

H. G. CAMPBELL.

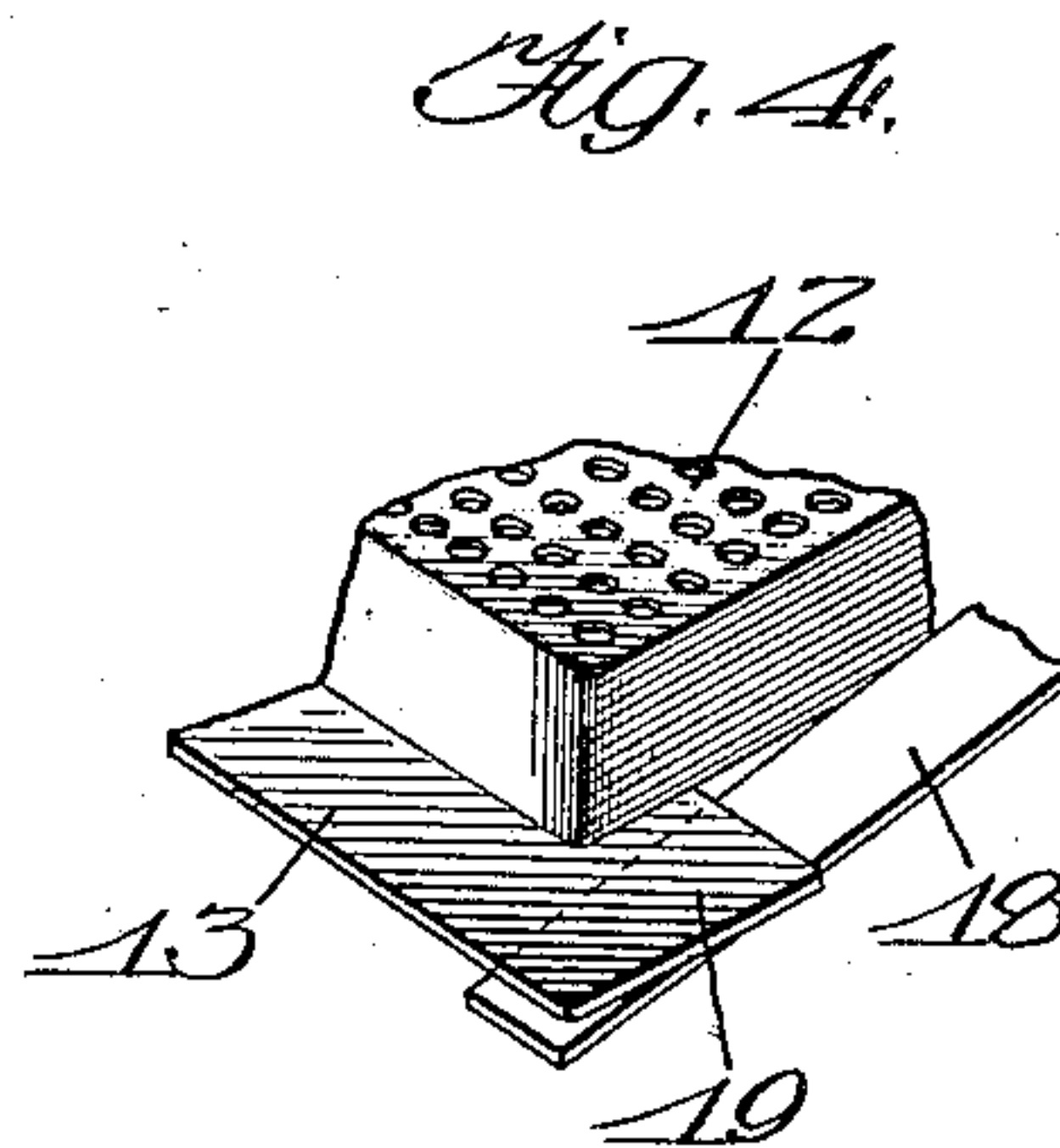
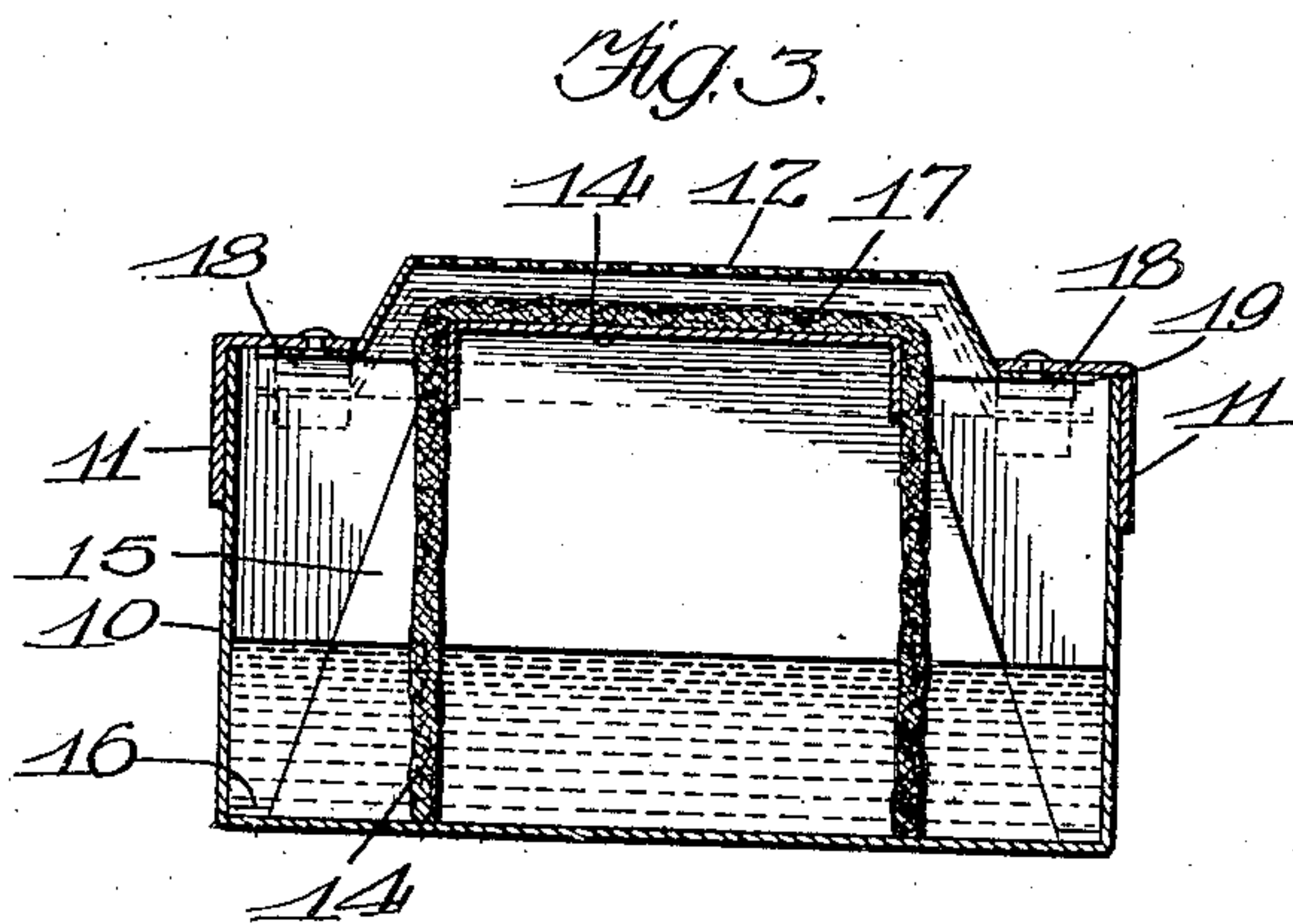
