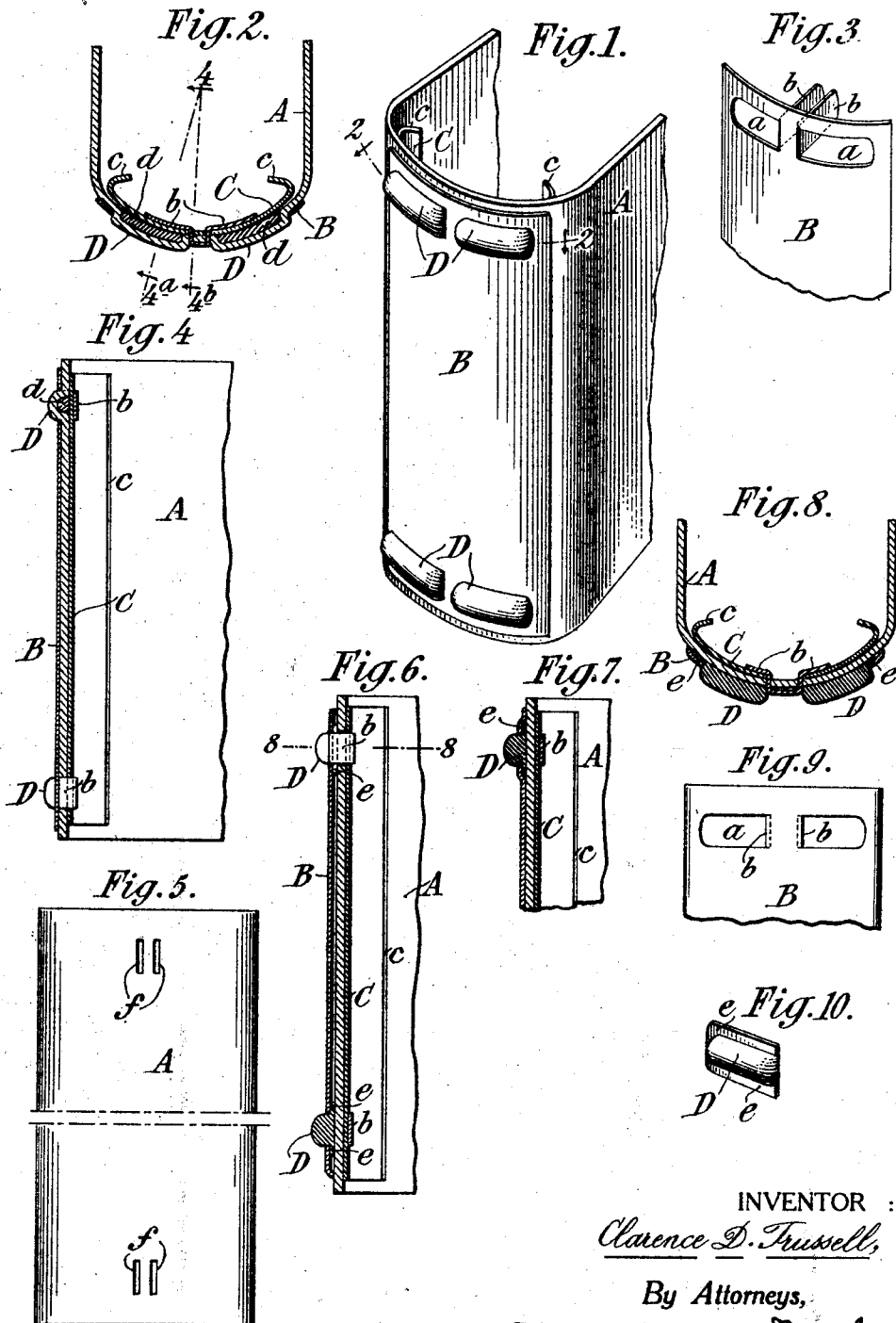


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COVER FOR LOOSE LEAF BOOKS
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COVER FOR LOOSE-LEAF BOOKS.

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This invention relates to book covers especially adapted for loose-leaf books or other forms of temporary binders. It is particularly adapted for such books as are to be used on desks where it is desirable to insure that no hard or metallic portion of the book back shall come in contact with the desk so as to be liable to scratch it. To accomplish this object the book cover having a metallic back plate is provided with projecting pads of leather or other soft material, which, when the book is opened upon a desk or other highly polished surface, will keep the hard metallic portions out of contact with such surfaces.

Suitable embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the back portion of a book cover.

Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof taken generally on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective of a portion of the outer metallic plate.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the back, the upper part being on the line 4—4^a, and the lower part on the line 4—4^b in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a rear view of the cover alone, the metal back plate being removed.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section similar to Fig. 4, but showing a slightly different construction.

