

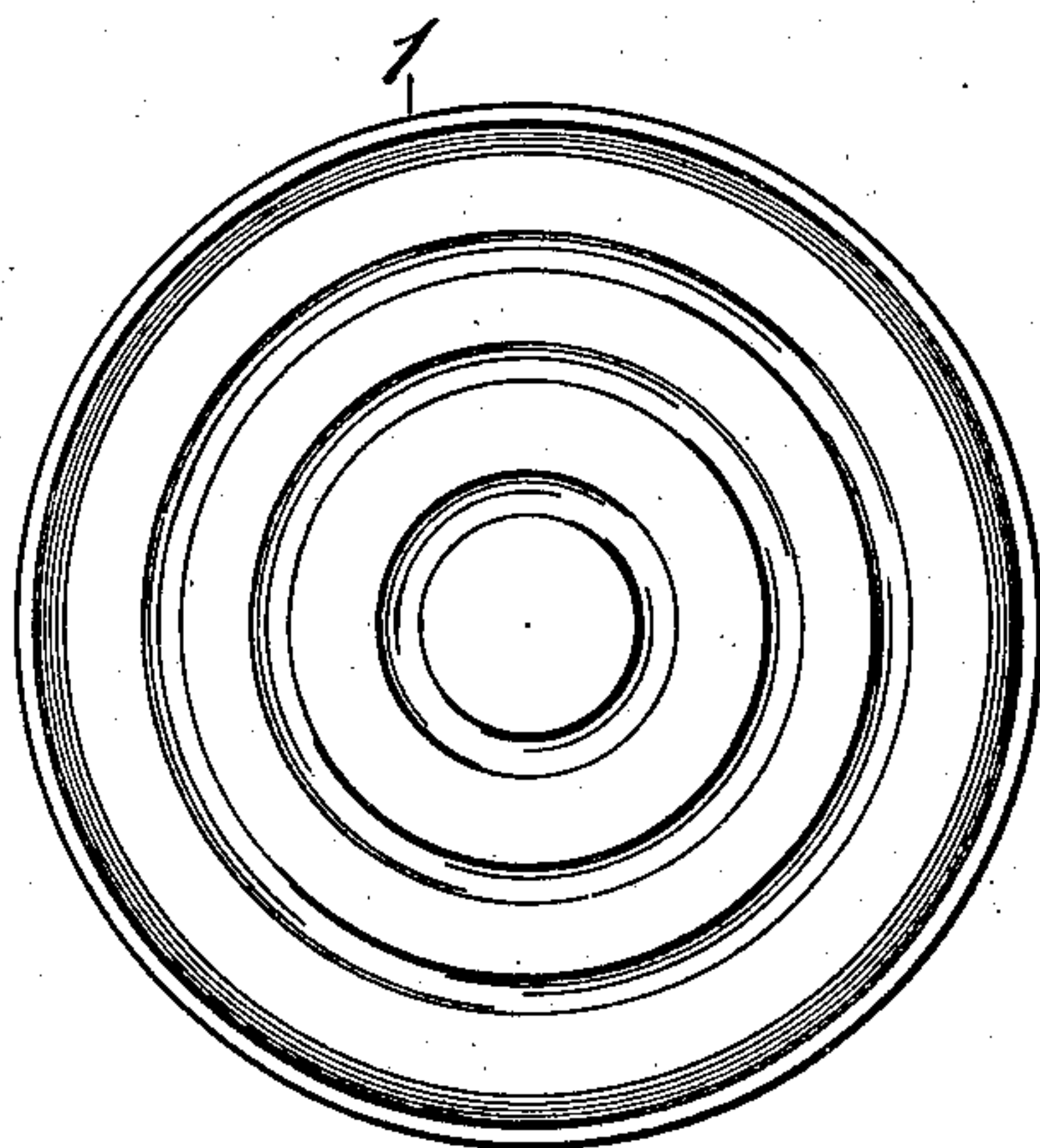
