

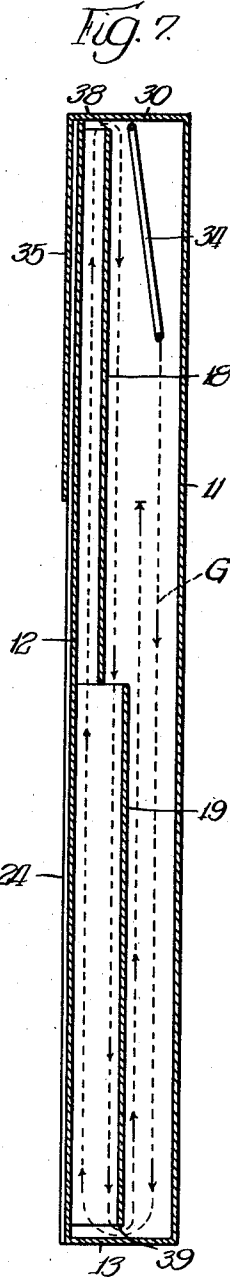
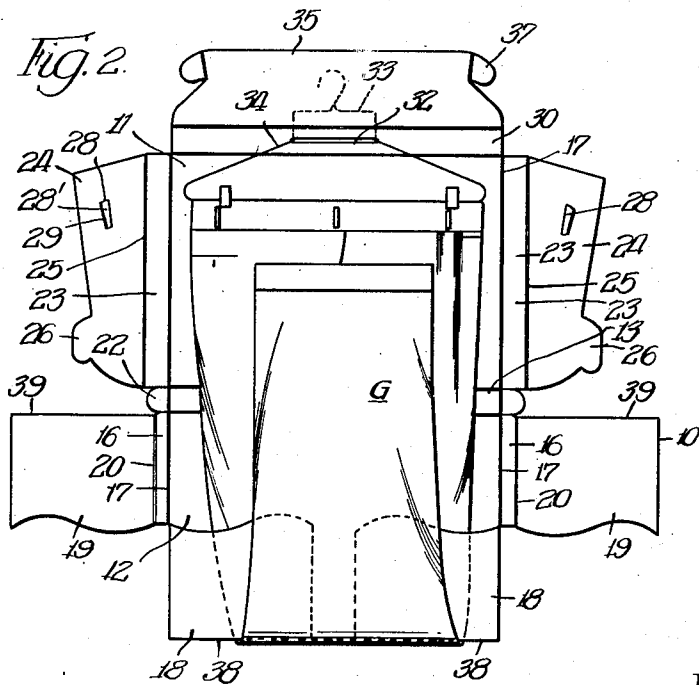
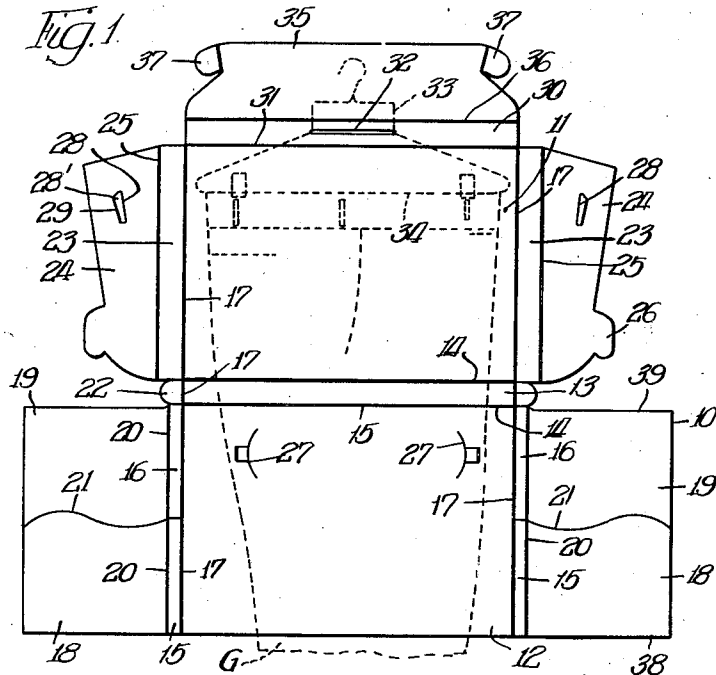
May 23, 1950

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GARMENT PACKING DEVICE

2,508,579

Filed Feb. 14, 1948

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 3.

