Aug. 23, 1960 D. VON RUDEEN 2,950,060

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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FIG. 1.

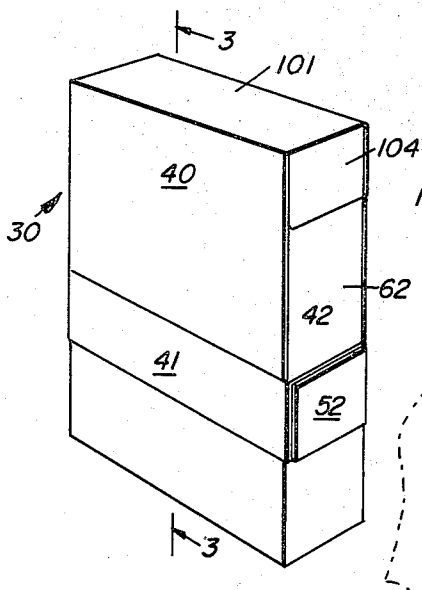


FIG. 2.

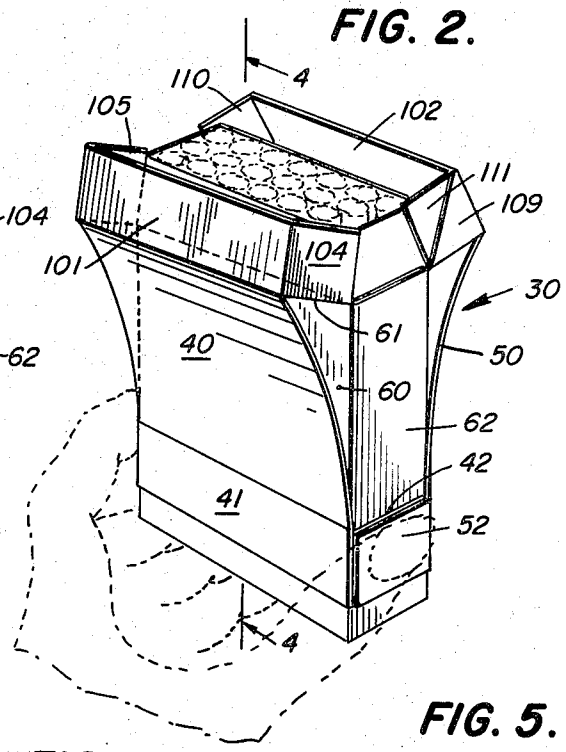


FIG. 3.

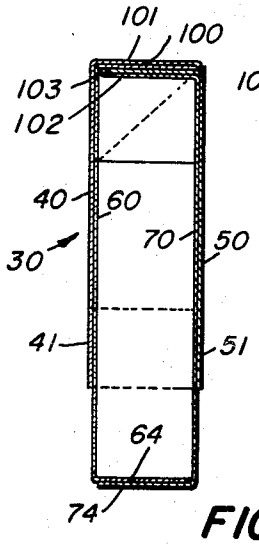


FIG. 4.

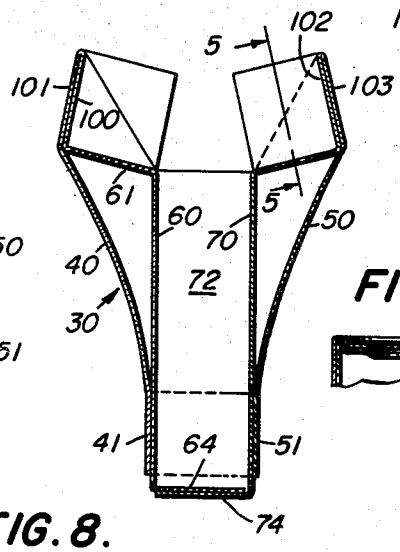


FIG. 5.

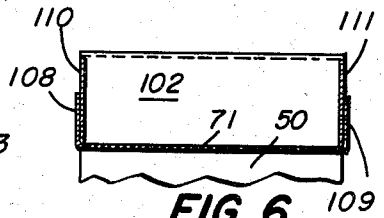


FIG. 6.

