

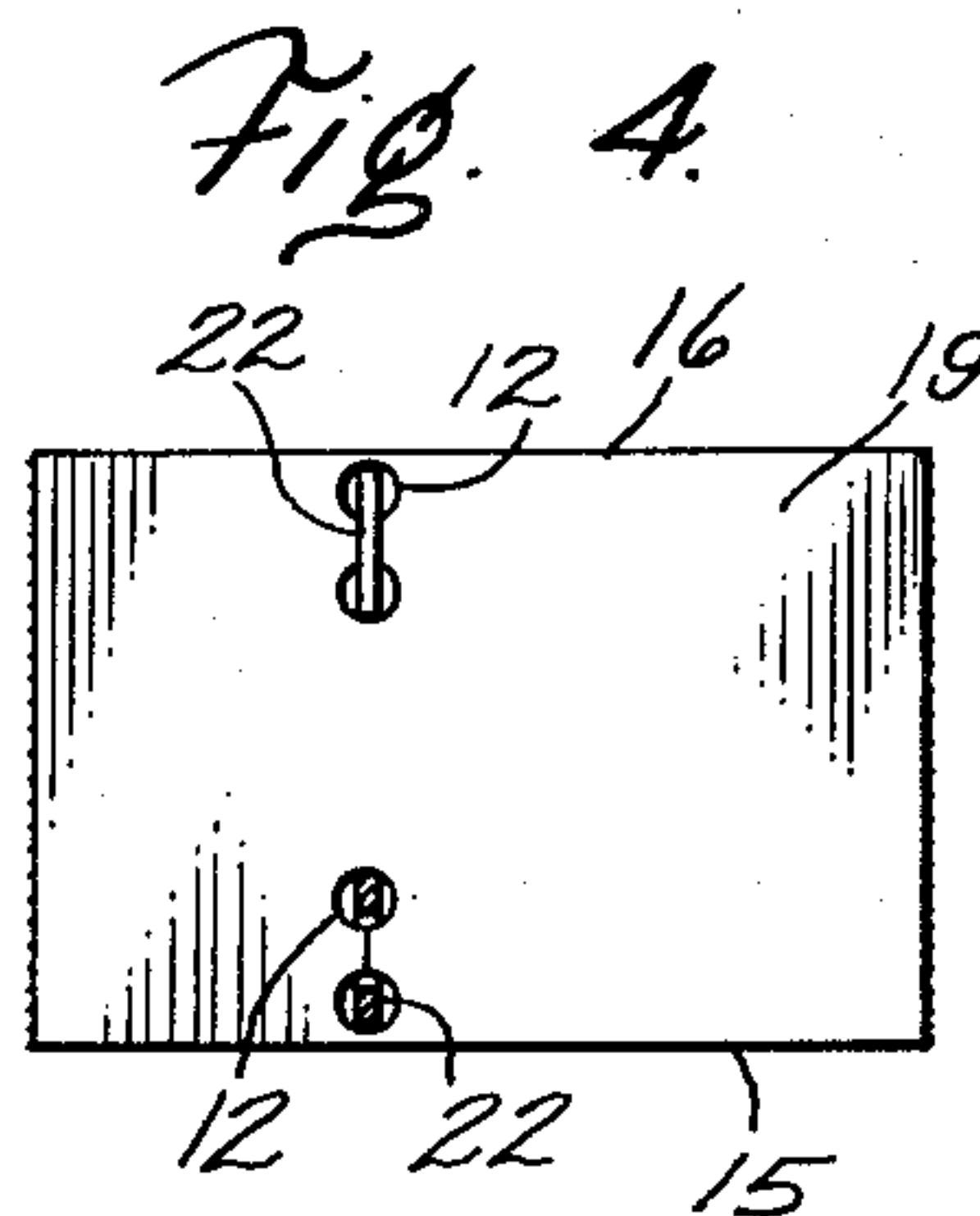
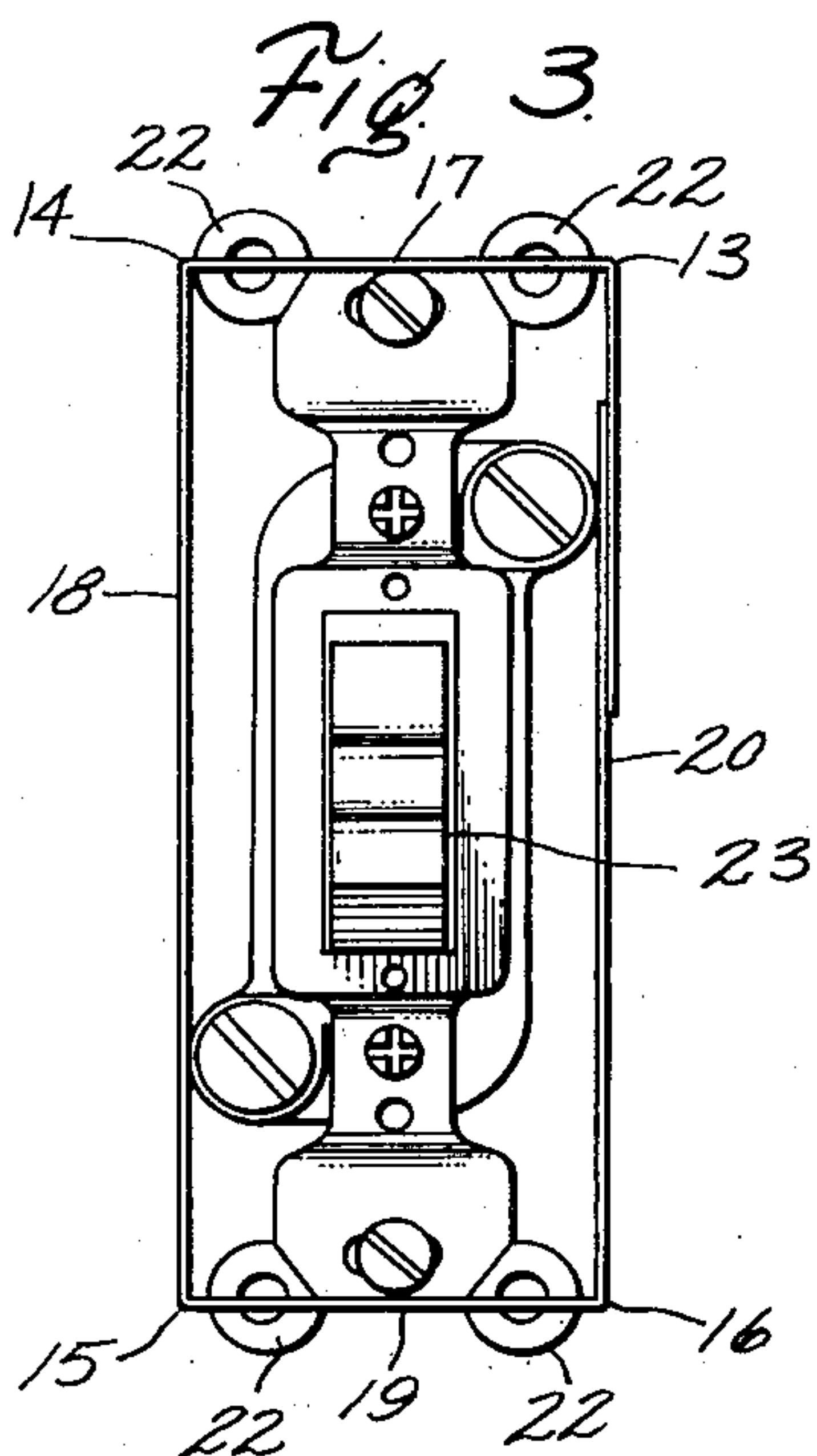