Fig. 7 shows a slight modification of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a horizontal section on the line 8—8 in Fig. 6.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary view of the metal back plate.

Fig. 10 is a perspective showing one of the pads used in Figs. 6, 7 or 8.

In the drawings A designates in general the book cover, B an outer back plate which will preferably be of metal, and C an inner plate preferably of resilient metal, and which serves in a loose-leaf book as the means for connecting the rings or other loose-leaf binding means to the book. Such an inner spring plate is commonly formed with in-turned or hooked flanges *c, c*, which, between them, embrace yieldingly the binding devices, as is well understood. It is common to clamp the back of the cover between the outer plate B and inner plate C by means of

any suitable fastening devices extending through the cover back. Such fastening devices are commonly made in the form of ears turned up from the outer metal plate passing through slits in the book back and clinched down so as to embrace the inner metal plate. In Fig. 3 such ears are shown at *b, b*, being punched out from the plate so as to leave openings or slots *a, a*.

According to the present invention the slots *a, a* which are necessarily formed when the ears *b, b* are struck up from the metal of the outer plate B are utilized as the means for applying projecting cushions D, D of suitably soft material which pass through these slots and project beyond the outer surface of the back plate, as shown in Fig. 1. These cushions D, D may be made of leather, rubber or any suitably soft material. They may be either integral with the book back or distinct therefrom, as may seem most desirable in any given instance.

When the cover A is made of leather or of artificial leather or of any suitably flexible material, the cushions D, D may be formed integrally with the cover back, as shown for example, in Figs. 1, 2 and 4. In this construction the leather opposite the slots *a, a* is crimped or corrugated so as to thrust it outwardly through these slots, as best shown in Fig. 4. This may be best accomplished by inserting a filling piece *d* on the back of the leather opposite each slot *a*, these filling pieces being shown in section in Figs. 2 and 4. They may be of leather, metal or any suitable material. The leather may be forced through the slots to form the projecting cushions D by subjecting it to pressure when either wet or dry, and the filling pieces *d* may be applied at that time or subsequently, as preferred. In assembling the parts the outer and inner plates B and D are to be pressed together tightly by any suitable clamping means, and the ears or tongues *b, b* turned from the position shown in Fig. 3 to their downturned or clinched position, as shown in Fig. 2, whereby to hold the plates clamped tightly together.

A suitable alternative construction is to form the cushions D separately from the cover, as shown for example, in perspective in Fig. 10, where the cushion is shown as molded with a rounded contour and surrounded by a thin flange *e* for facilitating

its clamping in place. With this construction it is only necessary to push the cushions through the slots *a, a* of the back plate from its inner side, leaving their flanges *e* lying against the inner side of the back plate, whereupon the back plate and inner plate are clamped together by turning down the ears *b, b* in the manner already described. This results in the construction shown in Fig. 6, which is shown in transverse section in Fig. 8. This construction leaves a space between the plate B and cover back, as indicated in Fig. 6. Instead of this, the back plate may be bent inwardly so as to lie close against the cover back except where it coincides with the flanges *e*, this construction being shown in Fig. 7.

The cover A may be of leather or of fabricoid or other form of artificial leather or of any suitable fabric, and may be of one single piece or of two or more plies, or may be built up by the use of stiffening boards for the cover sides covered by the external fabric, as is the common construction in book-binding; or any other construction of the cover including its back and sides may be used, this feature forming no part of the present invention. The cover requires no treatment to adapt it to the present invention except to form its back with slits *f, f*, as shown in Fig. 5, which correspond in location with the ears *b, b*.

It will be understood that the cushions or pads D, D may be provided in any desired positions on the book back by punching correspondingly positioned slots *a, a* in the back plate B. These are shown as confined

to the top and bottom portions of the back plate but they may be located wherever desired.

My invention provides an inexpensive construction whereby loose-leaf books or other binders may be made with an outer back plate of metal without its use being liable to scratch or otherwise injure a desk or other hard surface on which the book may be used.

The construction may be varied according to circumstances or special requirements, the invention not being limited to the precise construction set forth.

I claim as my invention:

1. A book cover having outer and inner back plates clamped together, the outer plate formed with slots and cushioning portions projecting through such slots.

2. A book cover having outer and inner back plates, the outer plate punched with slots and the metal struck up therefrom to form ears which pass through the cover back and are clinched down against the inner plate, and cushions projecting through such slots.

3. A book cover according to claim 1, the cushions being separate from the book back and projecting through said slots.

4. A cover according to claim 1, the cushions having projecting portions and thin flanges, the projecting portions entered through the slots and the flanges confined by the back plate.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

CLARENCE D. TRUSSELL.