

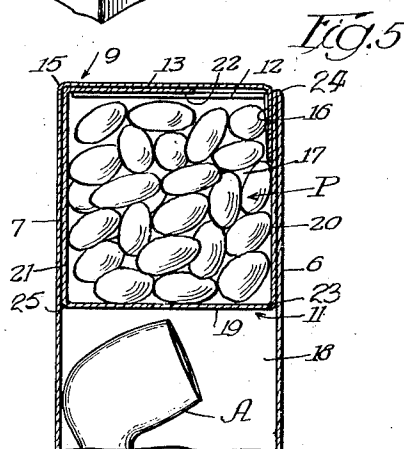
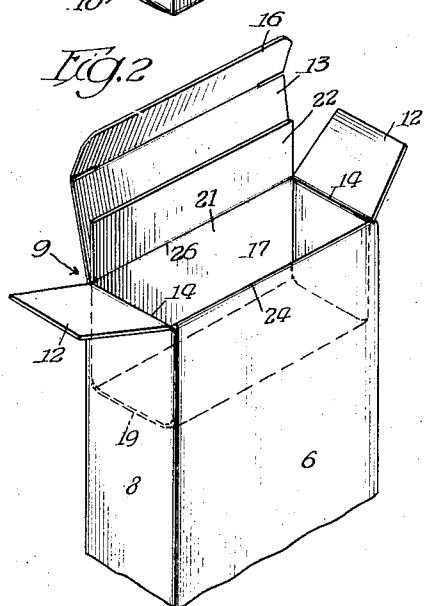
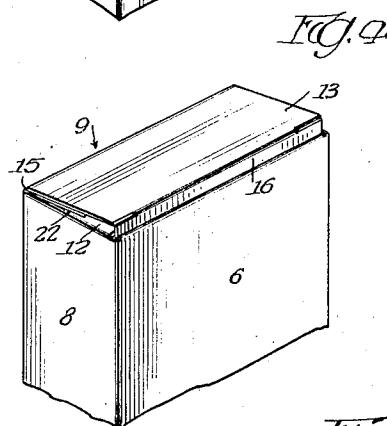
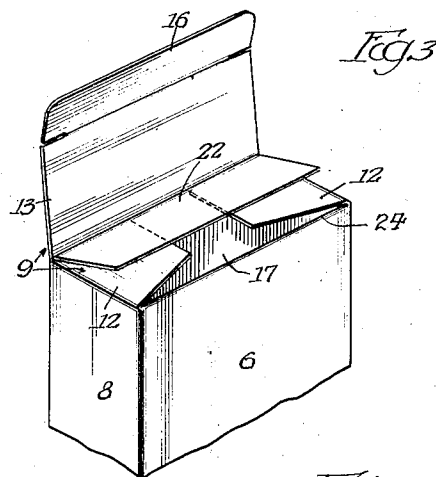
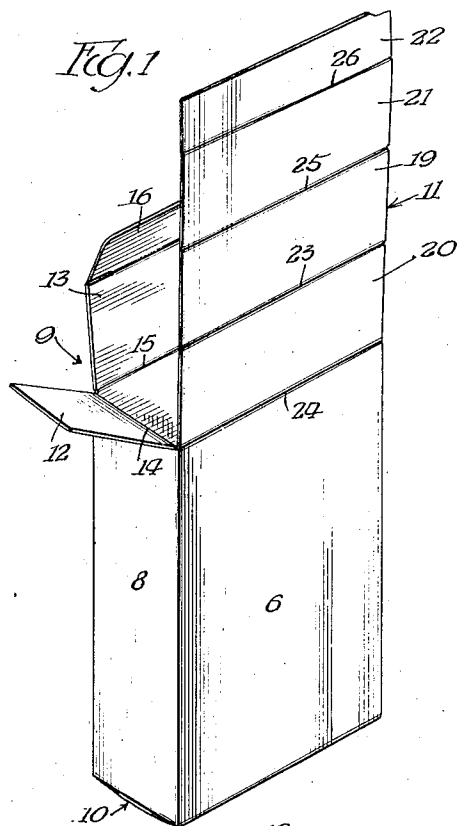
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L. KELLER

