Nov. 28, 1939. C. V. BROWN 2,181,506

PACKAGE

Filed Aug. 23, 1937 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

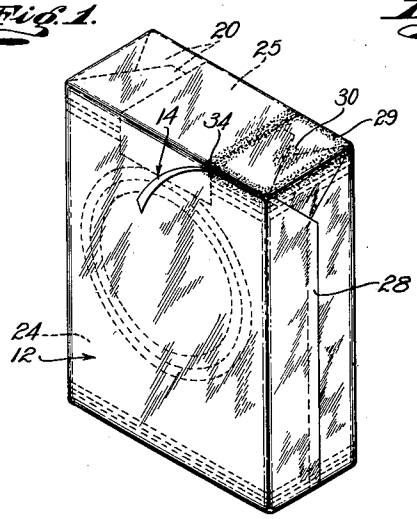


Fig. 2.

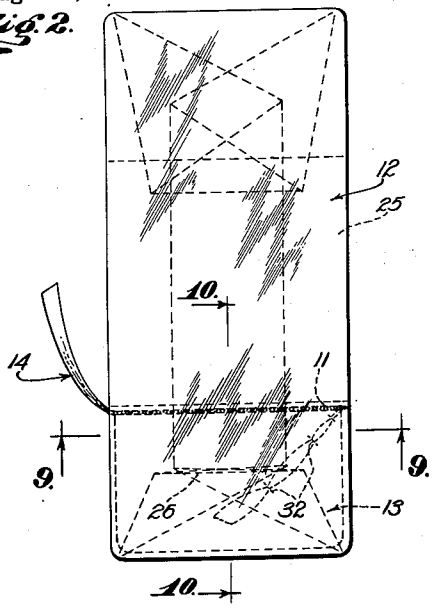


Fig. 3.

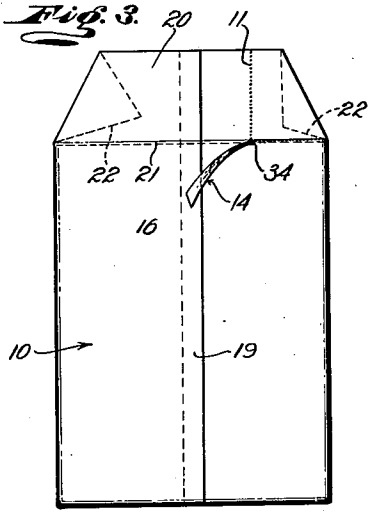


Fig. 4.

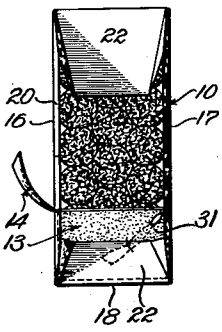


Fig. 5.

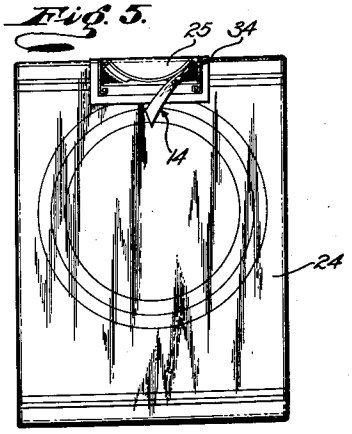


Fig. 6.

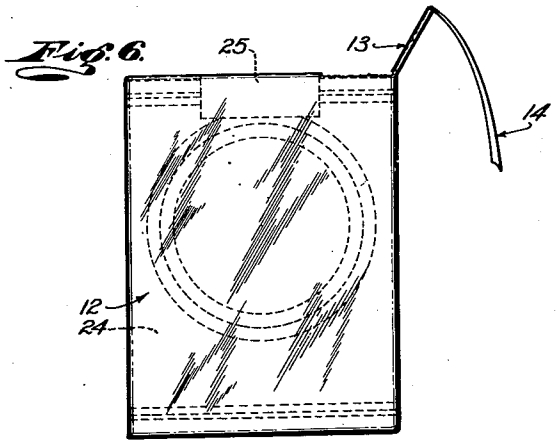
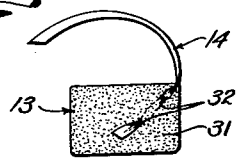


Fig. 7.



Inventor
CAL V. BROWN
By
His Attorney

Nov. 28, 1939. C. V. BROWN 2,181,506

PACKAGE

Filed Aug. 23, 1937 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 8.