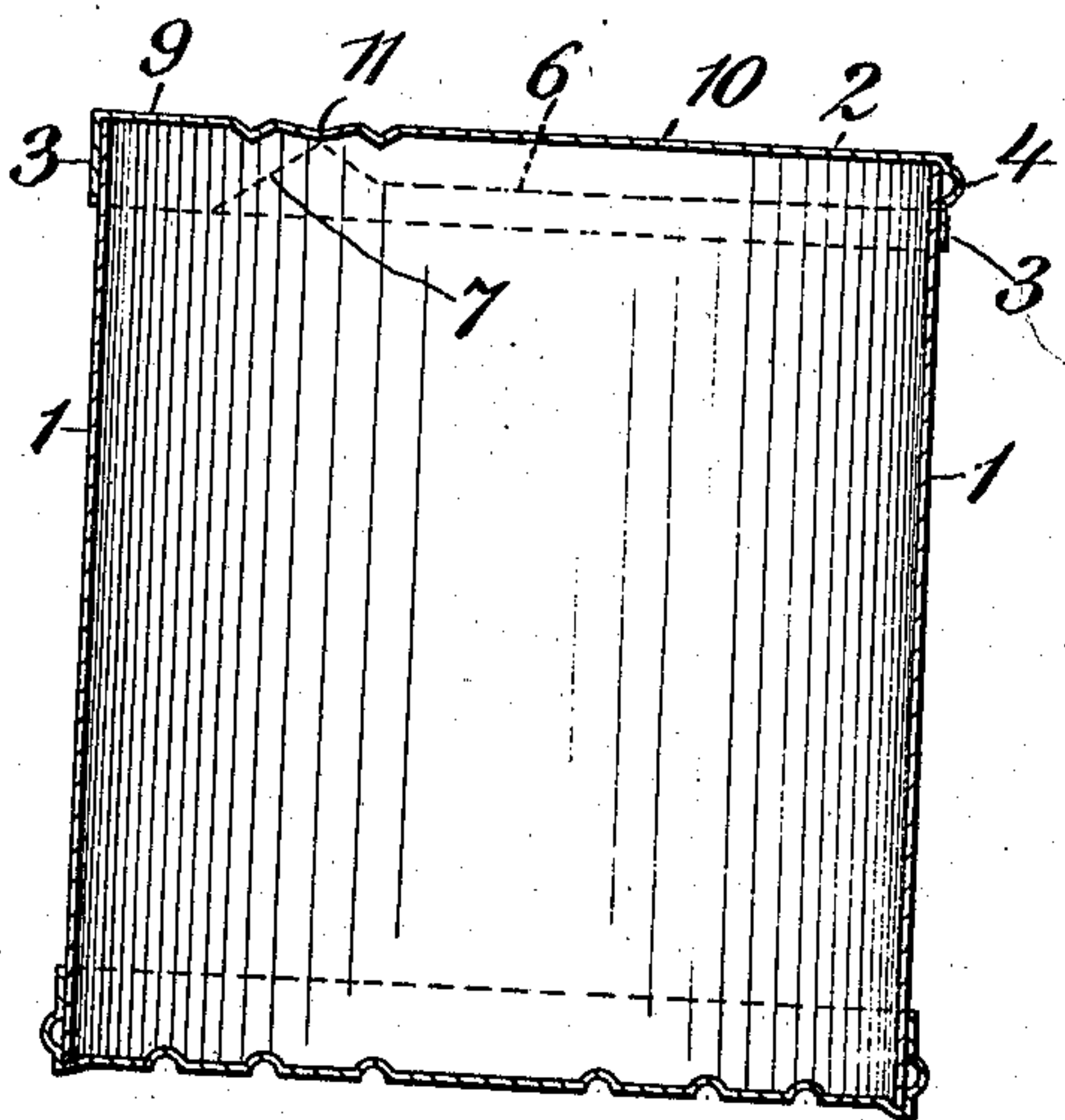
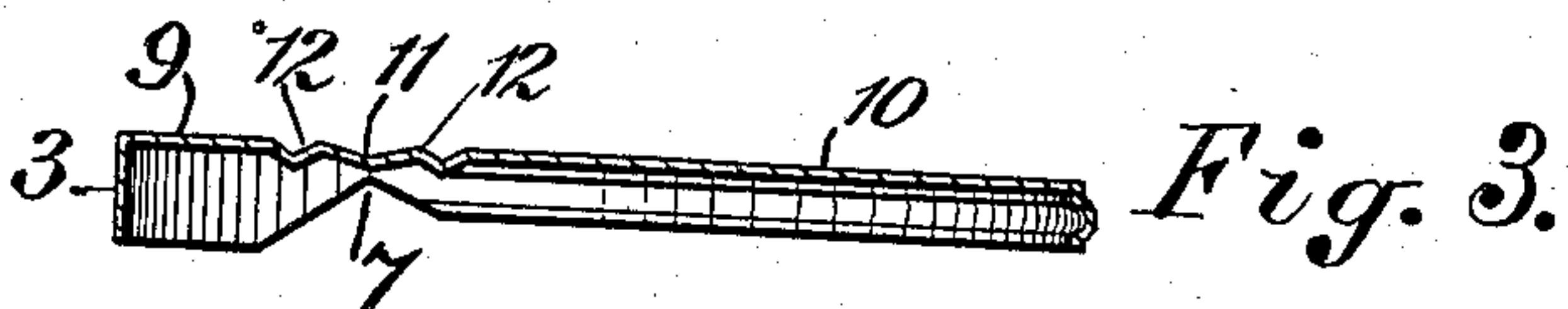