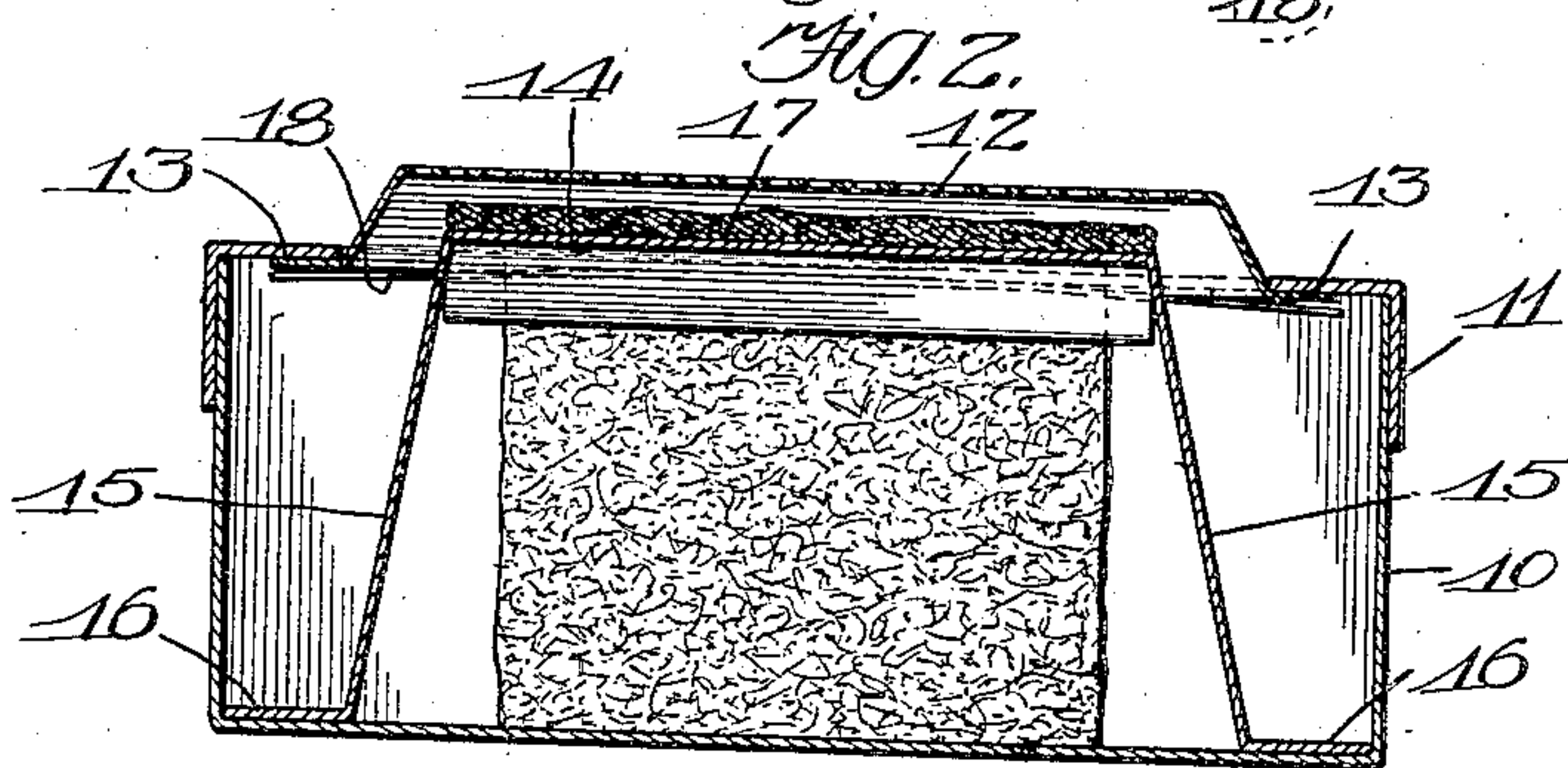
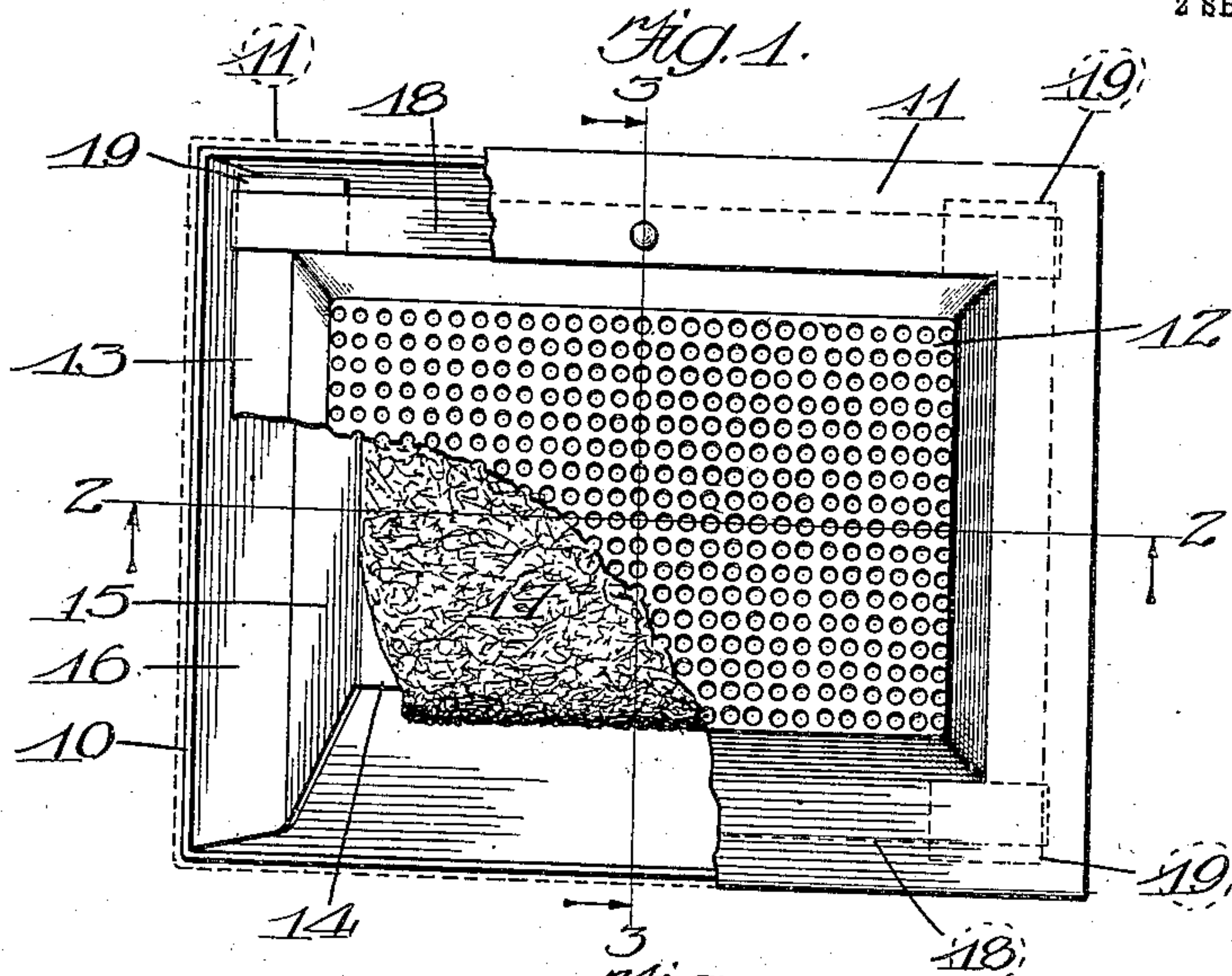
MOISTENER.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 4, 1907.

