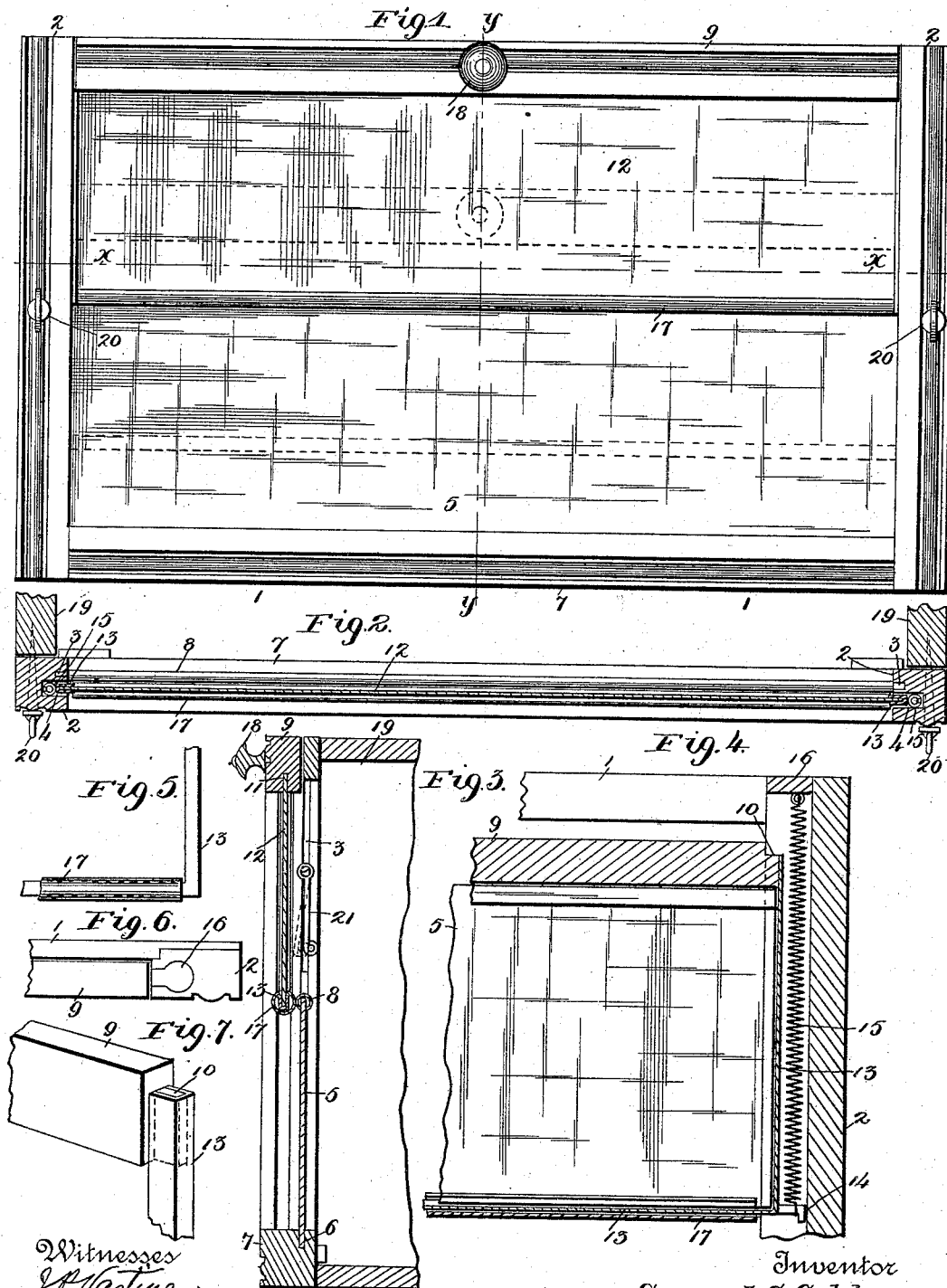


(No Model.)

S. S. GOLDMAN.
SHOW TOP.

No. 526,186.

Patented Sept. 18, 1894.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL S. GOLDMAN, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SHOW-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 526,186, dated September 18, 1894.

Application filed June 9, 1894. Serial No. 514,032. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL S. GOLDMAN, of the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Show-Tops, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention has relation to improvements in glass show tops and consists in the novel arrangement and combination of parts more fully set forth in the specification and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my complete invention. Fig. 2 is a section on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section on line $y-y$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section through the frame and middle of the sliding cover. Fig. 5 is a detail showing the metallic edge and lower strip secured to the movable plate. Fig. 6 is a detail plan view of one end of the upper rail as secured within the frame; and Fig. 7 is a detail perspective showing the upper end of the metallic edge secured to the reduced end or tongue of the sliding rail.