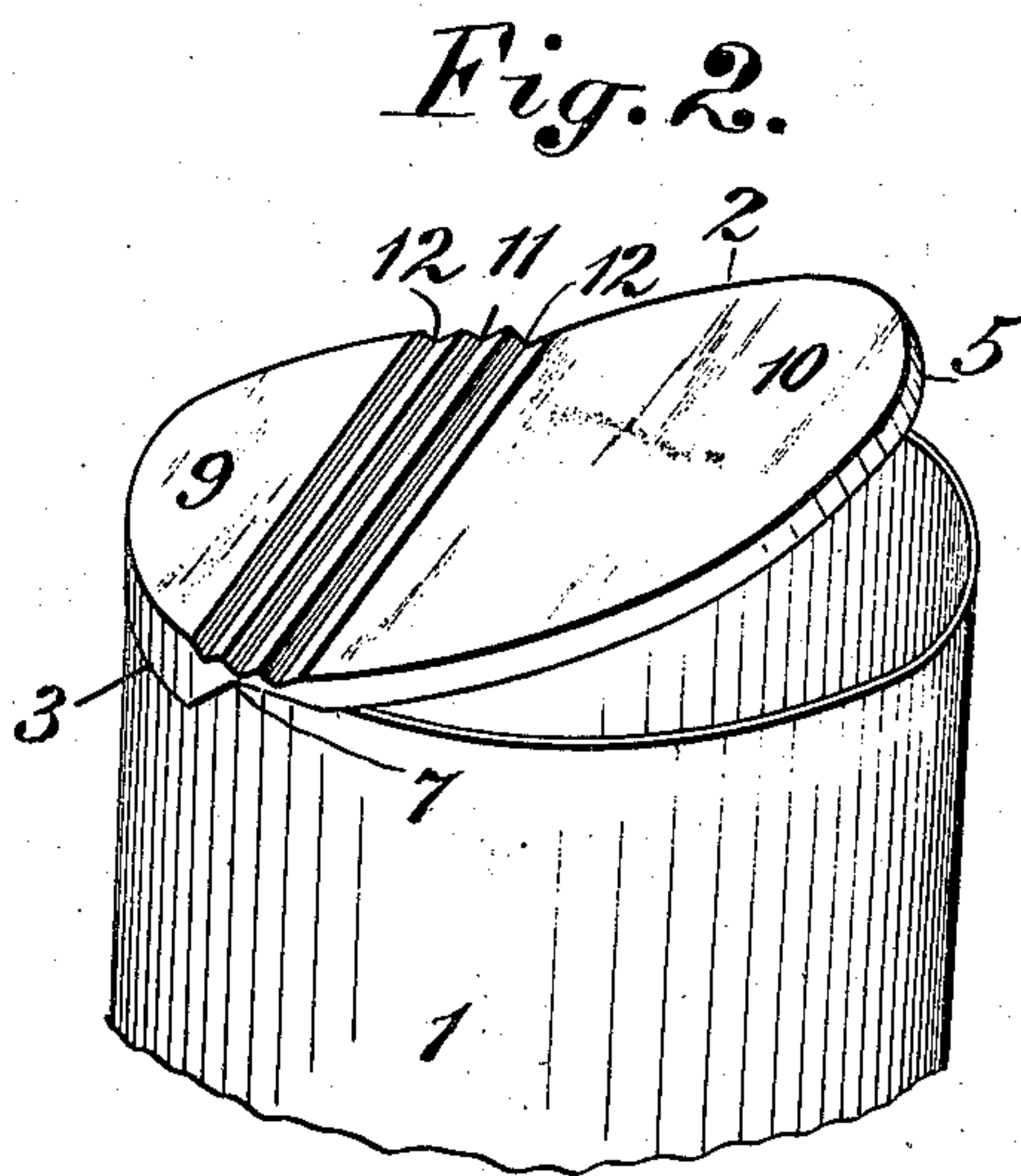