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BOX

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Inventor  
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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,305,087

## BOX

Louis Keller, Chicago, Ill.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 229—27)

The present invention relates generally to cardboard boxes. More particularly the invention relates to that type of cardboard box which is designed primarily for use in merchandising pieces of confectionery together with a prize article, comprises a flat rectangular front, a flat rectangular back and a pair of opposed flat rectangular sides, embodies at the upper end thereof a releasable closure in the form of a pair of opposed inwardly extending inner flaps on the upper margins of the sides and an outer flap on the upper margin of the back, and has a cross partition for dividing the interior thereof into an upper compartment for the pieces of confectionery and a lower compartment for the prize article.

One object of the invention is to provide a cardboard box of this type which is an improvement upon, and has certain advantages over, previously designed boxes of the same general character by reason of the fact that the cross partition is of special and novel design.

Another object of the invention is to provide a box of the aforementioned type and character in which the partition for dividing the box interior into an upper and a lower compartment is in the form of a U-shaped trough and embodies a pair of full width side pieces, one of which has the outer margin thereof connected by a hinge-like joint to the upper margin of the box front and the other of which is free and embodies at the outer margin thereof a full width tab which is adapted when the upper end of the box is closed to overlie the inwardly extending inner flaps and coact therewith to prevent inward displacement of the partition, and is further adapted when the flaps are in their open position to serve as a handle whereby the partition may be withdrawn from the box in order to discharge the pieces of confectionery in the upper compartment and at the same time provide access to the prize article in the lower compartment.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a cardboard box of the type under consideration which is generally of new and improved construction and may be manufactured at a low and reasonable cost.

Other objects of the invention and the various advantages and characteristics of the present box will be apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description.

The invention consists in the several novel features which are hereinafter set forth and are more particularly defined by claims at the conclusion hereof.

In the drawing which accompanies and forms a part of this specification or disclosure and in which like numerals of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective showing a box embodying the invention with the flaps at the upper end thereof in their open position and the partition in its extended position, i. e., the position which it assumes after being pulled out of the upper end of the box by grasping and raising the handle forming tab;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary perspective showing the improved box after the partition has been manipulated into its operative position in the upper end of the box but before folding of the flaps into their closed position;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary perspective showing the box after the inner flaps on the upper margins of the box sides and the tab on the outer margin of the free side piece of the partition have been folded into place preparatory to closing of the upper end of the box;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective showing the box after complete closing thereof by folding into place the outer flap on the upper margin of the box back; and

Figure 5 is a vertical transverse sectional view illustrating the manner in which the tab on the outer margin of the free side piece of the partition coacts with the inner flaps to prevent displacement of the partition while the upper end of the box is closed.

The box which is shown in the drawing constitutes the preferred embodiment of the invention. It is designed primarily for use in merchandising pieces P of confectionery together with a prize article A and is preferably formed from a single or one-piece blank of cardboard. As its parts the box comprises a flat rectangular front 6, a flat rectangular back 7, a pair of opposed flat rectangular sides 8, a pair of end closures 9 and 10, and a cross partition 11. The sides 8 are disposed in parallel relation and serve to cross connect and space apart the front and back of the box. The front margins of the sides are joined to the side margins of the front 6 and the rear margins of the sides are joined to the side margins of the back. The sides 8 are positioned at right angles to the front and back with the result that the box interior is rectangular in cross section.

The closure 9 is at the upper end of the box and is of the releasable type or variety. It consists of a pair of inner flaps 12 and an outer flap 13 and serves when in its operative or closed

position to seal the upper end of the box. The inner flaps 12 are attached to the upper margins of the box sides 8 by hinge-like joints 14. They are the same in width as the box sides and are adapted to extend inwards when the closure 9 is in its operative position. The flap 13 is attached or joined to the upper margin of the back 7 of the box by a hinge-like joint 15 and corresponds in width to the box back. It is adapted when the closure 9 is in its operative or closed position to overlie the inner flaps 12 and is provided at the outer margin thereof with a tab 16. The latter is hinged to the flap 13 and is adapted in connection with closing of such flap to be inserted between the front margins of the flaps 12 and the upper margin of the box front 6, as shown in Figure 4. When the tab 16 is in place it serves releasably to hold or retain the flap 13 in its closed position. Opening of the closure 9 is effected by first swinging upwards and outwards the flap 13 and then swinging upwards and outwards the inner flaps 12. The closure 10 serves as a seal for the lower end of the box and may be of any suitable or desired design. For example, it may be a permanent closure or it may be of the releasable variety like the closure 9 for the upper end of the box.