The object of my invention is to construct an improved show top or front for cracker cases or boxes intended for the display of crackers, biscuits, and the like. In general the device is composed of an integral frame adapted to be secured to the open front of an ordinary cracker box; of a fixed cover secured to the frame; of a sliding cover mounted in the frame the meeting edges of the two covers being adapted to come together when the sliding cover is in its normal or closed position; of means for restoring the sliding cover to its closed position; of means for guiding the said cover and limiting its movement and of other details to be now described.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a frame having lateral terminal bars 2, each bar having two adjacent parallel inner grooves 3 and 4 respectively running preferably the full length of each bar. Into the inner of said grooves, or groove 3 is inserted and fixed a glass front plate 5, a suitable groove 6 being formed in the lower bar 7 for the reception of the lower edge of the plate. When once inserted it is permanently secured in the frame by glazier's putty or the like. The upper edge

of the fixed plate or cover 5 is provided with a protecting strip 8 of rubber, metal and the like, the same being of the form of a split cylinder adapted to embrace said upper edge. Within the second groove or groove 4 is adapted to slide the upper rail 9, the said rail having notched ends 10 operating within the groove and fitting to make a tight joint with the frame. The under surface of the rail 9 is provided with a groove 11 for the reception of the glass plate or movable cover 12, the said plate being additionally supported by the supporting strip 13, this being a metallic strip embracing the bottom and lateral edges of the plate 12, and having its upper ends secured to the tongue 10 as shown best in Figs. 2, 3, and 7.

From the opposite ends of the lower edge of the plate 12 project pins or hooks 14 to each of which is secured the lower end of a coiled spring 15, the groove 4 being of sufficient depth and somewhat enlarged to accommodate these parts in the relation as shown, the spring being confined and guided within the enlarged portion. The upper end of the spring 15 is secured to the bottom of a plug 16 which is glued or otherwise secured in place after the movable cover has been once inserted into the groove 4. The under surface of the plug 16 acts as an abutting surface for limiting the tongue 10 as the latter strikes against the same by its movement due to the tension of the spring 15. The lower edge of the plate 12 is also provided with a strip 17 similar to the strip 8, the two strips meeting when the parts are in their normal position, thus keeping out dust, dirt, insects, and the like from the case.

The movable cover is operated by a knob 18, the operator simply pulling down on the same to open the said cover, when the springs 15 will restore it to its closed position when the cover is released. The entire frame can be secured to the open front of a box 19 by screws 20 at either end of the frame as shown. The pins 14 not only serve to secure the springs, but at the same time serve to guide the sliding cover in its movement and thus prevent binding of the parts.

To the inner side of one of the bars 2 is pivoted a pin or bar 21 whose free end can be made to rest on the upper surface of the rail 9 when the cover is in its open position, and

thus the cover can be held in its open position temporarily until the crackers or contents of the box are extracted. Upon pushing the pin 21 back to its normal position the sliding cover is closed by the action of the springs 15.

It will be seen that by having a sliding cover instead of a hinged one, the device will take up less room; the same is easily operated and the operator is always sure that the cover is self-closing, thus requiring little attention on his part; there is little danger of the crackers falling out of the box, and the device on the whole is easily handled. The strips 8 and 17 make a perfect joint so that access of insects, dust, and the like is prevented. It is obvious of course that slight changes in construction may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention. Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A show top comprising a suitable frame, a cover for the same composed of a sliding and a fixed portion, an upper rail for the sliding portion, notches formed on the ends of the rail and co-operating with the frame to make a tight joint, and springs located within the frame and having their ends attached to the frame and sliding portion respectively, substantially as set forth.

2. A show top comprising a suitable frame, a cover for the same composed of a movable and a fixed portion, an upper rail for the movable portion having notched ends, lateral grooves having enlarged extensions formed in the sides of the frame, said notched ends sliding in the grooves and forming a tight joint with the frame, hooks projecting from the opposite edges of the movable cover into the grooves, and coiled springs located within the enlarged extensions of the grooves, said springs having one end secured to the hooks and the opposite end secured to the frame, said springs being covered by the movable

cover when the same is in a closed position, substantially as set forth.

3. A show top comprising two lateral bars, a lower fixed bar between the same having a suitable groove, suitable parallel inner grooves in the lateral bars, a fixed plate fitted in one pair of said parallel grooves and the groove in the bottom strip or bar, a sliding rail having suitable notched ends operating in the second pair of parallel grooves and forming a tight joint with the frame, a plate depending from said sliding rail, a suitable supporting strip embracing the edges of the said depending plate and having its free ends secured to the reduced portions of the sliding rail, meeting strips along the upper and lower edges of the fixed and movable plate respectively, and suitable springs within the last mentioned pair of parallel grooves secured to the frame and sliding plate respectively, substantially as set forth.

4. In a show top, a suitable frame having suitable opposite parallel grooves, a sliding rail and cover operating within said grooves, said rail having notched ends sliding in the grooves and forming a tight joint with the frame a pin projecting from the ends of the cover within the groove for guiding the cover, a coiled spring having one end secured to said pin, a suitable plug secured to the upper portion of the frame and to the lower surface of which the upper end of the coiled spring is secured, reduced ends on said sliding rail, and a pivoted pin at a suitable point in the frame for temporarily holding the sliding cover in its open position, substantially as set forth.

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

SAMUEL S. GOLDMAN.

Witnesses:

LOUIS A. MANEWAL,
JAMES J. O'DONOHUE.