898,720.

Patented Sept. 15, 1908.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:  
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*Robert H. Weir*

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

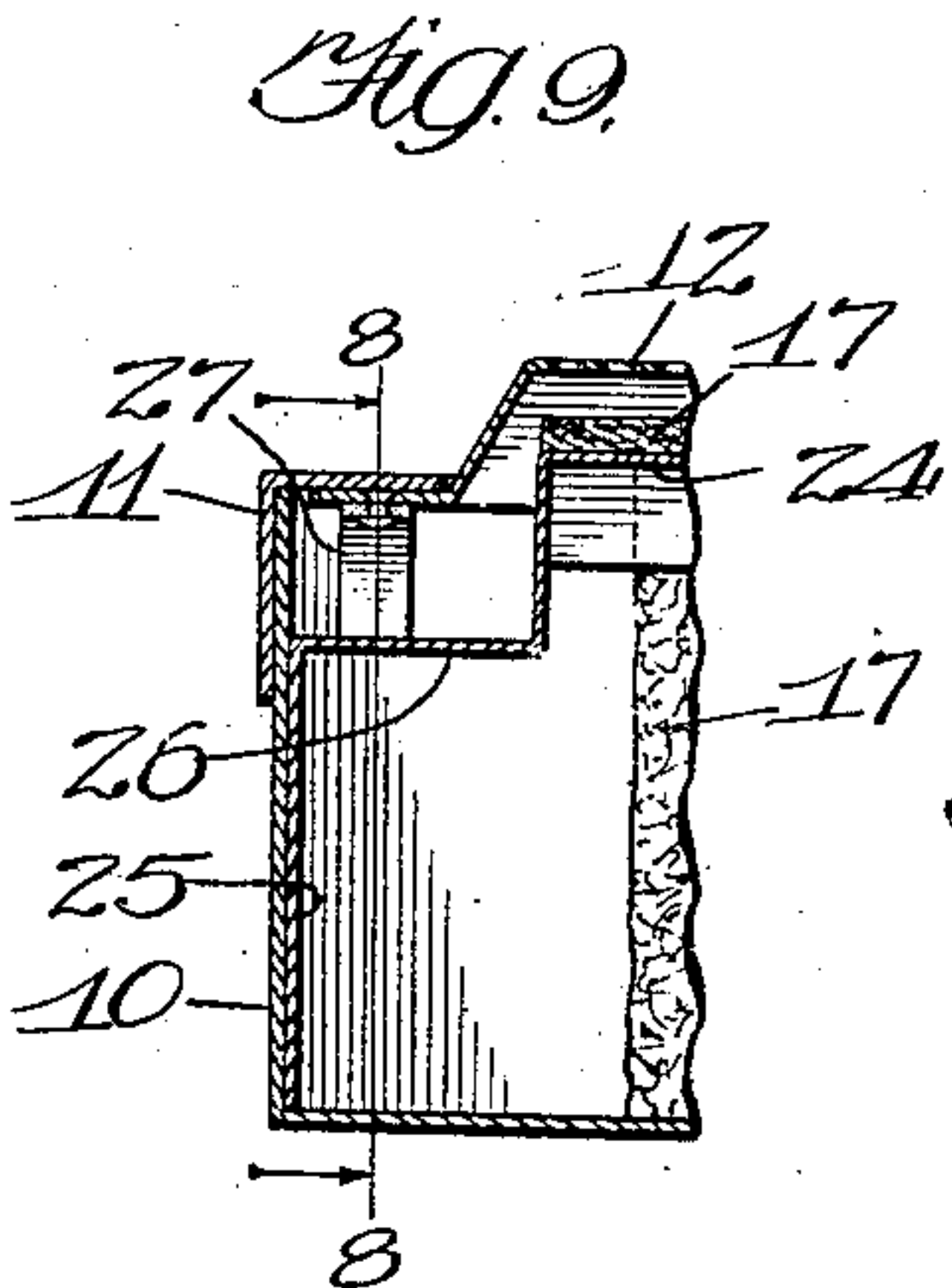
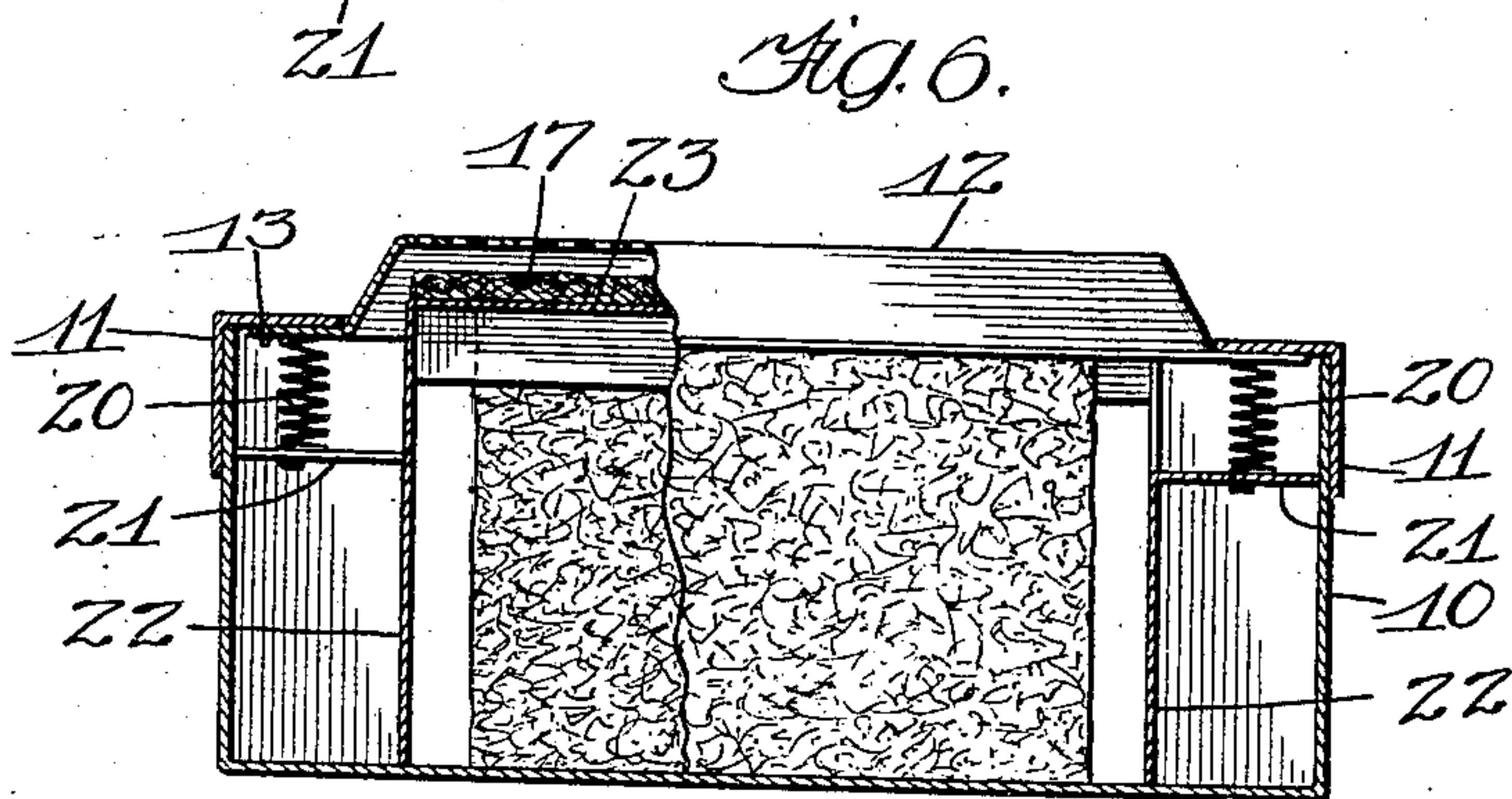
