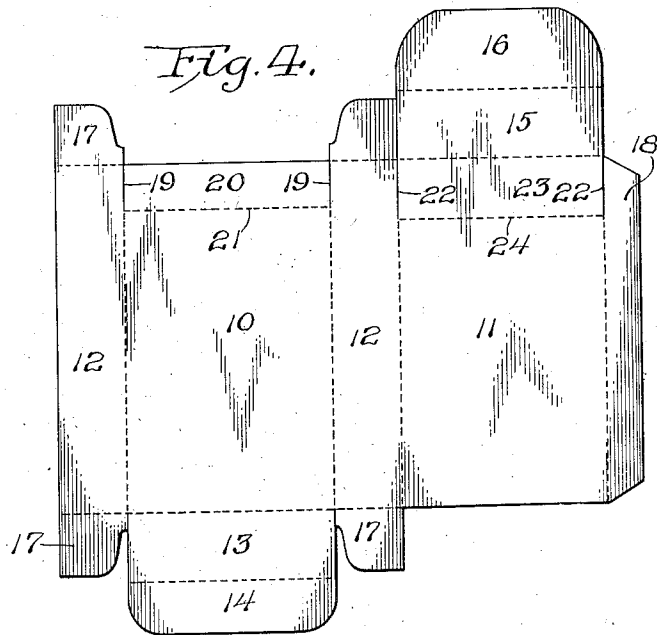
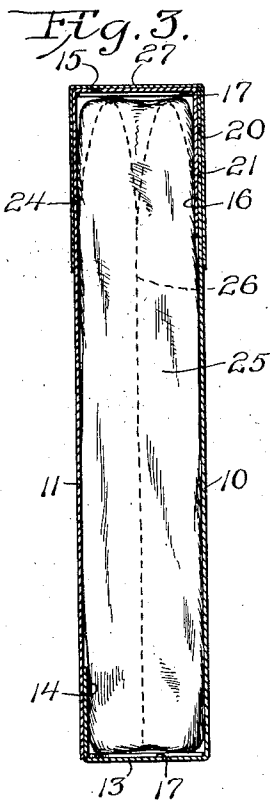
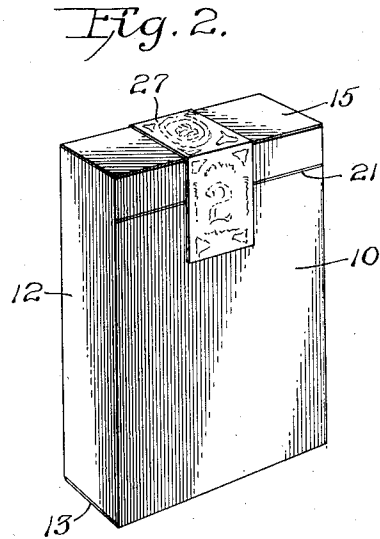
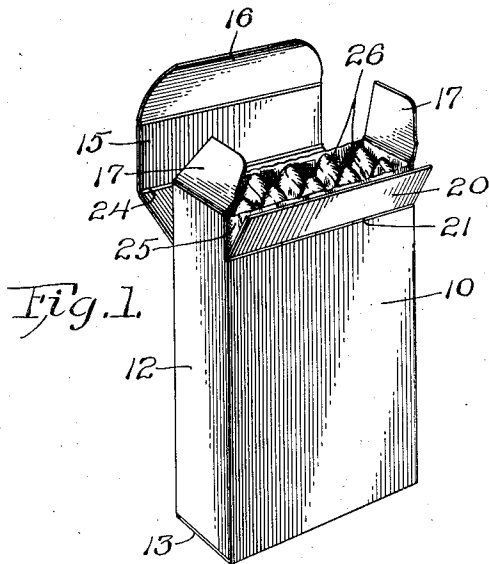


A. SCHNEIDER.
 END OPENING CARTON.
 APPLICATION FILED AUG. 8, 1919.

1,374,956.

Patented Apr. 19, 1921.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTHONY SCHNEIDER, OF WHIPPANY, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO AMERICAN CIGAR COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

END-OPENING CARTON.

1,374,956.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 19, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY SCHNEIDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Whippany, in the county of Morris and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in End-Opening Cartons, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to containers and especially to pasteboard cartons of the end-opening type.

Owing to their fragile nature, cigars are generally packed in wooden or metal containers, which protect them from damage caused by chance blows. A demand has arisen, however, for smaller portable packages, and pasteboard containers for this purpose have been devised.

One common type is composed of continuously connected side walls with tucked-in end flaps so that the cigars are readily accessible by folding back an end flap; and ordinarily such cartons are composed of a single blank folded and glued together in a very simple way. This type of container is very desirable from the standpoint of manufacture, as it is cheap, simple and strong; but in use it is open to serious objection. As the cigars are necessarily packed very tightly together, the extraction of the first cigar is attended with considerable difficulty. The ends of the cigars are close together and the sides of the carton extend flush with or beyond the cigar ends, providing no real opportunity to grasp a cigar. Consequently, the force necessary to insert the finger tips between the ends of adjacent cigars to grasp and extract one is considerable, and usually results in the breaking or marring of the wrappers of adjacent cigars.

To avoid this difficulty, a two-piece carton has come into general use composed of an outer four-sided casing and an inner slide portion having tucked-in end flaps, this portion being adapted to slide endwise out of the casing to release the end flap and expose the ends and part of the sides of the cigars. While this form of carton permits the ready removal of cigars without damage, its two-part structure renders it considerably more expensive to manufacture and assemble than the type first described. In use it is preferable; but from the manufacturing standpoint, the former construction is much more desirable.