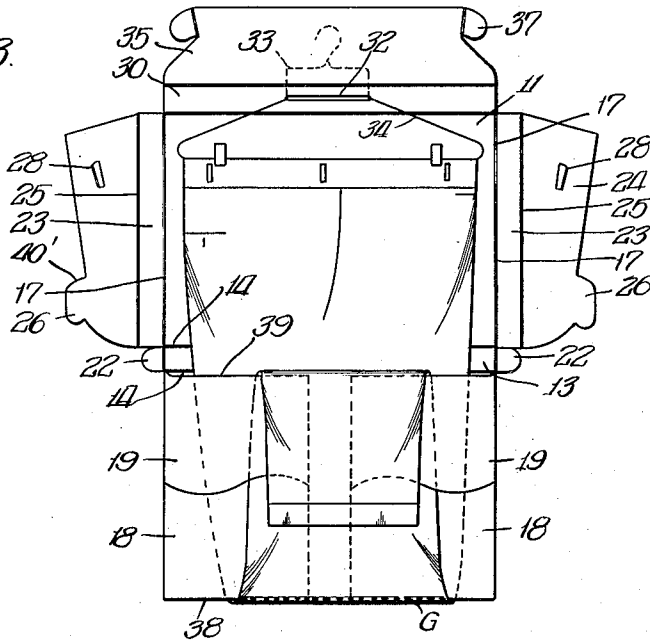
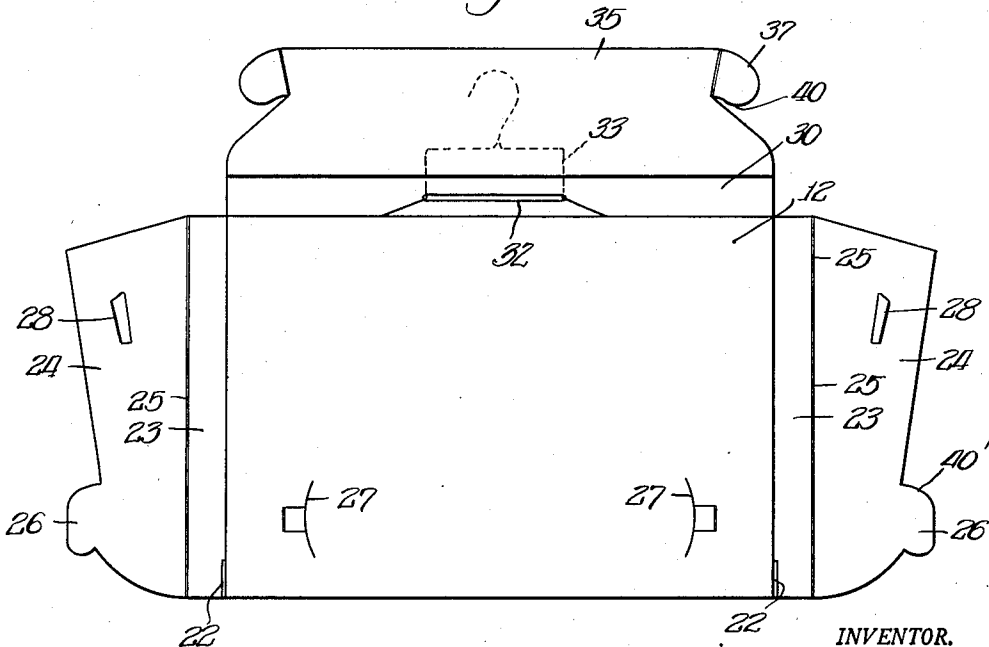


