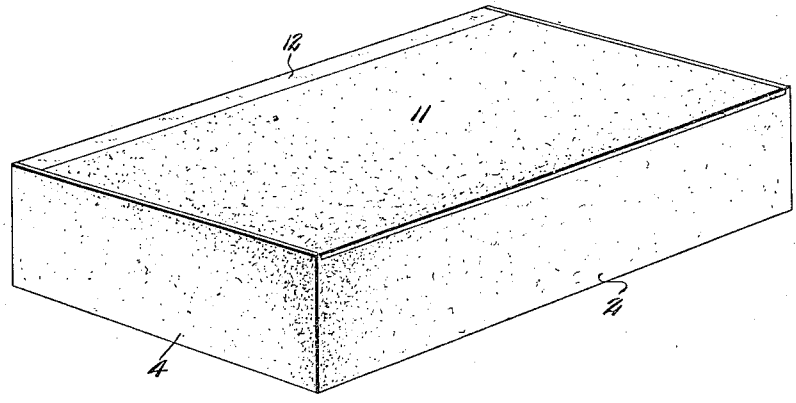
Sept. 9, 1924. 1,508,069

T. ROSE

ASBESTOS CONTAINER AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

Filed Nov. 9, 1922

Fig. 1.



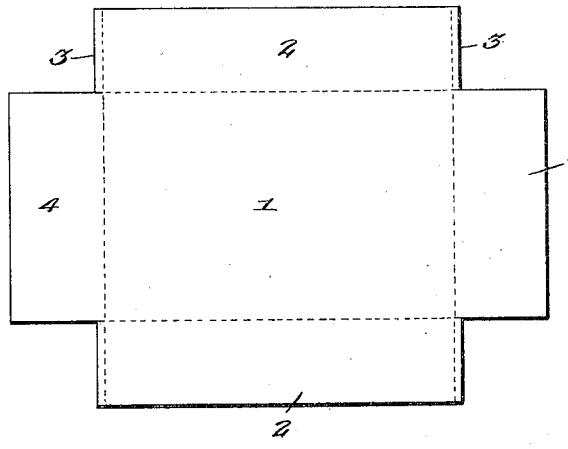


Fig. 2.

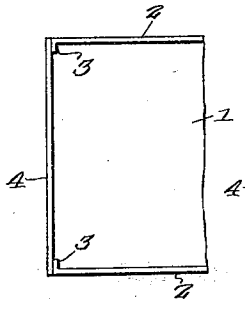


Fig. 3.

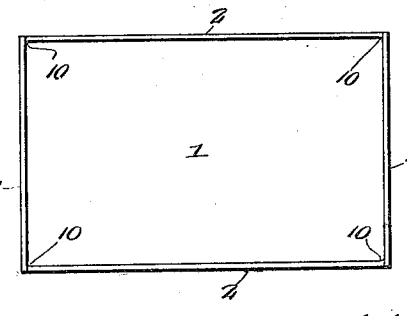


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS ROSE, OF AMBLER, PENNSYLVANIA.

ASBESTOS CONTAINER AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME.

Application filed November 9, 1922. Serial No. 599,766.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS ROSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ambler, Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Asbestos Containers and Methods of Making the Same; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The invention relates to a novel box or container made of asbestos and to the method of making the same, and has for its object to provide a box body fashioned from a blank of sheet asbestos, constituting the bottom, sides and ends of the box, with the contiguous sections of the sides and ends, constituting corners, united by homogeneous welded joints, effected by subjecting the blank, folded or bent to appropriate form, to pressure sufficient to cause the contacting sections of the asbestos to coalesce and unite integrally, so that the finished body is a homogeneous, jointless structure, which is fire proof, impervious to moisture, and substantially completely resistant to the action of chemicals and to the attacks of insects and animals. The new box, when provided with a suitable lid or cover, is particularly well adapted as a package or container for cigars, cigarettes, tobacco products, and other goods or commodities, which are normally required to be retained under uniform conditions as to temperature, humidity and the like.

A simple exemplification of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the complete box;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank from which the box body is fashioned;

Fig. 3 is a half plan view showing the elements of the blank bent to the form of the box body prior to the welding and finishing operations;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the completed box body.

