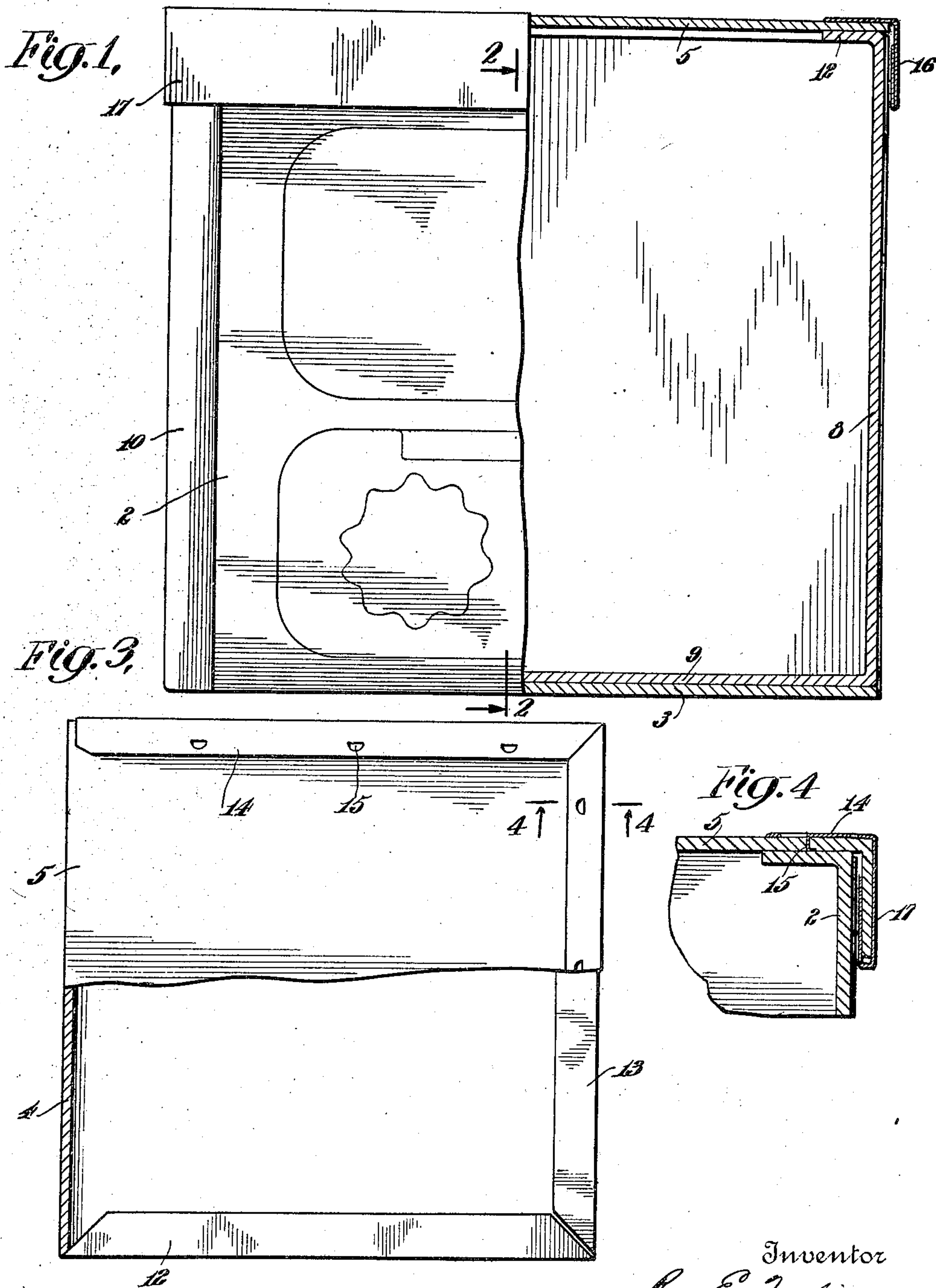


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R. E. TOMLINSON.
CARTON.
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2 SHEETS-SHEET 1



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARTON.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROY E. TOMLINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Montclair, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cartons, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cartons or containers which are intended particularly for food products, such as crackers, biscuits, etc. The object of my invention is to provide a form of construction which may be used for carrying the goods from the manufacturer to the dealer and for the display of the goods at the dealer's place of business, the article being effective for the purpose but of a cheap construction, so that the same may be thrown away when emptied. It is a usual practice at present for boxes or cartons of an enduring character to be used in forwarding the goods from the manufacturer to the dealer with the requirement that the empty boxes be returned to the manufacturer which is sometimes considered an objectionable feature.

In the manufacture of my improved carton, accordingly, the endeavor has been to simplify the construction, eliminate waste, and to employ inexpensive materials. I accomplish this by the utilization of strips of cardboard or the like arranged to form the six sides of the carton, the top or cover section and back of the carton being integral, or at least formed of material of the same width, the top and back being joined by a suitable hinge construction, which may be formed simply by creasing the material at the joint if the top and back are integral. The top thus formed rests on the upper edges of the front and sides, and does not have any integral side flaps or flanges extending down over the side sections of the carton. Accordingly, the back and top may be formed from a strip of material of the same width without the necessity of cutting away any of the same to provide the side flanges of the cover. The front and side flanges or downwardly extending edge portions, which are necessary to make the carton tight when closed, are provided in my construction by the addition of a strip or strips of thin metal or similar stiff material which are secured to the upper surface of the cover adjacent its side and front edges,

and are bent downwardly to form the desired downwardly extending edge portions. This reinforcing means also stiffens the construction to a considerable degree, so that the carton may be formed of comparatively thin and flexible material, and yet be adapted to carry a comparatively heavy load.

