

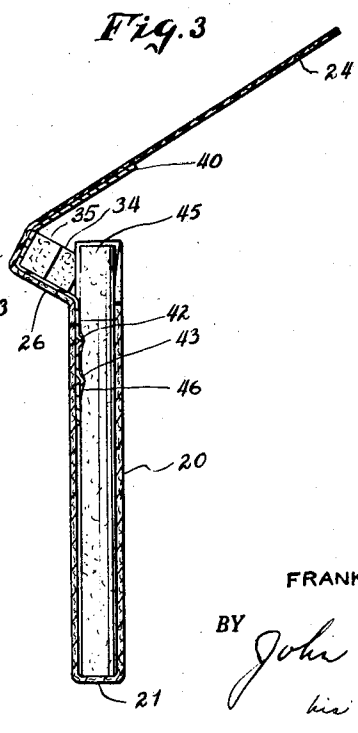
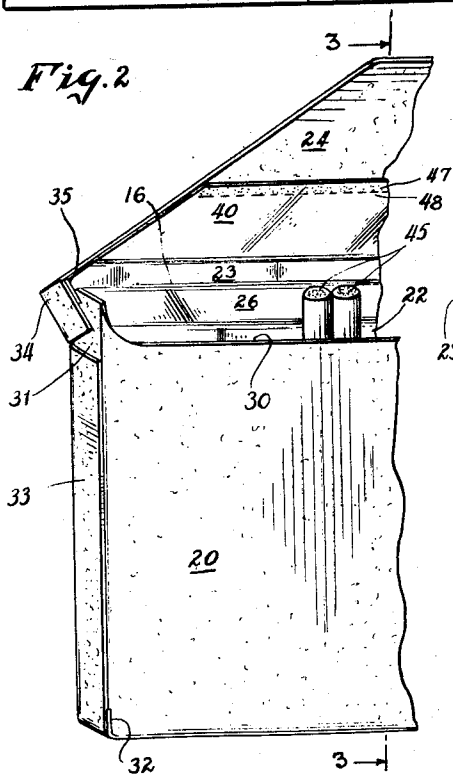
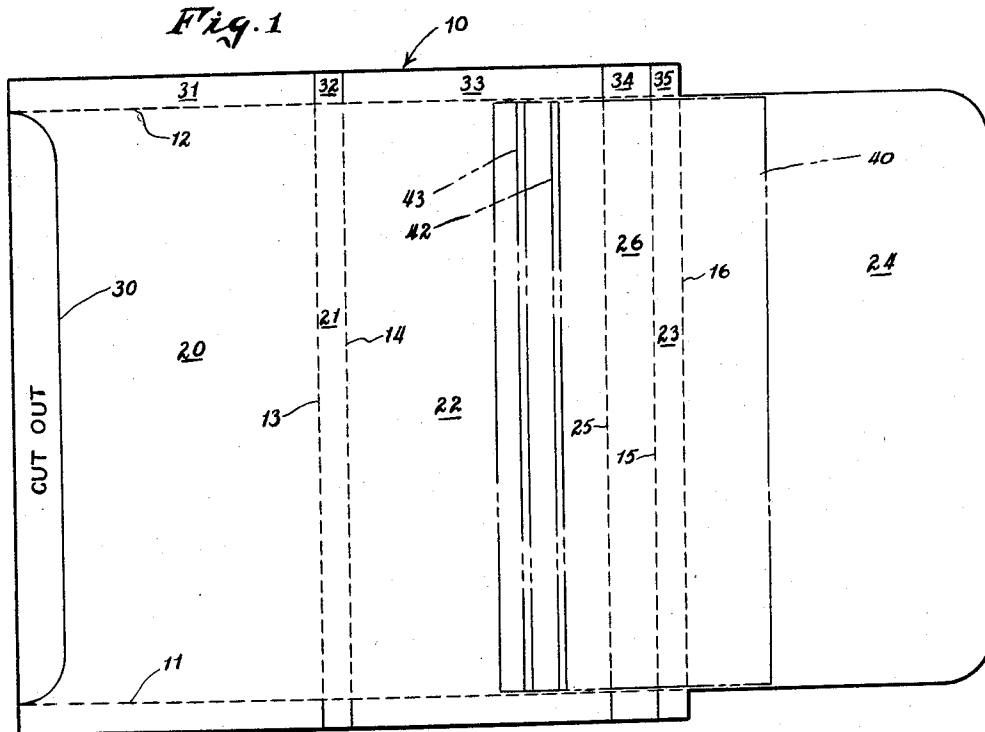
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2,911,092

CONTAINER

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2,911,092

CONTAINER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 206—41)

This invention relates to containers for small articles and relates more particularly to a novel disposable container for cigarettes wherein all of the cigarettes will be disposed in a straight line, thus providing a flat, thin package which can be carried in the inside coat pocket of the user without bulging.

