Jan. 30, 1962 M. J. POSAVIC 3,018,877

POCKET ASH TRAY AND CIGARETTE PACKAGE CASE

Filed Nov. 2, 1960

Fig. 1

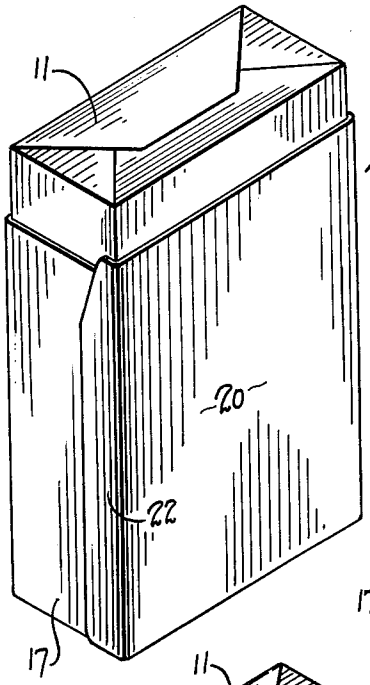
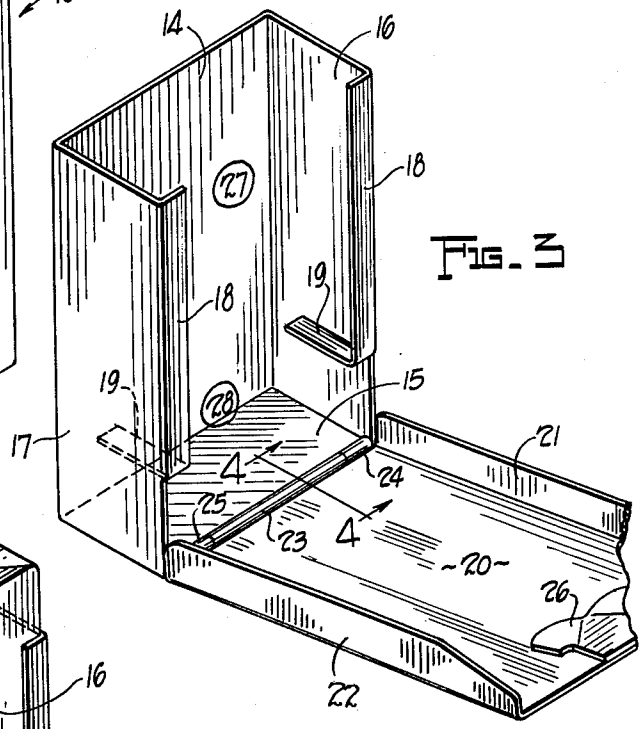