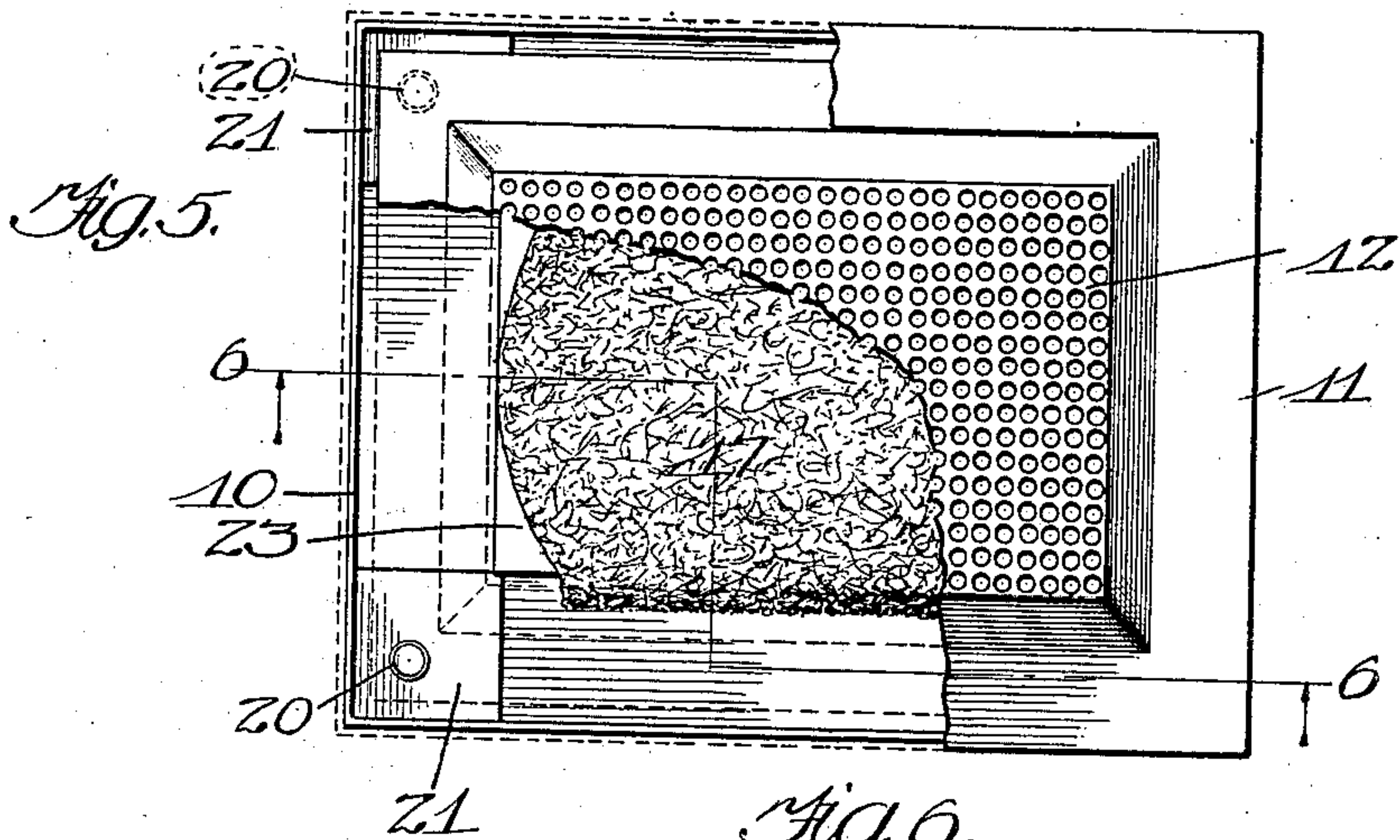
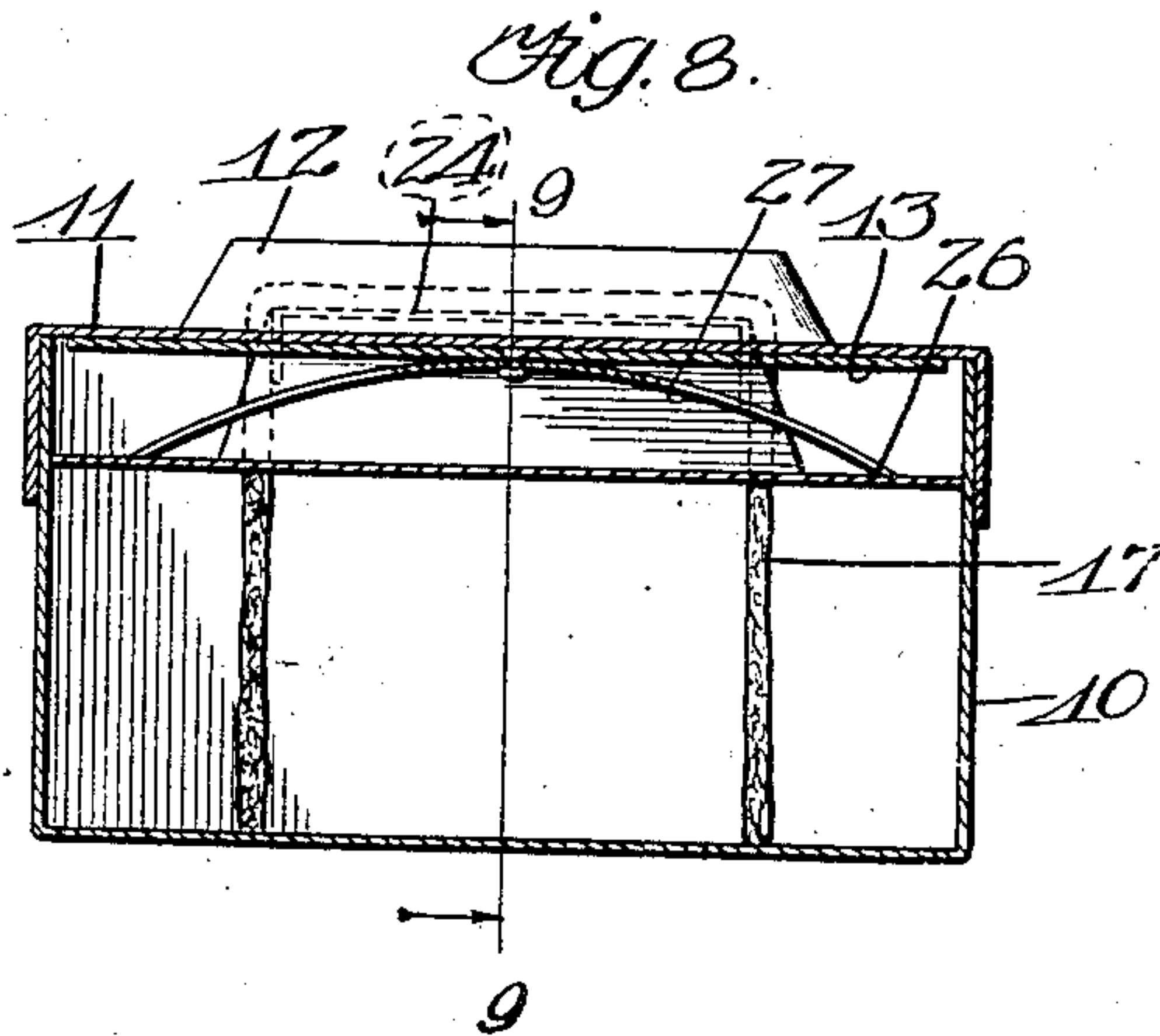
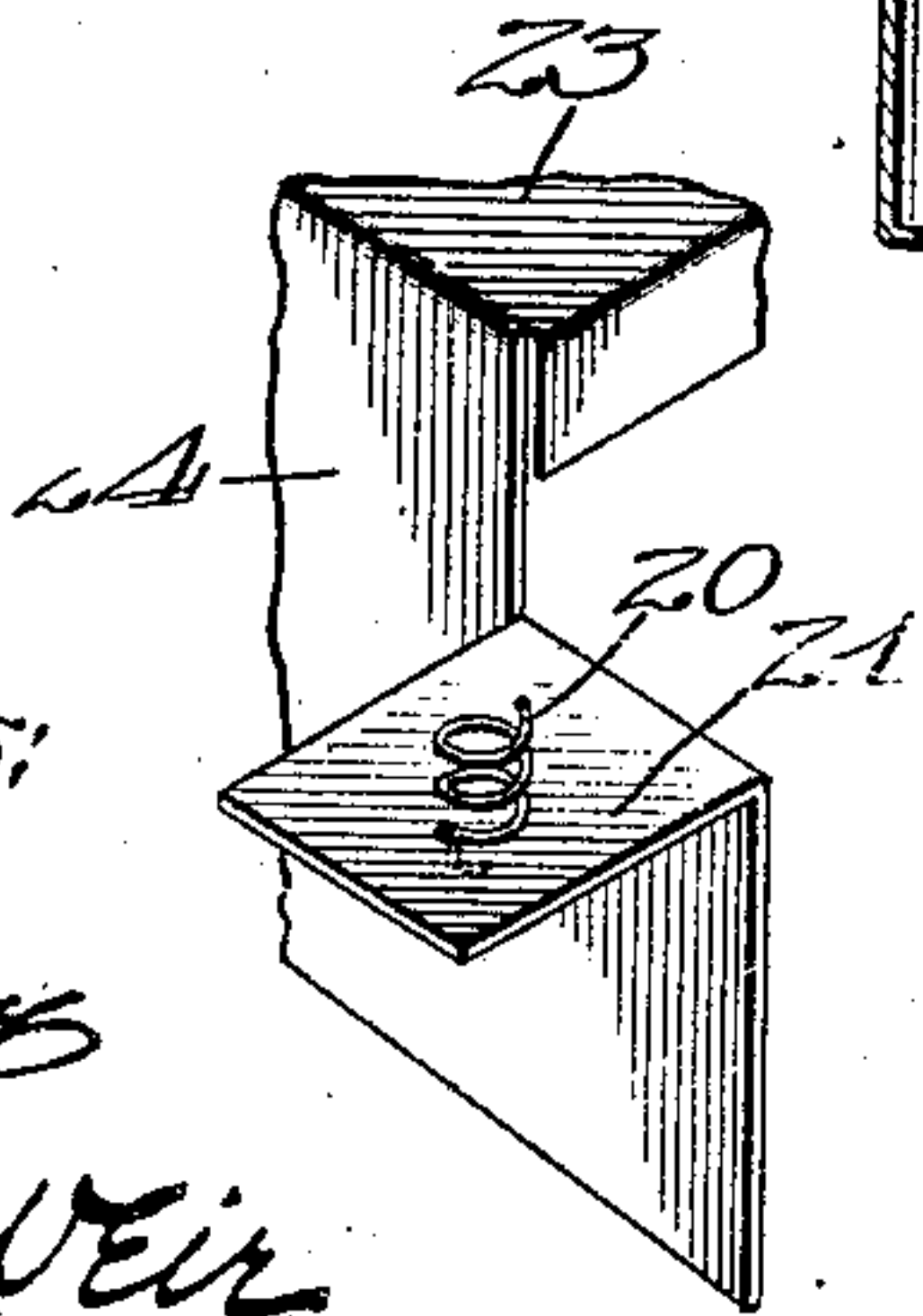