The partition 11 is adapted to divide the interior of the box into an upper compartment 17 for the pieces P of confectionery, and a lower compartment 18 for the prize article A. It is formed as an extension of, and integrally with, the front 6 and is in the form of a U-shaped trough. As its parts the partition 11 consists of a crosspiece 19, a pair of side pieces 20 and 21, and a tab 22. The crosspiece 19 is adapted when the partition is in place to extend transversely across the box interior (see Figures 2 and 5). It serves as the bottom of the upper compartment 17 and is the same in depth as the sides 8 are wide and is the same in length as the front 6 and back 7 are wide. The side piece 20 is the same in length as the crosspiece 19 and is joined to the crosspiece by a hinge-like joint 23. A hinge-like joint 24 extends between and serves to connect the upper margin of the front 6 and the outer margin of the partition side piece 20. When the partition is in its operative position of the side piece 20 fits flatly against the upper portion of the inner face of the box front 6, as shown in Figure 5. The side piece 21 of the partition is joined or attached to the crosspiece 19 by a hinge-like joint 25 and is the same in length as the crosspiece. It embodies at the upper margin thereof the tab 22, and when the partition is in its operative position, fits against the upper portion of the inner face of the box back 7. The tab 22 is a full length tab and is joined to the outer or free margin of the side piece 21 by a hinge-like joint 26. It is adapted when the upper end closure 9 is in its operative or closed position to overlie the inner flaps 12, as shown in Figures 3 and 5, and serves to prevent inward displacement of the partition. The outer flap 13 when in its closed position operates to hold the tab 22 in overlapped relation with the inner flaps 12. When the flaps 12 and 13 constituting the upper end closure 9, are in their open position the tab 22 on the side piece 21 of the partition serves as a handle and when grasped and raised upwards operates to withdraw the partition 11 from the container and effect an automatic discharge of the pieces P of confectionery as well as access to the lower compartment 18 in which the prize article A is disposed.

When the box is in a closed condition and it is desired to remove one or more of the confectionery pieces P the flap 13 is first swung upwards and outwards. Thereafter the tab 22 is swung upwards and outwards into lapped relation with the inner margin or proximal part of the flap 13, and the inner flaps 12 are swung upwards and outwards. These operations result in opening of the upper end of the box and serve to expose the interior of the upper compartment 17. If it is desired to remove all of the confectionery pieces P and at the same time provide access to the lower compartment 18 the tab 22 is grasped and raised upwards. This operates to withdraw the partition 11 from the box and results in a complete automatic discharge of the pieces P. When the partition is exteriorly disposed with respect to the box the lower compartment 18 is accessible from above and it is possible to remove the article A.

The herein described box can be manufactured at a low cost because of the fact that it is made from a one-piece cardboard blank. It is simple in design and effectively and efficiently serves its intended purpose. When the upper end closure 9 is in its closed position the tab 22 is disposed or located between the inner flaps 12 and the outer flap 13 and hence holds the partition 11 in its operative position.

The invention is not to be understood as restricted to the details set forth since these may be modified within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a box formed of cardboard and comprising a front member, a back member and a pair of opposed sides extending between and connecting the front and back members and defining with the latter a storage space, a pair of opposed flaps hinged to the upper margins of the sides respectively and adapted to extend inwards at substantially right angles to said sides and serve as closure means for the upper end of the box, a trough-like partition adapted when in place in the space to divide the latter into separate upper and lower compartments and embodying a side piece connected by a hinge-like joint to the upper margin of one of the members and a second side piece disposed normally in opposed relation with, and connected by a crosspiece to, the first mentioned side piece and provided at its outer margin with a hinged element substantially equal in width to the distance between the two box sides and adapted when the flaps are in their inwardly extending position to overlie and rest upon said flaps and coact therewith to hold the partition against inward displacement, and further adapted in connection with opening of said upper end of the box to form a handle whereby the partition may be removed from the space in order to discharge any articles in the upper compartment and provide access to the lower compartment, and releasable means for holding the hinged element in place on said flaps when the partition is in place and the upper end of the box is closed by the flaps.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a box comprising a front member, a back member, and a pair of opposed sides extending between and connecting the two members and defining with the latter a storage space, a releasable upper end

