June 8, 1943. B. J. TAMARIN 2,321,112

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

Filed May 26, 1939 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

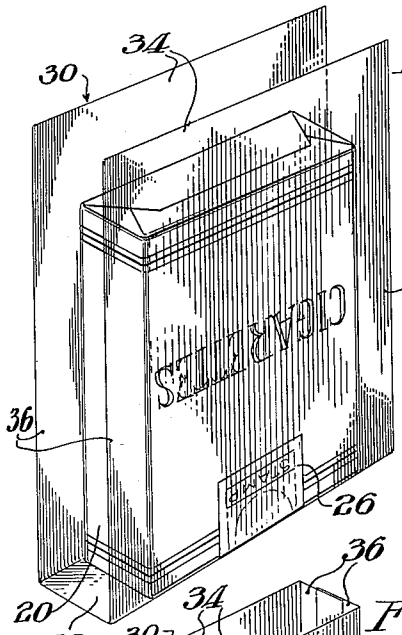


Fig. 4.

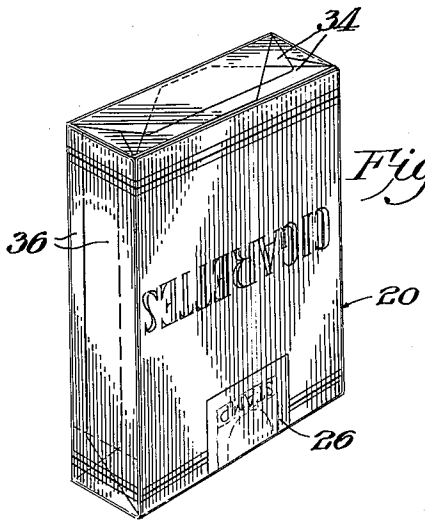


Fig. 2.

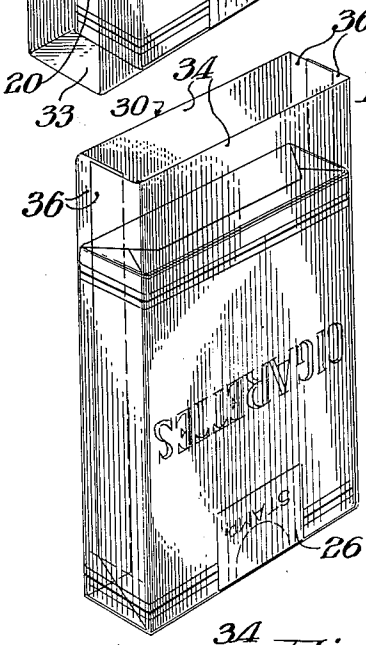


Fig. 5.

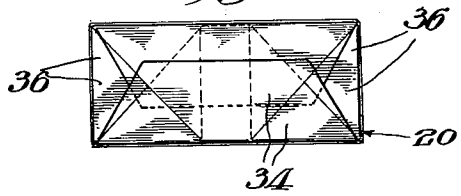


Fig. 6.

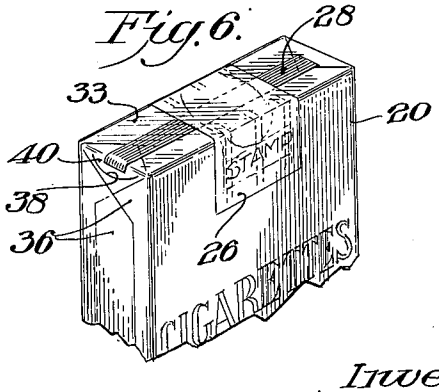
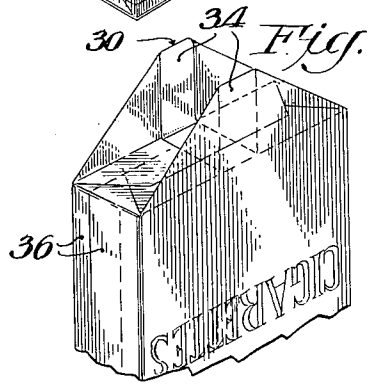


Fig. 3.



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Fig. 8.

