

Sept. 13, 1938.

B. J. TAMARIN

2,129,887

COMBINATION CIGARETTE PACKAGE AND OPENER AND EJECTOR THEREFOR

Filed May 3, 1937

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

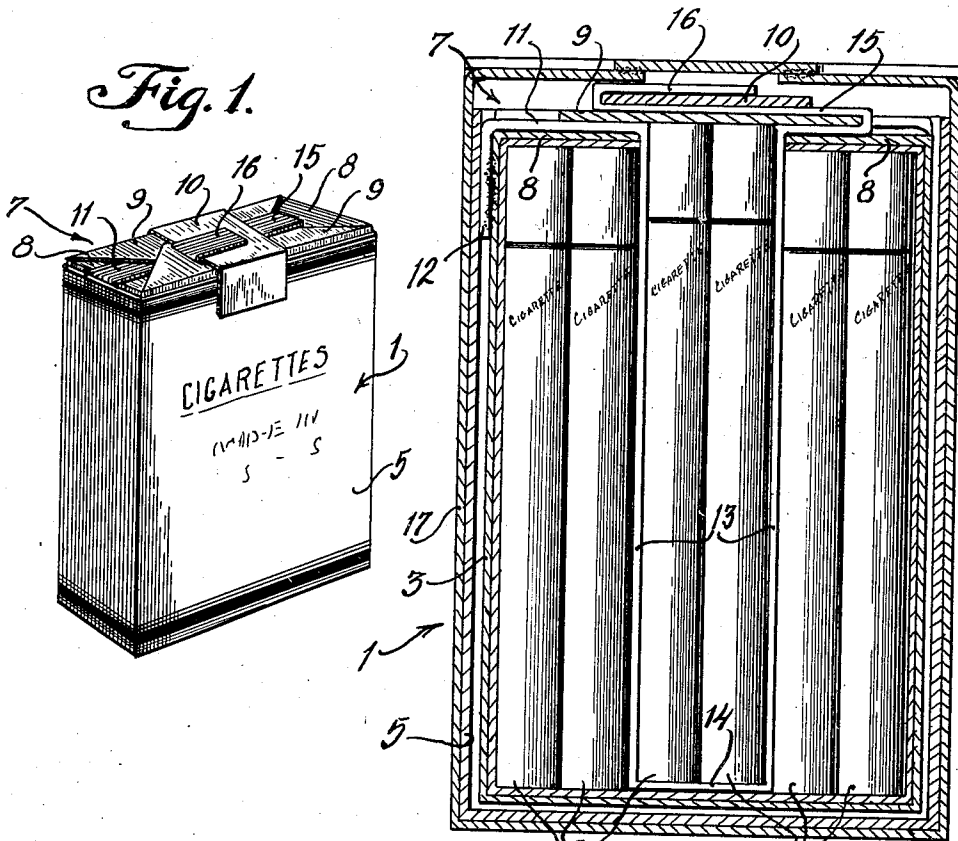


Fig. 2.

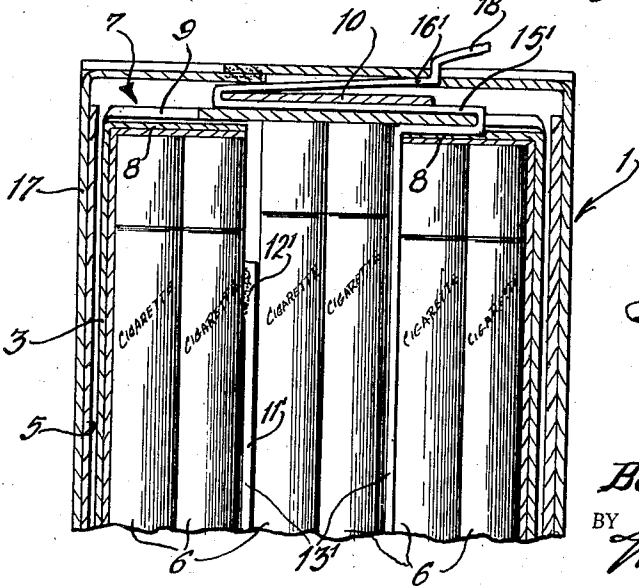


Fig. 3.

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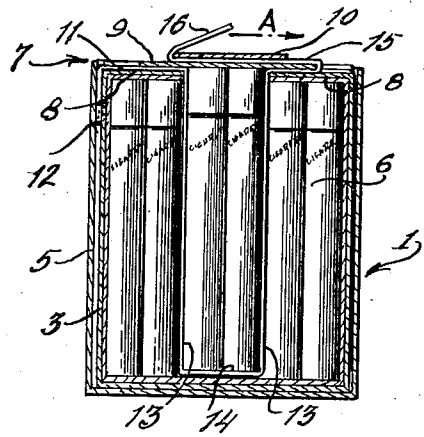


Fig. 4.