Fig. 3



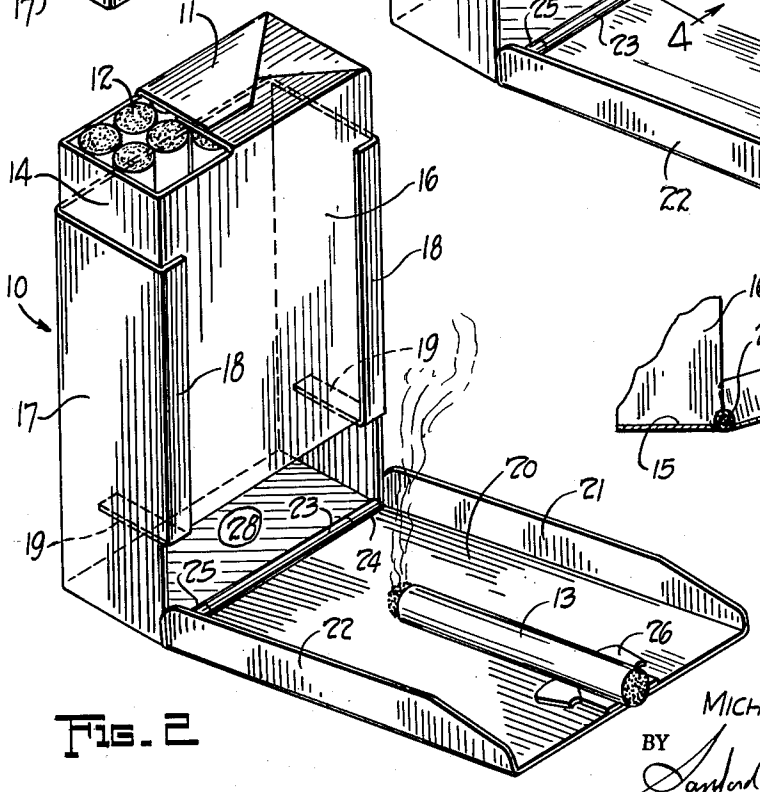


Fig. 2

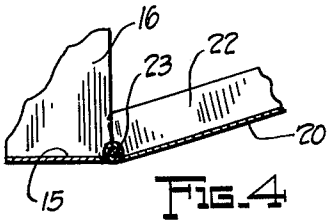


Fig. 4

INVENTOR.
MICHAEL J. POSAVIC
BY Sanford Schwarmacher
ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 3,018,877 Patented Jan. 30, 1962

3,018,877
POCKET ASH TRAY AND CIGARETTE PACKAGE CASE

Michael J. Posavic, 4202 S. Medina Road, Barberton, Ohio

Filed Nov. 2, 1960, Ser. No. 66,870
1 Claim. (Cl. 206—38)

This invention relates to tobacco users' appliances and particularly to a pocket ash tray and cigarette package case.

Conducive to a better understanding of this invention, it may be well to point out that there are many occasions when a cigarette smoker is at a loss as to where to deposit the ash of his cigarette, especially when indoors and in a place where no ash tray is available. Likewise, the same problem may arise when outdoors, where a fire-hazard would be created if ashes or butts were heedlessly thrown about into dry grass, leaves or underbrush.

The primary object of this invention, therefore, is to provide a combination pocket ash tray and cigarette package case, that is easily portable and only slightly larger than a package of cigarettes.

Another object is to provide a pocket carrying case that can be used not only to hold a package of cigarettes but also includes an ash tray and a separate compartment for safely holding both the ashes and cigarette butts, which result from the smoking of the cigarettes.

A further object is to provide such a case that can be safely carried in the user's pocket without danger of burns from the contained ashes or butts.

Still another object is to provide a device of the type stated that provides a tray element that is used in the conventional manner for receiving ashes and holding lit cigarettes and then can be folded against the face of the cigarette pack holder to provide a safe carrying means for the contained ashes and butts.

Another object is to provide a device of the type stated that can be inexpensively and easily fabricated from light sheet metal stock, such as aluminum.

These and other objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification and claim, together with the accompanying drawing, wherein like parts are referred to and indicated by like reference numerals, and wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of the pocket ash tray and cigarette package case that is the subject of this invention, in its closed condition;

FIGURE 2 is a perspective view of the device in its open condition, showing a lighted cigarette held on the ash tray element;

FIGURE 3 is a view similar to that of FIGURE 2 but without the cigarettes normally held by it; and

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view through the body and tray taken along the line and in the direction of the arrows 4—4 of FIGURE 3.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, there is seen the pocket ash tray and cigarette package case, that is the subject of this invention, broadly indicated by reference numeral **10**.

The case is preferably made of lightweight sheet material such as aluminum, which may be suitably decorated or anodized to provide cases in colors other than the silver hue of aluminum, if desired.

The body of the case **10** is cut and shaped from a single sheet of metal to provide a hollow housing having a rear wall **14**, a bottom wall **15**, two end walls **16** and **17**, and a front wall **18—18**, formed by bending the material at the forward edges of the end walls **16** and **17** at 90° thereto and toward each other, as seen most clearly in FIGURE 3.