The conventional package for twenty cigarettes is almost one inch in thickness and contains three superimposed layers or rows of cigarettes. This shape of package practically requires that a man carry it in his trousers pocket since if it is carried in the side pocket of his jacket there is always a noticeable bulge.

An important object of the present invention is to provide an improved relatively flat package, wherein the twenty cigarettes are in a single plane and wherein all of the cigarettes are readily accessible when the cover is opened and wherein each one of the cigarettes may be easily removed without the need to tear or otherwise deface any portion of the container.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel container in which the wall structure is so arranged as to afford greater protection of the cigarette against crushing than is provided by the light paper packages currently in use.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide an improved cigarette container having a partial liner of tinfoil or other moisture resistant material which encloses the upper section of the cigarettes in the sealed packages, thus preventing them from drying out during their period of shelf life. This moisture barrier also retains the freshness after the package has been opened. The blank forming the moisture barrier is also formed in such a manner as to prevent undue movement of the cigarettes remaining in the package after a number of them have been removed.

The forward margin of the tinfoil liner which overlies the cover may have an adhesive on its outer face which causes this margin to adhere to the front face of the front wall. This retains the liner in contact with the upper ends of the cigarettes before the package is opened and when the cover is opened for the first time this margin may adhere to said front wall.

A further object of the invention is to provide a flat container for cigarettes or the like wherein the rear wall which carries a closure flap has a hinge line which enables the upper section of such rear wall to retract rearwardly along said hinge line when the cover is opened in order to allow the cigarettes to be readily grasped at their upper ends for easy removal.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the blank used in forming the improved container of the present invention and showing in dot-and-dash lines the position of the foil blank thereon which forms the moisture barrier.

Fig. 2 is a broken perspective view of one end of the opened container.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

The blank 10 used in forming the container of the

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present invention may be made from relatively heavy paper or stiff, thin cardboard and is formed with longitudinal score lines 11 and 12 and two pairs of spaced transverse score lines 13 and 14, and 15 and 16, thus dividing the blank into a front wall 20, a base wall 21, a rear wall 22, a top wall 23 and a cover section 24. The rear wall has one additional score line 25 spaced from score line 15 to form a hinged upper rear wall section 26.

Front wall 20 is formed with a cut-out section 30 along its upper edge to facilitate withdrawal of the cigarettes. The front, bottom, side and top walls are formed with tabs 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35, which are separated from each other along cut lines forming extensions of fold lines 13, 14, 25, 15 and 16, respectively. These tabs form the end walls of the container and are glued in overlapping relation as shown in Fig. 2.

Before the blank is assembled into a box a second blank 40, shown in dot-and-dash lines and forming a moisture barrier, is adhered to the cardboard blank. It is preferably formed from metal foil and is of substantially the same length as the rear wall and the cover and extends over the upper section of the rear wall upwardly and down a portion of the cover.

This blank is formed with a plurality of spaced, longitudinal ridges 42 and 43. Thus, when the cigarettes 45 are placed in the container the ridges tend to press against the walls thereof to form a slight recession as shown at 46. This tends to retain the cigarettes in their relative position in the container after one or more have been removed therefrom.

The outer face of the margin of the liner which is attached to the cover may have a coating of pressure sensitive or other adhesive 47 so that when the cover is initially closed with the contents therein there is a firm seal of the moisture barrier over the upper ends of the cigarettes. Thus, when the package is opened in the first instance this margin will adhere to the front wall and the liner will be torn along the line defining the adhesive area. This line may be scored or perforated, as indicated at 48, to facilitate this tearing action.

While there have been described herein what are at present considered preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that many modifications and changes may be made therein without departing from the essence of the invention. It is therefore to be understood that the exemplary embodiments are illustrative and not restrictive of the invention, the scope of which is defined in the appended claims, and that all modifications that come within the meaning and scope of equivalency of the claims are intended to be included therein.

What I claim is:

A generally flat container formed of cardboard or the like and comprising a body portion including interconnected front, bottom and rear panels and a top panel and a front panel cover, all formed from a single elongated blank, and tabs extending laterally from the front and rear panels which are joined together in overlapping relationship to form end walls, the side wall tabs carried by the rear panel being cut adjacent their upper ends, and the rear panel having a crease line extending between the inner ends of said cuts to form an upper rear panel section which is movable rearwardly when the cover is open to expose articles carried in the box, tabs carried at opposed ends of the top panel which are joined to said wall portions lying above the cuts to cause said portions to move rearwardly with said upper rear panel, and a liner of moisture resistant material extending over the inner face of the top panel and over a portion of the cover and the rear panel, the latter liner portion having:

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a plurality of spaced, outwardly extending horizontal ribs therein which engage said articles to prevent lateral movement thereof in the container.

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