

No. 725,822.

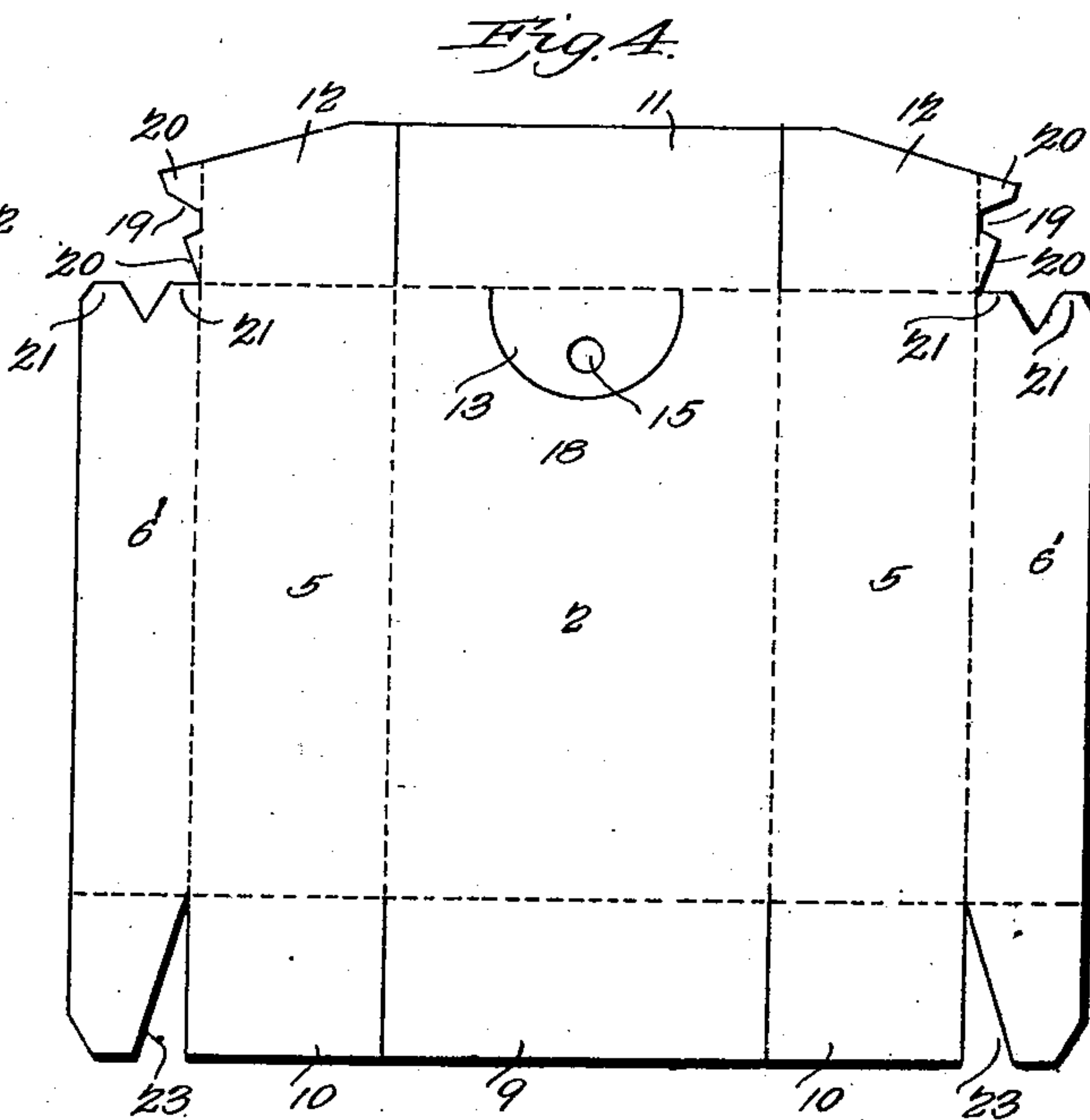
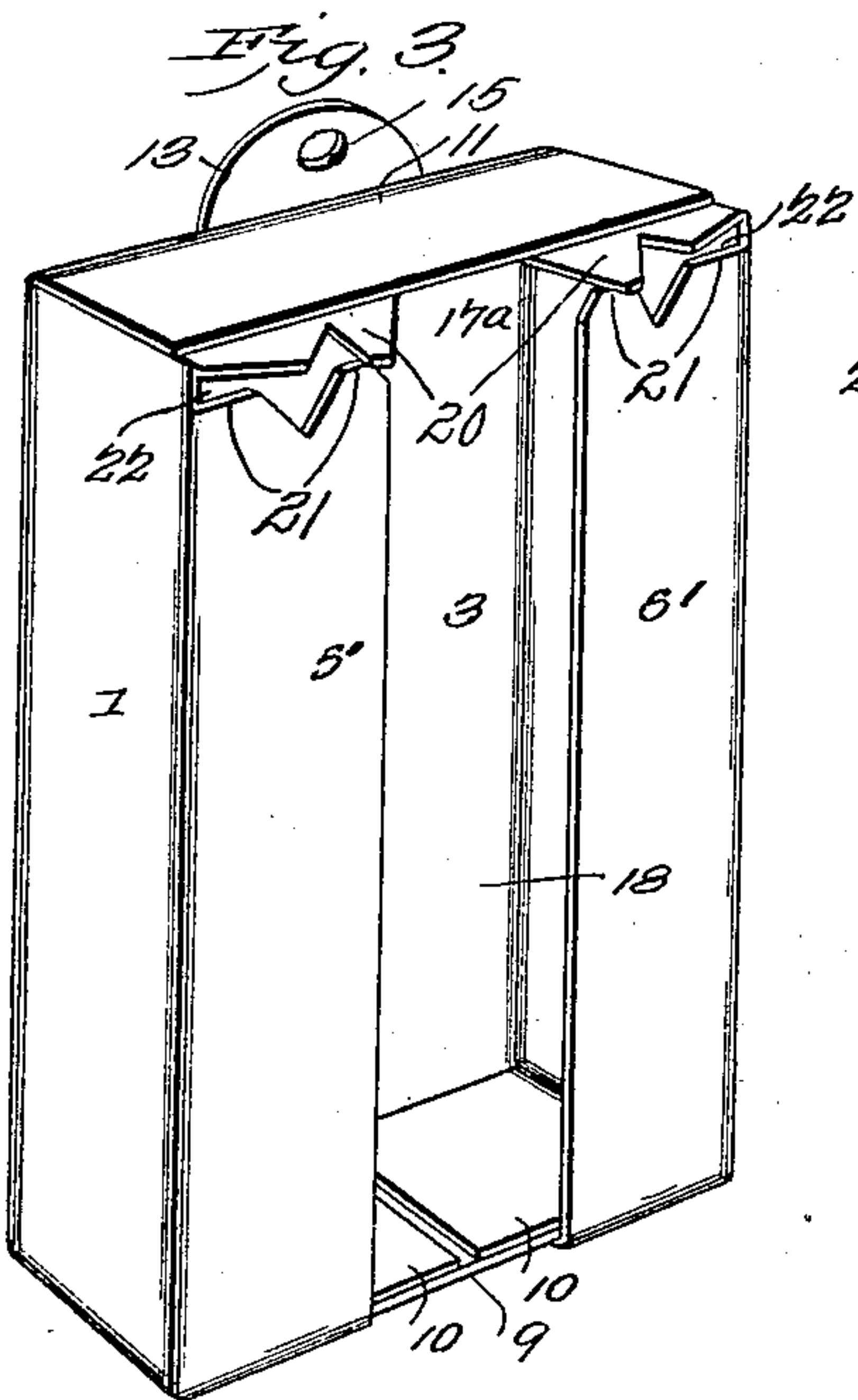