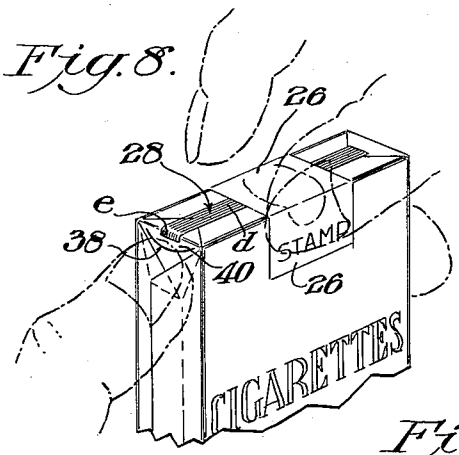


Fig. 12.

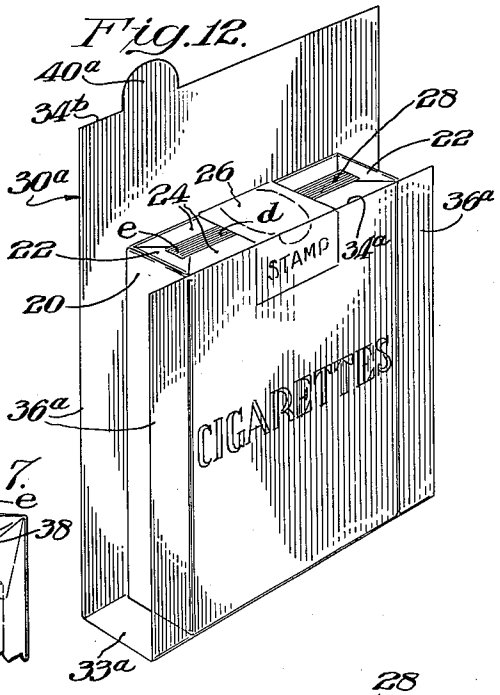


Fig. 7.

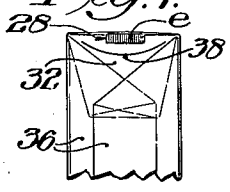


Fig. 9.

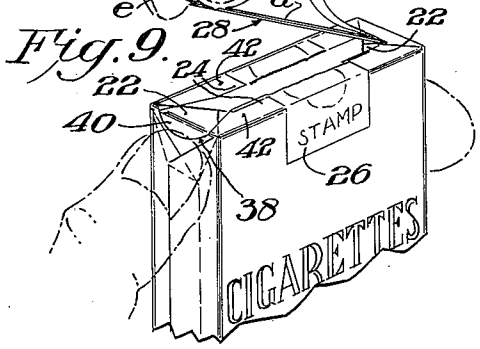


Fig. 13.

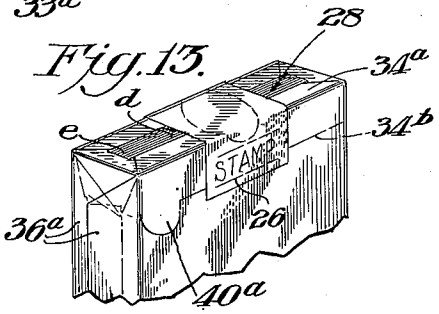


Fig. 11.

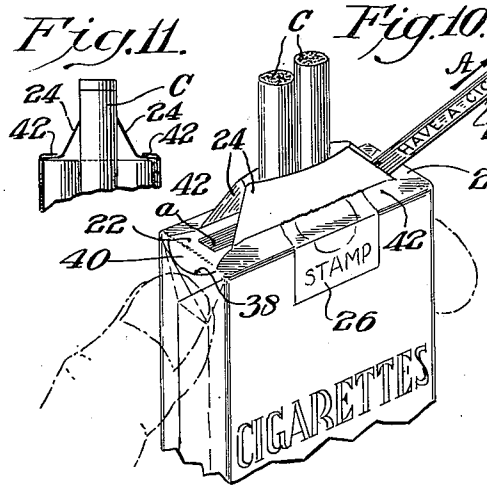


Fig. 10.

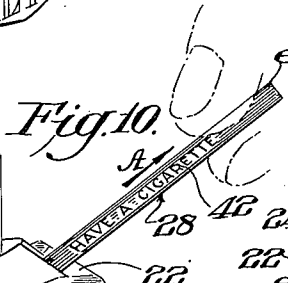
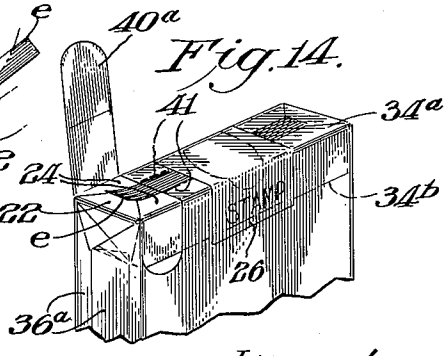


Fig. 14.