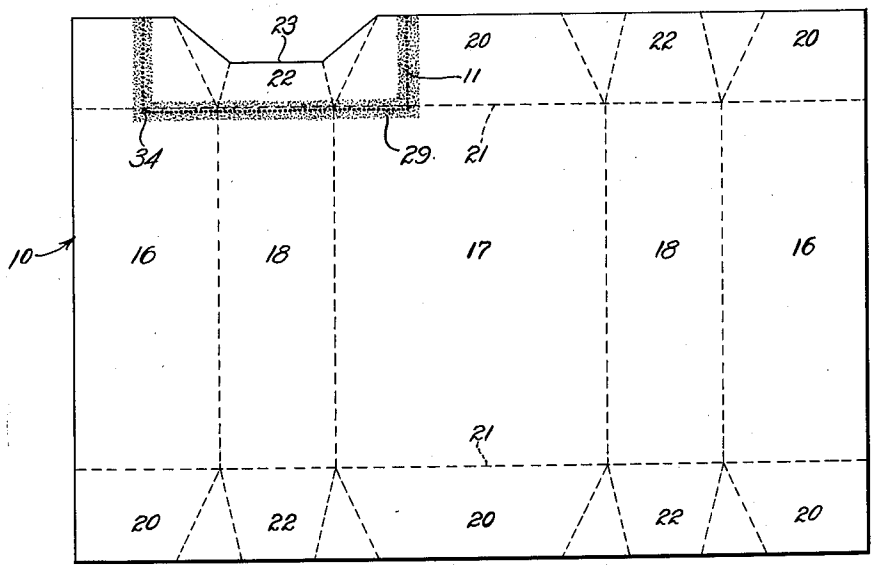


Fig. 9.

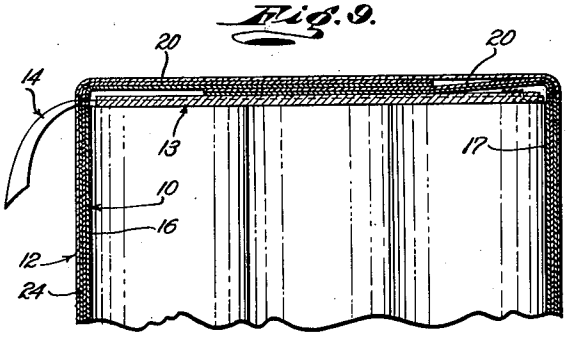


Fig. 10.

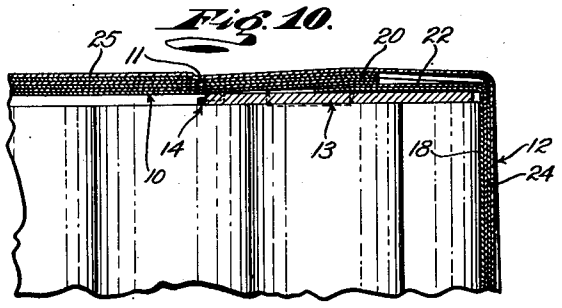


Fig. 11.

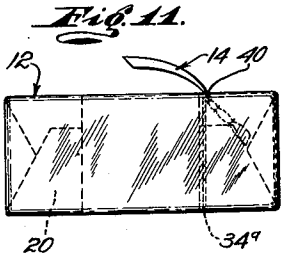
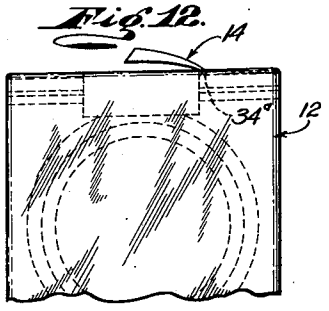


Fig. 12.



Inventor
CAL V. BROWN
By
His Attorney

Patented Nov. 28, 1939 2,181,506

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,181,506

PACKAGE

Cal V. Brown, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Application August 23, 1937, Serial No. 160,439

10 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

This invention relates to containers or packages and relates more particularly to a package for containing cigarettes and like articles. A general object of the invention is to provide a package of the character referred to that is particularly easy and convenient to open.