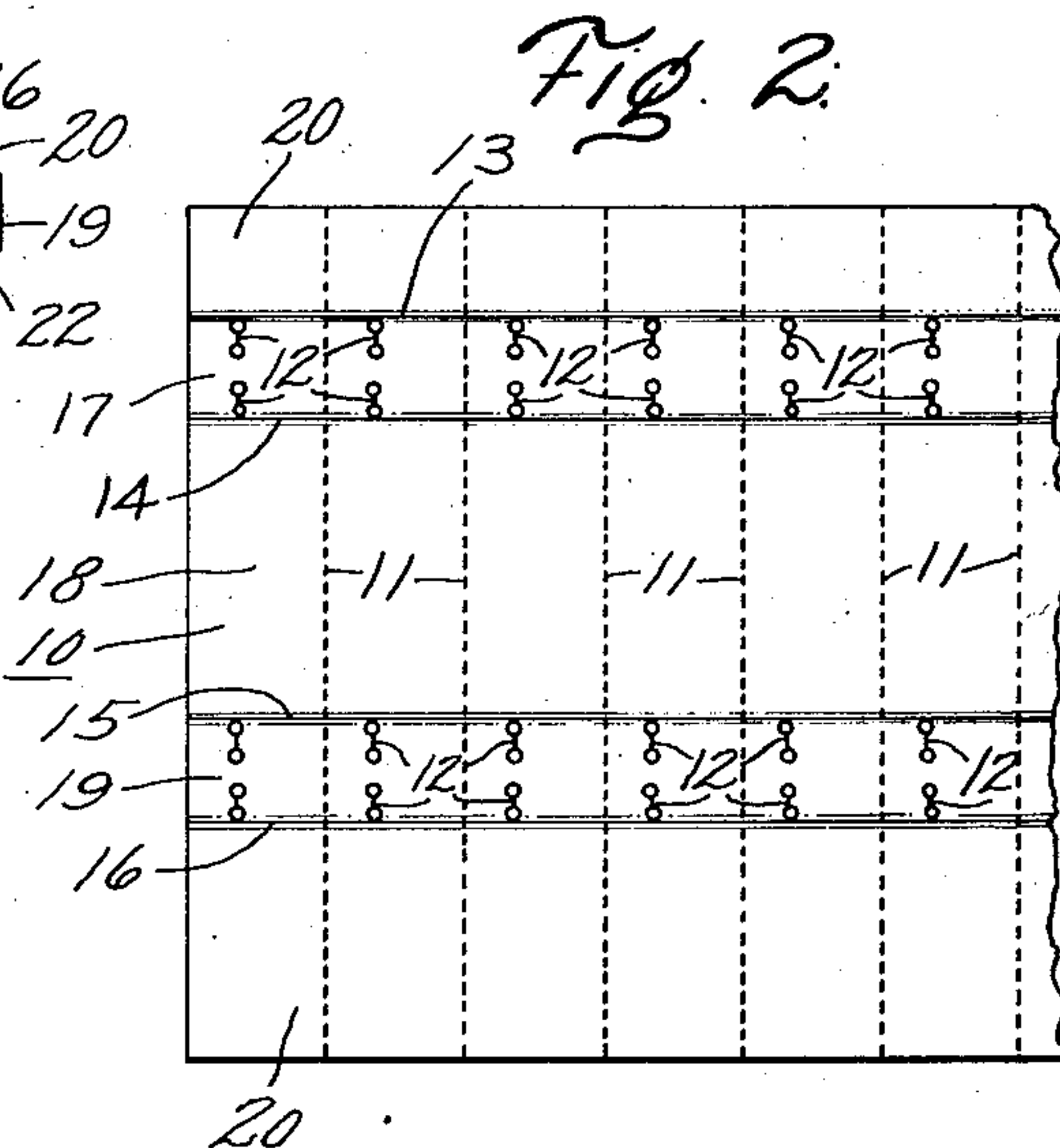
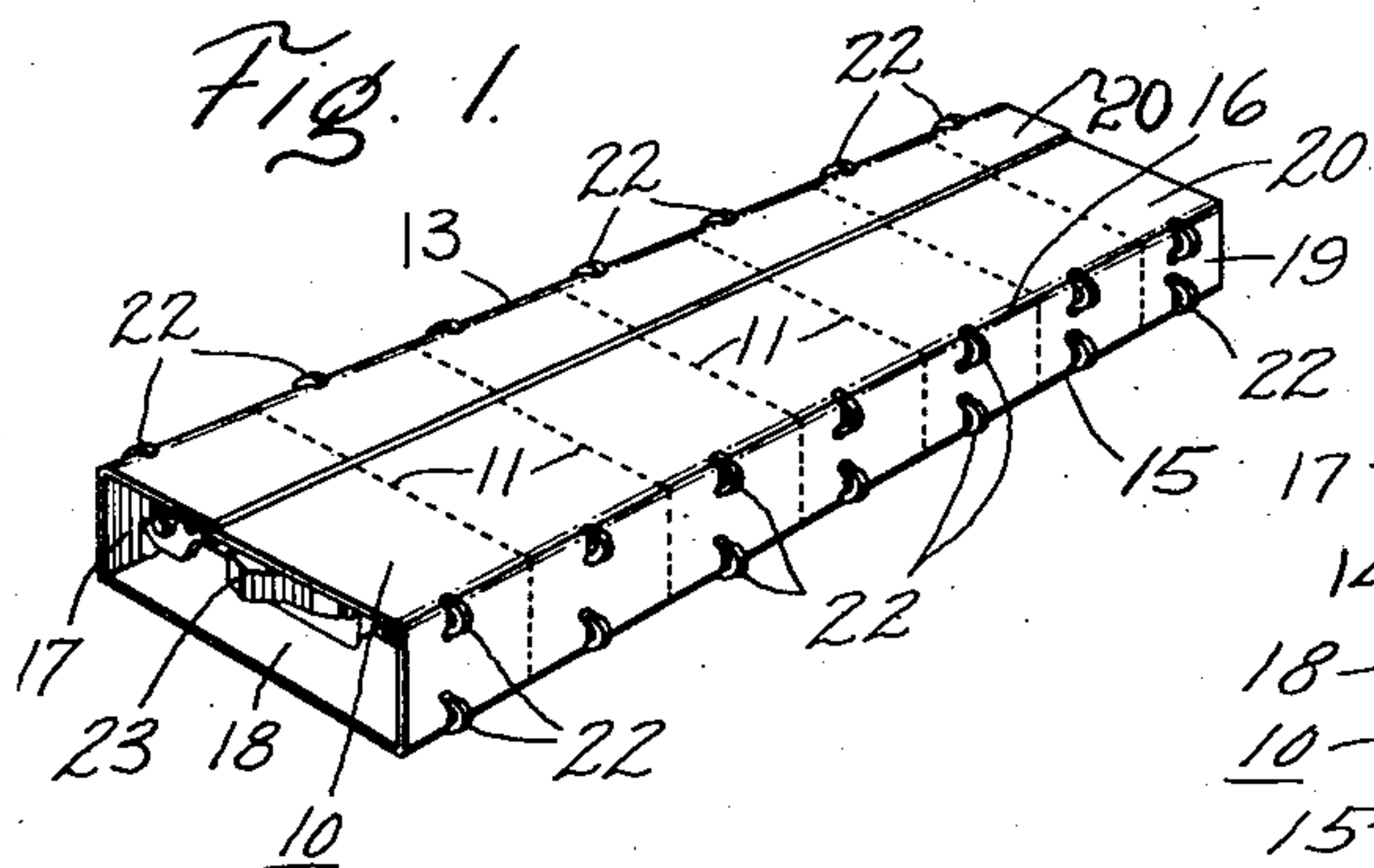
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DISPLAY CONTAINER