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CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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Fig. 15.

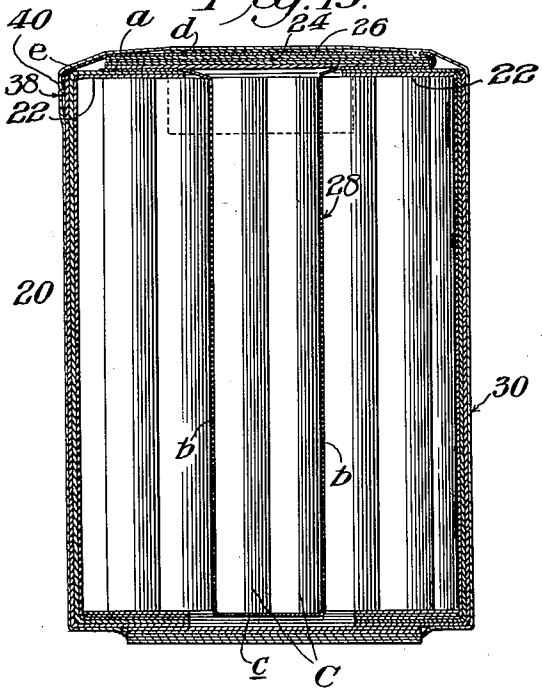


Fig. 16.

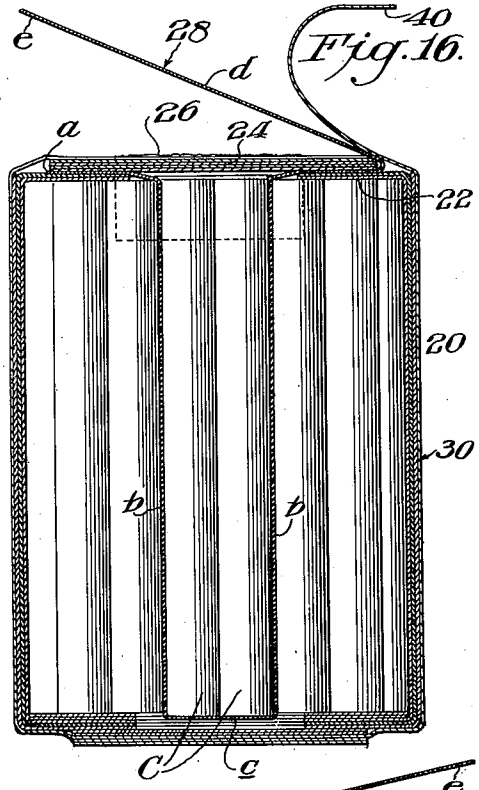


Fig. 17.

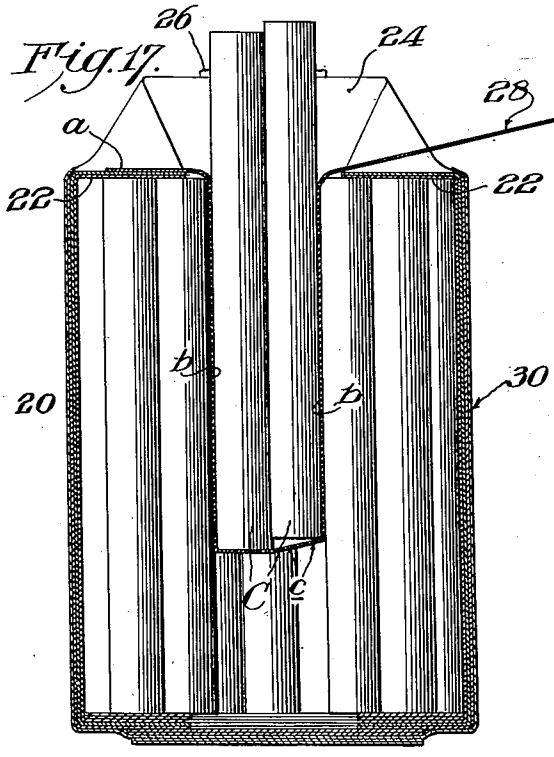
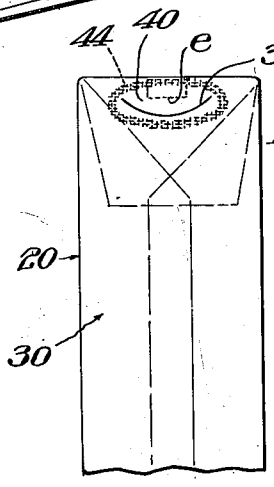