Fig. 4



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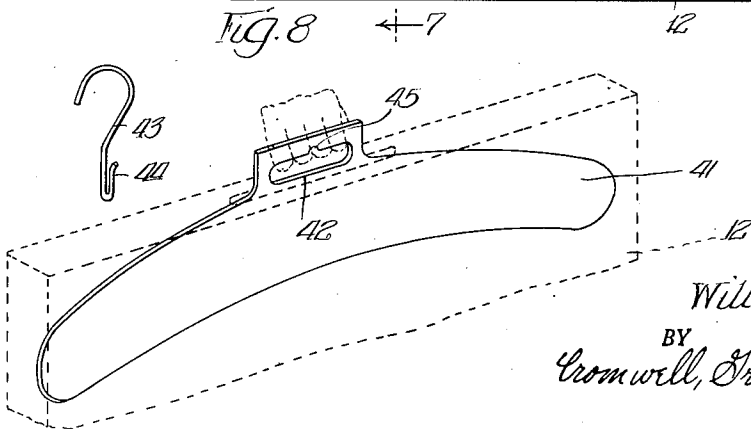
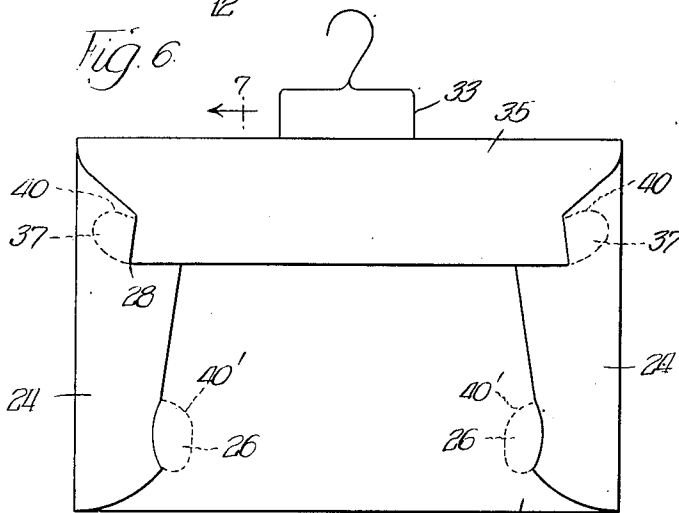
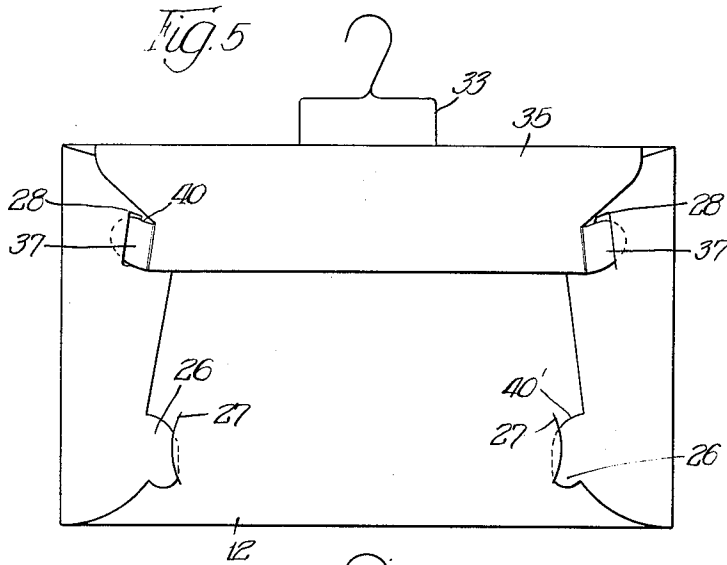
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GARMENT PACKING DEVICE

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Application February 14, 1948, Serial No. 8,395

7 Claims. (Cl. 206-7)

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This invention pertains to an improved paper board or cardboard container device for use in packaging and transporting garments, to and from a store, dry cleaning establishment, or the like.

It is customary in preparing garments for transportation from such establishments to fold and package the same in a suitable cardboard box, in some cases employing protective tissue paper around the garment article. However, the garment is still housed quite loosely in this type of box, and is subject to considerable shifting and sliding therein, especially when carried on end in the arm or hand. The result is a considerable rumpling and wrinkling of the garment, greatly detracting from the appearance thereof.

It is therefore, an object of the invention to provide a container in which a garment, draped over a conventional garment hanger or other suitable support, is effectively supported and protected against rumpling or wrinkling during transportation, regardless of jars to the container in transportation, inverting thereof or other movement which would normally be likely to result in displacement and shifting of the garment in the container.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment packaging device or container having provisions for positive engagement at several zones with a garment disposed therein, said garment being successively draped around suitable supporting portions of the device, in a manner to prevent lateral or longitudinal shifting during transport and under quite rough handling.