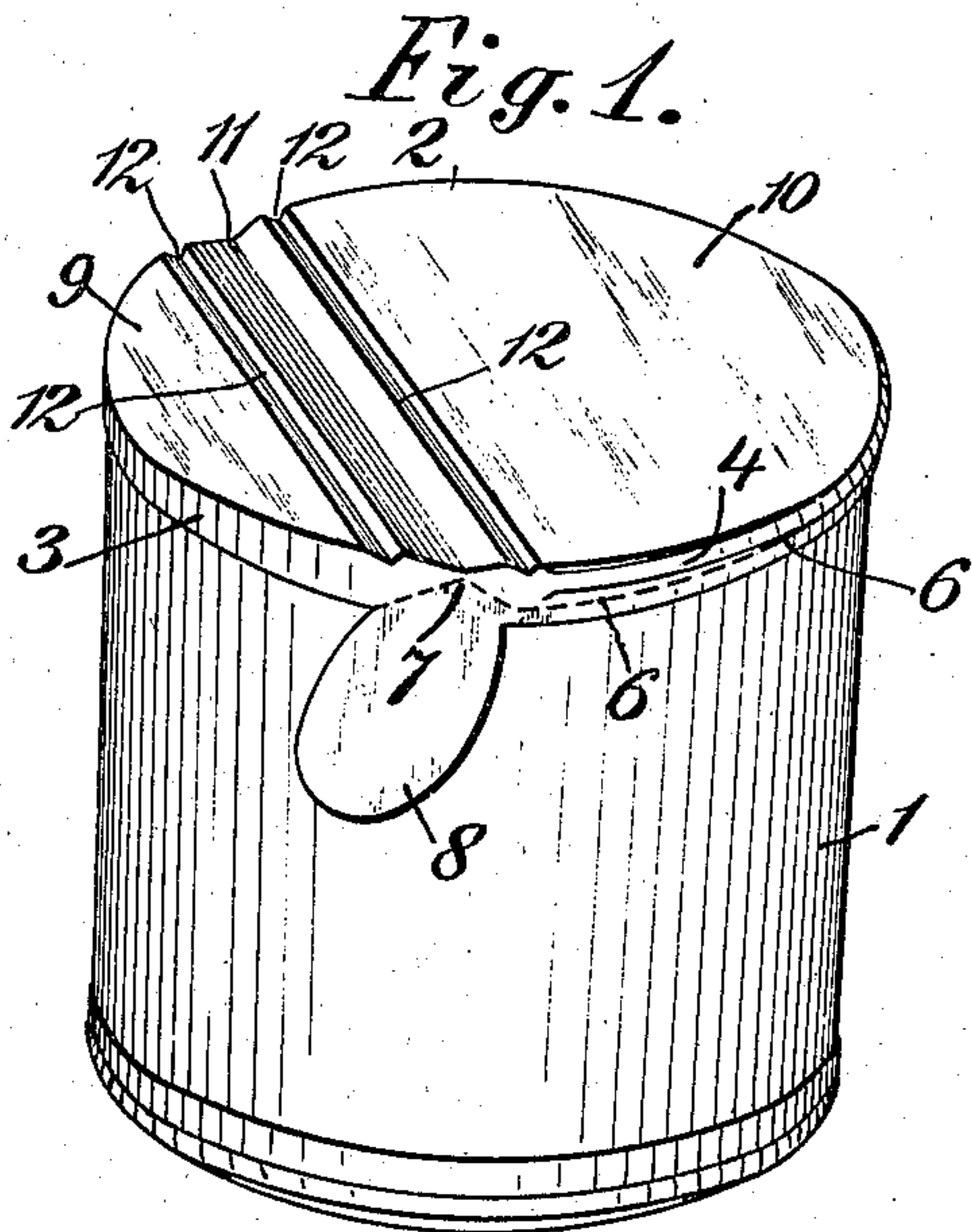
H. L. FREEBORN.

