March 7, 1967 L. S. WYSOCKI 3,307,770

BUTTER CARTONS AND THE LIKE

Filed July 26, 1965 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

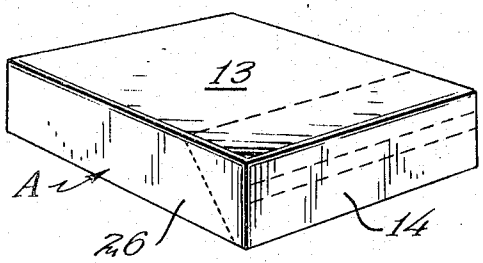


FIG. 1

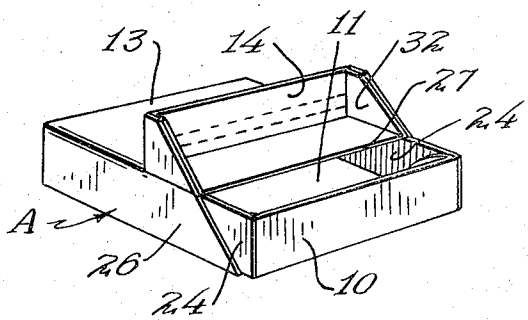


FIG. 2

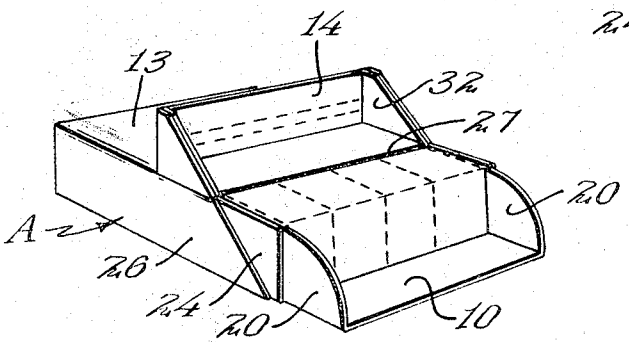


FIG. 3

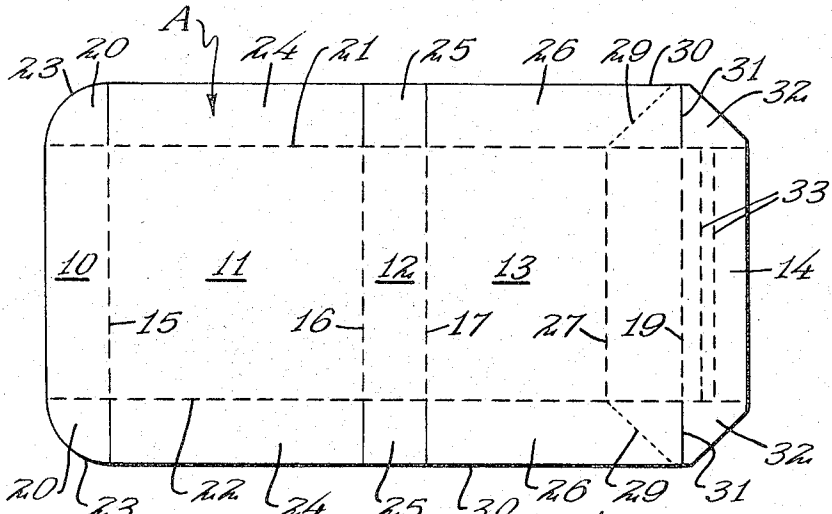


FIG. 4

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BUTTER CARTONS AND THE LIKE

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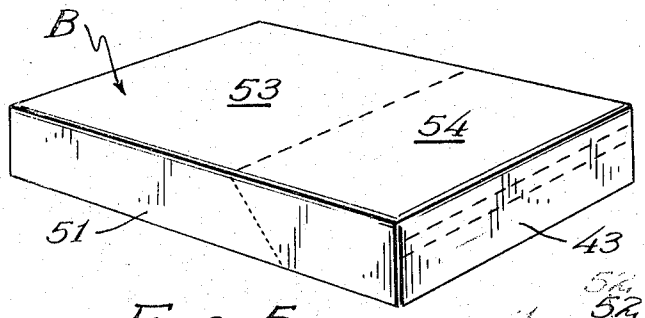


