Dec. 29, 1942. F. CHESLEY 2,306,613

CONTAINER INSERT FOR MAINTAINING CONTENTS IN ELEVATED POSITION

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Fig. 1.

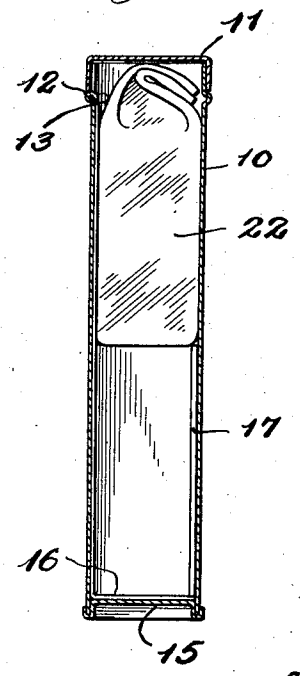
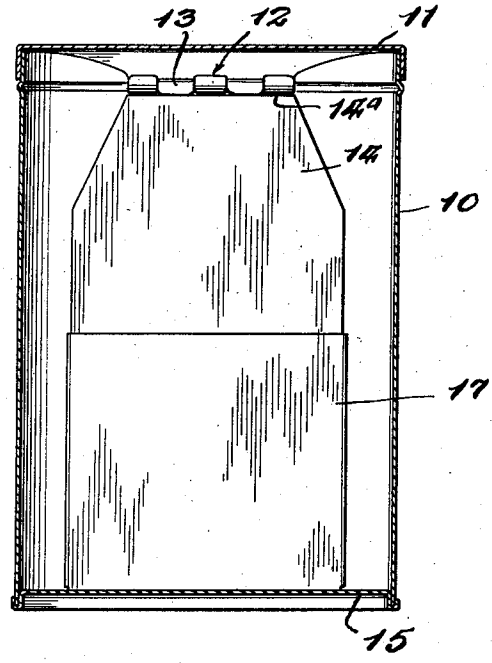


Fig. 2.



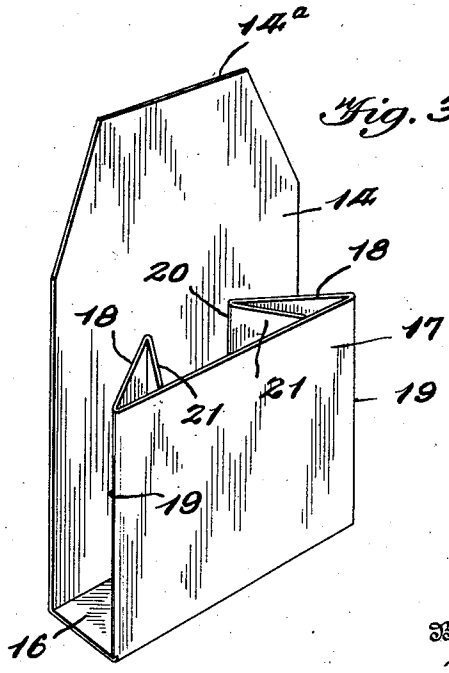
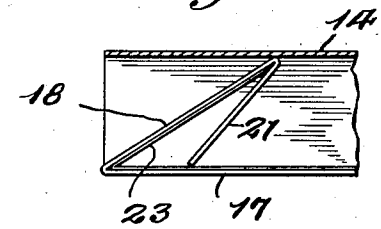


Fig. 3.

Fig. 13.



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Fig. 4.