In the packaging of various commodities, more particularly cigars, cigarettes and tobacco products, it has long been regarded as highly desirable to provide a container that is fire proof, impervious to moisture and atmospheric conditions, and that will resist the attacks of bugs and animals, and will, therefore, admit of the goods or commodities in the containers being maintained in their normal condition as to temperature and moisture content, for long periods, without impairment of the other desirable characteristics and qualities of the said goods or commodities. To this end it has been customary, particularly in respect of cigars, cigarettes and tobacco products, to provide containers of special kinds of wood, usually lined with paper or other suitable material, or, in the alternative, to make the container of glass, metal, or other water and weather proof materials, in order to prevent excessive drying of the goods, due to varying changes in temperature and atmospheric conditions. The containers of glass, metal, or the like, are objectionable for various obvious reasons, among which may be mentioned the cost, unsatisfactory shapes, and liability to fracture or impairment, so that by far the largest proportion of goods of this general character are packaged in boxes or containers made of wood, paper or the like, which requires that they be finished in a certain way to render them even approximately effective for relatively short periods in preserving the goods from excessive drying and attendant deterioration, but which are noneffective in preventing access of insects and vermin. The instant invention, however, affords a container that may be manufactured at a minimum cost, that is strong and resistant to deformation, that is fire proof and water proof, that may be used repeatedly for packaging the goods, and that possesses all of the desirable qualities of containers made from wood or paper stock without any of the inherent objections or limitations of these materials.

In forming the body of the box, sheet asbestos, preferably in a moist or more or less plastic condition, is cut in unitary blanks having the proper configuration to form the bottom, sides and ends of the box body, such as illustrated in Fig. 2, in which 1 represents the bottom, 2 the sides, and 4 the ends. Preferably each of the sides is extended laterally beyond the marginal ends of the bottom to form flaps or flanges 3 to provide an extra amount of material at the sections where the sides and ends are united. After the blank has been formed as indicated, the wing sections 3 are bent at right angles to the plane of the sides 2, and the said sides 2 and ends 4 are bent along the

dotted lines, until they are normal to the bottom, with the wings or flaps 3 extended within the rectangular structure, and engaging the lateral inner edges of the ends 4, as illustrated in Fig. 3. Pressure is then applied to the partially formed box body to cause the sections of the sides and ends, including the flaps or wings 3 to coalesce and weld together in a homogeneous jointless union. It has been found that the moist or semi-plastic asbestos lends itself most effectively to this operation, so that, when the material at the contacting surfaces of the box structure is subjected to sufficient pressure, a homogeneous union is produced between the engaging surfaces, that is in fact a welding together of the separate elements without any stratification or lines or areas of separation or demarcation, as is inevitably the case when similar elements are secured together by adhesives. In other words, the union of the contiguous sections of the sides and ends of the box body is as complete and homogeneous as a perfectly welded joint between metal sections.

Preferably the bending and compressing operations are carried out in a suitable power press, which first folds or bends the various elements of the blank to proper relation, and then imposes the requisite degree of pressure on and about the contiguous surfaces of the sides and ends to cause the contacting areas of the asbestos at these points to actually flow and weld together and form a completely homogeneous union. The flaps or flanges 3 constitute an element of reinforcement for the corners of the box body, and, when the compressing operation is completed, the said wings or flaps 3 will have been caused to integrally unite with the contiguous sections of the asbestos to form a fillet 10 at each corner of the box body, as indicated in Fig. 4.

As illustrated in the drawings, the box or receptacle is shown as a standard container for cigars, in which, when the body portion has been completed, the ends project above the sides by an amount equal to the thickness of the lid or cover 11, which latter is applied in the usual way by providing a hinge joint 12 of fabric or the like cemented along the rear edge of the cover and the top edge of the rear side.

The sheet asbestos, from which the containers are made, need only be thick enough to render the completed structure rigid and in actual practice the thickness of the sheets is much less than that of corresponding sections of wood or paper heretofore employed for the same general purpose. After the box has been completed, it may be finished with any desired character of ornamentation, such as labels, border strips and finished lining all of which may be applied to the surfaces of the box, quite as readily and effectively as if the latter were made of the usual wood or paper.

One material advantage of a receptacle made as described is that it lends itself to repeated use, for, when a given receptacle has been emptied, the applied labels, ornamental coverings and linings, may be readily removed by soaking the receptacles in water and, after drying the surfaces of the box, new labels, coverings and linings may be applied, none of the operations in any way impairing the structure of the box body or the attached cover.

What I claim is:

1. A box having inherent rigidity in its wall structure, said box being made from a blank of asbestos material cut to form the bottom, sides and ends of the box body, the sides and ends of the blank being folded into contact at the corner portions of the box and said contacting portions, while in a plastic state, being welded together by a pressure sufficient to cause the material of the blank to coalesce into integral homogeneous welded unions.

2. A box having inherent rigidity in its wall structure, said box being made from a blank of asbestos material cut to form the bottom, sides and ends of the box body, the sides and ends of the blank being folded into contact at the corner portions of the box and said contacting portions, while in a plastic state, being welded together by a pressure sufficient to cause the material of the blank to coalesce into integral homogeneous, welded unions, and interior fillets constituting integral reinforcements of said unions.

3. The method of making a rigid box body of asbestos which consists in forming a blank of asbestos to constitute the bottom, sides and ends of the box, bending the sides and ends into contact to form the desired box configuration, and, while the blank adjacent said contacting portions is in a plastic state, subjecting said portions to a pressure sufficient to cause the contacting material to coalesce into integral homogeneous unions.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

THOMAS ROSE.

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