FIG. 5

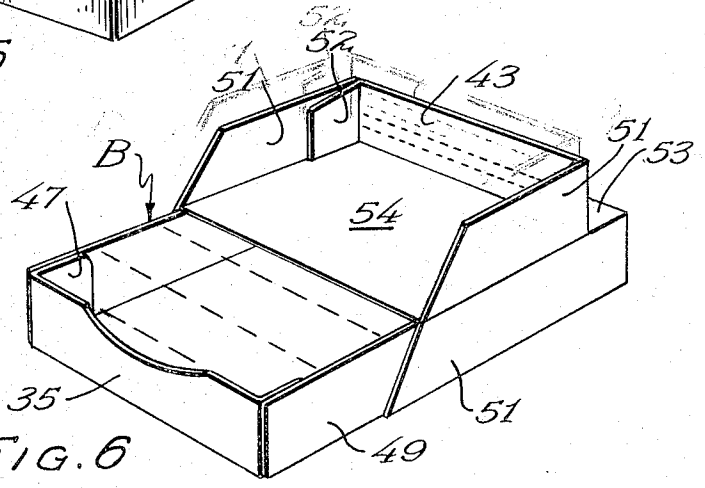


FIG. 6

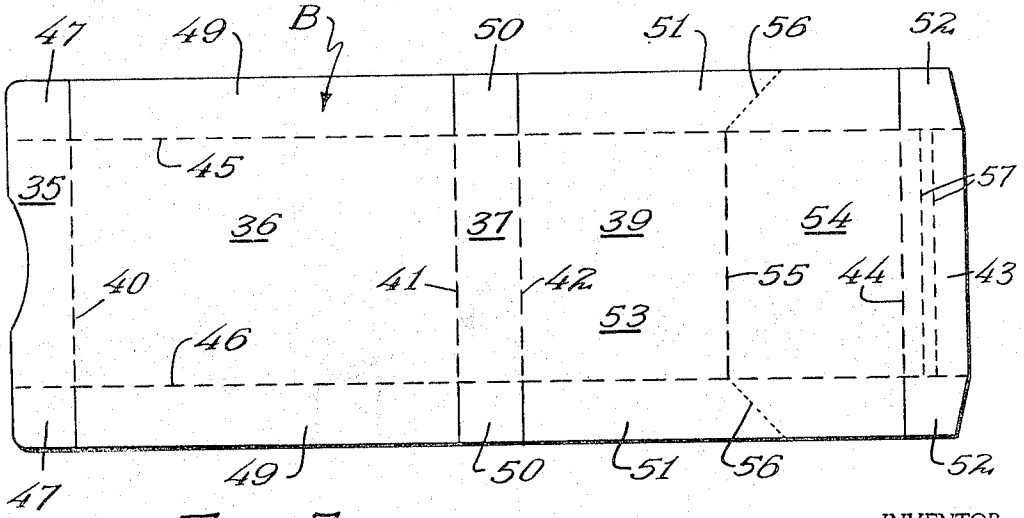


FIG. 7

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BUTTER CARTONS AND THE LIKE

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Filed July 26, 1965, Ser. No. 474,605
5 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

This invention relates to an improvement in cartons for butter and the like and deals particularly with a carton which may be easily opened and reclosed.

Butter, oleomargarine, and the like is often packaged in rectangular wrapped sticks of product, each of which normally contains one-quarter pound of the product. The product is then enclosed in an outer rectangular coated carton which is often heat sealed in closed position. As it is desirable to tightly seal the cartons to preserve the product until it is used, difficulty is often encountered in opening the cartons. If a knife is used to separate the closing flaps, care must be taken not to puncture the wrapped product within the carton. Normally one stick of the product is removed at a time, and with the usual sealed cartons, there is no way to reclose them effectively once they have been opened.

It has been found that by forming a carton in the form of a rectangular tube having overlapping front panels, and closure flaps on all of the panels, folded to form side wall closures, with the closure flaps attached to the top or cover panel folded outwardly of the other flaps and the front panel attached to the top or cover panel lying outwardly of the front panel attached to the bottom panel, an effective package for the product may be formed. Furthermore, by providing weakened lines of separation extending across the top panel closure flaps and a score line extending across the top panel connecting the ends of the weakened line, a hinged lid may be provided which may be readily swung into open position. By attaching the closure flaps of the outer front panel to the portions of the top wall closure flaps forwardly of the weakened lines, the hinged lid maintains its angular shape. By leaving the closure flaps on the inner front wall panel free of attachment with the other closure flaps, the inner front wall may be folded forwardly to further increase the size of the opening.

A feature of one form of construction of the invention lies in the provision of a carton having a pair of closure flaps hingedly connected to the top panel and having a front panel hinged to the top panel and lying outwardly of the inner front wall panel of the carton. A pair of weakened lines of separation extend across these closure flaps from the forward corners of the closure flaps at the lower edges thereof to a point spaced from the forward end of the cover panel. A fold line connects the end of the weakened lines of separation, extending across the cover panel parallel to the forward edge thereof. By tearing the flanges along the weakened lines of separation, a lid having generally triangular side walls is produced which may be swung up to reveal the contents.