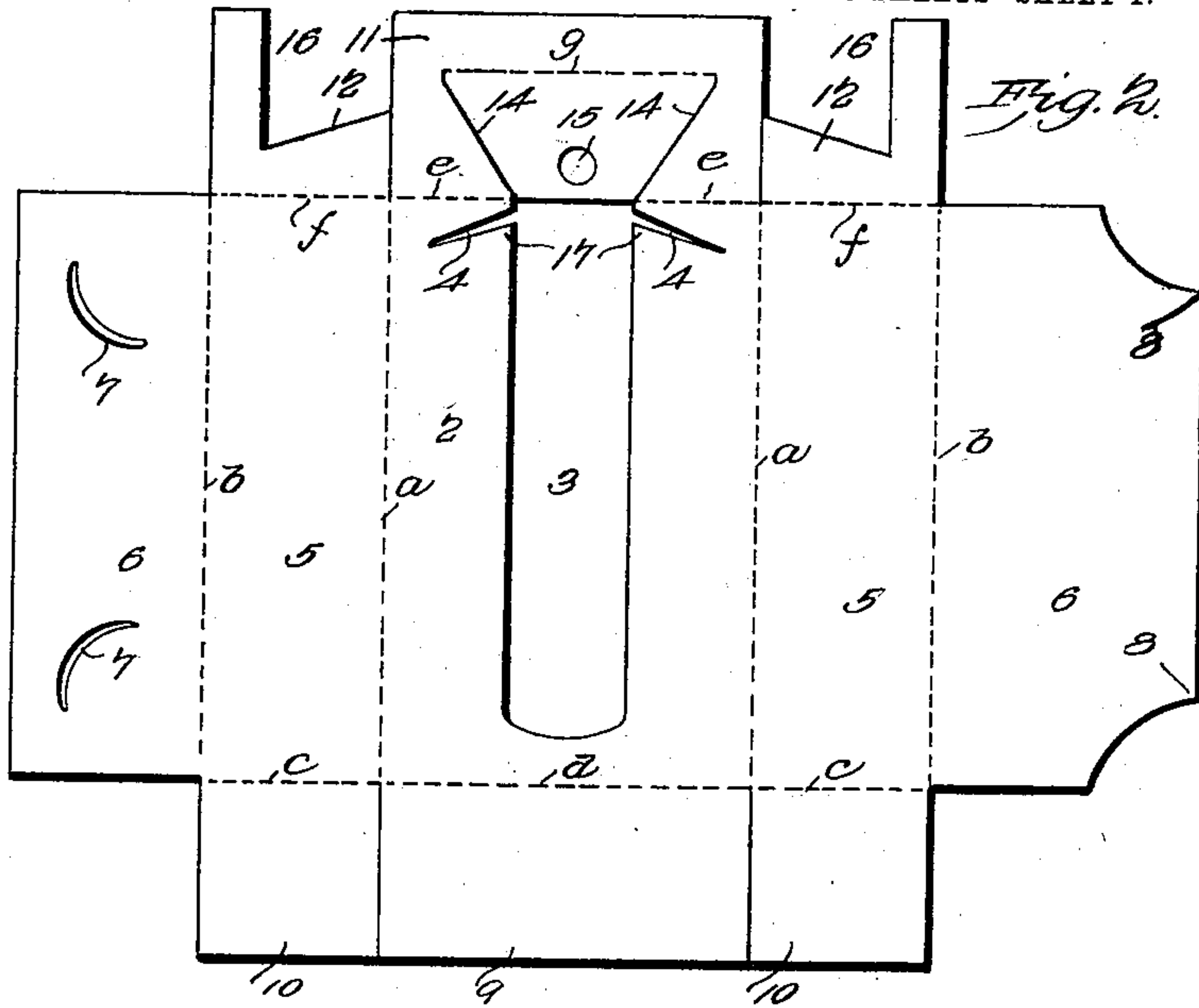
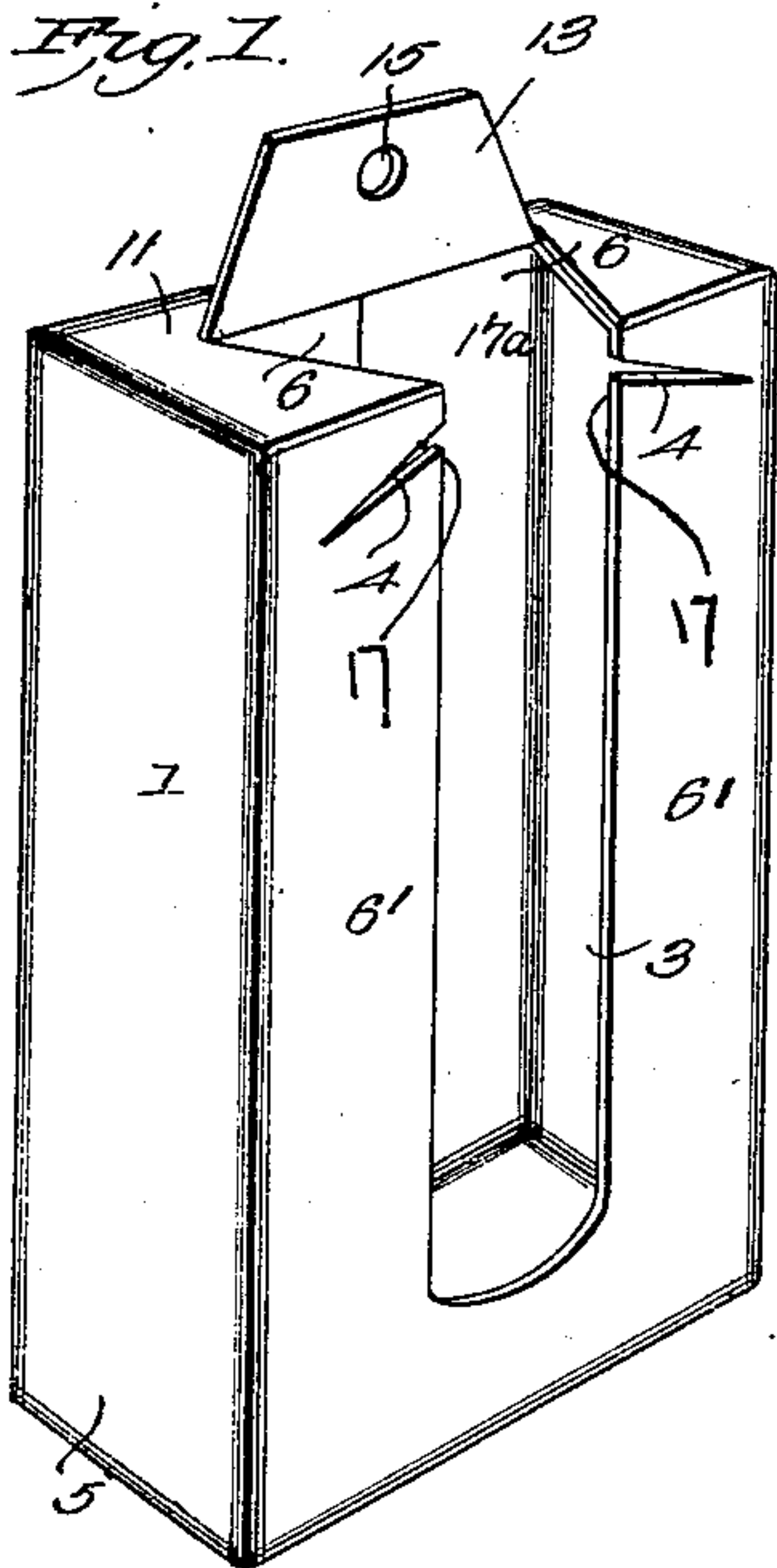
PATENTED APR. 21, 1903.

