

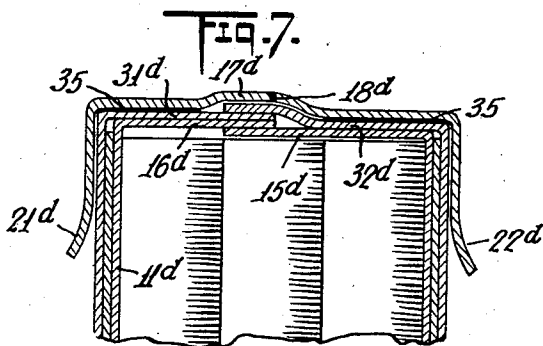
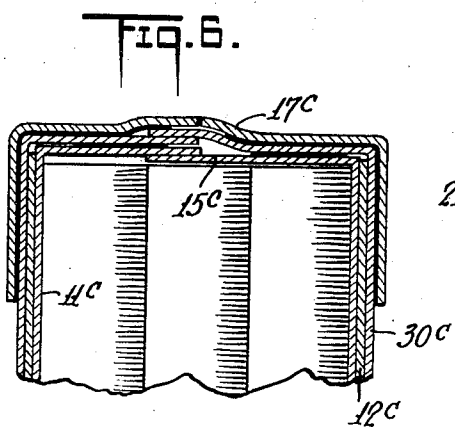
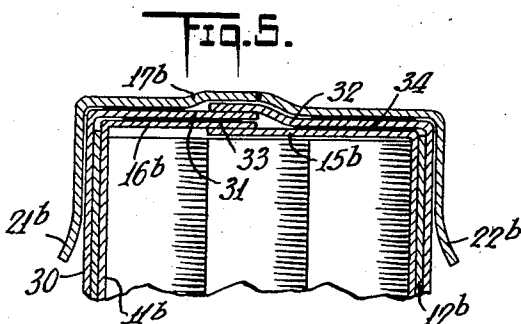
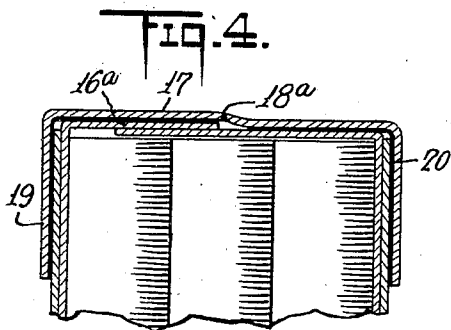
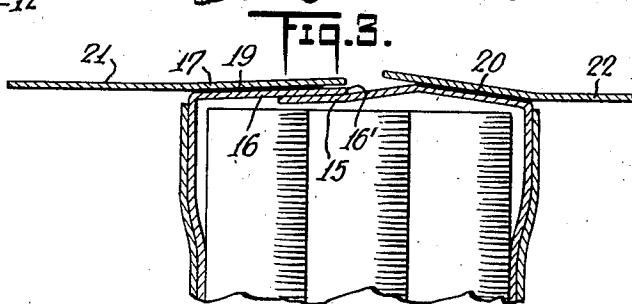
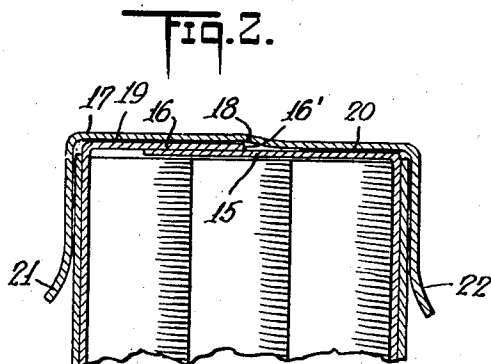
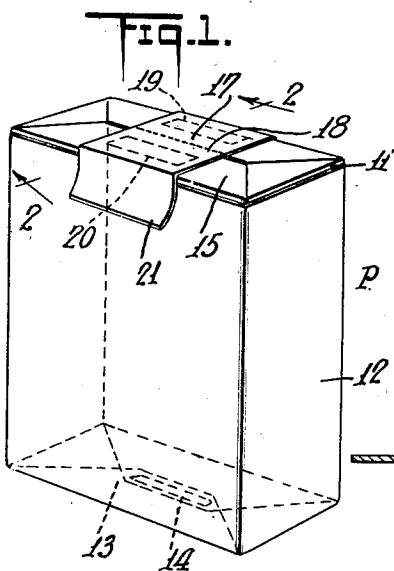
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CIGARETTE PACK