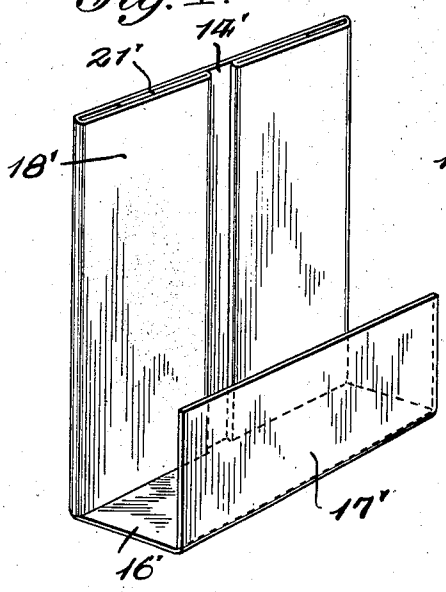


Fig. 5

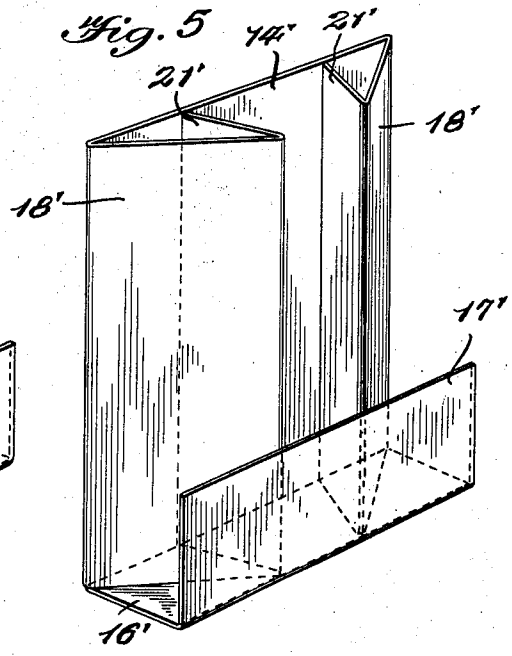


Fig. 6.

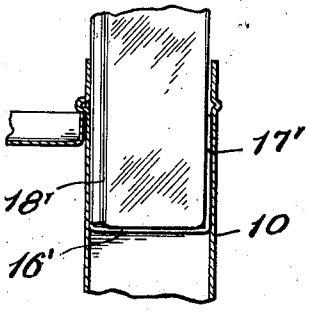


Fig. 7.

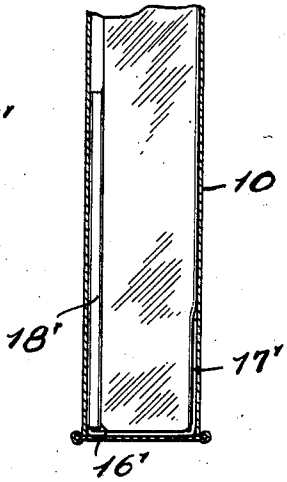


Fig. 8.

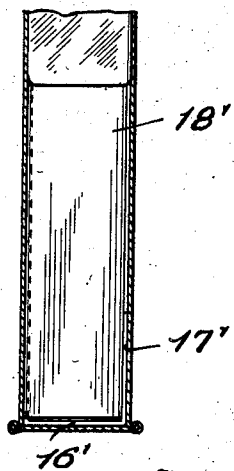
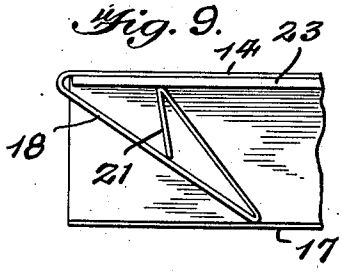


Fig. 9.



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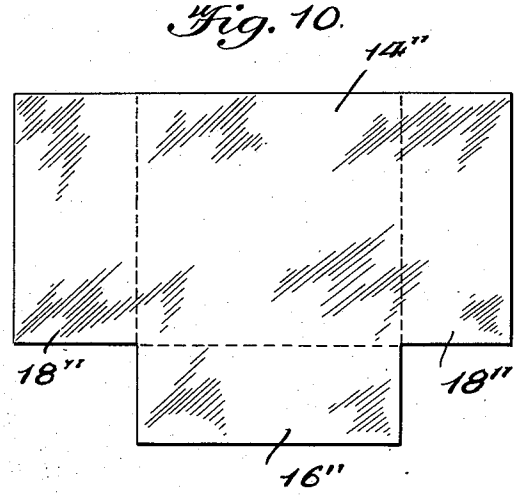
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Fig. 10.



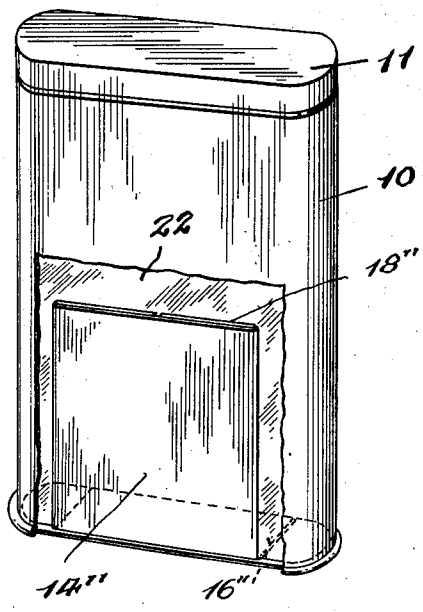


Fig. 11.