J. W. BUNCH.
MATCH BOX.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 20, 1901.

NO MODEL.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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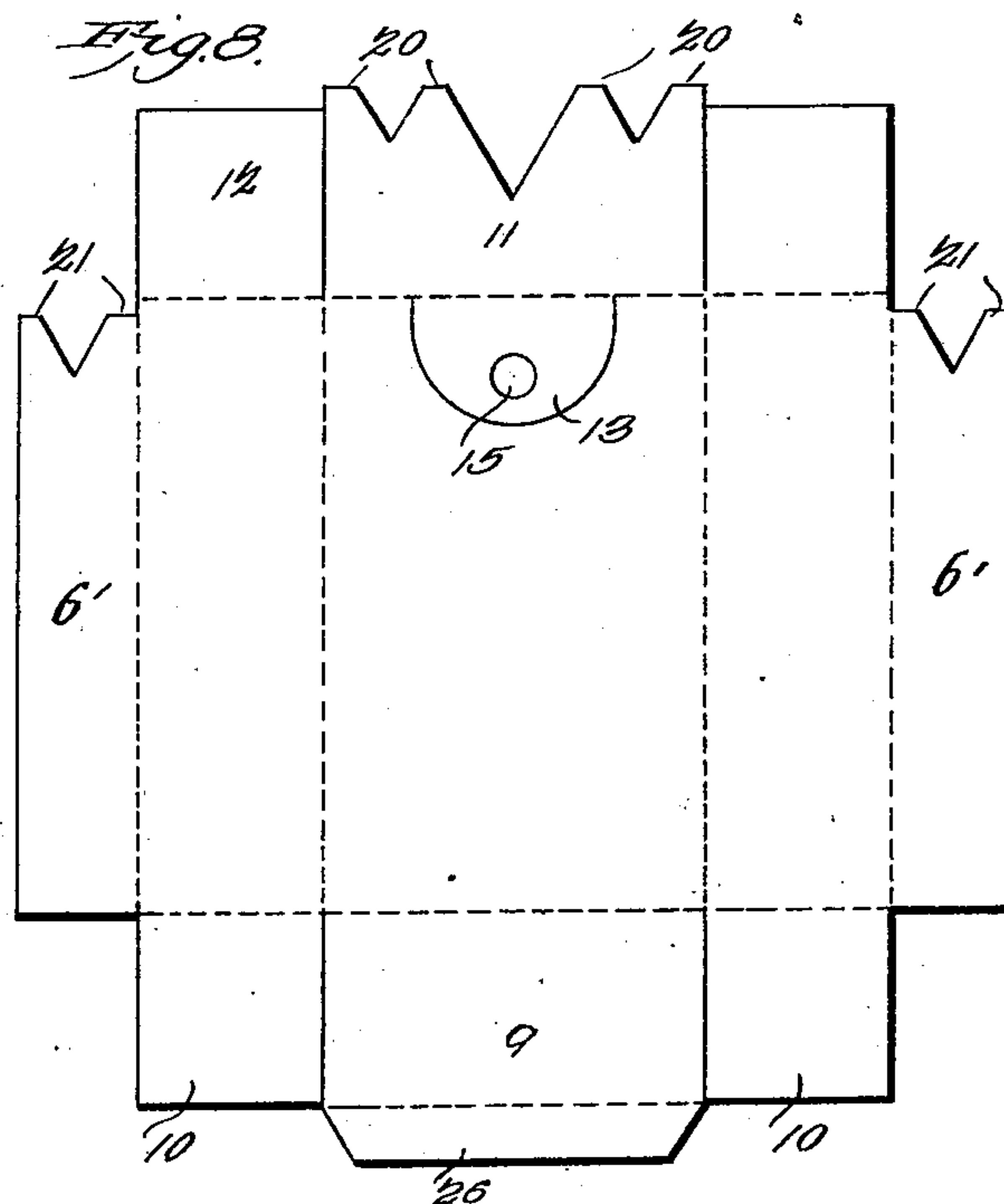
