

W. E. JONES, JR.
STACKING CANS.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1915.

1,156,690.

Patented Oct. 12, 1915.

FIG. 1.

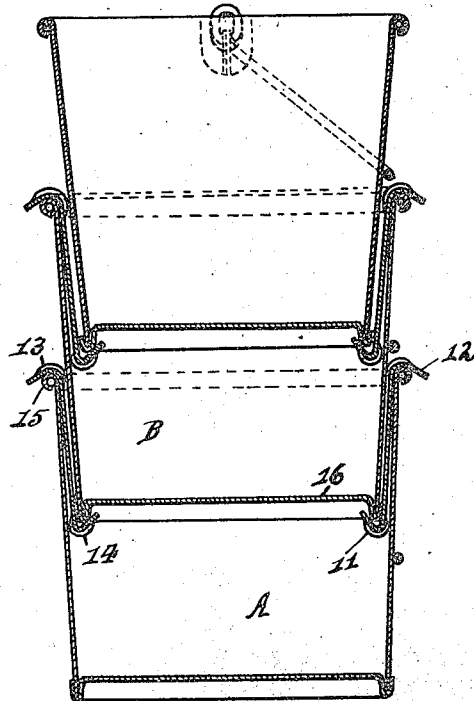


FIG. 2.

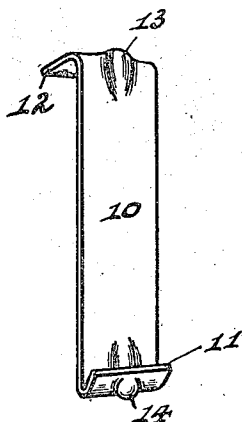
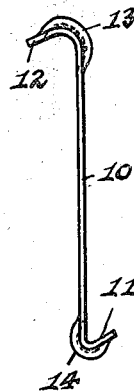


FIG. 3.



Witnesses:

T. B. Humphries.
C. B. Handon.

Inventor:

Whitfield E. Jones, Jr.
By J. A. Cooney
attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WHITFIELD E. JONES, JR., OF ETNA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO PITTSBURGH CAN COMPANY, OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

STACKING CANS.

1,156,690.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 12, 1915.

Application filed January 22, 1915. Serial No. 3,742.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WHITFIELD E. JONES, Jr., a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Etna, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stacking Cans; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

10 The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in clips, and has particular reference to a device of this character which may be employed in packing buckets, cans and similar containers for shipment or storage.

15 In packing cans, buckets and similar containers of a frustum-conical shape for storage or shipment it is at present customary to nest the containers within each other in lots of a half dozen or dozen. In practice it has been found that the nesting of the containers is open to a very serious objection which is the fact that the containers are in a majority of instances wedged together by the severe frictional engagement of the bottom edges of the superposed containers against the inner walls of the adjacent containers. Although care is taken in placing the containers lightly within each other so that there will be no severe binding when articles are packed, it has been found that the jarring and shocks to which they are subjected while in transit or while being handled is sufficient to cause this objectionable sticking or binding of the containers.

20 Recognizing the fact that the only practical method of packing containers for shipment is to nest them within each other in lots so that the maximum number may be shipped within a given space, I have in mind as the principal object of my present invention the provision of a clip which may be successfully employed in preventing the binding of the containers when they are so nested.

25 Another object of my invention has been to provide a clip which is relatively simple in design so that it may be stamped from a sheet metal blank at a relatively low manufacturing cost.

30 The above, and other incidental objects of a similar nature which will be hereinafter more specifically treated, are accomplished by such means as are illustrated in the ac-

companying drawing, described in the following specification and then more particularly pointed out in the claims, which are appended hereto and form a part of this application.

35 With reference to the drawings wherein there has been illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention as it is reduced to practice, and throughout the several views of which similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts: Figure 1 is a sectional view of a number of cans nested together and having my invention applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the clips employed; Fig. 3 is another view of the clip.