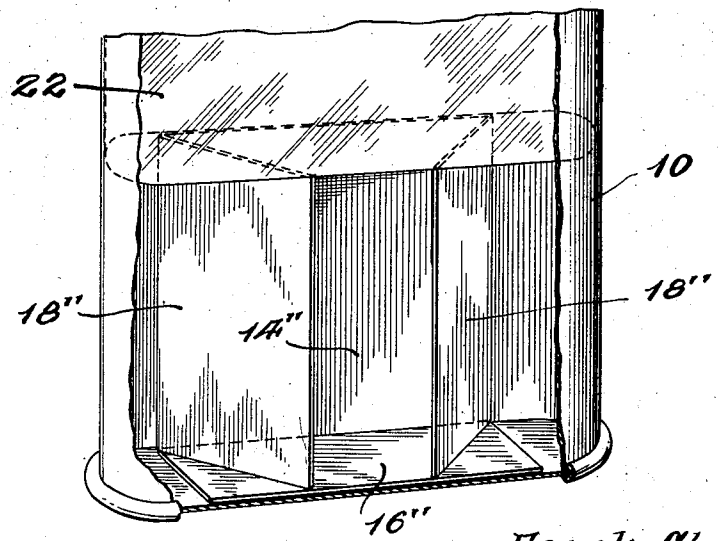


Fig. 12.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,306,613

CONTAINER INSERT FOR MAINTAINING CONTENTS IN ELEVATED POSITION

Frank Chesley, Cincinnati, Ohio

Application October 31, 1940, Serial No. 363,771

4 Claims. (Cl. 206—41.1)

This invention relates to container attachments and particularly to means for elevating the contents into ready reach for removal, and it consists in the constructions, arrangements and combinations herein described and claimed.

In order to preserve freshness as well as the proper physical characteristic of many products, manufacturers resort to various means of packaging their products and one of the most practical has been to package the goods in a suitably coated paper container which is finally housed in an outer container which may be of metal or paper, as conditions demand. The package of smoking tobacco is one example of such packaging of a product, and while the present description deals with this paritcular commodity, it is not limited thereto, for there are many products which require the same treatment in packaging as well as in the dispensing thereof.

With this brief résumé of the prior packaging art, it is the cardinal object of the invention to provide a novel container insert of a collapsible character which will effectively maintain a partially used package of goods at an elevated position and within finger-tip reach of a user. In doing so, it also makes it possible to use upper part of the lining as a fold to maintain a closure for the product insuring freshness, as well as cleanliness.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a means which is cooperable with a container and package of contents therewithin to maintain the package in an elevated position, without necessitating any change whatever either in the package or the container.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an insert of extreme simplicity in manufacture, installation, and one which meets a long-felt need of users of the commodities specified.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide a support means of a collapsible nature, yet which in operative position will retain a substantial weight or pressure.

Additional objects, advantages and features of invention will be apparent from the following description considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view through a tobacoo can having my device installed therein.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of my invention.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of the device, in inoperative position,

Figure 5 is a similar view illustrating an operative position of the ports.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating the insertion of the insert with a package of goods with a container.

Figure 7 is a similar view illustrating the relation of the parts when in final position within a container.

Figure 8 is a view similar to Figure 7, with the contents package in elevated position.

Figure 9 is an enlarged plan view illustrating a means for reinforcing the elevating supporting means.

Figure 10 is a plan view of a blank for a further form of the device.

Figure 11 is a perspective view, partly in section, illustrating this form in position within a container.

Figure 12 is an enlarged perspective view partly in section illustrating this form in use for support of a package.

Figure 13 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating a further means for reinforcing the insert.

Inasmuch as the present description is confined to well known commercial packages of tobacco, the illustrations have been likewise limited thereto, and in Figures 1 and 2, I have illustrated a conventional metallic container 10 including a lid 11 hinged as at 12. Since the container is well understood in the art, a lengthy description of its construction will not be dealt with, although it may be stated that in all commercial types of containers now on the market embody inturned hinge leaves 13 which function as "stripping" means in connection with the present invention, as will appear as the description proceeds.

Attention is now directed to Figure 3 of the drawings wherein my preferred form of insert is shown, which consists in a collapsible form comprising a main body portion 14 of a length equal to the height from the leaves 13 to the base 15 of the container 10, from which there is integrally extended a portion 16 of a width to fit snugly upon the package to be placed within the container 10. An extension 17 is extended upwardly from the base portion 16, adapted to lie parallel with the main body portion 14.

The body portion 14, the base portion 16 and the extension 17 are of th same width transversely, and the base portion 16 is such as to readily seat a package of tobacco and be receivable within the container. The main body portion 14 is of a length such as to permit the upper edge to fall

below the hinge leaf portions 13 and be engaged thereby to prevent withdrawal of the insert as will be explained hereinafter.