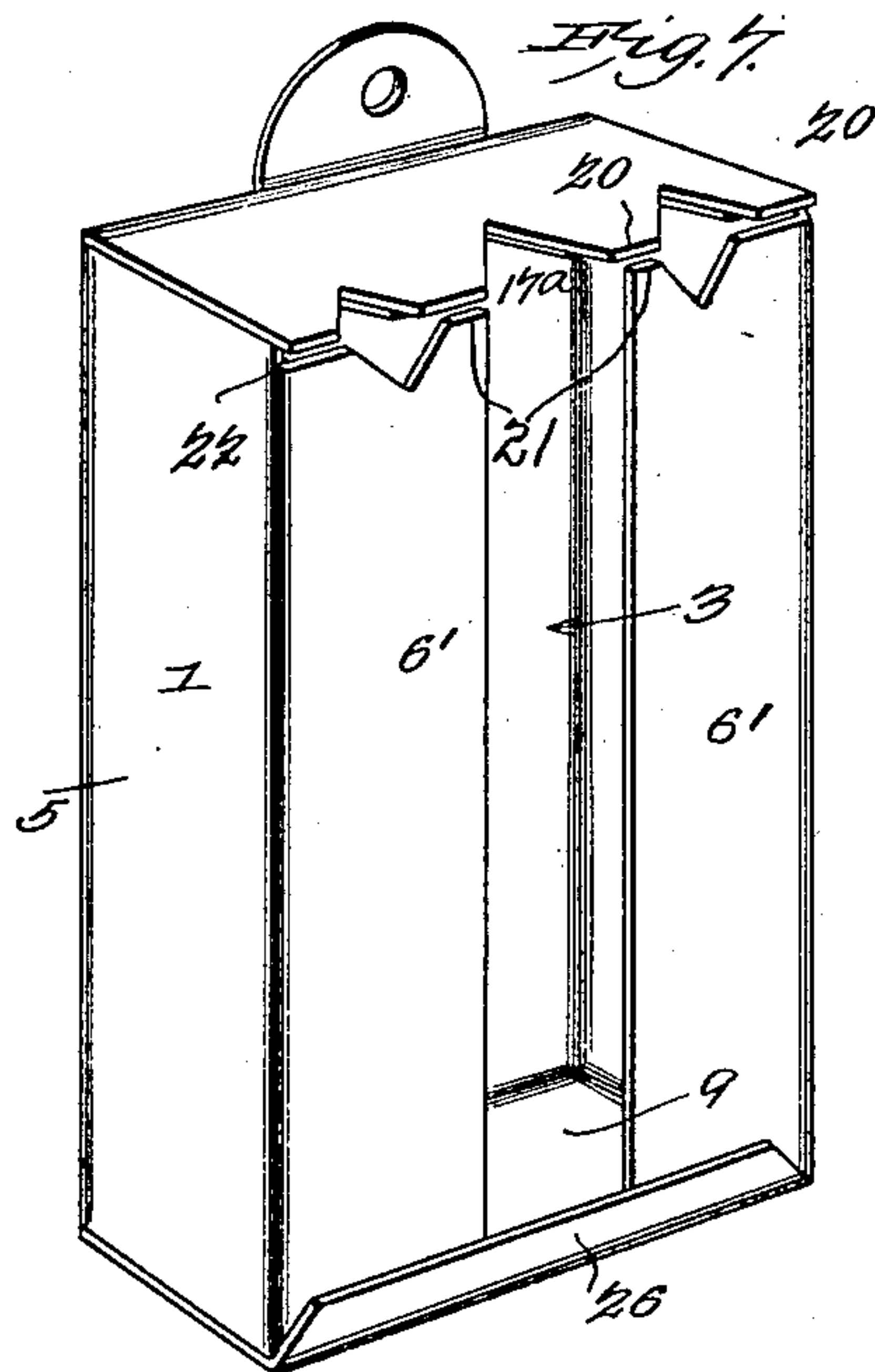
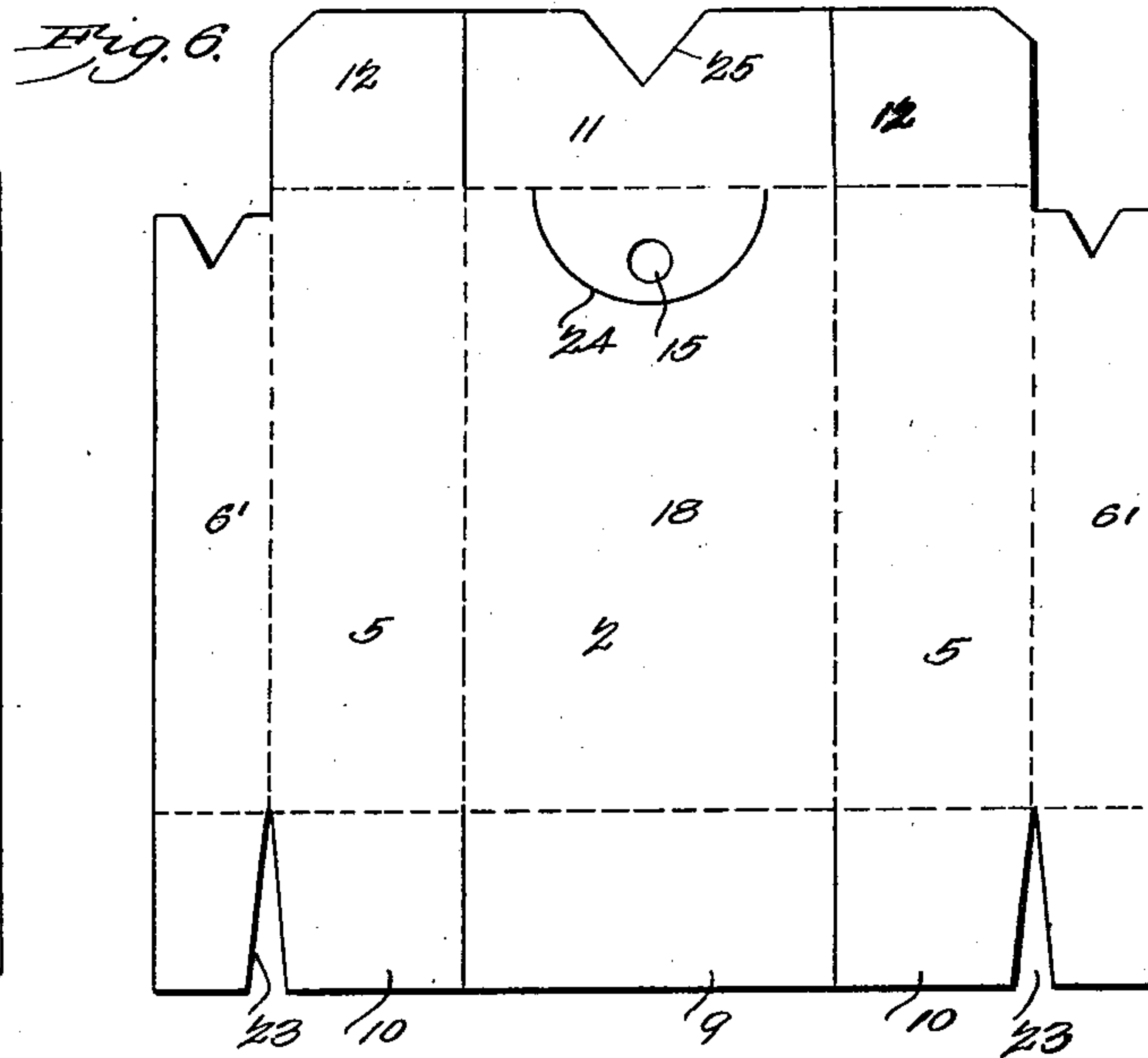
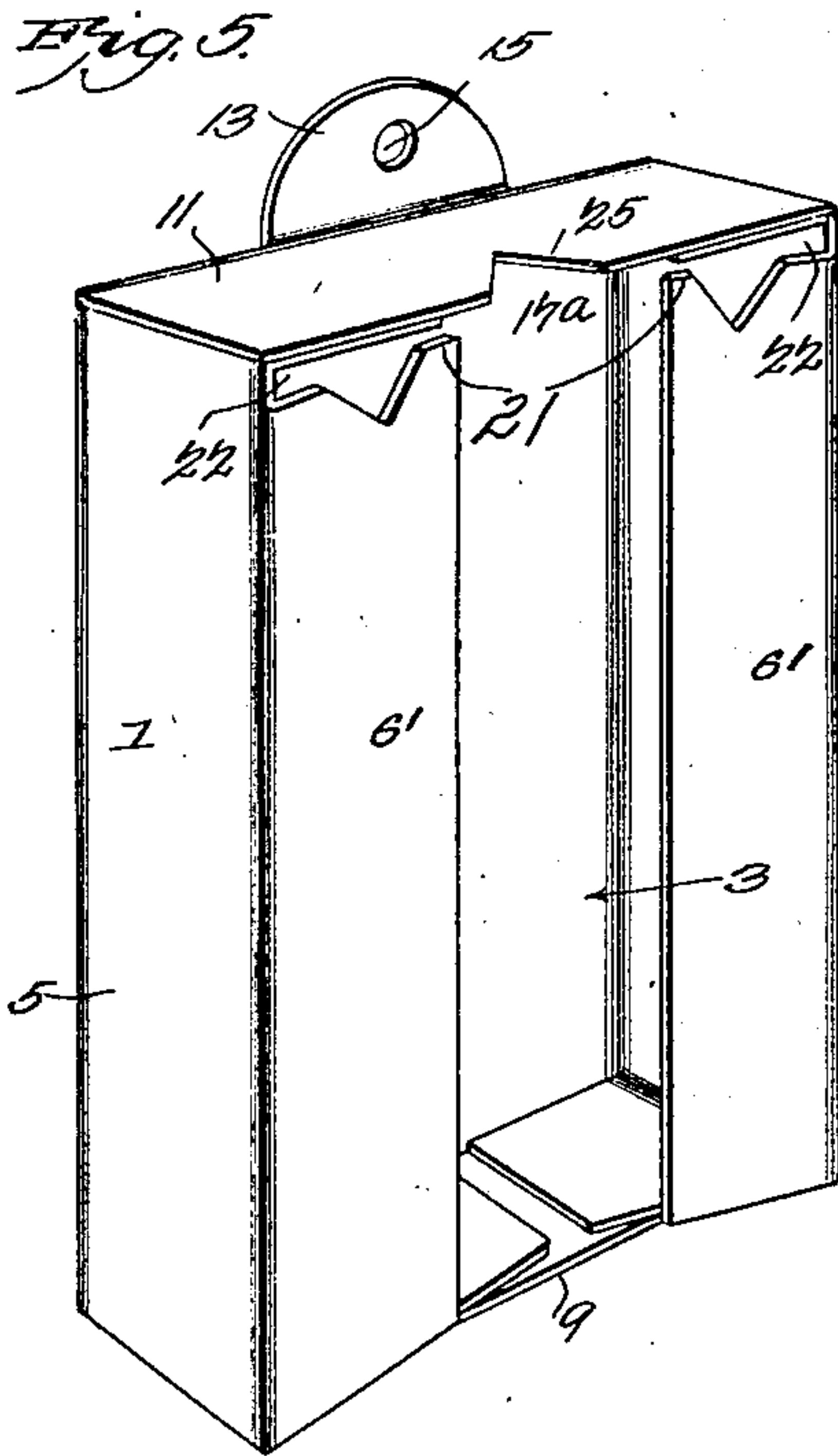
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APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 20, 1901.