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2,009,835

CIGARETTE PACK

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7 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

My present invention is particularly concerned with cigarette packs of the type retailed in vast number.

An object of the invention is to provide a pack of the above type which, while presenting all of the advantages of the dust-tight, odor-proof and moisture-proof enclosure of the commercial packs of this type now on the market, affords the important additional advantage of facility in opening the same, and of adequately protecting the remaining contents of the pack after the pack has been opened.

Another object is to accomplish the above results without resort to additional constructional elements in the pack, but by the use of the identical elements commonly used in the conventional pack, rearranged in manner to accomplish the above mentioned further advantages.

Another object is to provide a pack of the above type, which can be readily produced in large scale quantity production by use of the high speed automatic machinery now employed for producing cigarette packs and with but slight reorganization to accomplish the modified structure desired.

A feature of the invention is the use of the government revenue stamp, which commonly serves as a sealing paster, to perform an additional function in facilitating the opening of the pack without destruction of the wrapper. In carrying out this object the revenue stamp is weakened transversely, preferably by a line of perforations thereacross which may be applied in some point of the packaging operation, the stamp being affixed across the package and adhesively connected to the overlapping flaps of the wrapper, thereby to hold them down although they are not connected to each other except by means of the revenue stamp. Upon breaking the line of perforations in the revenue stamp the package immediately opens. This line of perforation may be broken by the finger nail, but preferably by having one or both of the extremities of the revenue stamp disconnected with respect to the pack to serve as finger grips so that by a mere pull thereon the revenue stamp becomes severed at its line of weakening and the flaps hinge to open position without destruction of the wrapper.

According to another feature as applied to the modern package, which includes both an inner wrapper and an outer wrapper, the latter of moisture-proof material such as "Cellophane", the inner wrapper need not be sealed at all and the revenue stamp may be applied to the outer wrapper so that after pulling open the latter the inner one is already open.

According to another embodiment each flap of the inner wrapper may be adhesively connected to the corresponding flap of the outer wrapper, so that upon severing the revenue stamp across the outer wrapper both of said wrappers will open simultaneously without destruction of either.

In the accompanying drawing, in which are shown one or more various possible embodiments of the several features of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view in transverse cross-section thereof;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the condition of the package after pulling apart the tabs of the revenue stamp and

Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7 are views similar to Fig. 2 of other embodiments.

Referring now to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing, there is shown a pack P of cigarettes enclosed in the usual foil and paper wrapper 11 enclosed by a paper binder 12, the lower end of which binder has overlapping flaps 13 interfolded with the lower end of the wrapper 11 and adhesively connected as at 14.

According to the invention the protruding upper ends of the foil and paper wrapper 11 are folded inward to provide lateral flaps 15 and 16, the lower of which is shown at 15 and the upper or overlapping one of which is shown at 16, the latter having a free edge 16' substantially along the longitudinal median plane of the pack.

The revenue stamp 17 in the course of the automatic packaging operation is cancelled by a transverse weakening line, preferably a line of perforations or scoring 18, transversely and midway thereacross. The revenue stamp is adhesively connected to the pack by lines of adhesion 19 and 20, preferably spaced from the line of perforations 18 and from the free edge 16' of the upper flap and preferably also spaced from one or both ends of the revenue stamp to afford one or preferably two pull tabs 21 and 22 at the ends of the revenue stamp. According to this embodiment the pack is sealed against the entry of dust, moisture or odor and the loss of aroma.

