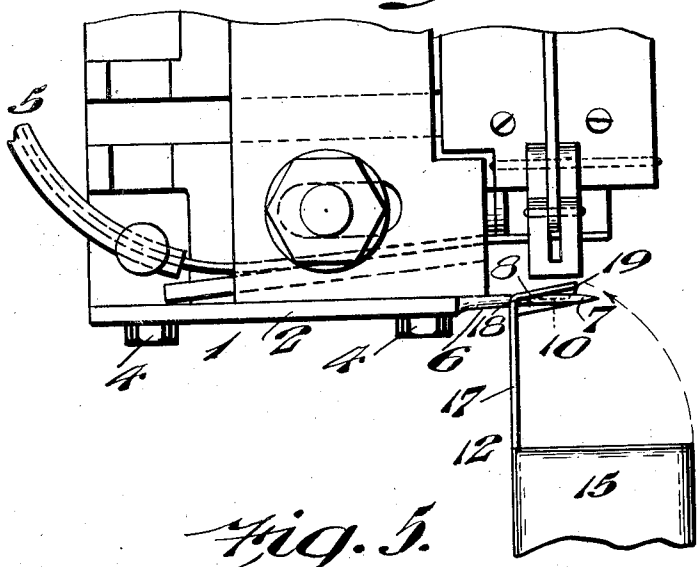
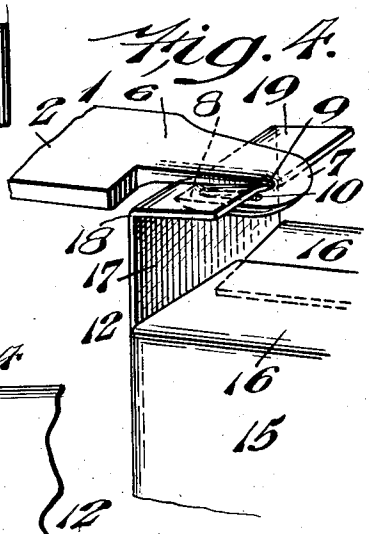


Fig. 2.



Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.



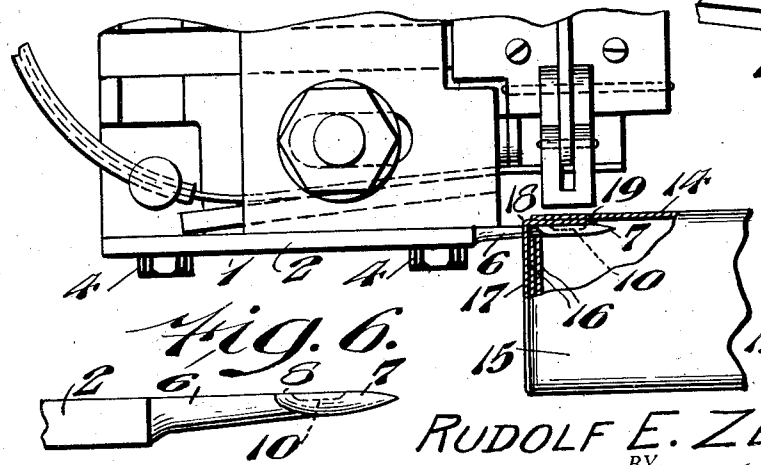


Fig. 6.

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METHOD OF SEALING CARD BOARD BOXES

Original Filed April 23, 1931 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