NO MODEL.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 20, 1901.

NO MODEL.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 9.

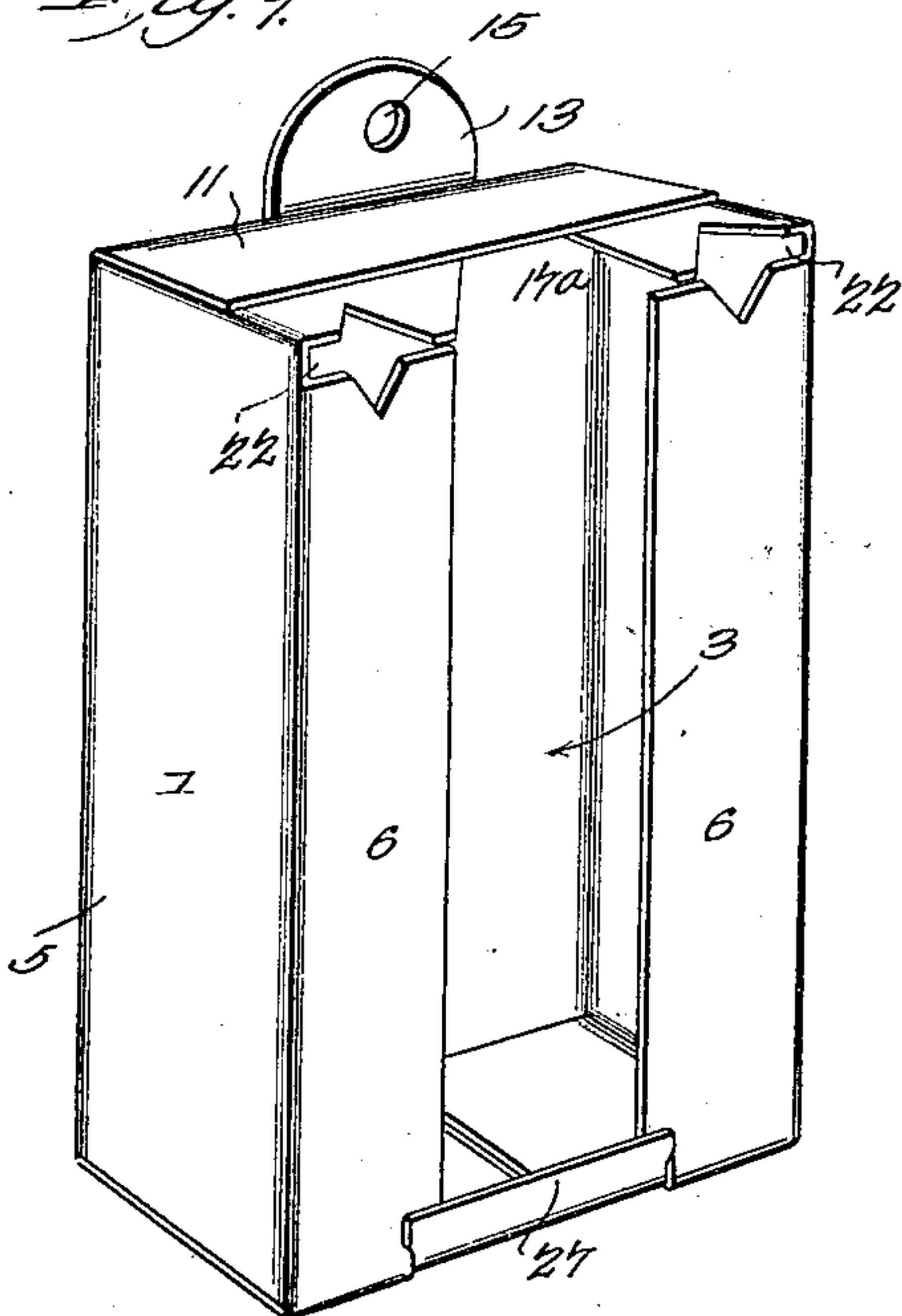


Fig. 10.