To open the pack the user simply pulls on the tabs 21 and 22 constituting the free ends of the revenue stamp, thereby severing the revenue stamp along its line of perforations 18, and since the revenue stamp is adhesively secured at 19 and 20 to the respective flaps 15 and 16 the latter by the continued pulling operation are caused to hinge open and to expose the cigarettes as best shown in Fig. 3. In this opening operation the

wrapper is in no way mutilated since the flaps are not adhesively connected to each other except through the revenue stamp, which is adhesively connected only to the individual overlapping flaps of the wrapper. The pack not being mutilated, the flaps are readily folded down after removal of a cigarette or cigarettes and the pack affords far better protection to the remaining contents than in the case of ordinary packages after the latter have been torn open.

The embodiment of Fig. 4 is similar to that of Figs. 1 to 3 except that in this case the ends of the revenue stamp are adhesively connected to the pack as well as the main area thereof, the adhesive extending throughout the area of the revenue stamp except only for the region immediately adjacent the perforated or score line 18^a. In this embodiment the perforation would be severed by running the sharp finger nail across the line of perforation on the revenue stamp, thereby grasping the edge of the upper flap with the finger nail, and the pack immediately opens. Similar parts are designated by the reference numerals of Figs. 1 to 3 with exponent *a*.

The embodiment of Fig. 5 is similar to that of Figs. 1 to 3 except that in this case the invention is shown as applied to a pack including, in addition to the inner paper foil and wrapper 11^b and the binder 12^b an outer wrapper of moisture-proof character, ordinarily of "Cellophane". This outer wrapper is shown at 30 and its flaps are sealed together at the lower end of the pack (not shown). The flaps 31 and 32 at the upper end of the outer wrapper are adhesively connected, flap 31 to flap 16^b of the inner wrapper as at 33, and the upper flap 32 to flap 15^b of the inner wrapper as at 34. The revenue stamp 17^b is applied to the outer wrapper exactly as in Fig. 1. The pack is accordingly in every respect as secure from the standpoint of preventing the entry of moisture, dust or foreign odors, or crumbling of the cigarettes into the pocket as in the case of such pack now on the market. It will be apparent that in opening the pack of Fig. 5, a pull on the tabs 21^b and 22^b of the revenue stamp will draw open the exposed flaps 31 and 32 of the outer wrapper, and since the latter are adhesively connected to the corresponding flaps 16^b and 15^b of the inner wrapper, the latter will also automatically open, substantially in the same manner as in Fig. 3. The opposite flaps of the inner and the outer wrappers are not adhesively connected with respect to each other except through the revenue stamp, and it is for this reason that the severing of the revenue stamp will cause the separation of the flaps of the respective wrappers without destruction of either of these wrappers.

The embodiment of Fig. 6 shows the revenue stamp 17^c applied as in the embodiment of Fig. 4, with its extremities pasted down but in this case applied to the modern wrapper shown in Fig. 5, which includes both the inner foil and paper wrapper 11^c the binder 12^c and the outer "Cellophane" wrapper 30^c.

In the embodiment of Fig. 7 the inner wrapper 11^d of foil and paper is not sealed at its upper end, but the upper flaps 15^d and 16^d are simply overlapped without any adhesive connection directly to each other or by means of a revenue stamp or other paster. The outer wrapper in this case, also the conventional moisture-proof or "Cellophane" wrapper, has the flaps (not shown) at the lower end of the pack, adhesively connected to each other and has its upper flaps 31^d and 32^d free from direct adhesive connection to each

other but firmly closed by means of the revenue stamp 17^d substantially as in the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 3, said revenue stamp having a transverse line of scoring as at 18^d and adhering to the flaps 31^d and 32^d as at 35, and having pull tabs 21^d and 22^d at the unconnected end or ends of the stamp.

In the present embodiment, to open the pack the pull tabs are drawn apart, causing the outer or moisture-proof wrapper to open, whereupon the inner wrapper is simply pushed open with the fingers since there is no adhesive thereon. It will be understood of course that in the latter embodiment the stamp could, if desired, be pasted throughout its entire length substantially as in the embodiment of Fig. 4 and the pack opened by applying a sharp finger nail.