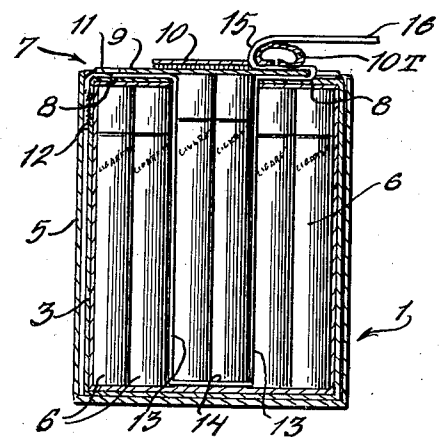


Fig. 5.

Fig. 8.

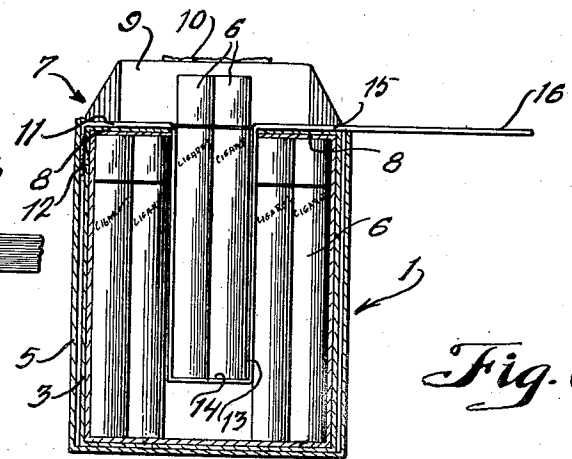
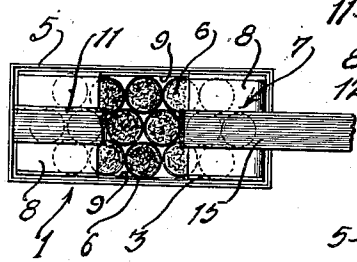


Fig. 6.

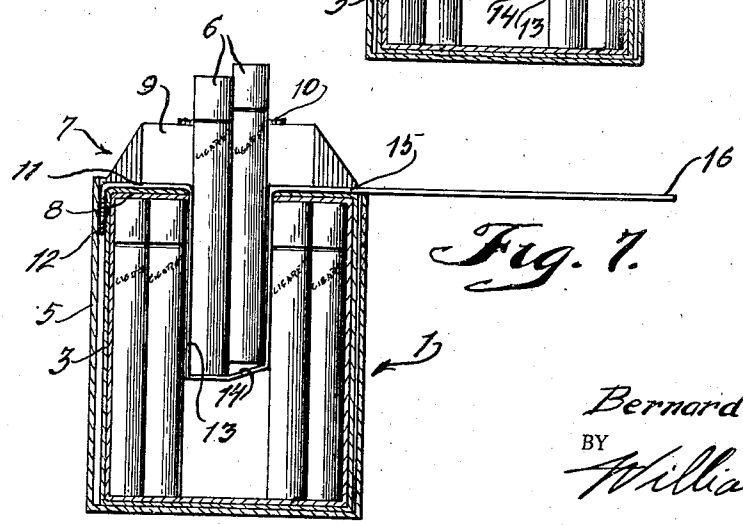


Fig. 7.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,129,887

## COMBINATION CIGARETTE PACKAGE AND OPENER AND EJECTOR THEREFOR

Bernard J. Tamarin, Philadelphia, Pa.

Application May 3, 1937, Serial No. 140,345

10 Claims. (Cl. 206—56)

This invention relates to a new article of manufacture, consisting of an individual package of cigarettes having incorporated therein a combination package opener and cigarette ejector.

At present, the unsealing of a package of cigarettes is largely a matter of individual habit or caprice. As a result, the qualities desired by the manufacturer to be preserved are immediately dependent upon the dexterity or properness of the unsealing, which will vary from the tearing off of the corner of the package and thumping the bottom to raise one or more cigarettes above the level of the others, to ripping off part or all of the package top to permit pulling out the cigarettes from the side of the package.

To insure the maximum benefits from the standardized packaging methods adopted by the industry, it is the primary purpose of my invention to provide a standardized and foolproof means of unsealing and content ejection, controlled by the manufacturer through the means of his standardized packaging processes, whereby the mere pulling of a tape or strip extending from the package and convoluted therein, breaks the Cellophane seal, destroys the Government stamp, open the foil package flaps, and ejects one or more of the cigarettes from the package without exposing the remaining cigarettes.