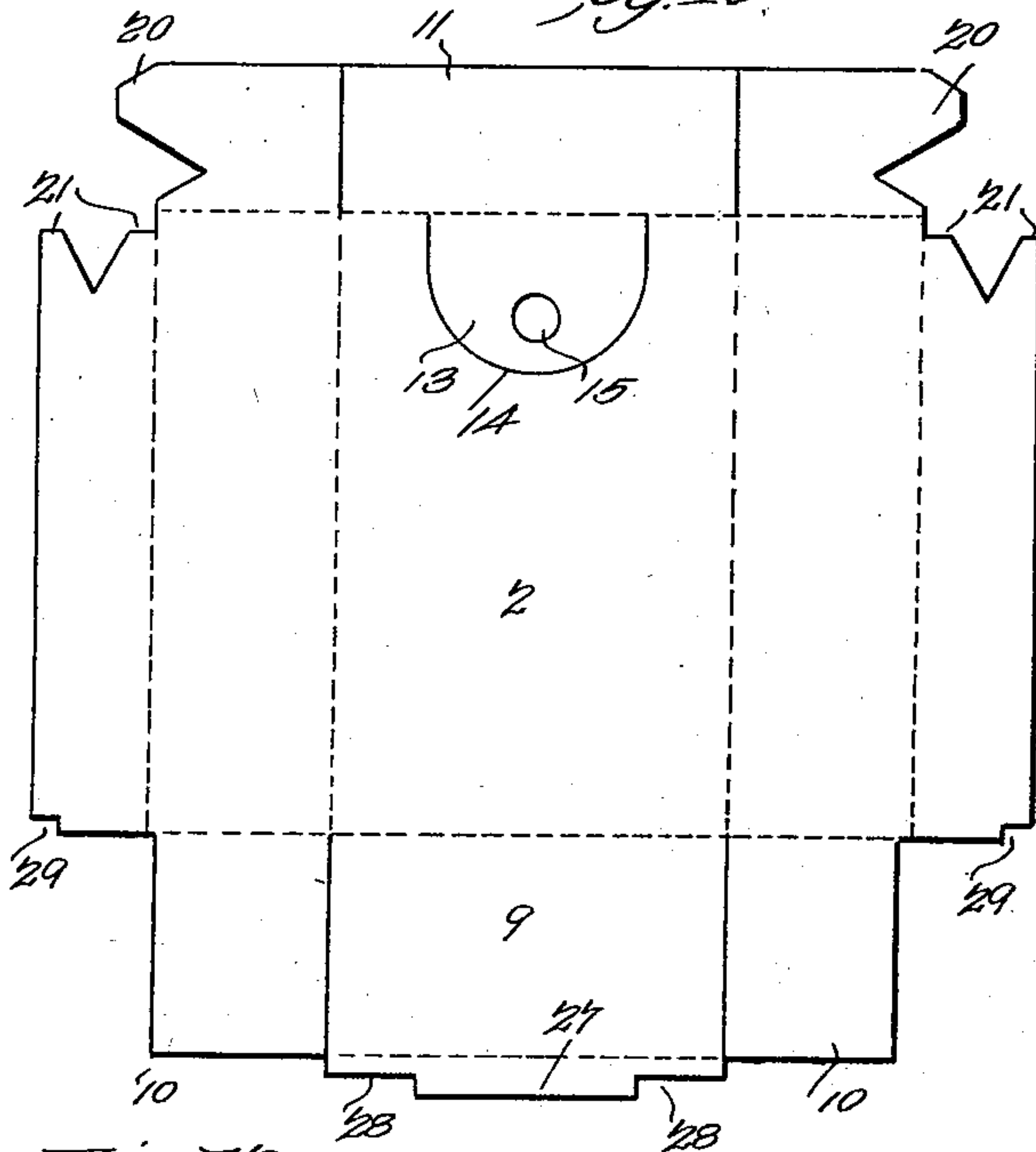


Fig. 11.

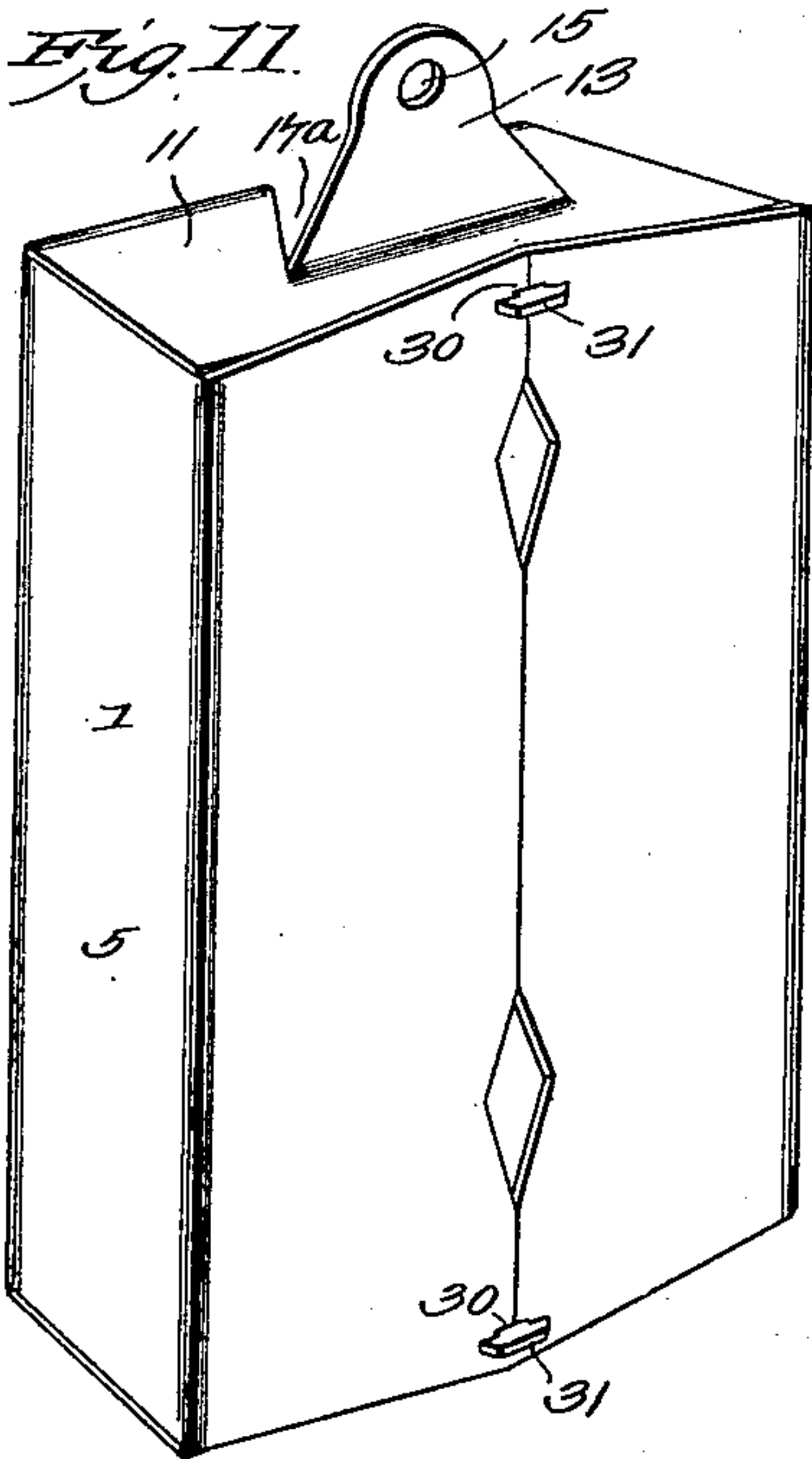
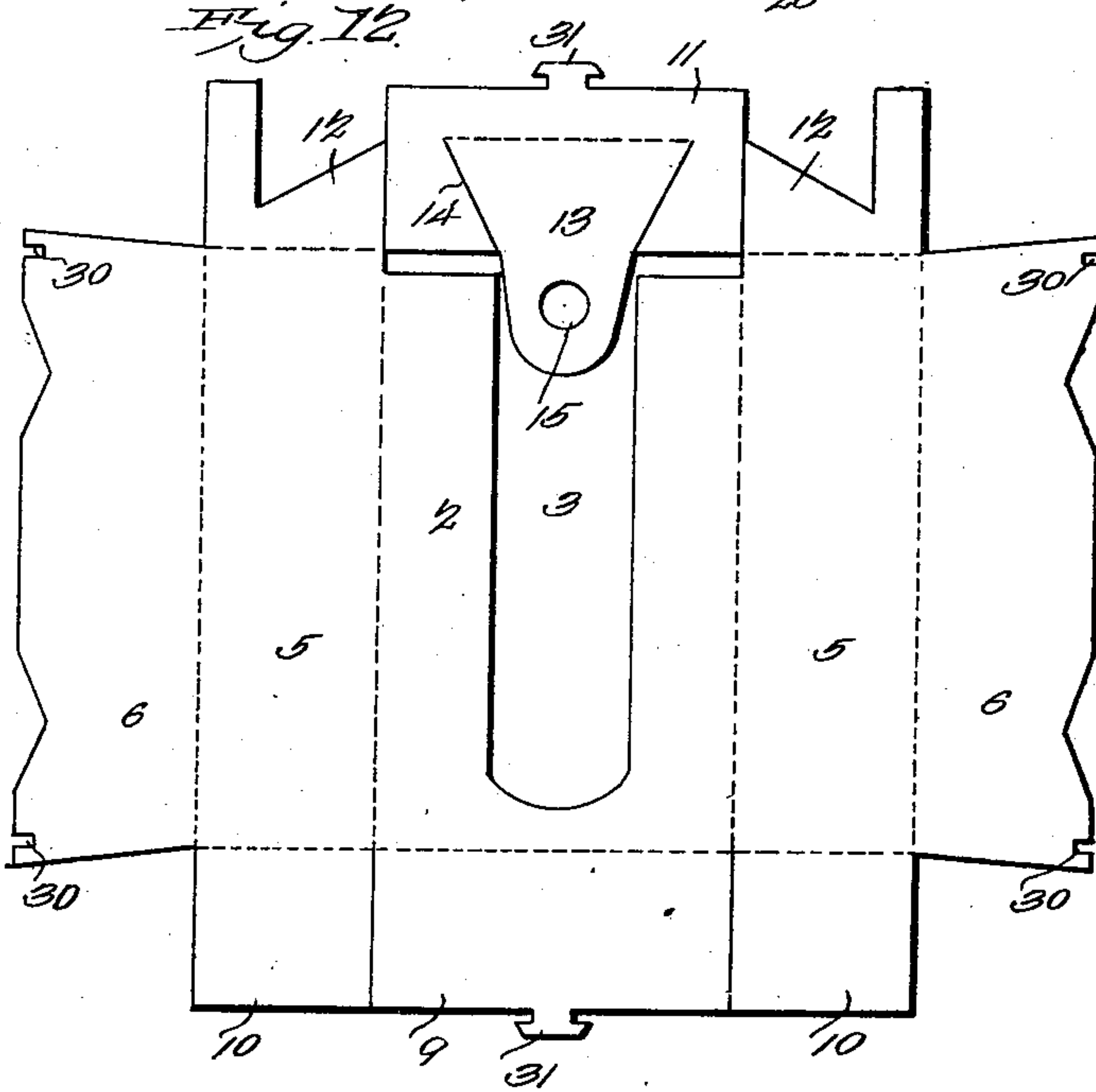


