

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 206—41)

This invention relates chiefly to sheet metal containers such as are used for cut tobacco and other merchandise, the container mouth being closed by a hinged cover.

5 The chief object of the invention is to provide means for providing a hinge connection between a container and its cover at an expense much less than that involved when the hinge connection is provided by a socket member permanently attached to the container body, another socket member permanently attached to the cover, and a pintle member engaged with the two socket members, the formation of said connection requiring the use of mechanical appliances and a
10 considerable expenditure of time.

15 I attain the above stated object by providing the container body with a hinge pintle which is removable from the body, and by providing the cover with a hinge socket which is engageable with
20 the pintle at a minimum cost for time and labor, when the pintle is removed from the body, a container constructed in accordance with my invention being adapted to constitute an element of a merchandise package which includes a charge
25 of merchandise inserted in the container body, and connected with the removable pintle in such manner that the pintle and charge, and a cover hinged to the pintle, may be withdrawn as a unit from the container body.

30 Other objects will hereinafter appear. Of the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification,—

35 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a container body, a hinge pintle, and a portion of a merchandise charge, assembled in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the cover.

40 Figure 3 is a perspective view of the hinge pintle and a portion of the means shown by Figure 1 for removably connecting the pintle with the body and engaging and lifting a merchandise charge.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the charge, the pintle, and the charge-engaging means shown by Figures 1 and 3.

45 Figure 5 is a fragmental perspective view showing a modification.

Figure 6 is a sectional view showing the container, the cover, and the charge, assembled.

50 Figure 7 is a fragmental sectional view showing the charge partly lifted from the container body.

Figure 8 is a perspective view of the pintle showing a modified form of supporting and charge-engaging means.

55 The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the figures.

The container body 12 shown by Figure 1 has a cover seat 13 defining its mouth, and a recess 14 in one side of the container offset downwardly from the seat and interrupting the continuity thereof. 60

15 designates a wire hinge pintle which is movable in the body 12, and is provided with supporting means adapted to support the pintle in an exposed position beside the recess 14, and to engage and lift a charge of merchandise within the body. Said charge, in this instance, includes a mass 16 of cut tobacco, and a casing 17 enclosing the same. The casing may be a wrapper of sheet material as indicated by Figures 4 and 6. 65

The supporting and lifting means with which the pintle is provided, is preferably embodied in a pair of wire standards 18 integral with the pintle, said standards being angularly arranged relative to the pintle and provided with integral terminals 19, formed and arranged to engage the charge. Said terminals may bear on the lower end of the charge, and the bottom of the container 12, as shown by Figures 4 and 6, or they may penetrate one side of the casing 17, as shown by Figure 5. The supporting and lifting means 70 may be embodied in a single integral standard 20 having a terminal 21, as shown by Figure 8.

Each of the embodiments shown includes an angular wire member including a pintle portion and a package-engaging standard having means for lifting engagement with a package in the body 12, and formed to enter the body and support the pintle portion in its operative position. 75

The supporting and lifting means is so formed that when engaged with the charge the pintle 15 is exposed beside the recess 14, as shown by Figure 1. 80

The cover shown separately by Figure 2 is composed, in this instance, of a head 22 and a flange 23 formed to surround the cover seat. The flange is provided with an ear 24 formed on the flange 23, and having a socket 25 formed to enter the recess 14, and engage the pintle 15, to permit the cover to swing to a mouth closing position, and to an open position. When in the last named position the cover constitutes a handle adapted to be grasped to move the pintle 15, the pintle supporting means, and the charge engaged therewith, outwardly in the body as indicated by Figure 7. 85

The socket 25 is preferably an open hook separably engageable with the pintle, so that the socket and the pintle 15 constitute a separable hinge which is adapted to be made operative simply by laterally moving the hooked socket onto the pintle. The appliances and mechanical 100 105 110

operations required in hinging the cover directly to the container body as heretofore, are not required in thus engaging the socket 25 with the pintle 15, so that an operative hinge is provided at a minimum cost. The socket 25 may be a closed tube instead of an open hook, if desired, particularly when the pintle and its supporting means are formed as shown by Figure 8, the bent end 15^a of the pintle being formed after the pintle is inserted endwise in the socket, and preventing endwise withdrawal of the pintle.

It will be seen that the cover, the pintle 15, and the pintle-supporting means, are movable as a unit from the body 12, and are adapted to either partly withdraw the merchandise charge from the body to permit the removal of a portion thereof, or to wholly withdraw the charge.

The operation of engaging the socket member on the cover with the removable pintle may be quickly and easily performed when the pintle is withdrawn from the body, whether the socket is an open hook as I prefer, or a tube open only at its ends.

I claim:

1. A package container comprising a body having a cover seat defining its mouth and a recess formed in one side of the body, and offset downwardly from the cover seat, an angular wire mem-

ber including a pintle portion and a package-engaging standard having means for lifting engagement with a package in the body and formed to enter the body and support the pintle in said recess, and a cover formed to close the body mouth and provided with a hinge socket formed to enter said recess and engage the pintle portion to constitute therewith a cover hinge, said cover and wire member being removable as a unit from the container body to cause the removal of the package from the body.

2. A package container as specified by claim 1, said wire member including a straight pintle portion and a standard portion integral with the pintle portion and projecting downwardly therefrom, said standard portion having a terminal at its lower end formed to engage and lift a package inserted in the container body.

3. A package container as specified by claim 1, said wire member including a straight pintle portion and a pair of standard portions integral with the pintle portion and projecting downwardly from opposite ends thereof, said standard portions having terminals at their lower ends formed to engage and lift a package inserted in the container body.

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