The invention also aims to provide a combination opener and ejector permanently associated with a sealed cigarette package and with the cigarettes packed therein, whereby upon manipulation, the same will automatically break the seal, open the package, and eject one or more of the cigarettes in a single continuous action.

The invention moreover contemplates the provision of a simple, yet effective, means capable of facilitating the opening of a sealed cigarette package and of affording easy access to the cigarettes therein by ejecting one or more of said cigarettes.

It is also among the desirable features of the invention to provide a cigarette package having closing flaps and a seal for securing the same, with a combined opener and ejector in the form of a strip of flexible material disposed in a convoluted path about certain of the cigarettes and around said flaps, whereby upon subjecting the strip to a longitudinal pull, said strip will act to first break the seal, then open the flaps, and finally eject one or more cigarettes, thus obviating the necessity of manually tearing the wrapper and forcing the cigarettes out of the package, and accordingly eliminating the possibilities of destroying the package or the cigarettes therein.

Other important objects and advantages of the invention will be in part obvious and in part pointed out hereinafter.

In order that the invention and its mode of operation may be readily understood by those skilled in the art, I have in the accompanying drawings and in the detailed description based thereupon, set out possible embodiments of the invention.

In these drawings:—

Figure 1 is a perspective of a cigarette package embodying the invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged longitudinal cross section illustrating the construction of the invention.

Figure 3 is an enlarged longitudinal cross section through a package of cigarettes illustrating a modification of the invention.

Figures 4, 5, 6, and 7 are longitudinal cross sectional views through a cigarette package illustrating the various stages in the operation of the invention.

Figure 8 is a top plan view of the opened package.

Having more particular reference to the drawings, wherein like characters of reference will designate corresponding parts throughout, I have shown an ordinary cigarette package 1, comprising an inner main wrapper 3 generally known as the foil wrapper. This foil wrapper is encased in an outer labeled wrapper 5, the cigarettes 6 packed thereby being snugly and compactly retained in said package.

One end of the package, that is, the normal upper end 7, is provided with the usual flaps adapted to be folded upon each other in the manner clearly represented in the drawings. As shown, the end flaps 8, which are extensions from the foil wrapper 3, are first folded over the outer end of the cigarettes, and then the side flaps 9, also extensions from the foil wrapper, are folded over said side flaps 8. The folded flaps are then affixed by means of a sealing stamp 10, or the like.

In accordance with the invention, the package is provided with my improved combined opener and ejector which consists of a length of suitable material, preferably a strip of Cellophane 11, disposed within the package in a convoluted path, in the manner represented in the drawings.

As more clearly shown in Figure 2, one extremity of the strip 11 forms a securing tab 12 which, of preference, is glued or otherwise affixed to the foil wrapper 3. The strip then passes over the adjacent end flap 8 and extends inwardly of the package around one or more cigarettes to form

a loop portion 13, and projects outwardly of the package over the remaining end flap 8. The part of the loop portion 13 engaging the inner extremity of the cigarette or cigarettes constitutes an ejector element 14 adapted to eject the cigarette or cigarettes in engagement therewith in the manner and for the purpose to be later specified.

With the strip 11 arranged in the package in the manner described, the free end section of said strip passes between the overlapped side flaps 9 and the seal 10 to constitute an opening element 15 terminating into an exposed finger tab 16 projecting outwardly of the package.

In Figure 3, I have illustrated a modified form of the invention. In this modified construction, the securing tab 12' of the strip 11', constituting the combined opener and ejector, instead of being fixed to the package, as represented in Figure 2, is adhesively anchored between one of the cigarettes to be ejected and the next adjacent cigarette, the remaining part of the strip being positioned as in the preferred arrangement to form the loop portion 13', the opening element 15', and the exposed finger tab 16'. In this connection, it is to be understood that it may be possible to dispense with the securing of the tab 12' because, due to the snug and tight packaging of the cigarettes, the portion of the strip 11' disposed between the latter will be frictionally held in position therebetween.

The package with the combined opener and ejector arranged therein may be enclosed in an outer Cellophane wrapper 17 in the usual manner. In this instance, the finger tab 16' may be made to extend outwardly of the outer Cellophane wrapper, as shown at 18 in Figure 3, so as to be manipulated to first open the flaps of the Cellophane wrapper.

A possible way of mounting my improved combined opener and ejector in the package will now be described.