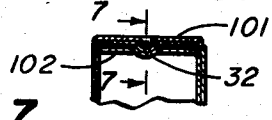


FIG. 7.

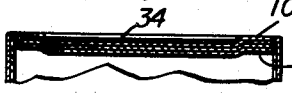
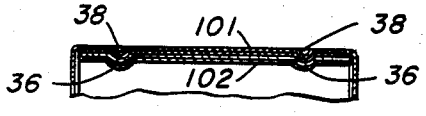


FIG. 8.



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FIG. 9.

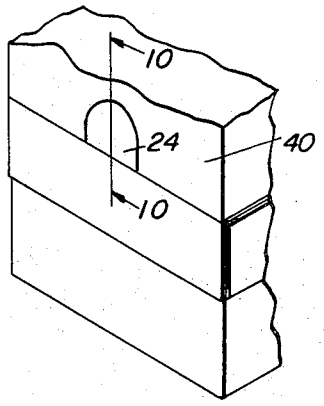


FIG. 10.

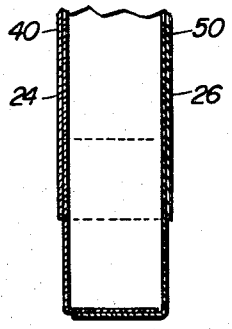


FIG. 11.

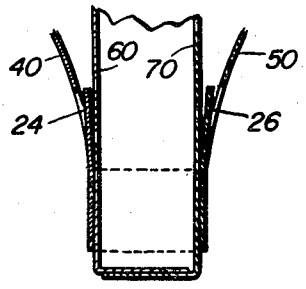
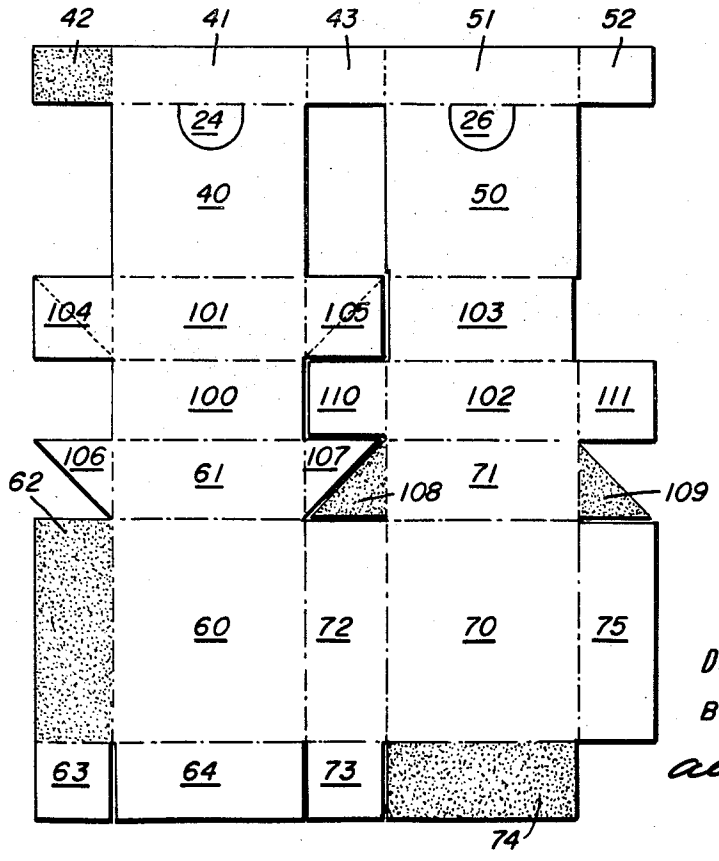


FIG. 12.



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FIG. 13.

