

G. D. EDDY.

SPUTUM CUP.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1909.

970,480.

Patented Sept. 20, 1910.

Fig. 1

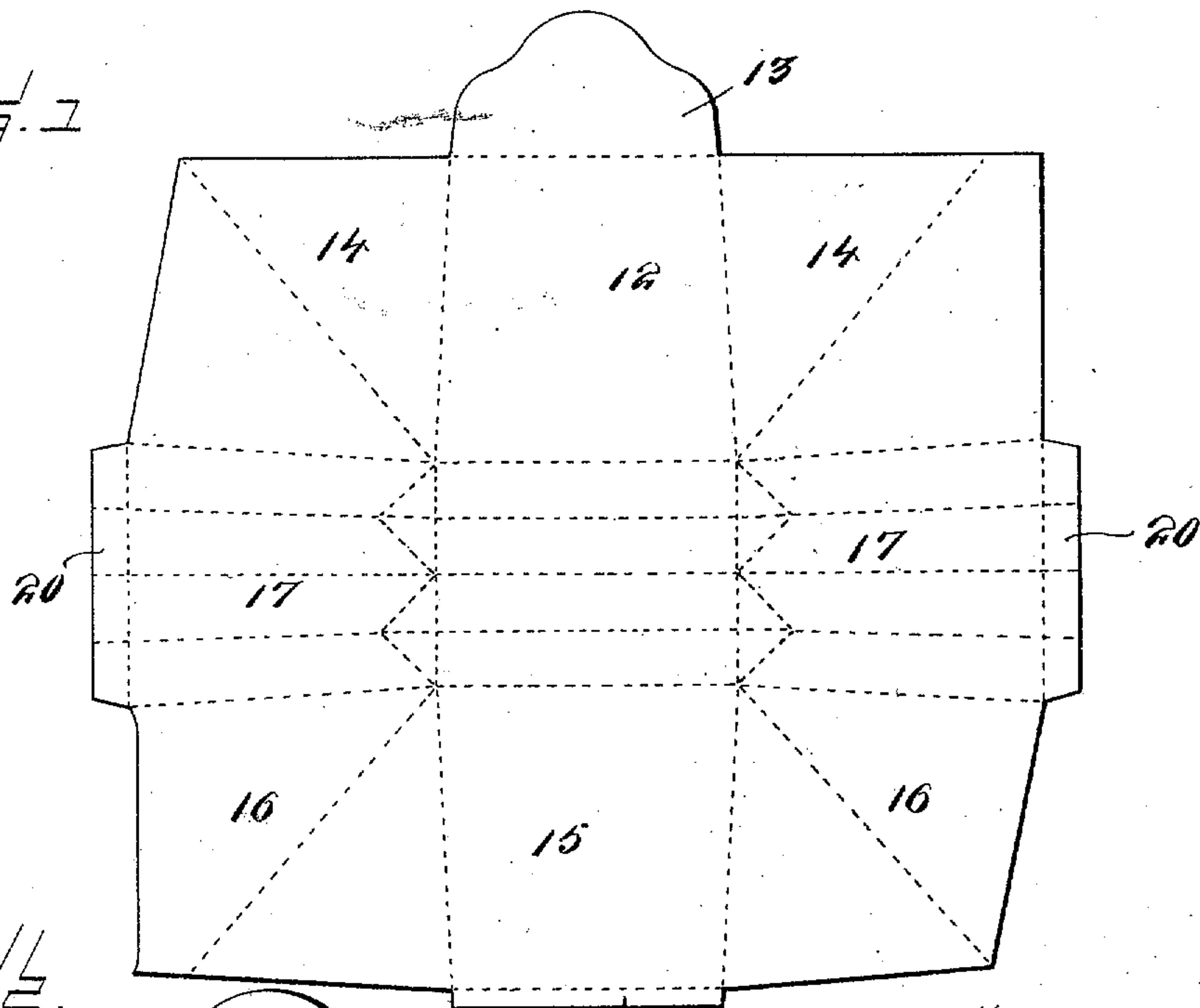


Fig. 2

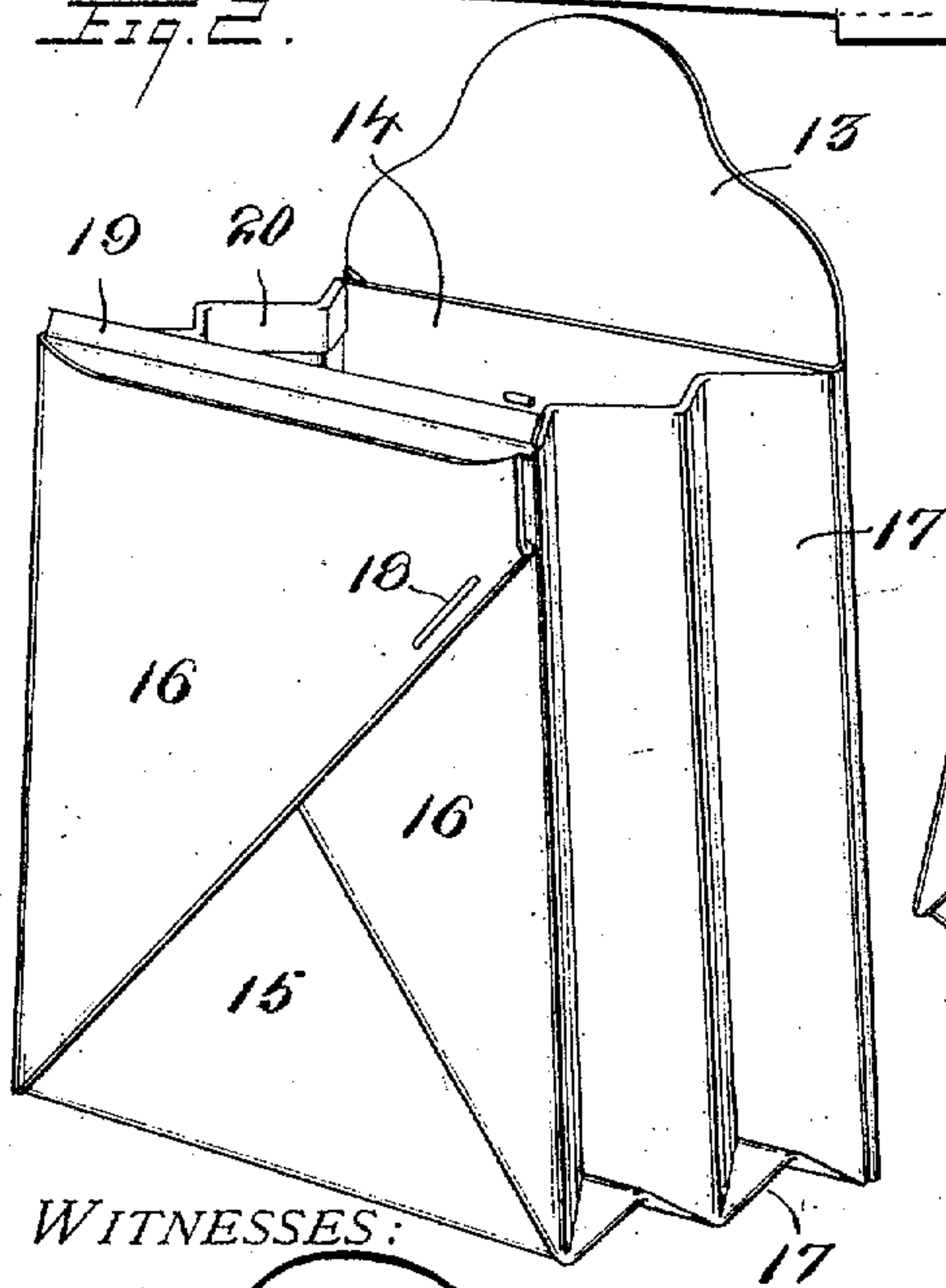