Another object is to provide a simple, inexpensive paper board device of the foregoing type which employs a minimum of material, and which is adapted to be manipulated quickly and easily in erecting the same from its original, flat, knocked-down condition into its final, erected container form, during which manipulation the garment is successively folded over various internal elements of the device disposed to extend transversely thereacross and afford a plurality of spaced parallel supporting edges.

A more specific object is to provide a garment packaging device of the type described, including a pair of foldably connected panels adapted to be disposed in parallel relationship to laterally encase the garment, and a plurality of integral, inwardly swingable garment sustaining flaps or garment sustaining elements which are successively foldable internally of the margins of one of said panels in a manner to enable a substantial portion of the garment to be draped thereover and positively sustained against shifting.

Yet another object is to provide a simple device of the foregoing character having novel provisions for positively and automatically locking the parts thereof, in a final, latched, garment enclosing and supporting condition.

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The foregoing statements are indicative in a general way of the nature of the invention, but other and more specific objects will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon a full understanding of the construction and operation of the device.

A single embodiment of the invention, as it pertains to the container of the device, is presented herein for purpose of exemplification, but it will be appreciated that the invention is also susceptible of incorporation in other modified forms coming equally within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the device of the invention in the original, flat, knocked-down or blank form thereof, showing in dotted line the manner of initially placing a garment, draped over a garment hanger, in position on the flat blank, preparatory to foldingly manipulating the latter;

Figs. 2 and 3 are plan views illustrating successive steps of folding certain garment sustaining flaps of the device while draping portions of the garment thereover;

Figs. 4, 5 and 6 are further, somewhat enlarged plan views illustrating the further successive steps of manipulation of the device to its final, fully completely and latched condition;

Fig. 7 is a further enlarged, fragmentary view in transverse vertical section along the line 7-7 of Fig. 6, indicating by dotted line and arrows the disposition of the various folds of the finally packaged and supported garment about the sustaining elements of the device; and

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the use of the device in conjunction with a somewhat different but still entirely conventional, type of garment hanger.

At the outset, I desire to point out that although the device of the present invention is illustrated in the drawings in an adaptation thereof for packaging a pair of men's trousers, it is equally well suited to receive a ladies' or child's garment of any length, or any other related type of article, and functions equally effectively in packaging the same with ample protection against undesirable rumpling, regardless of impacts or inversion in handling.

Referring to the drawings, and in particular to Fig. 1, the one-piece blank from which the device is fabricated from a suitable grade of flexible paper board, cardboard or like inexpensive foldable stock to provide a pair of rectangular side panels 11, 12 and a relatively narrow bottom section 13 which is bendably connected to the respective panels along the pair of parallel, creased hinge lines 14, whereby said panels may be disposed in generally parallel relation to one another and to a garment G encased therein.

The panel 12 has pairs of separate, end wall

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defining elements 15, 16 flexibly conjoined thereto by the parallel crease lines 17, which extend practically the entire length of the blank, and each of these elements in turn carries garment sustaining flaps, designated respectively, 18 and 19. Said flaps are of considerable length and width and are foldably connected to wall elements 15, 16 along the crease lines 20. Flaps 18, 19 are separated from one another by the curved slits 21 which extend inwardly to the crease line 17, thereby also separating elements 15, 16 from one another. These flaps are adapted to afford garment supporting margins of substantial length, hereinafter referred to, over which portions of the garment may be successively draped in manipulating the device.

The bottom section 13 carries opposed end forming tabs 22, which are flexibly connected thereto along crease line 17, said tabs being adapted to be folded upwardly and inwardly about said line.

The side panel 11 has end forming elements 23 foldably connected thereto by crease 17, said elements 23 being of substantially greater width than the corresponding elements 15, 16 of the panel 12, in order to externally embrace the latter, with panel 11 in spaced relation to flaps 18, 19 when the latter are folded inwardly. Locking flaps 24 are flexibly conjoined to said end elements 23 along the parallel, creased fold lines 25 and these locking flaps carry laterally projecting locking ears 26 which are adapted to be inserted in locking slits 27 located inwardly of the side margins of the panel 12. The flaps 24 are also provided adjacent the opposite end thereof with the shaped slits 28 whereby to define a tab 28 which may be bendably displaced along a hinge line 29, thus defining a further latching opening for a purpose to be described.