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2,891,663

DISPLAY CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 206—56)

This invention refers to a container suitable for protecting articles during shipment and for display of such articles upon store counters; more particularly, the invention refers to a perforated cardboard sleeve or container useful for shipping a plurality of articles packed therein which articles may be readily separated from each other at the location of sale.

The proper packaging of articles is a very important phase of most distribution systems. Packages not only serve to protect their contents while in transit but also to identify the manufacturer, set forth directions for use, and in some cases provide for counter display of the contents. Packaging is considered so important that in many cases a significant part of the retail selling price is represented by the cost of packaging. For this reason, a low cost package or container which serves adequately for protection during transit and otherwise fulfills the requirements of a satisfactory package is of considerable commercial importance.

This invention has as one of its objects to provide a display container in which the contained article is rigidly positioned.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container in which a plurality of readily detachable articles may be shipped under conditions of maximum space utilization.

A further object of the invention is to provide a container for a plurality of articles wherein the container may be separated into sections by means of perforated rings at spaced intervals.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a container having apertures through which tabs may be projected to maintain an article within the container in spaced relation with respect to the container.

Other objects of the invention will be apparent from a perusal of the following specification considered in conjunction with the annexed drawing wherein Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a single container sleeve comprising a plurality of readily detachable smaller containers.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a cardboard blank illustrating positioning slots, perforation lines, and fold lines.

Fig. 3 is a view looking through the open sides of a container illustrating the manner in which tabs project through the positioning slots of the container.