Fig. 18



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Patented June 8, 1943

2,321,112

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,321,112

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

Bernard J. Tamarin, Philadelphia, Pa.

Application May 26, 1939, Serial No. 275,855

1 Claim. (Cl. 206—41.2)

The invention generally relates to cigarette packages and, more particularly, pertains to improvements in the type of package shown and described in my previous Patent No. 2,129,887 issued under date of September 13, 1938.

The present invention primarily aims to provide a cigarette package enclosed in an outer protective wrapper, such as a Cellophane jacket, and having a combination package opener and cigarette ejector of the general description set forth in my previous patent aforesaid, the outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket being associated with the package and its opener and cigarette ejector in a characteristic manner, whereby said wrapper or jacket may be positively opened simultaneously with the unsealing of the package through the continuous action of the opener and cigarette ejector.

It is a most important object of the invention to provide a cigarette package enclosed in an outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket and having a package opener so associated with said wrapper or jacket and the package that the destruction of the Government tax stamp, usually sealing the package, is assured immediately upon opening the Cellophane jacket.

It is a recognized fact that the Internal Revenue Department faces large yearly losses due to the unscrupulous reclaiming and reuse of unbroken tax stamps. Unfortunately, the innocent habit of a large percentage of cigarette smokers of tearing only a corner from the package when opening a new supply of cigarettes contributes mostly to such an unlawful practice. Consequently, a meritorious feature of the invention resides in the particular association of the cigarette package and its outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket and opener, whereby the positive destruction of the stamp accompanies the opening of the outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket, accordingly assuring full compliance by the user, without any conscientious effort on his part, with the law which requires that the tax stamp be destroyed upon removing the contents of the package.

It is also among the meritorious features of the invention to provide a cigarette package of the kind referred to and having an outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket so associated therewith that the opening of said wrapper or jacket is facilitated, the opening of such wrapper or jacket, moreover, being feasible without materially destroying the engagement of the wrapper or jacket with the package itself so that the wrapper or jacket may remain in its position on the package to continue its protective action throughout the full period of use of the latter.

The invention is also characterized by the fact that an outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket placed about a cigarette package may be more securely sealed than has heretofore been possible because, according to the invention, none of the folds or flaps of said wrapper or jacket serve as a means of entry into the package, and therefore the invention permits the full utilization of the intended protective action of the outer wrapper or jacket against atmospheric changes or conditions which may affect the quality of the cigarettes within the package.

In counterdistinction to the usual practice followed in the art, to fold the closing flaps of the outer wrapper or Cellophane protective jacket so that said flaps parallel the opening end portion of the package, the invention is characterized by the fact that a single continuous portion of such wrapper or jacket overlies or passes over and completely covers the entire surface of the opening end of the package, accordingly providing the latter with a smooth unitary top surface, the closing flaps of the wrapper or jacket preferably laying over the normal bottom or closed end of the package.

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:

Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 are perspective views respectively illustrating the successive steps in associating the outer protective cover with the cigarette package according to the invention.

Figure 5 is a plan of the bottom portion of the package constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the top portion of the package.

Figure 7 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 8 is a perspective view showing a mode of opening the package.

Figure 9 is a perspective view showing the action of the package opener in simultaneously opening the outer covering and tearing the stamp.

Figure 10 is a perspective view illustrating the action of the combination opener and ejector in

ejecting certain cigarettes and opening the package.

Figure 11 is a sectional detail of the opened package and partly ejected cigarettes.

Figure 12 is a perspective view illustrating a modified form of the outer wrapper being associated with the cigarette package.

Figure 13 is a perspective view illustrating the top portion of a finished package of the type shown in Figure 12.