A top section 30 is bendably connected to the upper edge of panel 11 by the creased hinge line 31. This section has a longitudinally extending slot 32 in its midportion which parallels the top section and is adapted to receive the shank or enlarged neck portion 33 of a conventional hook-type, wire garment hanger 34, thereby exposing said shank or neck externally of the completed device for manual grasping.

The device is completed by a locking flap 35 hinged to the top section 30 along the crease line 36, and said flap is provided with laterally extending locking ears 37 adapted to be inserted in the slits 28 of locking flaps 24 to latch the parts in operative garment enclosing condition.

In using the device, the garment G, such as a pair of men's trousers, a skirt, dress or suit, is appropriately draped on the garment hanger 34, in any usual fashion, one method of which is illustrated.

The neck portion 33 of the hanger is inserted in the slot 32, allowing the length of the garment to overlie the panels 11, 12. With the garment so disposed, the lowermost sustaining flaps 18 are first folded inwardly toward one another around crease lines 17, 20 and into overlying relation to the garment, as illustrated in Fig. 2, thus bringing the end sections 15 into right angular relation to panel 12. The free end of the garment is then draped reversely over the lower edge 38 of these flaps, to the position shown in Fig. 2. Next the flaps 19 are next swung inwardly around creases 17, 20 to the position illustrated in Fig. 3, and the remaining extremity of the garment is draped over the upper edge 39 of these flaps, as shown in that figure. It will thus be seen

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that a positive support is provided at opposed lines of fold of the lower portion of the garment which, in conjunction with its draped support on hanger 34, effectively resists shifting of the garment when the device is in final form, even in the event the device is completely inverted or violently shaken.

The end tabs 22 are next folded upwardly and the panel 12, flaps 18, 19 and draped garment are next folded over along bottom crease lines 14 to bring the same into superposed relation to the upper portion of the garment which is draped on hanger 34, in the fashion shown in Fig. 4. End forming sections 23 of panel 11 are next folded upwardly around creases 17 and flaps 24 are brought inwardly around creases 25 into engagement with panel 12, while at the same time the locking ears 26 of said flaps are preliminarily inserted in the slits 27 of said panel. With the parts in this condition, the top locking flap 35 is folded to superposed relation to panel 12 and to the flaps 24 and its ears 37 are preliminarily inserted in the other pair of slits 28. The relationship of elements at this point is shown in Fig. 5. Next, and in order to bring the parts into fully closed relation, it is only necessary to press the end walls 23 toward one another. This causes the locking ears 26, 37 to be fully thrust into their respective latching slits, as illustrated in Fig. 6. At the same time a camming action is exerted by the upper extremities of the slits 28, 27 on the respective rounded, upwardly facing edges 40 of ears 37 and edges 40' of ears 26, causing the flap 35 to be drawn downwardly and the top section 30 to be snugly engaged with the garment draped over the adjacent edge 38 of flaps 18. This automatic, wedge-type locking action facilitates the folding operation and secures the parts strongly to prevent inadvertent displacement thereof.

In this final condition of the device, illustrated in Fig. 6, the hanger neck or yoke 33 projects through slot 32 and affords a handle for grasping and transportation of the package. The device is also well adapted for use in connection with a garment hanger of the sheet cardboard type, such as is illustrated in Fig. 8 and designated by the reference numeral 41. This hanger is characterized by an elongated slot 42 in the neck or yoke thereof to afford a hand hole which may be grasped in the manner shown. A separate wire hook element 43 may be disposed in the container along with the garment, for subsequent application to the hanger by wedgingly engaging its lower bight end 44 with the material of said yoke at a central notch 45 adjoining the hand hole.

Referring to Fig. 7, it can readily be seen that the device positively engages and braces the garment at several points preventing shifting thereof in any direction under all types of handling of the device. The disposition of the garment is indicated by dotted line and arrows in that figure. The garment is creased only a minimum and its original shape is preserved to the utmost. The final package is compact and attractive in appearance, is conveniently carried in the hand or arm and, by reason of its inexpensive construction, is well adapted for large volume use and gratis distribution by merchandising establishments, laundry or dry cleaning establishments, and the like.