Fig. 4 is a partially sectional view through one of the slotted container faces showing how the slots may have sections of reduced width in order to lock in place tabs serving as washers.

Briefly stated, in accordance with one of its aspects, the invention is directed to a display container comprising a sheet of cardboard folded to provide four sides defining a rectangular enclosure with two open sides, and a pair of slots through the cardboard on each of two opposite sides of the enclosure, the slots being adapted to seat tabs therein whereby an article attached to the tabs may be positioned within the enclosure.

While the invention is directed in part to a container for a single article, it is especially advantageous when

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applied to a container for a plurality of articles, as shown in Fig. 1. The reason for this is that in a single long sleeve comprising a plurality of container units, the individual units provide support for each other through the separating perforation lines wherein the perforations are spaced so as to provide the maximum support commensurate with easy separation of the individual container units.

The multiple-unit container sleeve is made from a single sheet of cardboard 10 (Fig. 2) having a plurality of spaced perforation lines 11 defining the limits of the individual container units, punched retaining or positioning apertures 12, which may be of the 2-hole variety joined by a slit, as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 4, or may be slots of uniform width or other configurations suited to the particular article packaged, and fold lines 13, 14, 15, and 16. Folding the blank 10 of Fig. 2 along the fold lines 13-16 produces the container sleeve illustrated in Fig. 1 having sides 17, 18, 19, and 20. It should be noted that the portion of the blank forming the side 20 is provided with sufficient overlap to provide for gluing or other fastening.

It is necessary that the article packed in the container of this invention be equipped with a plurality of mounting tabs 22, as best illustrated by the wall switch 23 of Figs. 1 and 3. In wall switches these tabs are normally scored for easy removal and use as washers. In some cases it is necessary to provide the article shipped with mounting tabs scored for easy removal even though the tabs are of no use after removal. Where the tabs are in the form of washers, as illustrated, the positioning or retainer slots 12 may be made as best shown in Fig. 4 by punching two circular apertures and cutting a slit therebetween. Insertion of the tabs 22 then spreads the slit apart but the cardboard springs back together at the washer center aperture to form a secure anchorage for the tab 22.

In utilizing this invention, the article to be packaged has its tabs 22 projected through the retainers 12 while the cardboard is in the unfolded position illustrated in Fig. 2. The folding operation then anchors the opposite set of tabs 22 in the opposite set of retainer slots 12 and the overlap of the side 20 is fastened as by gluing. A number of such multiple-unit container sleeves may then be mounted in a shipping carton and subjected to rough handling during transit without producing any damage to the packaged articles. Upon receipt of the carton, the dealer can readily detach one of the container units by tearing along the perforated lines 11 and, since the enclosure is open on two sides, the contents can be arranged for display without removal from the container. Thus, the article can be examined by the ultimate consumer without removing it from its protective container and the container continues to protect its contents until the ultimate consumer is ready to place it in use.

While the invention has been described with reference to certain specific embodiments thereof, it is obvious that there may be variations which still are within the spirit of the invention. Therefore, it is to be understood that the invention is limited only as may be necessitated by the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A display container comprising a sheet of cardboard folded to provide four sides defining a rectangular enclosure with two open sides, and a pair of slots through said cardboard perpendicular to the fold lines on each of two opposite sides of said enclosure, said slots consisting of a slit terminating at each end in a circular punched section, the said circular sections being adapted to seat a punched tab and the said slit serving to lock in place the punched section of the tab whereby an article at-

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tached to said tabs may be positioned within said enclosure.

2. A display container for positioning and protecting a plurality of articles comprising a sheet of cardboard folded to provide four sides defining an elongated enclosure, a plurality of perforation lines through said cardboard ringing said enclosure at spaced intervals, said perforation lines dividing said enclosure into a plurality of smaller enclosures separable along said perforation lines, and a pair of tab-positioning slots through said cardboard perpendicular to the fold lines on each of two opposite sides of each of said smaller enclosures, said tab-positioning slots consisting of a slit terminating at each end in a circular punched section, the said slots being adapted for having projecting therethrough tabs for

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positioning articles within said smaller enclosures, the slit portion of said slots springing closed after insertion of a tab to lock said tab in position.

3. A display container, as claimed in claim 2, wherein the tab-positioning slots are disposed in register on the said two opposite sides of said smaller enclosures.

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