Fig. 12.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. BUNCH, OF KEOKUK, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO JOHN P. HORNISH AND CHARLES H. WOLFE, OF KEOKUK, IOWA.

MATCH-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 725,822, dated April 21, 1903.

Application filed September 20, 1901. Serial No. 75,881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BUNCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Keokuk, in the county of Lee and State of Iowa, have
5 invented a new and useful Match-Box, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to match-boxes, and particularly to that class adapted for performing the double function of a match-box
10 and a match-safe.

The object of the invention is to present a match-box of a construction that will permit the removal of the matches without necessitating the opening of the box for the purpose
15 and in which accidental escape of the matches therefrom will be obviated.

A further object of the invention is to present an article of the class specified which will be simple in construction, easy of manufacture, and cheap of production and which
20 shall possess novel features in the manner of arrangement of its parts which will tend to render the same desirable in use over the ordinary form of match-box usually employed.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts
25 of a match-box, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, there are illustrated several forms of the
35 embodiment of the invention capable of carrying the same into practical operation, it being understood that the elements therein exhibited may be varied or changed as to shape, proportion, and exact manner of assemblage
40 without departing from the scope of the invention, and in the drawings—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of one form of embodiment of the invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the blank from which the box
45 of Fig. 1 is made. Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of another form of embodiment of the invention. Fig. 4 is a view of the blank form from which the box of Fig. 3 is made. Fig. 5 is a view in perspective of another
50 form of embodiment of the invention. Fig. 6 is a view of a blank from which the box of

Fig. 5 is made. Fig. 7 is a view in perspective of another form of embodiment of the invention. Fig. 8 is a view of the blank form from which the box of Fig. 7 is made. Fig. 9 is a perspective view of another form of
55 embodiment of the invention. Fig. 10 is a view of a blank from which the box of Fig. 9 is made. Fig. 11 is a view in rear of perspective of another form of embodiment of the invention. Fig. 12 is a view of a blank from which the box of Fig. 11 is made.

The features common to each of the forms of match-box herein shown are an opening in the front through which the fingers may be
65 inserted for removing the matches, a slot at or near the top of the box to permit removal of the matches from the box, retaining means to prevent the matches from escaping from the box when being shipped or handled, and
70 a clip or tongue by which the box may be suspended.

Referring to the drawings, and to Figs. 1 and 2 thereof, 1 designates the box, and 2 the blank from which the same is made. In each
75 of the figures illustrating the blank the dotted lines indicate where the folds of the blank are made to present the finished box. The front of the box 6', which is bounded by the dotted lines *a*, *e*, and *d*, is provided with a
80 vertical opening or slot 3, through which the fingers of the user are inserted when the matches are removed from the box. In folding the box shown in Fig. 1 the front is produced by bending the blank on the dotted
85 lines *a*, the sides 5 being formed by the portions of the blank bounded by the dotted lines *b*, *b*, *c*, and *f*, the back being formed by two flaps 6, which are bent on the lines *b* and are held assembled by providing one of
90 the flaps with two curved slots 7, which are engaged by the side portions of the other flap, the latter being cut away, as at 8, in order to permit insertion within the slots 7. These parts may then be secured, as by being pasted
95 together. The bottom comprises a three-membered flap 9, whereof the center member is bent on the lines *d* to constitute the bottom proper of the box and the members 10 on the lines *c* to be folded in against the mem-
100 ber 9 to present the completed bottom, and these flaps may also be pasted together. The

top comprises a three-membered flap, where-
of the center flap 11 is bent inward on the
lines *e* to close the top of the box and the
side members 12 are bent at right angles on
the lines *f* in upon the top, where they may
be secured by being pasted thereto. The
suspending-clip of hanger 13 is formed by
making two incisions 14 in the top on lines
diverging from each other and then bending
out the tongue thus formed on the line *g* to
position shown at Fig. 1, the tongue being pro-
vided with an opening 15, by which the box
may be suspended from a nail or the like.
To obviate interference with the fingers of a
person removing a match, the side flaps 12 are
cut away, as shown at 16. The portion of the
front terminating at 17 with the slits 4 con-
stitutes spring or resilient retaining means
for the matches, as it will be seen that they
will yield without any objectionable pressure
when a match is being withdrawn and will
resume their normal position after such with-
drawal, thus to prevent any escape or scatter-
ing of the matches from the box when being
shipped or handled. Furthermore, the an-
gular disposition of these slots further oper-
ate to keep the matches safely within the
box. The open space 17^a, formed in the top
of the box by the tongue 13, forms the means
by which the fingers of the person removing
matches from the box may pass to bring the
match opposite the slots 4, while the over-
hanging portions of the top on each side of
the opening 17^a will prevent the matches from
escaping from that end of the box.