A feature of a modified form of construction of the carton lies in the fact that the diagonal weakened lines of separation may extend diagonally upwardly from a point spaced from the forward end of the carton to produce, when opened, a larger opening to simplify the removal of the carton contents.

These and other objects and novel features of the present invention will be more clearly and fully set forth in the following specification and claims.

In the drawings, forming a part of the specification,

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the carton in closed condition.

FIGURE 2 is a perspective view of the carton in partially opened position.

FIGURE 3 is a perspective view of the carton in fully opened position.

FIGURE 4 is a diagrammatic view of the blank from which the carton is formed.

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view of a modified form of carton in closed position.

FIGURE 6 is a view of a similar carton in open position.

FIGURE 7 is a diagrammatic view from which the carton of FIGURES 5 and 6 is formed.

The carton is illustrated in general by the letter A. As indicated in the drawings, the carton includes a front panel **10**, a bottom panel **11**, a rear panel **12**, a top panel **13**, and a front cover panel **14**, the panels being connected along parallel fold lines **15**, **16**, **17**, and **19**. As will be understood, the description of the various panels is merely to orient the panels as they are illustrated in FIGURES 1 to 3 of the drawings. In other words, the carton is often used in an erect position where the panel **12** forms the bottom panel. The front wall **10** is provided at opposite ends with a pair of closure flaps or corner flaps **20**, the flaps **20** being connected to the panel along a pair of parallel fold lines **21** and **22**. As indicated, the flaps **20** are preferably rounded as indicated at **23**, the center of curvature being substantially at the juncture of the fold lines **21**, **22**, and **15**. When the carton is erect, this center of curvature is substantially aligned with the fold line **15** connecting the panels **10** and **11**. The bottom panel **11** is provided with closure flaps **24**. The rear wall **12** is provided with corner flaps or closure flaps **25** while the top panel **15** is provided with closure flaps **26**. The flaps **24**, **25**, and **26** are foldably connected to their respective panels along extensions of the fold lines **21** and **22**.

The top panel **13** is provided with a transverse fold line **27** extending at right angles to the fold lines **21** and **22** and connecting the same. Perforated lines or other weakened lines of separation **29** extend diagonally from the ends of the fold line **27** to the end edges **30** of the flaps **26**. The outer ends of the weakened lines **29** terminate in closely spaced relation to the end edges **31** of the flaps **26**.

The cover front panel **14** is connected along extensions of the fold lines **21** and **22** to substantially triangular closure or corner flaps **32**. The corner flaps **32** are of approximately the same shape as the area of the closure flaps **26** lying between the diagonal weakened lines **29**, the flap edges **31** and the fold lines **21**, **22**. The corner flaps **32** are later secured in face contact with those triangular areas of the flaps **26**.

A pair of spaced score lines **33** may extend across the cover front panel **14** at right angles to the fold lines **21**, **22**. These score lines tend to stiffen the panel **14** and to prevent the flange from bulging outwardly.

In the closing of the cartons, the cartons may be folded into tubular form, usually about the product; until the cover panel **14** lies outwardly of and in surface contact with the inner front panel **10**. If desired, heat and pressure may be provided to lightly seal these two panels together, although this is not necessary.

The flaps **20** and **25** are next folded into a common plane, the flap **24** holded to overlie the flaps **20** and **25**, the flaps **32** folded to lie outwardly of the flaps **24**, and heat and pressure supplied to adhere the flaps **26** to the underlying flaps **24** and **32**.

When it is desired to open the carton, the paperboard is split along the weakened lines **29** and the portion of the cover panel **13** which is between the fold lines **19** and **27**, together with the cover front panel **14**, corner flaps **32**, and the triangular areas of the flaps **26**, provide

a lid which may be folded back in the manner illustrated in FIGURE 2 of the drawings.

The distance between the fold lines **19** and **27** preferably exceeds one quarter the width of the top panel **13** so that an entire stick of product is visible when the carton is used to contain butter or oleomargarine. If it is preferred, the front panel **14** may be swung down into the plane of the bottom panel **13** as indicated in FIGURE 3 of the drawings to provide better access to the contents.

The carton B which is illustrated in FIGURES 5 through 7 of the drawings is virtually identical to the structure previously described with the exception of the fact that the carton B is provided with a larger dispensing opening. Cartons B are of the type used for containing six rectangular sticks of product in side-by-side relation, rather than the four sticks of product contained in carton A.