Cigarettes are commonly marketed in folded and sealed paper packages enclosed in transparent envelopes or outer wrappers. These outer wrappers are usually formed of "cellophane" or similar material that is very tough and difficult to tear. The presence of the outer tough transparent wrapper often makes it extremely difficult to open such a package.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package for cigarettes or the like embodying an outer transparent envelope or wrapper enclosing the usual package proper, and means whereby the outer wrapper and the package may both be easily and quickly opened to make the contents accessible.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package of the character mentioned that is constructed so that an end portion of the package may be readily folded open or torn completely free without the necessity of individually tearing the outer transparent wrapper and then the inner wrapper or package proper.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package of the character mentioned in which a slight pull on a string or ribbon cuts or severs the outer transparent wrapper along a definite line and pulls free or folds back an end part of the inner wrapper to make an opening in the package through which the contents are readily accessible.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package of the character mentioned embodying novel and very simple means for assuring the cutting or tearing of the outer transparent wrapper along the desired line, whereby the outer wrapper does not have any jagged irregular edges or projections and may be left on the package after it is opened.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package of the character mentioned that retains its original form and shape after it is opened and that is suitable for containing or carrying the contents until fully used or exhausted.

Another object of this invention is to provide a package of the character mentioned that is fully sealed and air tight to protect and preserve its contents.

A further object of the invention is to provide a package of the character mentioned that is simple and inexpensive and that may be regular in shape and devoid of undesirable projections and irregularities.

The various objects and features of my invention will be fully understood from the following detailed description of typical preferred forms and applications of the invention, throughout which description reference is made to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a package of the character provided by the invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged top or plan view of the package illustrated in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side view of the package shown in Fig. 1 before the application of the outer wrapper and showing the upper flaps of the inner wrapper partially folded. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the structure shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a side view of the package after the inner wrapper has been folded and sealed in place. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the complete package after it has been opened. Fig. 7 is a plan view of the pulling plate. Fig. 8 is a layout view of the inner wrapper. Fig. 9 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical detailed sectional view taken as indicated by line 9—9 on Fig. 2. Fig. 10 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical detailed sectional view taken as indicated by line 10—10 on Fig. 2. Fig. 11 is a top view of another form of the invention, and Fig. 12 is a fragmentary side elevation of the package illustrated in Fig. 11.

The present invention may be embodied in cartons or packages of various sizes and shapes and for containing various articles or products. In the following detailed description I will describe the invention embodied in packages for containing cigarettes, it being understood that this invention is not to be construed as limited or restricted to the specific forms about to be described.

The improved package of my invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 10, inclusive, of the drawings, includes, generally, a package body or an inner wrapper 10 weakened to readily tear along a line 11, an outer transparent wrapper 12 secured to the inner wrapper 10 along said line 11, a substantially rigid tab or plate 13 secured to the portion of the inner wrapper 10 defined by said line 11, and a flexible thread or ribbon 14 secured to said plate 13 and adapted to be pulled to cut or tear through the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 along said line 11.

In accordance with the broader aspects of the invention the inner wrapper 10 may be formed of any suitable material and may be

folded together or constructed in any convenient manner to have the required size and shape and to constitute the body of the package. In the embodiment of the invention illustrated the inner wrapper 10 is formed from a substantially rectangular blank illustrated in Fig. 8. The blank of which the inner wrapper 10 is formed may consist of a sheet of paper having a sheet of metal foil on its outer surface. The foil covered paper blank when folded in the proper manner constitutes a hollow case or box-like structure, as illustrated in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive, and Figs. 9 and 10. The blank of the inner wrapper 10 is folded along the dotted or broken lines of Fig. 8 to have a front 16, a back 17, two sides 18 and a top and a bottom. The inner wrapper 10 may overlap at 19 and its overlapping portions may be secured together by adhesive or the like. The top and the bottom of the inner wrapper 12 each include flaps 20 which are extensions of the front 16 and the back 17 and which are folded along the lines 21 to overlap. The top and bottom of the inner wrapper 10 further include flaps 22 which are extensions of the ends 18 and which are folded inwardly along the lines 21 to underlie the flaps 20. In accordance with the invention the blank of which the inner wrapper 10 is formed is shaped so that one end flap 22 of the package top is shorter than the other flap 22 of the top to have only a small portion or edge portion overlapped by the flaps 20. A notch 23 is provided in one longitudinal edge of the blank of which the inner wrapper 10 is formed. The notch 23 makes one flap 22 considerably shorter than the opposite flap 22 so that the front and back flaps 20 overlap only an edge part of the said flap 22.

The inner wrapper 10 may further include a label 24 of paper or the like extending about and covering its front 16, its back 17, its sides 18 and its bottom. The label 24 may carry the desired printed matter and may substantially entirely cover the front, back, sides and bottom of the inner wrapper 10. Where the package contains cigarettes or other tobacco products the required revenue stamp 25 may extend across the top of the inner wrapper 10 between the front 16 and the back 17 and may be secured in place by adhesive.