Fig. 3

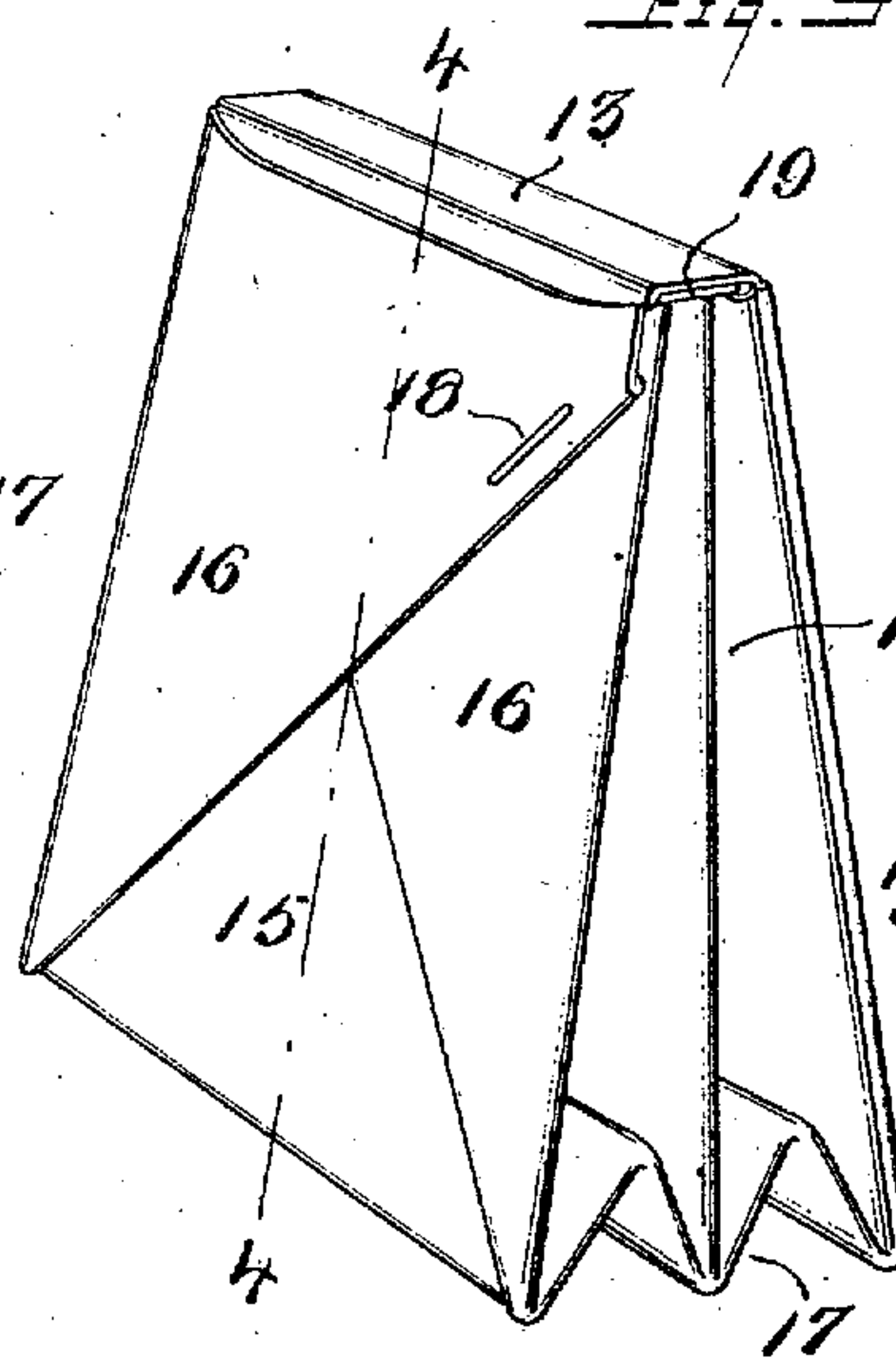
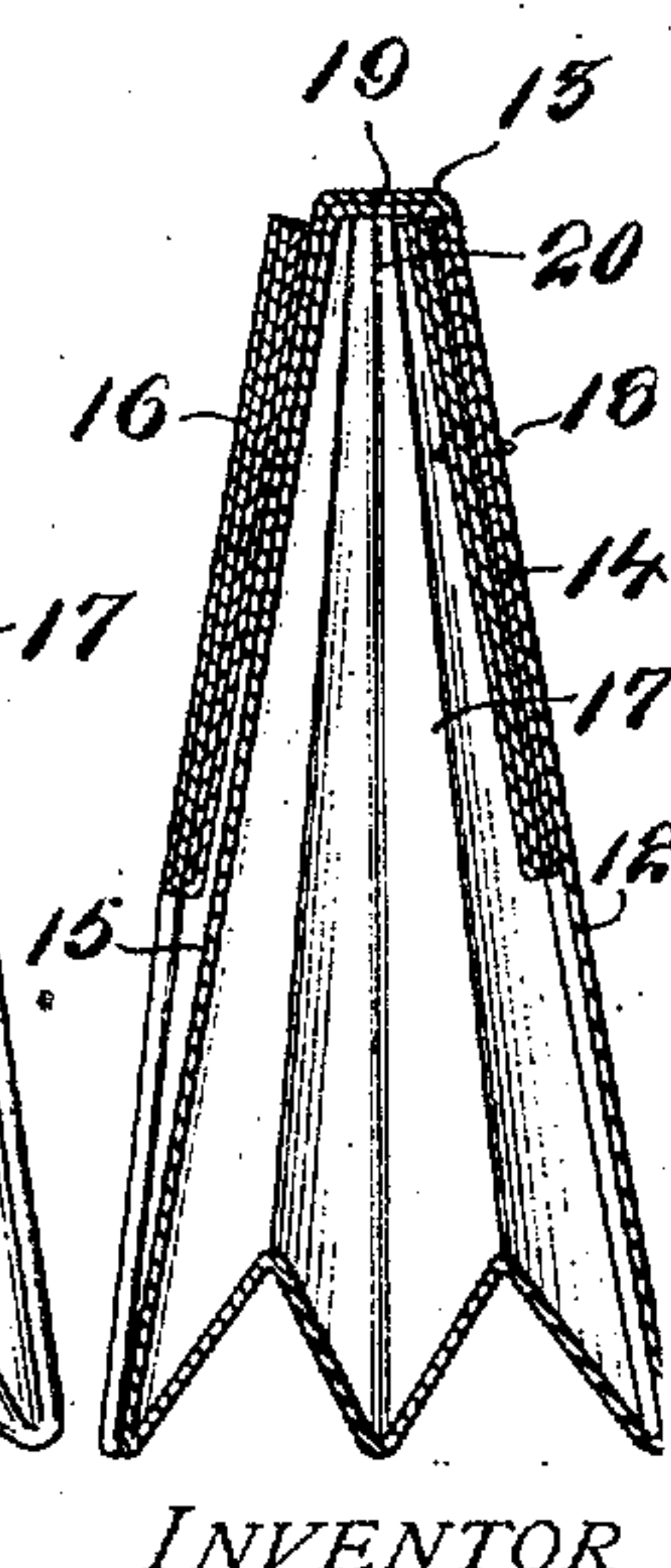