We are aware that those skilled in the art will appreciate the feasibility of various modifications in the above described structure, falling well with-

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in the principle of the invention. We therefore desire that the scope of the latter be construed no more limitedly than is consistent with the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A packaging device for garments and like foldable articles adapted to be draped on a supporting element, comprising a pair of foldably connected side wall forming panels, each consisting of an integral, one-piece wall section, said panels being adapted to be disposed in generally parallel relation to one another on opposite sides of the packaged article, a pair of flaps bendably connected to a lateral margin of one of said panels and independently foldable inwardly to superposed position thereover, said flaps in thus folded condition presenting longitudinally spaced, oppositely facing edges paralleling the axis of fold of said panels and remote from one another over which portions of said foldable article, draped on said supporting element, are successively further draped, and means to secure said panels in said generally parallel relation.

2. A packaging device for garments and like foldable articles adapted to be draped on a supporting element, comprising a pair of foldably connected side wall forming panels, each consisting of an integral, one-piece wall section, said panels being adapted to be disposed in generally parallel relation to one another on opposite sides of the packaged article, a pair of flaps bendably connected to a lateral margin of one of said panels and independently foldable inwardly to superposed position thereover, said flaps in thus folded condition presenting longitudinally spaced, oppositely facing edges paralleling the axis of fold of said panels and remote from one another over which portions of said foldable article, draped on said supporting element, are successively further draped, and locking elements bendably connected to marginal portions of the other panel and having locking engagement with the first named panel when said panels are disposed in said generally parallel relation.

3. A packaging device for garments and like foldable articles adapted to be draped on a supporting element, comprising a pair of foldably connected side wall forming panels, each consisting of an integral, one-piece wall section, said panels being adapted to be disposed in generally parallel relation to one another on opposite sides of the packaged article, a pair of flaps bendably connected to a lateral margin of one of said panels and independently foldable inwardly to superposed position thereover, said flaps in thus folded condition presenting longitudinally spaced, oppositely facing edges paralleling the axis of fold of said panels and remote from one another over which portions of said foldable article, draped on said supporting element, are successively further draped, and means to secure said panels in said generally parallel relation, said first named panel being provided with a cut portion for the reception of said supporting element to serve as a handle for the device and the article draped on said element.

4. A container of the type described comprising a pair of panels foldably connected to one another for disposition in substantially parallel relation, a pair of side locking flaps bendably connected to opposed margins of one of said panels to fold about adjacent margins of the other panel into locking relation to the latter, said flaps being provided with marginal locking elements and said last named panel being provided with cuts in which

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said locking elements are engageable, and a further locking flap bendably connected to a margin of said first named panel lying between said opposed margins, said further flap having laterally spaced locking members and said side locking flaps having cuts retainingly receiving said members.

5. A container of the type described comprising a pair of panels foldably connected to one another for disposition in substantially parallel relation, a pair of side locking flaps bendably connected to opposed margins of one of said panels to fold about adjacent margins of the other panel cuts into locking relation to the latter, said flaps being provided with marginal locking elements and said last named panel being provided with cuts in which said locking elements are wedgingly engageable, and a further locking flap bendably connected to a margin of said first named panel lying between said opposed margins, said further flap having laterally spaced locking members and said side locking flaps having cuts wedgingly receiving said members, whereby said locking elements and members frictionally coact with said respective cuts to hold the container in locked condition.

6. A packaging device comprising a one-piece sheet member creased to define a pair of bendably connected panels adapted to be disposed in generally parallel relation to one another and a pair of flaps flexibly connected to each of the opposed side margins of one of said panels, said flaps being adapted to be folded toward one another into superposed relation to said last named panel and to a portion of a garment disposed thereon, the other of said panels being provided with locking flaps flexibly conjoined to opposed side margins thereof which are foldable to superposed relation to said panels and lockingly engageable with one thereof, and further flap means bendably connected to a further margin of said first named panel and lockingly engageable with said locking flaps.

7. A packaging device comprising a one-piece sheet member creased to define a pair of panels bendably connected along a medial line and adapted to be disposed in generally parallel relation to one another and a pair of flaps flexibly connected to each of the opposed side margins of one of said panels, said flaps being adapted to be folded toward one another into superposed relation to said panel and to a portion of a garment disposed thereon, the other of said panels being provided with locking flaps flexibly conjoined to opposed side margins thereof and a further locking flap connected to a margin thereof spaced from said medial line, which locking flaps are foldable to superposed relation to said panels, said side marginal and further locking flaps having interengaging means to secure the device in latched condition.

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