The extension 17 includes at respective end edges, a portion 18 folded vertically on the line 19, and similarly folded on the line 20, defining a freely swinging portion 21, the latter being disposed toward the medial portion of the insert.

The extension 17 is approximately one-half the height of the main body 14, as clearly shown in Figures 2 and 3, for a purpose as will presently appear.

In installing my device within a container, a package of tobacco as finally packed and sealed, is positioned with its bottom end upon the base portion 16 so as to extend upwardly between the main body 14 and the extension 17, the portions 18 and 21 lying snugly folded against one side of the package. The package and insert is now forced into the container 10 by a light pressure until the insert base 16 rests upon the base 15 of the container. When the insertion of the package and insert was made, the body portion 14 was presented toward the hinge 12 of the cover 11, and when the assembly is fully positioned within the container, the upper edge 14*a* lies immediately below the leaves 13 of the hinge.

The contents of the package may be removed as is customary, until such time that difficulty is encountered in reaching the contents, when the package 22 may be raised upwardly from the container until the bottom thereof passes slightly above the upper edge of the extension 17. As soon as the package passes such point, the portions 21 exert a spring-like action on the portions 18, moving them outwardly toward the main body portion 14, substantially as shown in Figure 3. With this position of the portions 18 and 21, the package 22 will come to rest upon the upper edges thereof, and thus support the package in ready access for removal of the balance of the contents.

Any tendency for upward movement of the insert when raising the package will be prevented by engagement of the edge 14—*a* with the hinge leaves 13, so that the insert will be "stripped" from the package and will always be maintained in proper position upon the base of the can.

The insert may be made of any pliable stock material best suited for the purpose to effect movement of the portions 18 and 21, as described and shown, and such material will have sufficient strength to withstand any longitudinal stresses in ordinary uses. However, where found necessary or desirable, a reinforcing strip 23 may be associated with the insert as shown in Figures 9 and 13.

In Figures 4 to 8, I have illustrated a modified form of the insert in which the main body 14' includes the folded portions 18' and 21' and the extension 17' is of shorter height. This form is intended to be frictionally retained within the container and does not depend upon engagement with the leaves of the hinge for its retention.

In the final form of this insert, as shown in Figures 10 to 12, the main body portion 14'' embodies single spring flaps 18'' and base member 16' of a width substantially the same as the package to be contained. This form is likewise intended to be frictionally retained within a container.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that I have presented a very simple means for maintaining packaged goods in an elevated position within a container, which adds but very little to the costs of present-day packaging of goods, yet actually fullfills an urgent need. It will also be appreciated that the incorporation of my device in a package offers no difficulty in packing, since the insert embraces the package and may be readily inserted with in a container in the customary manner. It will be apparent that advertising matter may be printed upon the insert setting forth the quality of the goods or otherwise.

While I have specifically shown and described several forms of the insert, this is by way of illustration only, and I consider as my own all such modifications in structure as fairly falling within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, a receptacle having a hinged closure, portions of the hinge being presented inwardly of the receptacle; an inner package for the receptacle, a body member on the inner package having parallel extensions and a base member, one of said extensions being of a length extending from the hinge portions to the base of the receptacle, the other of said extensions having a length approximately one-half the height of the receptacle, said last named extension having foldable portions normally engaging one side of the package, but expansible to positions beneath the bottom of the package upon partial withdrawal of the package whereby to support said package in an elevated position within the container.

2. In combination, a receptacle having a hinged closure, portions of the hinge being presented inwardly of the receptacle; an inner package for the receptacle, a body member on the inner package having parallel extensions and a base member, one of said extensions being of a length extending from the hinge portions to the base of the receptacle, the other of said extensions having a length approximately one-half the height of the receptacle, said last named extension having respective inwardly folded portions positioned between the extension and the package, said folded portions having a free swinging end cooperable with the extension to move said folded portions beneath the bottom of the package upon partial withdrawal thereof whereby to support said package in an elevated position within the container.

3. An insert for containers of the type including an inner package, comprising a substantially U-shaped body formed from pliable material adapted to engage a package upon opposite sides and frictionally engage the sides of a container, and said body having vertically folded portions normally adjacent one side of the package but movable to positions beneath and across the bottom of the package upon partial withdrawal of the package from the container.

4. An insert for containers of the type including an inner package comprising a substantially U-shaped body formed from pliable material adapted to partly embrace the inner package, said body member having a pair of folded portions normally engaging the package and of a height less than the package and movable to positions beneath the bottom of the package upon partial withdrawal thereof, said folded portions being of a width greater than the width of the package whereby to extend across the base of the package for support of the package when in elevated position within the container.

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