The opening 3 does not extend to the bot-
tom of the box, as herein illustrated; but it
is to be understood that, if preferred, it may
be so extended.

In the form of box shown in Figs. 3 and 4
the back 18 is produced by the portion of the
blank forming the front of the box shown in
Fig. 1, and the side flaps 6 when folded to po-
sition present the opening 3. The match-es-
cape slots 4 are formed between the upper
edges of the flaps 6 and the under surface
of the flaps 12, the outer edges of these lat-
ter flaps being disposed at an angle to the
bottom of the box and incut, as at 19, to
present two fingers 20, which coact with two
similar fingers 21, formed in the upper edges
of the side flaps to present a slot through
which the matches may be removed, these
fingers coacting with each other to prevent
accidental escape of matches from the box.
The side flaps 6 terminate short of the fin-
gered portion of the flap 12 to present a slot
22, through which the matches may be drawn,
as clearly shown in Fig. 3; but, as above
pointed out, the coacting fingers 20 and 21
will operate to hold the matches within the
box until removed by a person desiring to use
the same. The suspending clip or tongue 13
in the form of embodiment of invention
shown in these figures may be formed by slits
made in the center flap 11 of the top, as shown
in Fig. 1, or by a slit formed in the back, as

shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The opening cor-
responding to 17^a in Fig. 1 is produced by
making the top flat 11 narrower than the
length of the side flaps 12, so that the fingers
of the person removing the match may be
lifted a sufficient distance within the box be-
fore contacting the top flap 11 to bring the
match opposite the escape-slot 22. The side
flaps 10 are cut away, so that when folded up
against the bottom of the box they will lie
wholly within sides of the box. All of the
overlapping or contacting parts of the box
may be held associated by any suitable ad-
hesive substance, such as is usually employed
in holding the parts of a pasteboard box as-
sembled.

In the form of box shown in Figs. 5 and 6
the clip or tongue 13 is formed by cutting an
incision 24 in the back of the box and then
bending the tongue up, as shown in Fig. 5.
The fingers 20 are dispensed with and the
fingers 21 relied upon for keeping the matches
in the box, the fingered portion of the side
flaps terminating short of the flaps 12 to pre-
sent the slot 22. With this exception the
manner of assembling the parts of the box is
the same as that described in connection with
Figs. 3 and 4. There is a difference, how-
ever, in the manner in which the side flaps
are folded, for whereas the front sections of
the box shown in Fig. 3 are parallel with the
backs, those shown in Fig. 5 are disposed at
oppositely-disposed angles thereto, by which
arrangement when the matches are drawn
from the box only that portion intermediate
of its ends will bear against the front, the
two end portions being out of contact there-
with, whereby danger of igniting the match
in removing from the box will be reduced to
a minimum. To effect this result, there is an
inverted-V-shaped slot provided in each of
the lower flaps 10 in alinement with the dot-
ted lines *b*, by which arrangement when the
flaps 10 are turned in and the side flaps 6
folded down upon them these latter flaps will
be caused to occupy an angular position with
relation to the back of the box, as clearly
shown in Fig. 5. The open space 17^a in this
form of box is formed by removing an angu-
lar-shaped piece from the top, as shown at 25.

In the form of box shown in Figs. 7 and 8
the tongue 13 is formed in the same manner
as that shown in Fig. 6. The space 17^a is
formed by removing an angular-shaped piece
from the top flap, as in Fig. 6, the spring-
retaining fingers 20 being formed by remov-
ing a V-shaped piece at the top on each side
of the space 17^a, the spring-fingers 21 being
similarly formed in the side flaps 6, as shown
in Fig. 6. The bottom flap 9 is provided with
an extension 26, which when the box is folded
up is pasted to the outside of the front, as
shown in Fig. 7, the opening 3 being formed
by the space between the side flaps 6 in the
same manner as in Figs. 3 and 5.

In the form of box shown in Figs. 9 and 10
the tongue 13 is formed in the same manner

as that shown in Figs. 6 and 8. The retaining-fingers 21 are formed in the top of the side flaps 6 and the fingers 20 in the side of the top flaps 12, the opening 3 being formed in the same manner as described in connection with Figs. 3, 5, and 7. The bottom flap 9 is provided with an extension 27, provided with incuts 28, which are designed to engage with similar incuts 29, formed in the lower outer corners of the side flaps 6, the center portions of the extension 27 being designed to be secured to the front, as shown in Fig. 9.

In Figs. 11 and 12 is shown a form of box in which the filling is effected from the back thereof, and to effect this the opening 3 is formed in that portion of the blank which constitutes the back in all the figures except Fig. 1. The side flaps 6 are provided adjacent to the upper and lower ends with notches 30 to be engaged when the blank is folded up into box-like form by shouldered offsets 31, carried by the flaps 9 and 11, the offsets after the box is filled to be folded down and secured to the back by a paste or the like. The tongue 13 is formed partly by two incisions made in the top flap 11, as shown in Fig. 2, and partly by the material of the box removed in forming the opening 3, the top side flaps 12 being constructed and assembled with the top flap 11 in substantially the same manner as shown and described in connection with Figs. 1 and 2. In this form of device the matches are removed through the opening left by the tongue; but it is to be understood that, if preferred, the upper portions of the front on each side of the opening may be cut away to present the escape-slot 22, (shown in each of the figures,) and as this will be obvious illustration is deemed unnecessary.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that although a variety of forms of boxes is herein shown there is a common under-

lying principle inherent to all of them—namely, the provision of means for permitting ready removal of the matches from the receptacle, said means operating to prevent accidental escape of the matches therefrom. Further, each of the forms herein shown is made of a single piece of material, and as this may be stamped out by suitable machinery and be readily folded to shape the production of the article may be accomplished at a small cost.

While but six different forms of embodiment of the invention are herein illustrated, it will be obvious that the same ideas may be carried into effect in various other ways and still be within the scope of the invention, and for this reason it is to be understood that the invention is not to be confined to what is illustrated and described herein.

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

1. A match box or safe provided at its front with an opening, a match-escape slot disposed near the upper portion thereof, and yielding fingers, constituting match-retaining means, arranged above the slot.

2. A match box or safe comprising a blank foldable into box-like form to constitute a divided front, a closed back, and closed sides and ends, suspending means carried by the upper portion of the box, the front of the box being provided in its upper end with a match-escape slot, and match-retaining means adjacent to the slot.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. BUNCH.

Witnesses:

JOHN P. HORNISH,
CHARLES H. WOLFE.