The inner wrapper 10 is weakened along the line 11 so that one end portion of the top of the wrapper 10 may be easily torn free or cut loose by the ribbon 14. In the preferred construction the line 11 is a line of perforations of such character that the material of the wrapper 10 is easily parted or torn along the line. The line 11 as formed in the blank of which the inner wrapper 10 is constructed is substantially U-shaped as best illustrated in Fig. 8 of the drawings. The inner connecting portion of the U-shaped line 11 is parallel with or coincident with the fold 21 and extends along the inner edge of the short flap 22 described above, and the adjacent portions of the folds 21 so that it continues some distance along the fold 21 to the juncture of the front 16 and back 17 with the package top. The side parts or spaced portions of the line 11 extend outwardly through the adjacent front and back flaps 20 to their outer edges. With the line 11 formed and located as just described it extends along the upper corner of the wrapper 10 where its top joins one end 18 and where the front 16 and back 17 join the top at the folds 21 and the line continues transversely across the top of the package between the front 16 and back 17. It is to be noted that the line 11 thus defines a substantially rectangular portion of the top of the wrapper 10 adjacent one end of the top. Further, it is to be noted that the portion of the line 11 extending transversely across the top of the package is clear of or spaced inwardly from the inner edge of the short flap 22 described above, which edge is designated at 26 in Fig. 2. The portion of the line 11 of perforations which extends transversely across the top of the inner wrapper 10 is preferably, though not necessarily, clear of the revenue stamp 25.

The outer wrapper 12 encloses the inner wrapper 10 and is provided as an additional seal or outer seal to make the package air tight. The outer wrapper 12 is formed of a sheet or blank of "cellophane" or other transparent material and the blank is folded and arranged to closely conform to the inner wrapper 10. In the particular arrangement illustrated in Figs. 1 to 10 of the drawings the outer wrapper 12 has lapped folds at the bottom of the package and has lapped portions 28 at one end of the package which may be secured together by adhesive or the like.

It is a feature of the invention that the outer transparent wrapper 12 is secured to the inner wrapper 10 along the line 11 of perforations. It is preferred to secure the outer wrapper 12 to the inner wrapper 10 along the line 11 by adhesive 29. Fig. 1 of the drawings best illustrates the adhesive 29 securing the outer wrapper 12 to the inner wrapper 10. There is preferably a bank or strip of adhesive 29 of substantial width following the line 11 of perforations to secure the outer wrapper 12 to the inner wrapper 10 at both sides of the line 11 throughout its entire length. If desired, the entire portion of the inner wrapper 10 enclosed by the line 11 may be secured to the outer wrapper 12 by adhesive. In the drawings I have shown a central area 30 of adhesive securing the portion of the inner wrapper 10 enclosed by the line 11 to the outer wrapper 12.

The tab or plate 13 is secured to the inner surface of the portion of the inner wrapper 10 defined or outlined by the line 11 and is provided to assure the outward folding or the bodily removal of said portion of the inner wrapper 10 with the attached part of the outer wrapper 12 when the ribbon 14 is pulled. The plate 13 may be formed of cardboard, fiberboard or similar material and is a flat rectangular sheet. The pulling plate 13 is arranged within the inner wrapper 10 at the under sides of the above described short flap 22 and adjacent portions of the flaps 20. It is preferred to secure the plate 13 to the inner surfaces of these flaps. The upper surface of the plate 13 is preferably secured to the under surface of the short flap 22 and the adjacent portions of the flaps 20 by adhesive 31. Fig. 7 illustrates the adhesive 31 on the upper surface of the plate 13 it being understood that the adhesive 31 may be provided on the under surfaces of the short flap 22 and the adjacent portions of the flaps 20 to secure them to the plate 13. The plate 13 is arranged and is proportioned so that its edges coincide with or are slightly inward of the rectangular line 11 of perforations. It will be apparent how the plate 13 secured to the overlapped short flap 22 and flaps 20 lends rigidity to the portion of the inner wrapper 10 defined by the line 11.