Fig. 7.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## MOISTENER.

No. 898,720.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 15, 1908.

Application filed November 4, 1907. Serial No. 400,555.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY G. CAMPBELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Moisteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to moisteners to be employed for moistening labels, postage stamps and the like, or for other purposes, such as moistening the fingers when counting money.

The device of my invention might also be used for the application of a thin mucilage.

The invention has for its object to provide a simple, compact moistener which will deliver the moistening fluid in relatively small amounts and which can be made at a very small cost.

In carrying out my invention I employ a wick which lies over a flat table with its ends extending into the receptacle for the moistening fluid. Above this table is arranged a perforated plate, or other like device, by means of which the moistening fluid may be delivered to the under side of a label. This plate is elastically supported above the table, so that it may be depressed into contact with the wick which lies thereon. In the moisteners in which the perforated plate is pressed down against a sponge or thick pad soaked with the moistening fluid, the person using the moistener is apt to depress the plate too far and consequently get too much of the fluid through the perforations in the plate. This I obviate by arranging the wick with its ends only in the fluid and so that it will be squeezed between the table and the perforated plate. By elastically supporting my perforated plate above the table, so that it will be at all times substantially parallel to the table, the delivery of the moistening fluid is uniform over substantially the entire surface of the plate.

Moisteners which utilize the flexibility of the plate are defective in that the center part where the pressure is exerted will receive a relatively large amount of water from the wick or pad, while the edges will receive little or none.