40 The nesting clip which forms the subject matter of my present invention is best shown in detail in Fig. 2, and for this reason reference will first be had to this figure. As shown the clip is formed from a single blank of relatively light sheet metal of rectangular form. The blank from which the clip is formed is stamped to produce the flat body portion 10 and the terminal ears or lips 11 and 12. The member 12 which is adapted to embrace or engage the upper edge of a can is of slightly greater length than the lip 11 and extends at a less acute angle to the body member 10 than does the member 11. At the junction of each of the members 11 and 12 with the body member 10, a rib or bead is formed as indicated at 14 and 13. These members 13 and 14 serve, of course, to reinforce the joint between the members 11 and 12 and the body member and to make these joints or connections of such rigidity that there will be no likelihood of the angle which the members 11 and 12 bear to the body member 10 being changed during the use of the clip. As will be apparent upon reference to Figs. 2 and 3, however, the rib 13 at the junction of the members 12 and 10 serves a further and important function, as will be presently explained.

45 As has been previously set forth my clip has been designed particularly for use in packing containers of a frusto-conical or tapering side-wall type and is employed in preventing the containers from wedging or binding within each other. Prior to the packing of the containers, to the first member designated in Fig. 1 by the numeral A is applied one of the clips. The lip member 12 of the clip is engaged with the bead 15

at the upper edge of the member A so that the body portion 10 and can supporting lip 11 will be disposed within the container and against the inner face of the side wall thereof. The second container B is then inserted within the container A in the well known manner. When the bottom of the container B is thus projected into the member A the bottom wall 16 engages with the upper edge of the lip 11, and, as will be clearly observed upon reference to Fig. 1, is supported thereby and held against further inward movement in the member A. The body portion 10 of the clip is made of such length that the bottom wall of the container B will be stopped before it reaches that point in the height of the container A and which the internal diameter of the member A is equal to the diameter of the bottom wall 16. It will thus be seen that the lip 11 of the clip prevents the second container B from wedging in the first container A. At this point the second function of the rib or band 13 will now be apparent, for it will be seen that this member serves to space the body portion 10 of the clip away from the side wall of the container A, so that in case the member B is pushed into the member A with too great force there will be binding contact only between a portion of the periphery of the bottom wall 16 of the member B and the rib 13 with the side wall of the container A. Thus, even though the member B should be forced unduly into the member A, the area of the member B, which is in contact or engagement with the inner face of the side wall of the member A, will be relatively small, and the force necessary to separate the containers will be relatively slight.

It will now of course be understood that any desired number of containers may be nested within each other for shipment, and that a clip is employed in connection with each container for preventing the next adjacent container from being wedged therein.

What is claimed is:

1. The combination with a plurality of similar frusto-conical containers nested one

within the other, of means for supporting said containers in their nested condition and preventing them from becoming wedged one within the other, said means comprising a plurality of clips, each clip being bent over at one end to engage the mouth of a container and at the other end to engage the base of the container next above it, and said clips being of a length to support the containers just above wedging point.

2. The combination with a plurality of similar frusto-conical containers nested one within the other, of clips for maintaining said containers loosely in their nested condition, each of said clips comprising a member bent at one end to engage over the top of a container and at the other end to engage under the base of the container next above it, and having a projecting portion at one end extending backwardly from the hook to engage against the side of the container opposite to said projection.

3. The combination with a plurality of containers disposed in nested relation, of clips for maintaining the containers loosely in their nested condition, each of said clips comprising a member bent at one end to engage over the top of one container and bent at the other end to engage under the bottom of the next container above it, and having outwardly extending projections at the ends extending backwardly from the hook for engaging against the sides of the containers opposite to said projections.

4. A clip of the character described formed from a single blank of sheet metal, and including a flat body portion, terminally located integral lips extended at acute angles to the body portion, and ribs formed at the junction of each of said ribs with the body portion by striking the metal outwardly.

In testimony whereof, I the said WHITFIELD E. JONES, Jr., have hereunto set my hand.

WHITFIELD E. JONES, JR.

Witnesses:

J. N. COOKE,
C. L. LONDON.