In order that my invention may be more clearly understood, attention is hereby directed to the accompanying drawings forming part of this application and illustrating one embodiment of my invention. In the drawings, Fig. 1 represents a view partly in front elevation and partly in section of a carton embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in vertical section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a top plan view, certain parts being shown broken away, and one part being shown in horizontal section; Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional detail taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3; Figs. 5 and 6 are plan views of the two strips from which the carton may be formed; and Fig. 7 is a plan elevation of the strips mounted in position, prior to folding the same into the form of a carton.

Referring to the drawings, my improved carton is preferably formed of a pair of strips of cardboard or the like material. Of these the strip 1, shown in Fig. 5, is adapted to form the front, bottom, back and top portions of the carton. These portions may be formed respectively by the portions 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the strip, the strip being adapted to be bent on the lines shown in dash at 6 and 6'. The sides of the box are adapted to be formed by the portions 7 and 8 of the strip shown in Fig. 6, which strip has a central portion 9 which is adapted to cross and be secured to the bottom portion 3 of strip 1.

In forming the box, the shorter strip may be positioned across the longer strip at right angles thereto with the central section 9 of the shorter strip positioned on and secured to the bottom portion 3 of the longer strip. The two strips then being bent along the dash lines, the sections 2 and 4 will extend upwardly to form the front and back and the sections 7 and 8 will extend upwardly to form the sides of the carton, the adjacent edges of the front and side sections and the back and side sections being then secured together by any suitable means, such as strips 10, which may be formed of any suitable ma-

terial such as tough paper or cloth or metal.

The strip 1 now being bent along the line indicated at 6', between the sections 4 and 5 of the strip, the top or cover section 5 will be adapted to rest upon the top edges of the front and side sections, and to swing about the crease in the material at the line 6'. The top section 5 may be and preferably is provided with a short extension 11 which is adapted to be bent downwardly to form a front flange which will extend in front of the front section 2 of the carton when the cover is closed. The side sections 7 and 8 and the front section 2 may be and preferably are provided with short end extensions 12, 12 and 13, which are adapted to be bent at right angles inwardly of the carton to form a more secure seat for the cover section 5. The cover section 5, however, is not provided with any side extensions to form side flanges for the cover. The two strips of which the carton is formed are preferably of the same width throughout and may be cut from one continuous strip of material, there being a considerable saving of material in comparison with a structure in which the top or cover section is provided with side flanges which, if integral, would have to be formed by cutting off the sides of the remaining portions of the strip 1.

The structure is stiffened and the downwardly extending flanges of the top section are provided, by the provision of a strip or strips of thin stiff material, such as thin metal 14. This strip material is positioned upon the top member 5 adjacent its side and front edges, and may be formed of one single strip notched and bent to form, or of three strips. The strip or strips 14 are secured to top member 5 in any convenient way, as by punching the metal at intervals to form tongues 15 which are pressed through or into the top section 5 to firmly bind the metal strip 14 thereto.

The strip 14 is bent downwardly to form side flanges 16 and a front flange 17, which flanges are adapted to extend over and alongside the side and front portions 7, 8 and 2 respectively of the carton. The side flanges 16 may have their lower edges bent back, as is shown in Fig. 1, for the sake of stiffness. It is particularly desirable that the front flange 17 should be stiff, because a salesman in taking the carton from the shelf is apt to insert the fingers of one hand under the flange 17 as he lifts the carton. Some additional stiffness is provided if the front flange 11 is provided at the front of the cover section 5, in which case the flange 17 of the strip 14 is bent around the flange 11 of the cardboard so as to press tightly

against the front and rear surfaces of the same.

The carton may be prepared in an attractive form for displaying the goods and will be of efficient and at the same time inexpensive character.

It will be understood that my invention is not strictly limited to the exact details of construction described, but is as broad as is indicated by the accompanying claims.

What I claim is:—

1. In a carton, the combination of members forming the front, bottom, back, top and sides of the carton, the top and back being formed of material of substantially equal width, joined together by a hinge connection, the top being adapted to rest on the upper edges of the front and sides, and a reinforcing strip secured to the top adjacent its front and side edges, and bent to extend down over the front and sides of the carton for a short distance, to constitute flanges and make the carton tight when closed, the side flanges thus formed being the only side flange members of the top.

2. In a carton, the combination of a pair of members crossing at the bottom and bent, one to form the sides and the other to form the front, bottom, back and top portions, of equal width, the material being creased to form a hinge between the top and back portions, and a reinforcing strip secured to the top portion adjacent its front and side edges and bent to extend down over the front and side portions of said members for a short distance to constitute flanges and to make the carton tight when closed, the side flanges thus formed being the only side flange members of the top.

3. In a carton, the combination of members forming the front, bottom, back, top and sides of the carton, the top and back being formed of material of substantially equal width, joined together by a hinge connection, the top being adapted to rest on the upper edges of the front and sides, and bent at its front edge to extend down over the front for a short distance, and a reinforcing strip secured to the top adjacent its front and side edges, and bent to extend down over the sides for a short distance and over and around the front extension of the top, to make the carton tight when closed, and to stiffen said front extension of the top.

This specification signed and witnessed this 24th day of November, 1919.

ROY E. TOMLINSON.

Witnesses:

L. D. KIDD,
M. CARLSON.