TOP FOR CANS.

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915,845.

Patented Mar. 23, 1909.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOP FOR CANS.

No. 915,845.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 23, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY L. FREEBORN, a citizen of the United States, residing at No. 100 West One hundred and thirty-ninth street, in the borough of Manhattan, New York, N. Y., which is also my post-office address, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tops for Cans, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

My invention relates to sheet metal cans, the invention residing particularly in the novel construction of the lid or cover of the can, whereby the can may be hermetically sealed in the usual manner and afterward opened without the use of a separate tool and without destroying the usefulness of the lid as a cover.

The lid is secured to the body of the can by means of a flange which embraces said body, and one of the main objects of the invention is to provide means whereby a portion of this flange may be readily and conveniently removed.

A further object of the invention is to provide novel means whereby a portion of the lid or cover may be disconnected from the body of the can, leaving the remaining portion attached thereto, so that the disconnected portion may be bent upwardly for the purpose of getting at the contents of the can without entirely disconnecting the lid from the can.

Other objects of the invention will hereinafter appear and the novel features thereof will be set forth in the claims.

In the drawings forming part of the specification: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a can showing the lid or cover constructed according to my invention applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a similar view, with the detachable portion of the flange removed and a portion of the lid or cover raised and showing a modified form of cover flange; Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view of the lid or cover after the detachable portion thereof has been removed; Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the complete can in its closed condition, and Fig. 5 is a bottom view thereof.

Like reference numerals indicate like parts in the different views.

The body 1 of the can may be of any suitable form or construction. It has been shown, however, as cylindrical. Secured to

one end thereof is a lid or cover 2 having a flange 3 extending around the edge thereof which closely embraces the body 1 and is adapted to be soldered thereto. This flange may be ribbed or beaded, as shown at 4, in Figs. 1 and 3, or may be left plain, as shown at 5, Fig. 2. Extending around the flange 3 is a line of weakening 6 which may be formed by indentations or in any other suitable way. This line of weakening is provided for the purpose of enabling the lower portion of the flange 3 to be disconnected from the upper portion thereof for the purpose of opening the can. On opposite sides of the cover 2 the line of weakening 6 has been shown as extended upwardly and then downwardly to produce the notches 7, and adjacent to said notches a handle or finger-piece 8 is formed.

It is essential that the line of weakening 6 shall extend at one end from a point intermediate the upper and lower edges of the flange 3, down to the lower edge of said flange, and that the handle 8 be connected to said flange at this point. The reason for this will be obvious when it is understood that after the cover 2 is applied to the body 1 of the can and soldered thereto along the lower edge of the flange 3, it is intended to remove the lower portion of the flange 3 by grasping the handle 8 and severing the lower portion of the flange from the upper portion along the line of weakening 6 and at the same time disconnecting it from the body 1 of the can by tearing it from the solder which connects it therewith.