Prior to the sealing of the flaps 8 and 9, one or more of the cigarettes are removed from the package. The securing tab 12 having been anchored, as hereinbefore stated, the strip 11 is loosely laid longitudinally across the upper and 7 of the package 1, and over the end flaps 8, the side flaps 9 being opened. By laying the strip 11 in this manner over the end of the package, it will be understood that said strip covers the spacing created by the removal of the cigarette or cigarettes. The removed cigarette or cigarettes are then replaced in the package and, in so doing, the strip, by reason of its engagement with said cigarette or cigarettes, is forced into the package, thus assuming a general U shaped formation, which forms the loop portion 13, and ejecting element 14. The side flaps 10 are subsequently folded and the strip brought back to lie thereover, as shown at 15.

The sealing stamp 12, which may be the usual Government tax stamp, is then placed transversely across the upper end 7 of the package, thus covering the opening element 15 of the strip 11 and sealing the flaps 8 and 9. It will, of course, be understood that the strip 11 is of such a length that after the same has been positioned in the package in the manner specified, a sufficient portion will remain exposed to form the finger tab 16, which may be folded over the stamp, as shown, before enclosing the package in a Cellophane covering, if such a covering is desired. If a Cellophane covering is used, the finger tab may be

made to extend outside of said covering in the manner previously stated.

It will be appreciated that in placing in the package the modified combined opener and ejector shown in Figure 3, the procedure is the same as that explained in connection with the description of the preferred construction, except that the strip is not anchored to the package but allowed to become engaged between two adjacent cigarettes.

Upon referring to Figures 4 to 7 inclusive, the operation of my improved combined opener and ejector will be fully understood. By gripping the finger tab 16 and pulling it in the general direction indicated by the arrow A, the opening element 15 of the strip 11 tears the sealing stamp 10 as shown at 10T in Figure 5. A continued pull on the strip 11 gradually straightens out the loop portion 13 of the ejector element 14 and causes the cigarette or cigarettes to slide out of the package in the manner represented in Figures 6 and 7 so that the ejected cigarette or cigarettes may be readily taken out of the package for use.

It will be understood that after the cigarette or cigarettes ejected by my combined opener and ejector are removed, the strip 11 may be disregarded, but that ready access may be had to the remaining cigarettes because, with the removal of the ejected cigarette or cigarettes, the tightness of the package is relieved so that said remaining cigarettes become free.

In concluding, I wish to call attention to the fact that the invention is capable of several modifications and, therefore, any modifications coming within the scope of the subjoined claims are to be considered within the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. In combination with a cigarette package having an opening end portion provided with end flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes, side flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded end flaps for covering the remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package and a sealing stamp placed over the folded side flaps of the package opening end portion for sealing the same: a continuous strip of flexible material arranged in the package to pass around and engage certain of the cigarettes covered by the side flaps, one end portion of said strip passing between one of the end flaps and the overlying portions of the overlapping side flaps and then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof whereby, upon pulling said end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will tear the stamp, thus freeing the side flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with said strip through a continued pull thereon.

2. In combination with a cigarette package having an opening end portion provided with end flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes, side flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded end flaps for covering the remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package, and a sealing stamp placed over the folded side flaps of the package opening end portion for sealing the same: a continuous strip of flexible material arranged in the package to pass around and engage certain of the cigarettes covered by the side flaps, one end portion of said strip being fixed within the package, and the other end portion of the strip being free and passing between one of the end flaps and the overlying portions of the overlapping side flaps and then between

the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof whereby, upon pulling said free end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will tear the stamp, thus freeing the side flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with said strip through a continued pull thereon.

3. In combination with a cigarette package having an opening end portion provided with end flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes leaving the remaining cigarettes exposed, side flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded end flaps for covering said remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package, and a sealing stamp placed over the folded side flaps of the package opening end portion for sealing the same: a continuous strip of flexible material comprising an ejector portion disposed in the package to pass around and engage a predetermined number of the cigarettes covered by the side flaps, and a free end portion first passing between one of the end flaps and the overlying portions of the overlapping side flaps, and then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof, whereby upon pulling said free end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will tear the stamp, thus freeing the side flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with the ejector portion of the strip through a continued pull thereon.

4. In combination with a cigarette package having an opening end portion provided with end flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes leaving the remaining cigarettes exposed, side flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded end flaps for covering said remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package, a sealing stamp placed over the folded side flaps of the package opening end portion for sealing the same, and an outer Cellophane wrapper enclosing the package: a continuous strip of flexible material comprising an ejector portion disposed in the package to pass around and engage a predetermined number of cigarettes covered by the side flaps, and a free end portion first passing between one of the end flaps and the overlying portions of the overlapping side flaps, then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof and project outwardly of the Cellophane wrapper whereby, upon pulling said free end portion of the strip against the edge thereof, the strip will open the Cellophane wrapper and tear the stamp, thus freeing the side flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with the ejector portion of the strip through a continued pull thereon.