Figure 14 is a view similar to Figure 13 illustrating the initial step of opening the same.

Figure 15 is a longitudinal section through the package illustrating the construction thereof in accordance with the invention.

Figures 16 and 17 are views similar to Figure 15, illustrating the combination opener and ejector at various stages of its operation.

Figure 18 is a detail illustrating a possible way of sealing the package opening slit portion.

Having more particular reference to the drawings, wherein like characters of reference will designate corresponding parts throughout, there is shown a cigarette package **20** which, insofar as its construction is concerned may be, and preferably is, of the type now commonly in use in the trade. The top or opening end portion of the package consists of overlapping folded end flaps **22**, and side flaps **24** sealed by means of a Government tax stamp **26**. The package **20**, however, is provided with a combination package opener and cigarette ejector which consists of a length of suitable material, preferably a strip of Cellophane **28**.

Of preference, the strip **28** is associated with the package and the cigarettes C therein in substantially the same manner as shown and described in my previous Patent No. 2,129,887, that is, the strip is disposed within the package in a convoluted path; one extremity of the strip **28** forms a securing tab which, of preference, is glued or otherwise affixed to one of the end flaps **22**. The strip then passes over said end flaps and extends inwardly of the package around one or more cigarettes C to form a loop portion *b* and projects outwardly of the package over the remaining end flap **2***e*. The part of the loop portion *b* engaging the inner extremity of the cigarette or cigarettes C constitutes an ejector element *c* adapted to eject said cigarette or cigarettes in engagement therewith, in the manner and for the purpose to be later specified.

With the strip **28** arranged in the package in the manner described, the free end section of said strip passes between the overlapped side flaps **24** and the stamp **26** to constitute an opening element *d* terminating into a finger tab *e* projecting outwardly of the package **20** and lying contiguous with the opening end portion of the latter.

In accordance with the invention, the package **20** and associated opener and ejector is enclosed in an outer protective wrapper, such as a Cellophane jacket. The manner of associating the Cellophane jacket with the cigarette package will be clearly apparent from consideration of Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4. As shown in Figure **1**, a sheet **30** (preferably a sheet of Cellophane) of dimensions slightly greater than those of the package, is positioned to cover the normal upper or opening end portion and opposite faces of the package, said normal upper or opening end portion being placed in engagement with the medial portion **33** of said sheet so that the opposite end portions **34** and side portions **36** of the latter project beyond the bottom and sides of the package. Then, as shown in Figure 2, the projected side portions **36** of the sheet **30** are folded in overlapping relation over the adjacent sides of the package, a suitable adhesive being applied to the folds for adherence to each other. Then, as represented in Figure 3, the overlapped side portions extending beyond the bottom of the package are folded over the latter which causes the projected end portions **34** of the sheet to assume the flap formation, as clearly shown in Figure 3. Such flaps are thereafter folded in overlapping relation over the bottom of the package, as indicated in Figure 4, a suitable adhesive being also applied to seal the wrapper or jacket.

From the foregoing, it will be appreciated that the normal top of the package presents a smooth unitary surface since the same is covered with a single continuous portion of the outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket, as will more clearly appear from Figure 6.

As will also appear from Figure 6, one side portion of the wrapper or Cellophane jacket, that is, the side portion adjacent the free end of the strip **28**, is slit, for instance, as at **38**, to define a tongue **40** disposed in close proximity to the top or opening end portion of the package.

In practice, it may be found desirable to seal the slit **38** defining the tongue **40** in order to prevent moisture from penetrating into the jacketed package. A possible way of accomplishing this is shown in Figure 18 wherein is illustrated a border **44** of suitable adhesive which may be applied to the side of the package **20** before the application of the wrapper or jacket sheet **30**, said border being located to surround the slit portion, thus isolating the same.

When opening a package having the construction hereinbefore described, said package may be held in one hand, as represented in Figure 8. The tip of the thumb of the hand holding the package may then be inserted in the slit **38** and the tongue **40** flipped, thereby exposing the free end tab *e* of the strip **28**, which may then be grasped between the thumb and forefinger of the other hand.