The government revenue stamp being made of all-rag stock has marked tensile strength, greater by far than that of the stock used for the package, so that rupture will occur at the weakened line of the stamp and can occur nowhere else. Thus the superior quality of the stock of the revenue stamp is usefully employed in facilitating the opening of the package without the least likelihood or danger of tearing the wrapper.

While the invention has its preferred applicability to cigarette packs, it will be understood that it may have other fields of application. In particular the embodiment of Fig. 5, in which two wrappers enclosing the pack are simultaneously opened by a single operation on the revenue stamp or other label is of broader application to packs enclosed in double wrappers.

It will thus be seen that there is herein described an article in which the several features of this invention are embodied, and which article in its action attains the various objects of the invention and is well suited to meet the requirements of practical use.

As many changes could be made in the above construction, and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A cigarette pack including a wrapper enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said wrapper having overlapping flaps adhesively connected together at one end of the cigarettes and having overlapping flaps at the other end of the cigarettes substantially free from direct adhesive connection to each other, and a government revenue stamp extending transversely across the package, adhesively connected to each of said latter flaps, said stamp having a free end unconnected to the pack and serving as a finger tab for facility in opening the pack.

2. A cigarette pack including a paper wrapper sealed at one end and having at the other end overlapping flaps free from direct adhesive connection with respect to each other, a revenue stamp extending transversely across said latter pack end and rigidly connected to each of said overlapping pair of flaps, said stamp having its free ends unconnected to the pack and serving as finger tabs for facility in opening the pack.

3. A cigarette pack including a wrapper enclosing a plurality of cigarettes in parallel relation, said wrapper having overlapping flaps at one end

sealed together and overlapping flaps at the other end of the pack, free from direct adhesive connection with respect to each other, a government revenue stamp adhesively connected transversely across the pack at said latter end, said stamp having a transverse line of weakening, the areas of adhesive connection thereof to the pack being spaced from said perforated line and being spaced from the free edge of the uppermost flap of the pack.

4. A cigarette pack including a plurality of cigarettes, a wrapper enclosing the same having overlapping flaps adhesively connected together at one end of the pack and overlapping flaps free from adhesive connection to each other at the other end of the pack, an outer wrapper enclosing said inner wrapper and having flaps adhesively connected to the respective flaps of the inner wrapper, and a label transversely across the end of said pack, adhesively secured with respect to said overlapping flaps of the outer wrapper but free from adhesive connection adjacent the free edge of the outer flap of the outer wrapper.

5. A cigarette pack having a wrapper provided with overlapping flaps adhesively connected together at one end of the pack and overlapping flaps free from adhesive connection to each other at the other end of the pack, an outer wrapper enclosing said inner wrapper and having flaps adhesively connected to the respective flaps of the inner wrapper, and a government revenue stamp having a transverse line of weakening extending across said outer wrapper adhesively secured with respect to said overlapping flaps of

the outer wrapper but free from adhesive connection at said line of weakening and at the extremity of the upper flap of the outer wrapper.

6. A cigarette pack having a wrapper provided with overlapping flaps adhesively connected together at one end of the pack and overlapping flaps free from adhesive connection to each other at the other end of the pack, an outer wrapper enclosing said inner wrapper and having flaps adhesively connected to the respective flaps of the inner wrapper, and a government revenue stamp having a transverse line of weakening extending across said outer wrapper, said revenue stamp adhesively connected to said pack through the major part of its area but free from adhesive connection thereto at the extremity of the upper flap of the outer wrapper.

7. A cigarette pack having a wrapper provided with overlapping flaps adhesively connected together at one end of the pack and overlapping flaps free from adhesive connection to each other at the other end of the pack an outer wrapper enclosing said inner wrapper and having flaps adhesively connected to the respective flaps of the inner wrapper, and a government revenue stamp having a transverse line of weakening extending across said outer wrapper, said revenue stamp adhesively connected with respect to said pack at transverse areas thereof, spaced both from the ends of the said revenue stamp and from said line of weakening, thereby affording pull tabs at the extremities of said revenue stamp.

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