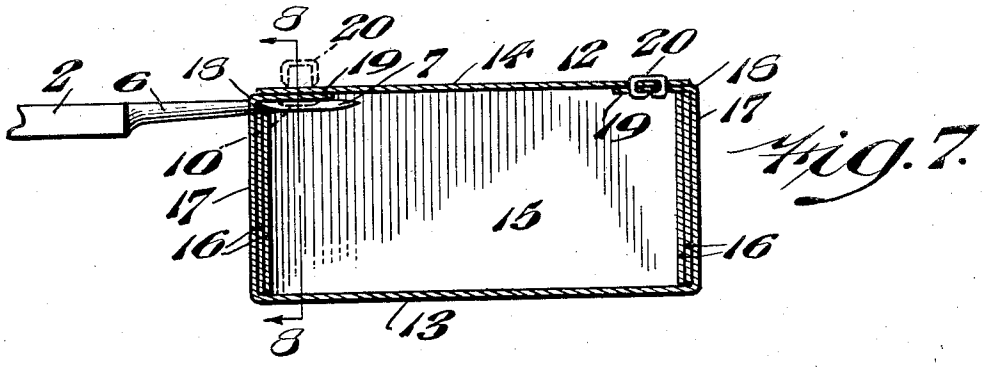


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

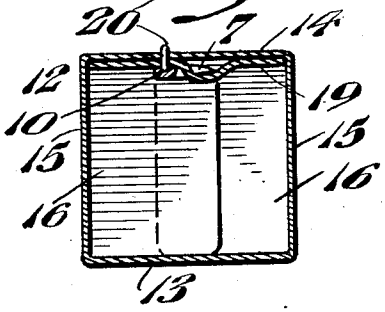
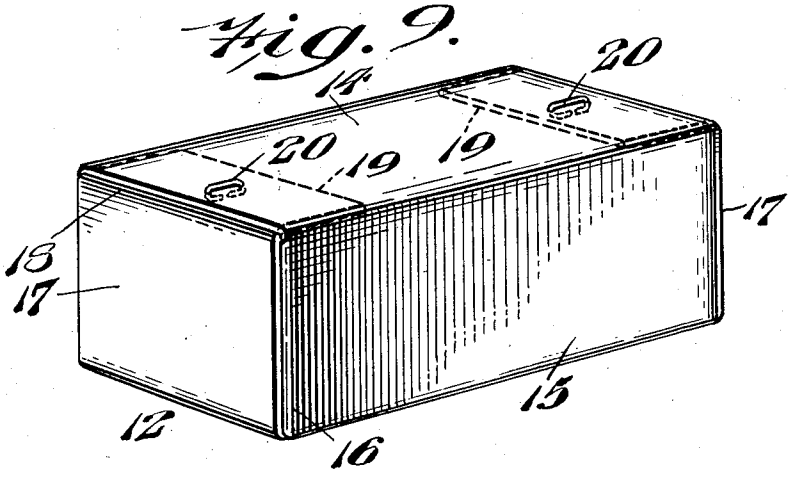


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,006,530

METHOD OF SEALING CARD BOARD BOXES

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Application April 23, 1931, Serial No. 532,382
Renewed September 7, 1933

2 Claims. (Cl. 93—42)

My invention relates to a new and useful method of sealing card board boxes after the boxes have been packed and closed, in such a manner as to prevent the unauthorized exchange of the contents of the package.

As an illustration of the purpose of my invention, I will refer to the conventional package used for shipping radio tubes from manufacturers to dealers, which boxes consist of a generally rectangular package having suitable cushioning stuffing and containing radio tubes. When a purchaser returns a defective tube to the dealer or when the customer "trades in" a set of tubes, the dealer, unless he is scrupulously honest, will withdraw the new tubes from the original packages and put the returned or "traded in" tubes in said packages with a view of passing such tubes on to an unsuspecting, less discriminating or ignorant customer. This substitution of imperfect goods is by no means limited to radio tubes and is more or less prevalent in other fields also.

I have therefore devised a novel method which consists of setting up or forming a folding card board box, placing the desired goods in the box, turning in or folding the end tabs which close the end openings of said box, engaging an end flap which is adapted to overlap the end of the box with a bifurcated member which supports the flap while a stitch is driven through the top of the box and said flap.

My invention further consists of various other novel features of construction and advantage all as hereinafter described and claimed in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view on an enlarged scale of an anvil blade used in carrying out my invention.

Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are fragmentary views illustrating various steps forming part of my novel method.

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the right hand portion of Fig. 1.

Figure 7 represents a longitudinal vertical sectional view showing a box, one end of which has been stitched, and illustrating the process of inserting a stitch on the other end of said box.

Figure 8 is a section on line 8—8 of Figure 7.

Figure 9 is a perspective view of a box sealed according to my novel method.

Referring to the drawings in which like reference characters indicate like parts, 1 designates an anvil blade embodying my invention and comprising a body portion having the holes 3 for the reception of bolts 4 whereby the blade may be secured to a wire stitching machine 5. The blade 1 is provided with the tapered flattened head 6, which is bent upon itself as at 7 to form the stitch supporting and deflecting member 8 which is separated from the head 6 by the slot 9 and which is provided with the concaved recess 10 hereinafter further referred to.

12 designates a card board box comprising the bottom 13, the top 14 and the side walls 15. The ends of the box are closed by tabs 16, which form extensions of the side walls 15 and are folded across the open end of the box. The end flaps 17 are extensions of the bottom 13 and are creased at 18 to form the flaps 19 which are inserted between the upper edges of the tabs 16 and the top 14 of the box 12. The object of the present invention is to put a staple 20 through the portion 19 of the end flap 17 and the top 14 of the box as will be seen from Figs. 7, 8 and 9. The staple 20 must be driven from the outside and, obviously, it must be driven after the box has been completely assembled and the ends closed. To accomplish this, I insert the edge of the flap portion 19 into the slot 9 of the anvil blade with the flap portion 19 passing under the head 6 and over the anvil blade member 8 as will be best seen from Fig. 4. With the flap portion thus engaged, the box 12 is swung in the direction of the arrow in Fig. 3 to insert the head 6 of the anvil blade 1, carrying the flap portion 19 between the edges of the end tabs 16 and the top 14 of the box as will be seen from Fig. 5. A stitch 20 is then formed by the stitching machine 5 and is driven through the top 14 and the flap portion 19 of the box. The free ends of the wire or staple from which the stitch 20 is formed are deflected by impact with the concaved slot 8. After the stitch is made the box is manipulated to release the flap portion 19 from engagement with the slot 9 of the head 6 of the anvil blade 1.

By this method the radio tube or other object is first put into the box 12, the end flaps 16 are turned in to close the ends of the box and then the end portion 19 of the end flap 17 is engaged by the slot 9 and inserted in place to receive the stitch 20 from the stitching machine 5. Once so stitched it is impossible to withdraw the end flap 17 to remove the contents of the box without tearing the top of the box at the stitch or tearing the end flap 17 at the crease 18 and in either event the box is so destroyed as to be of no value for further use. It will thus be seen that I have devised a new method of sealing boxes by stitching the end flaps thereof after the box has been completely formed and that I have pro-

duced a novel box which is sealed after it is packed and in such a manner as to prevent its further use after it is once opened, thus preventing the unauthorized or surreptitious exchange of the contents of said box.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. The method of closing an open ended folding container having side walls, end tabs adapted to close the open end of said container and an end flap adapted to overlap said end tabs and to have the terminal thereof inserted between the edges of said tabs and the juxtaposed wall of said container, which consists in engaging said terminal in a slotted, flat anvil blade, inserting said anvil blade and said terminal between the edges of said tabs and the juxtaposed wall of said container so that said terminal lies against the underside of said juxtaposed wall, driving a stitch through said juxtaposed wall and said terminal and finally disengaging said terminal from said anvil blade.

2. The method of closing an open ended folding container having side walls and an end flap adapted to be folded over the open end of said container and to have the terminal thereof inserted within the open end of said container, which consists in engaging said terminal in a slotted flat anvil blade, inserting said anvil blade and said terminal into the open end of said container so that said terminal lies against the under side of the juxtaposed wall of said container and finally driving a stitch through said juxtaposed wall and said terminal.

RUDOLF E. ZERUNEITH.