The object of my invention is to produce a carton combining the advantages of manufacture inherent in the former type, with the advantages of the latter type in actual use. Furthermore, I have provided such a carton made from a single blank cut out and assembled as readily as the first-described type, and one which is provided with means for exposing the ends and adjacent portions of the sides of the cigars contained therein. Moreover, my construction is such that it may be readily opened and closed, but is capable of sealing either by a label, sealing strip or the usual revenue stamp.

Further objects and advantages of my construction will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the full carton in open position,

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the carton closed and sealed,

Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view through Fig. 2, and

Fig. 4 is a plan view of a form of blank which may be used.

My carton is rectangular and elongated in form, having a flat front 10 and a flat back 11 and connecting sides 12. These are preferably formed from a single blank of material, as shown in Fig. 4. The bottom portion 13 is connected to the body of the carton in any desired way, preferably to the lower edge of either front 10 or back 11; and bottom 13, has the usual tucking flap 14. A top 15 is hinged to the upper edge of either the front or the back, being shown as integral with back 11 and has connected thereto a tucking flap 16 which is relatively elongated for a purpose to be hereinafter explained. Sides 12 preferably are provided with tabs 17 adapted to be folded inwardly to completely close the corners of the carton. The structure so far described is substantially the same as the standard construction of one type of container now in use as above indicated, and is assembled in the same way by connecting back 11 with one side 12 as by a lap 18 on the back and glued to side 12. It will be apparent that in accordance with such standard construction, other arrangements of the parts in the blank may be made and other means of connecting the parts of the blank to form a carton are well-known, this portion of the

construction forming no part of my invention. To facilitate ready access to the ends of the cigars adjacent top 15, I slit front 10 downwardly from its upper edge adjacent 5 to or at the side edges thereof, as at 19 to form front flap 20, adapted to be folded outwardly along line 21, which preferably is scored on the blank. It has been found in practice, however, that access to one side of 10 the upper portion of the cigars is not sufficient to obtain a good grip, and to avoid this defect I have further provided a similar rear flap by slitting back 11 downwardly from its line of connection with top 15 at or adjacent to its side edges, as at 15 22, to form rear flap 23 adapted to be folded outwardly along line 24, which also is preferably scored on the blank.

By bending flap 20 forward, opening the 20 top by extracting tucking flap 16, and bending the top and rear flap 23 backward, a substantial portion of the upper ends of the cigars is exposed, and the careful extraction of a cigar is rendered easy. Furthermore, 25 it is apparent that when the flap 20 is in the position shown in Fig. 1 it will serve as a guide to direct the end 16 of the long flap 23 to its closed position between the short flap and the carton contents.

It is customary, in order to preserve the 30 proper amount of moisture in the cigars, to provide a wrapping therefor, as at 25, commonly consisting of an inner sheet of paper and an outer sheet of tin foil 26, or other 35 substance impervious to moisture. With the type of standard carton first described above, an unfolded end of this wrapping afforded further obstruction to the proper extraction of cigars. With my type of construction it will be apparent that the opening 40 at both front and back permits not only the unfolding of the upper end of the wrapping; but it enables the user to pull the wrapper away from the exposed sides of the 45 cigars so as to obtain a good grip thereon. Furthermore, if desired, the cigars may be grasped at both sides and pulled a short distance out of the box to extract a cigar, a process which makes the exposure of both 50 sides of the cigar ends necessary.

While the front flap 20 may be held in closed position by various means, such as interengaging elements on the front flap and tucking flap 16 or top 15, I preferably 55 utilize for that purpose a strip 27, which preferably consists of the ordinary revenue stamp which must, in any event, be placed on the carton, thus affording a positive and complete closing of the package. As these 60 packages are packed close together, such sealing is not absolutely necessary. It will be noted that, as shown, in Fig. 3, I have constructed tucking flap 16 of sufficient

length to extend inside front 10 below fold line 21, thus insuring complete closure of 65 the package, regardless of the position of flap 20. This construction, moreover, insures the complete closing even if flap 20 becomes damaged or torn off in use.

I have described my invention as prima- 70 rily applicable to cigars, as it is designed to meet a peculiar difficulty incident to the packaging thereof; but certain features of my construction are obviously applicable to any end-opening carton for use with rela- 75 tively fragile articles.

While I have described a preferred form of my invention, my invention is not confined thereto, but includes such modifica- 80 tions and embodiments thereof as fall within the spirit of the invention as set forth in this specification and falling within the scope of the claims.

I claim:

1. A carton having a closure for one end, 85 comprising one short and one long side flap each outwardly foldable on lines below the carton top, the long side flap being sufficiently long to extend over the carton top and down below the fold line of the 90 short side flap, the short flap being of such length that when slightly bent outwardly it serves as a guide to direct the long flap to its closed position between the fold line of the short flap and the carton contents. 95

2. A carton permanently closed at its bottom, the other end having two side flaps, the flaps being foldable on lines below the carton top, one flap being sufficiently long to extend over the carton top and down below 100 the fold line of the opposite flap, said opposite flap being of such length that when slightly bent outwardly it serves as a guide to direct the end of the long flap to its closed position between the fold line of the 105 short flap and the carton contents.

3. A carton made from a single sheet of material permanently closed at its bottom, the other end having two end and two side flaps, the two side flaps being foldable on 110 lines scored into the material below the carton top, one flap being sufficiently long to extend over the carton and down below the fold line of the opposite flap, said long flap having another fold line at the edge of the 115 top and a third fold line to form another edge of the carton top, said opposite flap terminating at the carton top and when slightly bent outwardly serving as a guide to direct the end of the long flap to its closed 120 position between the fold line of the short flap and the carton contents.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

ANTHONY SCHNEIDER.