Lower ends **19—19** of the front wall sections **18—18** are bent rearward toward the rear wall **14** at a spaced distance upward of the bottom wall to provide cigarette supporting brackets **19—19**. These brackets define an upper, cigarette package, compartment **27**, and a lower cigarette ash and butt storage compartment **28**, as is seen most clearly in FIGURES 2 and 3.

Reference numerals **24** and **25** indicate hinge elements formed at the forward edge of the bottom wall **15**, proximate the end walls **16** and **17**.

Reference numeral **20** indicates a front cover or tray member pivotally mounted at the front edge of the bottom wall **15** through a hinge element **23** formed integral therewith and nested between the body hinge elements **24** and **25** in engagement with a pintle pin **29** which passes through the several elements, as seen in FIGURES 3 and 4.

The tray **20** has freedom of limited, outward swinging movement, between a first, or closed, position flat against the front wall **18—18**, as seen in FIGURE 1, and a second, or open position, substantially in the plane of the bottom wall **15**, as seen in FIGURES 2, 3 and 4.

The tray **20** has longitudinally extending side flanges **21** and **22** which act to confine ashes to the tray when the tray **20** is in its open or second position, as seen in FIGURE 2, and which are adapted to overlay the body side walls **16** and **17** when the tray is in its closed, or first position, to provide an ash tight seal between the tray and body, as seen in FIGURE 1.

Reference numeral **26** indicates a grooved cigarette holder positioned at the free end of the tray, formed integral therewith, and adapted to anchor a lighted cigarette against movement on the tray **20**, as shown in FIGURE 2.

The construction of the tray hinge, as illustrated in enlarged form in FIGURE 4, is such that the hinge end of the tray **20** bears against the under side of the bottom wall **15** to hold the tray **20** against further downward movement when the tray is substantially in the plane of the bottom wall **15**.

Referring again to FIGURE 2, the case **10** is shown with a conventional package **11** of cigarettes **12**, nested in the upper compartment **27** and supported from below by the two bracket arms **19—19**.

A lighted cigarette **13** is shown resting on the holder **26** of the open tray **20**. It will be evident that ashes falling from the cigarette **13** will be caught and held on the tray **20**. Similarly, ashes from a cigarette held between the fingers can be flicked upon the tray. The so opened case **10** can be held in the hand or rested upon any flat surface. When the tray **20** is pivoted upward to its first or closed position, as illustrated in FIGURE 1, the ashes on the tray **20** will slide into the compartment **28** and will be held therein by the tray **20** which then lays across the face of the case, covering the compartment **28**. The tray flanges **21** and **22** overlay the end walls **16** and **17** respectively in a sliding fit that keeps the contained ashes from sifting out of the case. The compartment **28** also provides a safe depository for partly smoked cigarettes which can be stored therein for later use.

It will now be clear that there is provided a device which accomplishes the objectives heretofore set forth. While the invention has been disclosed in its preferred form, it is to be understood that the specific embodiment thereof as described and illustrated herein is not to be considered in a limited sense, as there may be other forms or modifications of the invention which should also be construed to come within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A pocket ash tray and cigarette package case, com-

prising in combination, a unitary body having bottom, rear, and side walls open to the top, the side walls having flanges along their forward edges defining two spaced and aligned front wall sections, both of the front wall sections being bent inwardly toward the rear wall, at a point spaced upwardly of the bottom wall, to provide cigarette package supporting brackets defining an upper cigarette package retaining compartment and a lower ash receiving compartment, both open to the front, the bottom surface of a so retained cigarette package forming the top wall of the ash receiving compartment, and a tray pivotally mounted at the front edge of the bottom

wall with freedom of limited outward swinging movement, between a first, or closed position flat against the front wall, and a second, or open position, substantially in the plane of the bottom wall.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,474,173	Trinko	June 21, 1949
2,944,555	Peel et al.	July 12, 1960

FOREIGN PATENTS

516,228	Canada	Sept. 6, 1955