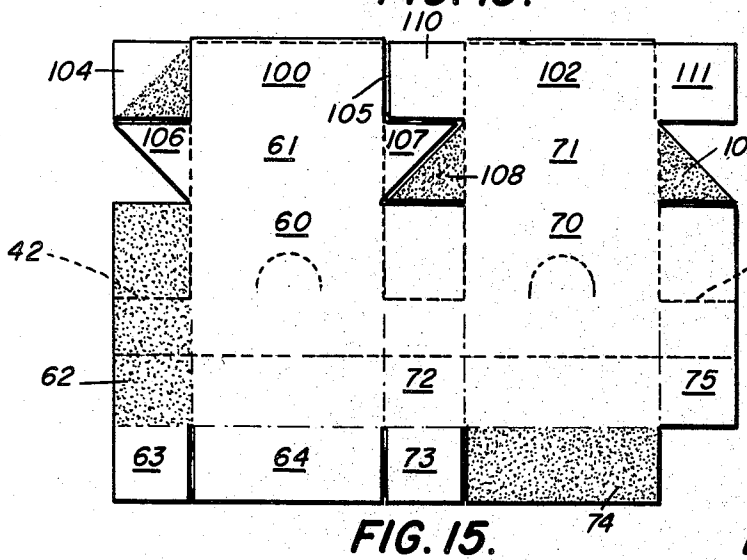


FIG. 14.

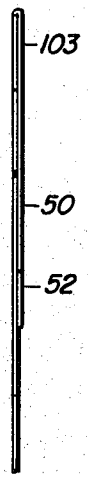


FIG. 15.

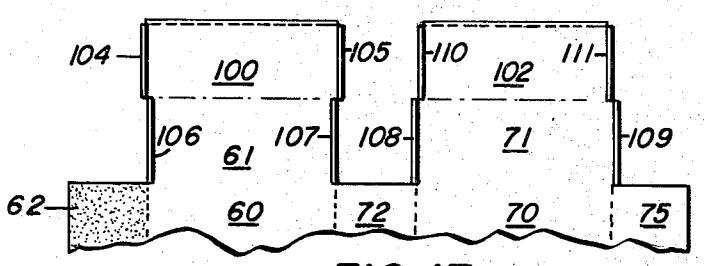


FIG. 16.

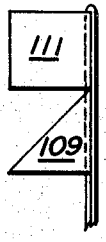


FIG. 17.

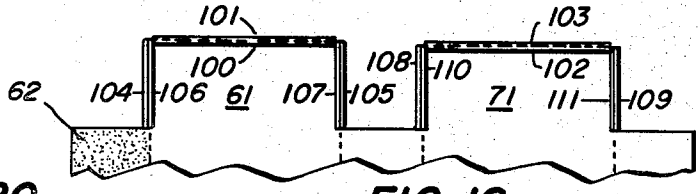


FIG. 18.

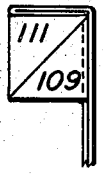


FIG. 20.

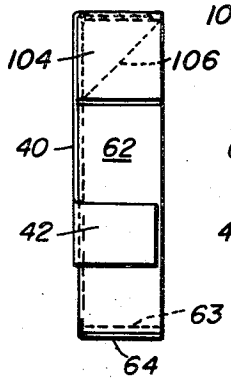
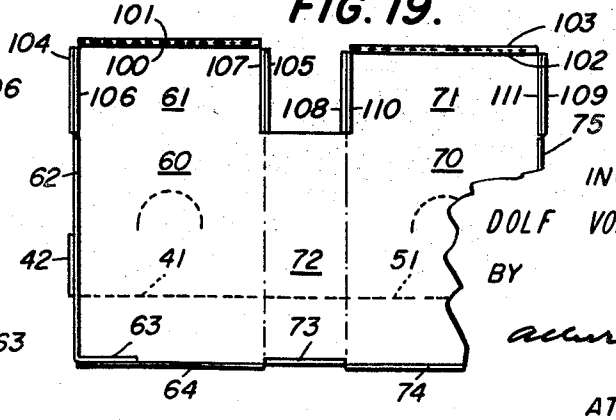


FIG. 19.



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2,950,060

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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Filed Feb. 17, 1958, Ser. No. 715,547

2 Claims. (Cl. 229—44)

This invention relates to an improved cigarette package; and, while being mainly applicable for such a purpose, may also be employed as a container for other items and in different and various environments.

One of the important objects of this invention is to provide a device of the class described, wherein the contents of such a package can be made practically immediately available for access and which, after each operation, will automatically return to its original closed state, thereby protecting the remainder of the items in the package from exposure to air, light, dust or other foreign matter.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a cigarette package or the like which is made from a single blank properly scored, folded and fastened, and which will accordingly be relatively inexpensive, while at the same time serving the purpose better than any or all of the present-day packages of this type.