Fig. 4



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE DAYTON EDDY, OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT.

SPUTUM-CUP.

970,480.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE DAYTON EDDY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Burlington, in the county of Chittenden and State of Vermont, have invented or discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Sputum-Cups, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to sputum cups or sanitary cuspidors, and has reference more particularly to that type of cuspidor which is manufactured from inexpensive material and is designed to be used until filled a single time and thereafter destroyed with its contents.

The principal objects of my invention are to produce a sputum cup which will be inexpensive to manufacture, which will have a maximum capacity with a minimum bulk, which may be used either as a pocket flask or a cup for use at the bedside and for similar purposes, and which will be perfectly sanitary in every respect.

Other objects of this invention, together with means whereby the same may be carried into effect, will best be understood from the following detailed description of one form or embodiment thereof illustrated in the accompanying drawings. It is to be understood, however, that the embodiment of the invention shown and described has been chosen for illustrative purposes merely, and that other constructions may be adopted without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

In the said drawings: Figure 1 is a view of the blank from which the cup is formed. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the cup in its distended position and with the cover raised for use. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the cup folded for use as a pocket flask, this view showing the bellows folds spread to give the cup substantially its maximum capacity when used in this manner and for this purpose. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the cup taken substantially on the line 4-4, Fig. 3.

The cup forming the subject of the present invention is preferably formed of paper or similar inexpensive sheet material, said material being cut into a blank of substantially the form shown in Fig. 1, which blank is thereafter folded, to form the cup, along the dotted lines appearing in said figure. Said cup comprises a rear wall, a front wall,

and side and bottom walls forming a receptacle or body portion, and preferably a cover for closing said receptacle portion when said cup is used as a pocket flask. The rear wall of the cup is formed by a portion 12 having an attached or preferably integral cover or flap 13 and portions 14, 14 adapted to be folded inwardly adjacent the inner surfaces of the portion 12. The front wall, as herein shown, comprises a portion 15 forming the interior surface of the said wall, and portions 16, 16 which are folded outwardly upon the exterior surface of the portion 15, thereby forming in said front wall a pocket for the reception of the cover or flap 13. The side and bottom walls are preferably provided with a plurality of bellows folds 17 as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3. After folding the blank shown in Fig. 1, to form the cup shown in Fig. 2, the parts thereof may be secured in their proper positions by any suitable means, herein shown as staples 18.