5. In combination with a cigarette package having an opening end portion provided with end flaps folded over the cigarettes contained in the package, side flaps folded across and aligned parallel to the top surface of the end flaps, and a sealing stamp extending across the side flaps and secured to the sides of the package for sealing said flaps: a cigarette ejector consisting of a continuous strip of flexible material having an intermediate portion passing around certain of the cigarettes, one end portion convoluted to pass for a predetermined distance between the side flaps and the end flaps and around one edge of the side flaps, and over the top surface of one of the side flaps so as to pass under said sealing stamp, and finally passing around one edge of the sealing stamp and over the latter to lay in flat contact with the upper surface thereof, whereby a continuous

pull exerted upon the end of the strip laying upon the surface of the sealing stamp will: first, rupture the sealing stamp so as to unseal the flaps, then raise the side flaps, and thereafter subject the cigarettes to be ejected by the strip to an ejecting movement.

6. In combination with a cigarette package having an opening end portion provided with end flaps folded over the cigarettes contained in the package, side flaps folded across and aligned parallel to the top surface of the end flaps, and a sealing stamp extending across the side flaps and secured to the sides of the package for sealing said flaps: a cigarette ejector consisting of a continuous strip of flexible material having an intermediate portion passing around certain of the cigarettes, one end portion arranged in engagement with a portion of the package, and its remaining end portion convoluted to pass for a predetermined distance between the side flaps and the end flaps and around one edge of the side flaps, and over the top surface of one of the side flaps so as to pass under said sealing stamp, and finally passing around one edge of the sealing stamp and over the latter to lay in flat contact with the upper surface thereof, whereby a continuous pull exerted upon the end of the strip laying upon the surface of the sealing stamp will: first, rupture the sealing stamp so as to unseal the flaps, then raise the side flaps, and thereafter subject the cigarettes to be ejected by the strip to an ejecting movement.

7. In a cigarette package, a first pair of flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes; a second pair of flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded first pair of flaps for covering the remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package; a sealing stamp placed over the folded second pair of flaps for sealing the package; a continuous strip of flexible material arranged in the package to pass around and engage certain of the cigarettes covered by said second pair of flaps, one end portion of said strip passing between one flap of the first pair and the overlying portions of the overlapping flaps of the second pair, and then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof, whereby upon pulling said end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will tear the stamp, thus freeing the second pair of flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with said strip through a continued pull thereon.

8. In a cigarette package, a first pair of flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes; a second pair of flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded first pair of flaps for covering the remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package; a sealing stamp placed over the folded second pair of flaps for sealing the package; a continuous strip of flexible material arranged in the package to pass around and engage certain of the cigarettes covered by said second pair of flaps, one end portion of said strip being secured, and the other end portion of the strip being free and passing between one flap of the first pair and the overlying portions of the overlapping flaps of the second pair and then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edges thereof whereby, upon pulling said free end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will tear the stamp, thus freeing the second pair of flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with said strip through a continued pull thereon.

9. In a cigarette package, a first pair of flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes; a second pair of flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded first pair of flaps for covering the remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package; a sealing stamp placed over the folded second pair of flaps for sealing the package; an outer Cellophane wrapper enclosing the package; a continuous strip of flexible material arranged in the package to pass around and engage certain of the cigarettes covered by the second pair of flaps, one end portion of said strip passing between one flap of the first pair and the overlying portions of the overlapping flaps of the second pair and then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof and project outwardly of the Cellophane wrapper whereby, upon pulling said end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will open the Cellophane wrapper and tear the stamp, thus freeing the second pair of flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with said strip through a continued pull thereon.

10. In a cigarette package, a first pair of flaps folded over certain of the cigarettes; a second

pair of flaps folded in overlapping relation to overlie the folded first pair of flaps for covering the remaining cigarettes and completely closing the package; a sealing stamp placed over the folded second pair of flaps for sealing the package; an outer Cellophane wrapper enclosing the package; a continuous strip of flexible material arranged in the package to pass around and engage certain of the cigarettes covered by the second pair of flaps, one end portion of said strip being secured, and the other end portion of the strip being free and passing between one flap of the first pair and the overlying portions of the overlapping flaps of the second pair and then between the latter and the sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof and project outwardly of the Cellophane wrapper whereby, upon pulling said free end portion of the strip against the edge of the stamp, the strip will open the Cellophane wrapper and tear the stamp, thus freeing the second pair of flaps for the ejection of the cigarettes in engagement with said strip through a continued pull thereon.

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