Another and still further important object of the intion is to provide a cigarette package which is so constructed that the opening operation is quite easy and obvious and which, when closed, will remain semi-locked for intermediate protection of the cigarettes remaining therein.

Yet another object is to provide a cigarette package or similar container which can be readily opened by the finger and thumb of one hand and which is so constructed that the necessary opening movement will be immediately apparent to anyone purchasing or using the package.

Other and further important objects of the invention will be apparent from the disclosures in the accompanying drawings and following specification.

The invention, in a preferred form, is illustrated in the drawings and hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved cigarette package or similar container of this invention showing the same in closed position.

Figure 2 is likewise a perspective view of the package, showing the same as having been manually operated to open position.

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken on the plane of the line 3—3 of Figure 1, looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Figure 4 is a section, parts being removed, on the line 4—4 of Figure 2, looking in the direction indicated.

Figure 5 is a partial section on the line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a section similar to that of the top portion of Figure 3, but showing one type of temporary locking or securing means for the lid portions.

Figure 7 is a section on the line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a view somewhat similar to that of Figure 7, but showing a further modification of the locking means.

Figure 9 is a partial perspective view similar to Figure 1, but illustrating a modified form of finger contacting operating means.

Figure 10 is a section on the plane of the line 10—10 of Figure 9.

Figure 11 is a view similar to Figure 4, but showing finger tabs or the like similar to those of Figures 9 and 10, pressed inwardly to provide gripping recesses.

Figure 12 is a plane view of the cut and scored blank from which the improved cigarette package of this invention is constructed by folding and gluing.

Figure 13 illustrates the first step in folding the blank of Figure 12.

Figure 14 is an elevation showing the preliminarily folded blank of Figure 13.

Figure 15 is a view, parts being broken away, illustrating the second step in the folding operation.

Figure 16 is a side view of the preliminarily folded blank of Figure 15.

Figure 17 is a view showing the third step of the folding operation.

Figure 18 is a side view of the folded blank shown in Figure 17.

Figure 19 illustrates one of the last folding operations, wherein a final package will next emerge.

Figure 20 is a side elevation of the semi-folded blank of Figure 19.

As shown in the drawings:

The reference numeral **30** indicates generally the improved cigarette package of this invention, and in Figure 1 the package is shown as closed, and it may be further wrapped or sealed when in this condition.

For convenience in identifying the top, bottom, side and related portions, the same will be numbered, as shown in Figure 12, and the corresponding reference numerals will be accordingly hereinafter referred to.

The two main portions of the package, **60** and **70**, are joined by one side piece **72** and over-lapping side pieces **62** and **75** which are glued together in the final assembly. The bottom is closed by tucked-in, over-lapped and joined end pieces **63, 64, 73** and **74.**

The top or closure is composed of two cooperating hinged cap-like substantially similar elements. These comprise essentially outer plate-like supports **40** and **50.** The element **40** terminates at its upper end in one half of a top portion **101,** the other half being indicated by the reference numeral **100** and which is bent downwardly over the outer portion **101.** Side flaps or tabs **104** and **105** are integral with the portion **101,** and these are bent downwardly and inwardly and then joined by glue or the like to triangular sections **106** and **107,** respectively. These triangular sections or tabs are integral with an intermediate closure element **61** which is hingedly connected to the joined main box portion **60** and also hingedly connected to the inside cap or closure element **100.**

Relatively the same construction is at the opposite face of the box or package, this comprising a main outer bendable plate **50** to which top portions **103** and **102** are attached by scored lines for hinged operation. The section **102** has end tabs **110** and **111** which are bent inwardly and then joined by glue or the like to triangular securing elements **108** and **109,** respectively.

These triangular tabs **108** and **109** are integral with an intermediate top section **71,** similar to its counter part **61** on the other face of the box.

The bendable outer plate portion **40** is integral with and separated by a scored line from a section **41** of a band-like element. This includes a similar section **51** joined to the opposite outer plate-like element **50,** and these two sections are joined by a shorter portion **43** which fits over the side **72** of the finished box.