The carton B includes a front panel **35**, a bottom panel **36**, a rear panel **37**, and a top panel **39** which are connected along parallel fold lines **40**, **41**, and **42**. A cover front panel **43** is hingedly connected to the forward edge of the top panel **39** along a fold line **44**. Closure flaps are connected to all of the panels along a pair of parellel fold lines **45** and **46** which intersect the previously-described fold lines at right angles.

The front panel **35** is provided with a pair of closure flaps **47**. The bottom panel **36** is provided with closure flaps **49**. The rear wall panel **37** is provided with a pair of closure flaps **50**. The top panel **39** is provided with a pair of closure flaps **51**. The cover front panel **43** is provided with a pair of corner flaps **52**.

The top panel **39** is divided into two sections **53** and **54** by a fold line **55** which extends across the panel **39** at right angles to the fold lines **45** and **46**. A pair of weakened lines of separation **56** extend diagonally across the closure flaps **51**, the weakened lines **56** being inclined toward the forward ends of the flaps **51**. The front flange **43** may be provided with a pair of score lines **57** extending thereacross. The weakened lines **56** divide the flaps **51** into two substantially trapezoidal areas.

In forming the carton B, the flaps **47** and **50** are folded into a common plane and the bottom wall flaps **49** are folded outwardly thereof. The corner flaps **52** are then folded to overlie the ends of the flaps **49**. The closure flaps **51** are then folded over the exposed area of the flaps **49** and the entire area of the corner flaps **52** and are secured in this position.

While the cartons have been described as being heat sealed together, obviously an adhesive could be used if it were preferred. It should be noted that in both forms of construction, the inner front panel closure flaps **20** and **47** project beyond the periphery of the outer front wall panel, permitting the individual folding of these flaps.

When it is desired to open the cartons B, it is only necessary to rip the closure flaps **51** along the weakened lines **56** at which time the forward portion **54** of the top panel **39**, together with portions of the closure flaps **51**, the front cover flange **43**, and the corner flaps **52** may form a lid which may be folded to expose the contents.

In accordance with the patent statutes, I have described the principles of construction and operation of my improvement in cartons for butter and the like; while I have endeavored to set forth the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that obvious changes may be made within the scope of the following claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A carton for butter and the like including:
an inner front panel, a bottom panel, a rear wall panel, a top panel, and an outer front wall panel hingedly connected along parallel fold lines,
closure flaps hingedly connected to opposite side edges of said panels,
the closure flaps on said outer front panel being folded outwardly of the closure flaps on said bottom panel and inwardly of said closure flaps of said top panel,
said closure flaps on said top panel being secured in face contact to the exposed area of said bottom panel closure flaps and to said outer front wall closure flaps,
weakened lines of separation extending across said top panel closure flaps from top to bottom thereof beyond the ends of said outer front panel closure flaps, and
a fold line extending across said top panel connecting the upper ends of said weakened lines and parellel to the lines of fold connecting said top panel to said rear wall panel and said outer front wall panel.

2. The structure of claim **1** and in which the areas of said top panel closure flaps forwardly of said weakened lines are of substantially triangular shape, and said outer front wall closure flaps are similarly shaped.

3. The structure of claim **1** and in which the areas of said top panel closure flaps forwardly of said weakened lines are substantially trapezoidal in shape.

4. The structure of claim **1** and in which the rear panel closure flaps and the inner front panel closure flaps lie inwardly of said bottom panel closure flap.

5. A carton for Butter and the like including:
an inner front panel, a bottom panel, a rear wall panel, a top panel, and an outer front panel hingedly connected along parallel fold lines,
closure flaps hingedly connected to opposite side edges of said panels,
the closure flaps on said outer front panel being folded outwardly of the closure flaps on said bottom panel and inwardly of said closure flaps of said top panel,
said closure flaps on said top panel being secured in face contact to the exposed area of said bottom panel closure flaps and to said outer front wall closure flaps,
rear panel closure flaps and inner front panel closure flaps lying inwardly of said bottom panel closure flaps,
said inner front panel closure flaps having an arcuate edge, the center of arcuation being substantially aligned with the line of fold connecting said front panel to said bottom panel,
weakened lines of separation extending across said top panel closure flaps from top to bottom thereof beyond the ends of said front panel closure flaps, and
a fold line extending across said top panel connecting the upper ends of said weakened lines and parallel to the lines of fold connecting said top panel to said rear wall panel and said outer front wall panel.

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