With the construction just described it will be observed that the completed cup may be folded into an extremely small compass for purposes of packing, the bellows folds being completely closed on one another. With the parts in the position shown in Figs. 3 and 4 the cup can be readily carried in the pocket for use as a pocket flask without occupying an appreciable space therein, it being necessary to distend the bellows folds 17 only so far as is necessary in order to provide the necessary capacity for the cup. Under ordinary conditions of use the folds will be opened to an extent not materially greater than that shown in Fig. 3, although capable of being opened farther, if necessary, while until the cup is partly filled these folds may be closed somewhat from the condition shown in order to make the cup more compact for pocket use. It will furthermore be seen that after using the cup during the day as a pocket flask, or at other times when desired, the same may be distended into the position shown in Fig. 2 for use at the bedside or similar places. When in the latter position, with the bellows folds 17 suitably distended, the cup is capable of standing alone on a plain surface, thereby obviating the necessity of the usual metal holders. In Fig. 2 the cup is shown with the cover raised for use. When not in actual use, however, the cover

will preferably be closed, as in Fig. 3, the cup being given its full capacity and being put into a condition to stand alone by distending the bellows folds in the bottom of the cup to substantially their full limit, as shown in Fig. 2. It will furthermore be seen that, by reason of the fact that the flaps 16 are folded upon the exterior surface of the portion 15 of the front wall, said front wall presents an unbroken interior surface thereby effectually protecting the lower edge of the cover or flap 13, when in closed position, from contact with and contamination by the contents of the cup. As a further protection to the interior surface of said cover 13 and for the further purpose of assisting in guiding said cover into the pocket provided for the same and to prevent said cover from being advertently introduced into the interior of the cup, the portion 15 is preferably provided with a permanently attached or integral flap 19, arranged as shown in the drawings adjacent the cover receiving pocket and adapted, when the cover 14 is closed, to extend across the mouth of the cup beneath said cover. With this construction if said cup be turned sidewise in the pocket of the user or overturned at this or other times the contents thereof will be effectually prevented from soiling the interior face of the cover 13.

With a view to preventing as far as possible the unnecessary soiling of the cup, means are preferably provided for holding the sides of the bellows folds 17 out of contact with one another in the interior of the cup, thereby preventing the contents of the cup from working upwardly by capillarity. In the construction shown the upper edges of the side walls of the cup are provided with inwardly and downwardly turned flaps or marginal portions 20 thereby providing said side portions with thickened upper edges. These inwardly turned edges 20, besides holding the bellows folds out of contact with one another in the manner described, also serve to prevent the contents of the cup from spilling or working over the upper edges should the cup be overturned or should the contents find their way to the upper edges of the side walls in any other manner.

Having thus described my invention I

claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent:—

1. In a sputum cup of the character described, the combination with a body portion, of a cover, and means carried by said body portion and lying adjacent said cover when closed for protecting said cover from contact with the contents of said cup.

2. In a sputum cup, the combination with a rear wall having an attached cover, of a front wall having a pocket to receive said cover, and means separate from said cover for guiding the same into said pocket.

3. In a sputum cup, the combination with a rear wall having an attached cover, of a front wall having a pocket to receive said cover, and a flap carried by said front wall adjacent said pocket for guiding said cover into said pocket and for protecting said cover from contact with the contents of said cup.

4. A sputum cup comprising rear, front, side, and bottom walls, said side and bottom walls being provided with a plurality of bellows folds, said rear wall having an attached cover, and said front wall having a pocket to receive said cover and a flap adjacent said pocket.

5. A sputum cup comprising a box like structure folded from a single blank, said blank having a portion forming the rear wall of the structure and provided with a permanently attached cover, a portion forming the inner surface of the front wall of said structure and having a flap projecting above said wall, and portions folded into flaps at the exterior of said front wall to form a pocket for said cover.

6. A sputum cup comprising rear, front, side, and bottom walls, said side and bottom walls being provided with bellows folds and having inwardly and downwardly turned upper edges, said rear wall having an attached cover, and said front wall having a pocket to receive said cover and an inwardly turned flap adjacent said pocket.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE DAYTON EDDY.

Witnesses:

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