Thus, by exerting an upward and outward pull on the strip **28**, substantially as shown in Figures 9 and 16, the opening element *d* of said strip **28** will rip the portion of the outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket lying thereover and, simultaneously therewith, tear the stamp **26**, accordingly destroying the same. With a continued outward pull on the strip **28**, that is, in the general direction indicated by the arrow A in Figures 10 and 17, the cigarettes C in engagement with the loop portion *c* of the strip, will cause said cigarettes to lift the overlapping side flaps **24** and emerge from the package.

It is to be noted that the portion of the outer wrapper or cellophane jacket ripped off the package is of a width substantially equal to the width of the strip **28** which, in practice, is considerably less than the thickness of the package. Accordingly, portions **42** of the outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket remain in engagement with the top of the package and thus retain said wrapper or jacket in position, with the result that the package protective feature persists throughout the subsequent use of the package.

In Figures 12, 13, and 14, there is shown a slightly modified form of the invention. According to this form of the invention, a sheet **30***a* of Cellophane or like material is also wrapped about the package **20** but, in this instance, for normal

bottom of the package is placed in engagement with an intermediate portion **33***a* of said sheet, one end portion **34***a* of which is positioned in substantial alignment with the top edge of the package, the diametrically opposite end portion **34***b* of the sheet extending well beyond said top edge of the package. The sheet **30***a* is then folded about the top of the package to bring the end portion **34***b* over the end portion **34***a* to which said end portion **34***b* is affixed by means of a suitable adhesive, and the free side portions **36***a* of the sheet are folded and mutually fixed by means of a suitable adhesive, in overlapping relation over the sides of the package, in the manner shown in Figure 13.

From the foregoing, it will be understood that the modified form of package also presents a smooth unitary top surface, since the package top is covered with a continuous portion of the covering sheet. The end portion **34***b* of the sheet is preferably formed with a tongue-like extension **40***a* at a point to correspond with that of the package top over which the free end tab *e* of the opening and ejecting strip **28** lies.

In opening the modified type of package, the tongue-like extension **40***a* is lifted off the package, as represented in Figure 14, thus removing a sufficient part of the covering sheet to expose the free end tab *e* of the strip **28** which may then be grasped and pulled in the same manner as explained in reference to Figures 9 and 16 and 10 and 17, to rip the outer wrapper and, simultaneously therewith, tear and destroy the stamp **26**.

It is pointed out that, if so desired, the portion of the outer wrapper laying immediately over the strip **28** on the top of the package may be scored as indicated at **41** in Figure 14, to guide the strip in its opening action.

Attention is called to the fact that the association of the opening and ejecting strip **28** offers a convenient medium for advertising because, it will be appreciated, suitable matter may be printed on the strip, for instance, as indicated at **42** in Figure 10, which printed matter will be exposed to view as the package is opened and the cigarettes ejected.

Whereas a package provided with a single outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket has been described, it is to be understood that more than one such wrapper or jacket may be used, for I have found that the opening action of the strip **28** is not impeded if more than one wrapper or jacket is placed on the package.

From the foregoing description of the invention, it will be appreciated that I have provided a simple, yet effective, means to assure the positive destruction of a tax stamp applied in a customary manner to a cigarette package. The destruction of the stamp is particularly assured because of the characteristic association of the outer wraper or Cellophane jacket and opening strip with the package. Since the outer wrapper or Cellophane jacket is so placed on the package as to form a smooth, unitary surface over the top or opening end portion of the package, the easy opening of the package requires the use of the strip, the function of which, due to its association with said wrapper or jacket and the package, necessitates the tearing of the stamp simultaneously with the opening of the latter.

In concluding, I wish it to be understood that the invention is not limited to the particular construction of the package herein shown and described, but any modification coming within the scope of the subjoined claim is to be considered within the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

In combination with a cigarette package provided with an opening end portion and a stamp sealing said opening end portion, a strip having a fixed end portion and a free end portion, said free end portion of the strip passing beneath the package sealing stamp to extend beyond the edge thereof, an outer wrapper enclosing said package and strip with a single continuous portion of the wrapper passing over and completely covering the entire surface of the sealed opening end portion of said package, said portion of the wrapper adjacent the extremity of the free end portion of the strip being slit to define manipulating means movable to expose the free end portion of the strip whereby the latter may be grasped and pulled to rip the wrapper and simultaneously tear the stamp, and means associated with said slit portion of the wrapper to form a seal surrounding the slit and thus isolate the same for preventing moisture from penetrating into the wrapped package.

BERNARD J. TAMARIN.