The ribbon 14 is a flexible member secured to the plate 13 and arranged in such a manner

that a jerk or pull applied to it severs or cuts the wrappers 10 and 12 along the line 11. In practice the ribbon 14 may be a thread, a fine wire, a cord, a strip of fabric or ribbon. Accordingly, where I herein employ the term "ribbon" it is to be construed as any flexible element suitable for the purpose. One end or one end portion of the ribbon 14 is secured to the plate 13. The ribbon 14 may be secured to the plate 13 in any suitable manner. In the form of the invention illustrated the ribbon 14 is trained or threaded through spaced openings 32 in the plate 13 and the adhesive 31 may assist in fixing the ribbon 14 to the plate. The ribbon 14 extends from a corner of the plate 13 at the juncture of one side portion of line 11 with the transverse portion of the line extending across the top of the package. The ribbon 14 is trained from said corner of the plate 13 to pass transversely under the lapped portions of the flaps 20 and in line with or in the same plane as the transverse portion of the line 11. The ribbon 14 then extends through openings 34 in the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 to have a portion project from the package for engagement for the purpose of opening the package. Figs. 2 and 4 of the drawings best illustrate the manner in which the ribbon 14 is trained transversely of the package top and under the transverse portion of the line 11. If desired or believed necessary the protruding portion of the ribbon 14 may be removably secured against the surface of the outer wrapper 12 by wax or the like.

It is believed that it will be apparent how the improved package illustrated in Figs. 1 to 10, inclusive, of the drawings may be easily and quickly opened. To open the package the protruding portion of ribbon 14 is grasped and pulled upwardly with respect to the top of the package. This causes the ribbon 14 to cut through or sever the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 along the transverse portion of the line 11. The inner wrapper 10 being weakened along the line 11 readily parts or tears. The outer transparent wrapping 12 is tightly secured to the inner wrapper 10 by the adhesive 29 and I have found that this assures the cutting or tearing of the outer wrapper in the desired manner when the ribbon is pulled. The pull on the ribbon 14 or a subsequent pull thereon tends to lift the plate 13 and the upward movement of the plate or the swinging of the plate causes the inner wrapper 10 and the outer wrapper 12 to be severed or cut along the portions of the line 11 at the folds 21. The plate 13 is substantially rigid and the pull applied to it by the ribbon 14 causes the plate to pull the attached portions of the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 11 upwardly. If desired the plate 13 and the attached portions of the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 may be pulled entirely free of the package leaving a substantial opening in the top of the package adjacent one end 18. The plate 13 and the attached portions of the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 may be left on the package to act as a cover or closure in which case the portions of the wrappers 10 and 11 at the corner line of juncture between the adjacent end 18 and the top of the package forms a hinge. Fig. 6 of the drawings illustrates the plate 13 and the attached portions of the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 in an open position and remaining on the package to form a suitable closure. The package may be easily and quickly opened by merely pulling on the ribbon 14 and this operation effects the cutting or severing of the inner wrapper 10 and the outer wrapper 12 along the line 11. The tough outer wrapper 12 is rigidly secured to the inner wrapper 10 along the line 11 so that it is cut or severed by the ribbon 14 with a minimum of effort and when it is cut or severed it does not present jagged edges or projecting portions.

Figs. 11 and 12 of the drawings illustrate a form of the invention in which a pull or strain on the ribbon 14 first effects a cutting or severing of the outer wrapper 12 along three edge portions of the package, then severs the inner and outer wrappers along the portion of the line 11 which extends traversely across the top of the package and then effects an outward bending or removal of the plate 13 and the flap portions of the inner and outer wrappers secured thereto. The various parts of the general package structure may be the same as in the previously described form of the invention. The ribbon 14 is attached to the plate 13 as described above, and extends under the inner wrapper 10 below and in the same plane as the transverse portion of the line 11 of perforations and passes through an opening 34*a* in the inner wrapper 10. From the opening 34*a* the ribbon 14 is trained along the front, end and rear portion of the line 11 under the outer wrapper 12. The ribbon 14 is then passed outwardly through an opening 40 in the outer wrapper to have a protruding portion engageable by the user of the package.

When it is desired to open the package illustrated in Figs. 11 and 12 of the drawings a lateral or substantially horizontal pull is applied to the protruding portion of the ribbon 14 so that the ribbon tears or cuts through the outer wrapper 12 along three edges of the portion of the package defined by the line 11. An upward jerk or pull is then applied to the ribbon 14. This causes the ribbon 14 to cut through and sever the inner and outer wrappers 10 and 12 along the transverse portion of the line 11 and may cause the plate 13 to be folded up and out or to be torn entirely free, taking with it the attached flap portions of the inner and outer wrappings secured thereto. In the structure illustrated in Figs. 11 and 12 of the drawings the initial pull on the ribbon 14 severs or cuts through the outer wrapping 12 along three edges of the part of the package that is to be torn free so that the same may be more easily torn free to give access to the interior of the package. The outer wrapper 12 is secured to the inner wrapper 10 along the line 11, as described above, so that the pulling of the ribbon 14 readily effects the desired cutting or severing of the outer wrapper.