This band-like element **41—43—51** terminates in two

tabs 42 and 52 which, when glued together, form a band which completely encircles the box and is slidable up and down thereon.

The main steps in the folding and assembling operation are shown in Figures 13 to 19, inclusive. From an inspection of Figure 13, it will be noted that the portions 40 and 50, with their joined end connecting tabs 41, 42, 43, 51, 52, 104 and 105, are bent rearwardly and downwardly, as shown in Figure 14.

Figure 15 shows an upward bending of the end tabs 104, 105, 110 and 111 of the now doubled-over elements 100 and 101, and 102 and 103. These tabs 104, 105, 110 and 111 are then joined by glue or the like to the corresponding juxtaposed triangular tabs 106, 107, 108 and 109, respectively, all as best shown in Figures 17 and 18.

Referring now to Figures 19 and 20, it will be noted that the side pieces 62 and 75 are now bent upwardly and along with the bottom pieces 64 and 74. The tab 63, which is joined to the side element 62, and the tab 73, which is joined to the side element 72, is also bent upwardly, and the assemblage, thus shaped, is then folded into a final box-forming relationship with the side portions 62 and 75, glued together, as well as the end or bottom portions 64 and 74. When this is done, the end tabs 42 and 52 of the encircling band are joined by glue or the like, thereby completing the construction.

From an inspection of Figures 1 and 2, it will be obvious that when the outer encircling band 41—43—51—52 is in its uppermost position, the package is closed. When the encircling band is moved downwardly by the fingers of the operator into the position shown in Figure 2, the top portion will automatically open, disclosing the contents and rendering access to the same very easy and convenient. When one of the cigarettes or other elements contained in the package has been withdrawn, an upward movement of the encircling, operating band will serve to effectively close the package in a very simple and convenient manner. This may be assisted by a thumb and finger movement at the top.

In Figures 5, 6 and 7, an auxiliary locking means is illustrated, this comprising a rib or protuberance 32 indented in the portion 100 of the top or closure portion 103, and this, when the box is closed, will cooperate with a corresponding indentation 34 in the top or closure element 100, whereby a more secure semi-locking operation results.

In Figure 8, the longitudinal indentations 32 and 34 are shown as replaced by dimples or circular protuberances 36 and 38, respectively.

A further modification is illustrated in Figures 9 to 12, inclusive, wherein semi-circular, cut-away or struck-out portions 24 and 26 are provided in the other side plates 40 and 50, respectively, for a more ready interfitting of the finger-tips or nails of the operator. As best shown in Figure 11, the thus formed tabs can be left integral with the respective box portions and simply pressed inwardly to provide gripping recesses or they may be cut away altogether, as preferred.

It will be evident that herein is provided a cigarette package or similar box which is very economical of construction, being composed of a single blank which can be readily formed by an ordinary rule die or similar cutting and scoring process. Additionally, the blank can be readily formed into a complete package, either manually or by relatively simple automatic machine, and insertion of the contents also lends itself to a simple mechanical operation.

The ease of opening the package appeals to customers and users generally, and the inherent resiliency of the material from which the box is formed will present an automatic closing operation. The box, being relatively cheap, can be discarded when the contents are exhausted, and while in use, will prove very satisfactory to smokers of cigarettes or users of any other articles which might be packaged and distributed in such a container.

I am aware that many changes may be made and numerous details of construction varied throughout a wide range without departing from the principles of this invention; and I, therefore, do not propose limiting the patent granted hereon otherwise than as necessitated by the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. A ready opening box composed of a single blank, said blank being cut and scored to provide side, end and bottom portions, a pair of supplemental side portions and closure elements connecting the main and supplemental side portions, the supplemental side portions including a band slidable on the exterior of the box, the closure elements being hinged to the side portions and including joined, juxtaposed end sections cooperating with the end portions of the main body to provide a complete box, the closure elements including integral semi-locking elements which comprise longitudinal ridges.

2. A device as described in claim 1, wherein struck-out tabs forming openings are provided in the supplemental side sections for reception of the operator's finger tips, the struck-out tabs which form the openings being retained in the supplemental side portions.

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