In the embodiment of my invention herein shown, it is intended that the part 9 of the cover shall be permanently secured to the body 1 of the can and that the part 10 thereof may be disconnected from the body of the can so as to be moved upwardly. For this reason two notches 7 have been shown on opposite sides of the flange 3, the two parts 9 and 10 of the cover being separated from each other by the line connecting said notches. This line divides the cover 2 into the two parts 9 and 10, which are of unequal size. Along the line between the notches 7 a groove 11 may be formed to facilitate the bending of the lid or cover, although this is not essential. On opposite sides of the line of division between the two parts of the cover, however, I prefer to employ stiffening ribs 12 so as to insure the flexure of the cover along the line 11. It is important that the line of

weakening 6, in the form of the invention herein shown, should extend up to a point adjacent to the flat surface of the lid or cover 2 and down to the lower edge of the flange 3.

5 In using the device in the form illustrated, the lid or cover 2 is applied and the flange 3 thereof is soldered to the body 1 along the lower edge of said flange, so as to hermetically seal the can and retain the cover in
10 place. When it is desired to get at the contents of the can, the handle 8 is grasped and moved laterally, the pressure exerted tearing or severing the lower part of the flange 3 from the upper part 2, along the line of the notches
15 7 and the main portion of the line of weakening 6. When the lower part of the flange has been completely removed, the part 10 of the cover may be raised, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the same hinging along the line 11
20 which separates the two parts 9 and 10 of the cover from each other. If it be desired to afterward close the cover, the part 10 may be bent downwardly into the position shown in Fig. 1, where it will be held by the frictional contact of the flange 3 with the end of the body 1.

Having described my invention, I claim.—

1. The combination with the body of a can, of a lid or cover having an annular
30 flange thereon secured along its lower edge to said body, the said flange having a line of weakening therein which terminates at two points on opposite sides thereof and which extends at its ends down to the lower edge
35 of said flange, forming a detachable portion or strip, and a handle on said detachable portion.

2. The combination with the body of a can, of a lid or cover having an annular
40 flange thereon secured along its lower edge to said body, the said flange having a line of weakening therein which terminates at two points on opposite sides thereof and which extends at its ends down to the lower edge
45 of said flange, forming a detachable portion or strip, stiffening ribs on the surface of said lid or cover on opposite sides of the line of connection between the ends of said line of

weakening, and a handle on said detachable portion.

3. The combination with the body of a can, of a lid or cover having an annular flange thereon secured along its lower edge to said body, the said flange having a line of weakening therein which extends upwardly
55 at two points on opposite sides thereof and then downwardly at its ends to the lower edge of said flange, producing notches, and forming a detachable portion or strip, and a handle on said detachable portion.

4. The combination with a can body, of a top attached to the can body by a flange, with a line of indentations upon a portion of the flange, forming a detachable strip, and notches 7 close to the disk of the can top at
65 the ends of such strip, with the groove 11 extended across the disk between the said notches to facilitate the flexure of the top when the strip is detached.

5. The combination with a can body, of a
70 top attached to the can body by a flange, and having the transverse groove 11 dividing it into two portions, and the flange of one portion being provided with a detachable strip to release such portion to serve as a
75 hinged lid.

6. The combination with a can body, of a top attached to the can body by a flange and having the transverse groove 11 dividing it into two unequal portions 9 and 10, the
80 flange of the portion 10 being formed with a rib 4 adjacent to the disk and with a line of indentations below such rib to form a separable strip with notches 7 in the flange at opposite ends of such strip and a handle 8 at
85 attached to the flange, whereby the strip may be attached and the portion 10 released to serve as a hinged lid.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing
90 witnesses.

HARRY L. FREEBORN.

Witnesses:

W. H. VAN STERNBERGH,
JACOB MARX.