Having described only typical preferred forms and applications of my invention, I do not wish to be limited or restricted to the specific details herein set forth, but wish to reserve to myself any variations or modifications that may appear to those skilled in the art or fall within the scope of the following claims:

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A package including an inner wrapping of sheet material folded to form a package, an outer wrapping enclosing the inner wrapping and secured thereto along a selected line, and a flexible element trained along said line at the inner side of the inner wrapping and having a por-

tion protruding from the outer wrapping adapted to be grasped by the user whereby the said element may be pulled to sever both wrappings along said line.

2. A package including an inner wrapping folded to form a package, the inner wrapping being weakened along a given line, an outer wrapping enclosing the inner wrapping and adhesively secured to the inner wrapping along said line, the outer wrapping having an opening and being imperforate except for said opening, and a flexible element secured to the inner wrapping, trained at the interior of the inner wrapping along a portion of said line and having a portion protruding through the opening in the outer wrapping adapted to be grasped by the user whereby the said element may be pulled to sever both wrappings along said line.

3. A package including an inner wrapping folded to form a package, the inner wrapping being weakened along a line which defines a portion of the inner wrapping, a substantially rigid member secured to said portion, a transparent outer wrapping enclosing the inner wrapping and having an opening, the outer wrapping being imperforate except for said opening, means securing the inner wrapping to the outer wrapping along said line, and a flexible element secured to said member and extending through said opening to have an exposed portion adapted to be pulled to cause the flexible element to sever both the inner and outer wrappings along said line.

4. A package including a package body weakened along a predetermined line, a transparent envelope enclosing the body and adhesively secured thereto along said line, the body and envelope having registering openings, a substantially rigid member secured to the body to have an edge adjacent said line, and a flexible element secured to the member and passing through said openings to have a portion free at the exterior of the outer wrapping that is adapted to be pulled to cause the said element to sever both wrappings along said line.

5. A package including a package body weakened along a line which forms the boundary of a definite portion of the body, an envelope enclosing the body, adhesive securing the envelope to the body along said line, the envelope having an opening, and a flexible element secured to said portion of the body trained along at least a part of said line, and passing out through the opening to be pulled to open the package.

6. A package including a package body weakened along a line which forms the boundary of a definite portion of the body, an envelope enclosing the body, adhesive securing the envelope to the body along said line, the body and envelope having openings, a substantially rigid member secured to the inner side of said portion, the edge of the member following said line, and a ribbon secured to said member, trained along at least a portion of said line at the inner side of the body, and extending out through said openings to be pulled to open the package.

7. A package including a package body weakened along a line which forms the boundary of a definite portion of the body, an envelope enclosing the body, adhesive securing the envelope to the body along said line, the body and envelope having openings, a substantially rigid member secured to the inner side of said portion, and a ribbon secured to said member, trained along at least a portion of said line at the inner side of the body, extending out through the opening in the body, trained along at least a portion of said line at the exterior of the body and the interior of the envelope, and extending out through the opening in the envelope to be pulled to open the package.

8. A package including a package body weakened along a line which forms the boundary of a definite portion of the body, an envelope enclosing the body, adhesive securing the envelope to the body along said line, the body and envelope having openings, a substantially rigid member secured to the inner side of said portion, and a ribbon secured to said member, trained along at least a portion of said line at the inner side of the body extending out through the opening in the body, trained along the entire length of said line at the exterior of the body and the inner side of the envelope, and extending out through the opening in the envelope to be pulled to open the package.

9. A package including a package body having a line of perforations defining a portion at one end of the body, an envelope of transparent material enclosing the body, adhesive securing the envelope to the body along said line, a rigid plate secured to the inner side of said portion, the body and envelope having openings, and a ribbon secured to said plate, trained along at least a portion of said line at the interior of the body and passing out through said openings to be pulled to open the package.

10. A package including a package body having a line of perforations defining a portion at one end of the body, an envelope of transparent material enclosing the body, adhesive securing the envelope to the body along said line, adhesive securing a part of the envelope to said portion, a rigid plate secured to the inner side of said portion, the body and envelope having openings, and a ribbon secured to said plate, trained along at least a portion of said line at the interior of the body and passing out through said openings to be pulled to open the package.

CAL V. BROWN.