closure for the space consisting of a pair of inner flaps on the upper margins of the sides and an outer flap hinged to the upper margin of one of the members and adapted when the closure is in its operative position to lap the inner flaps and hold them in an inwardly extending position, and a trough-like partition adapted when in place in the space to divide the latter into separate upper and lower compartments and including a side piece connected by a hinge-like joint to the upper margin of one of the members and a second side piece disposed in opposed relation with and, connected to, the first mentioned side piece and provided at its outer margin with a hinged tab substantially equal in width to the distance between the two box sides and adapted when the upper end closure is in its operative position to fit between the outer and inner flaps and hold the partition in place and when the outer flap is in its open position to form a handle whereby the partition may be removed from the space in order to discharge any articles in the upper compartment and provide access to the lower compartment.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a box comprising a front member, a back member and a pair of opposed sides extending between and cross connecting the front and back members and defining with the latter a storage space, a releasable upper end closure for the space embodying a pair of inner flaps on the upper margins of the sides and an outer flap hinged to the upper margin of one of the members and adapted when the closure is in its operative position to overlie the inner flaps and hold them in an inwardly extending position, and a trough-like partition consisting of an imperforate crosspiece adapted when the partition is in place to extend across the space and divide the latter into separate upper and lower compartments, a side piece extending between, and connected by hinge-like joints to, one of the side margins of the crosspiece and the upper margin of one of the members, and a second side piece connected by a hinge-like joint to the other side margin of the crosspiece and provided at its outer margin with a hinged tab substantially equal in width to the distance between the two box sides and adapted when the upper end closure is in said operative position to fit between the outer and inner flaps and hold the partition in place and when the outer flap is in its open position to form a handle whereby the partition may be removed from the space in order to discharge any articles in the upper compartment and provide access to the lower compartment.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a box formed from a one-piece cardboard blank and comprising a front member, a back member, and a pair of opposed sides extending between and

cross connecting the front and back members and defining with the latter a storage space, a releasable upper end closure for the space embodying a pair of inner flaps on the upper margins of the sides and an outer flap hinged to the upper margin of one of the members and adapted when the closure is in its operative position to overlie the inner flaps and hold them in an inwardly extending position, and a trough-like partition consisting of an imperforate crosspiece adapted when the partition is in place in the space to extend across the latter and divide the space into separate upper and lower compartments, a side piece extending between, and connected by hinge-like joints to, one of the side margins of the crosspiece and the upper margin of the other member, and a second side piece connected by a hinge-like joint to the other side margin of the crosspiece and provided at its outer margin with a full width hinged tab adapted when the upper end closure is in its said operative position to fit between the outer and inner flaps and hold the partition in place and when the outer flap is in its open position to form a handle whereby the partition may be removed from the space in order to discharge any articles in the upper compartment and provide access to the lower compartment.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a box comprising a front member, a back member and a pair of opposed sides extending between and connecting the front and back members and defining with the latter a storage space, a releasable upper end closure for the space including a pair of opposed flaps hinged to the upper margins of the sides, respectively, and adapted when the closure is in its operative position to extend inwards at substantially right angles to said sides, and a trough-like partition having integral panels when in place in the space to divide the latter into separate upper and lower compartments and embodying a side panel connected by a hinge-like joint to the upper margin of one of the members and a second side panel disposed in opposed relation with and connected to the first mentioned panel by means including a bottom panel, said second side panel being provided at its outer margin with a hinged tab substantially equal in width to the distance between the two box sides and adapted when the closure is in its operative position to overlie and rest upon said flaps and coact therewith to hold the partition against displacement and further adapted in connection with opening of said upper end closure to form a handle whereby the partition may be removed from the space in order to discharge any articles in the upper compartment and provide access to the lower compartment.

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