My invention has for further objects the new and improved constructions and arrangements hereafter to be described in the specification and set out more particularly in the claims thereof.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a plan view of one form or embodiment of my invention, parts being broken away for purposes of illustration. 60 Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 4 is a detail in perspective illustrating one way of elastically 65 supporting the perforated plate. Fig. 5 is a plan view illustrating a modification. Fig. 6 is a section on line 6—6 of Fig. 5, looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 7 is a detail view in perspective illustrating the arrange- 70 ment of the springs employed in the device of the last two figures. Fig. 8 is a sectional view illustrating another modification taken on the line 8—8 of Fig. 9, looking in the direction of the arrows; and Fig. 9 is a partial sec- 75 tion taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Like characters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

In the drawings, 10 represents a receptacle, or box, of any desired shape, here shown as rectangular. This receptacle is fitted with a cover 11, which has a central opening for the perforated label holder. The latter may be made in various shapes. Preferably 85 it will consist of a perforated plate 12, which is dished and has its rim bent so as to form the flanges 13. The perforated plate 12, on which the label is placed when the device is used for the purpose of moistening a label, 90 thus stands at a little distance above the cover 11. Within the receptacle is a table which may be constructed in any desired manner. I have shown it as consisting of the horizontal portion 14 supported by the 95 legs 15, 15 having feet 16, the latter abutting the sides of the receptacle, so as to prevent the spread of the legs. This is a preferred form of table, but any means for rigidly supporting the wick might be substituted for it. 100 The wick 17 lies over this table with its ends extending into the moistening fluid in the receptacle.

I prefer to give the label holder its elastic support by means of springs lying under and 105 attached to the cover in such a way that, when the cover is removed from the receptacle, the label holder will be held thereto. This is merely for convenience when the receptacle is to be replenished with the mois- 110



tening fluid. I have shown such an arrangement in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive. Attached to the under side of the cover are two leaf springs 18, 18, the ends of which extend under and engage with shoulders 19 formed by cutting away the side flanges of the label holder. These springs will give under pressure of the hand, so that the perforated label holder may be brought against the wick 17 lying over the table.

In Figs. 5, 6 and 7 I have shown other means for elastically supporting the label holder. In this form of device I employ four spiral springs 20 which are seated upon brackets 21 formed by bending over a portion of the legs 22 of the table 23 employed in this form of device.

In Figs. 8 and 9 I have shown a different arrangement of springs. Here the table 24 is provided with the legs 25 which have the off-set portions 26 forming abutments for the ends of the leaf springs 27, which may, if desired, be riveted to the flange of the label holder, one at each end thereof.

Other modifications like those above described might be devised, and I, therefore, do not wish to limit myself to the precise constructions and devices set forth.

It will be noted that the perforated plate lies somewhat above the cover of the receptacle. This makes it easy for the label, or such like device, to be drawn off the plate as the latter moves away from the wick. The device is constructed so that only a small amount of liquid can be delivered to the holder, but should there be any excess, it will run back into the receptacle between the flanges of the cover and the plate. It will be noted that the springs are arranged in a dry place. These parts are usually of steel and likely to be rusted if allowed to become wet. It will be seen that the part referred to as a cover constitutes, in effect, an inturned rim for the receptacle against which the flange of the perforated plate 12 is pressed. This arrangement might be brought about by other means than a cover which slips over the top of the receptacle in the manner shown in the drawings.

I claim:

1. The combination with a receptacle of a cover for the receptacle having an opening therein a table arranged under said opening, a wick on said table, a moisture receiving device arranged in said opening above the table and normally out of contact with the wick thereon and elastic means connecting the moisture receiving device and cover.

2. The combination with a receptacle of a cover for the receptacle having an opening therein a table under said opening, a wick on said table, a moisture receiving device arranged in said opening above and normally out of contact with the wick on said table and with its moisture receiving surface normally above the cover of said receptacle and elastic means connecting the moisture receiving device and cover.

3. The combination with a receptacle, of a cover for the receptacle having an opening therein, a body of absorbent material arranged under said opening, a moisture receiving device arranged in said opening above the body of absorbent material, and normally out of contact with the same, and elastic means connecting the moisture receiving device and the cover.

4. The combination with a receptacle having an inturned rim, of a dished, perforated plate having a flange extending under said rim, springs upon which said dished plate is mounted, and a body of absorbent material in said receptacle under the dished plate.

5. The combination with a receptacle, of a cover having an opening therein, a dished, perforated plate arranged in the opening so that the perforated part thereof stands above the top of the receptacle, springs on which said plate is mounted, and a body of absorbent material within the receptacle and under said plate.

6. The combination with a receptacle, of a cover having an opening therein, a dished, perforated plate arranged in the opening so that the perforated part thereof stands above the top of the receptacle, springs on which said plate is mounted, a table within the receptacle, and a wick upon said table.

7. The combination with a receptacle, of a cover having an opening therein, a moisture receiving device separate from but elastically supported by and connected with said cover, a table within the receptacle under said cover, and a wick upon said table.

8. The combination with a receptacle, of a cover having an opening therein, a dished, perforated plate arranged to extend through said opening and having flanges extending under the cover, flat springs on the under side of the cover elastically supporting said dished, perforated plate, a table within said receptacle, and a wick upon said table.

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Witnesses:

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