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T. HUSTON

PAPER BAG AND SEAL

Filed June 9, 1925

Fig. 1

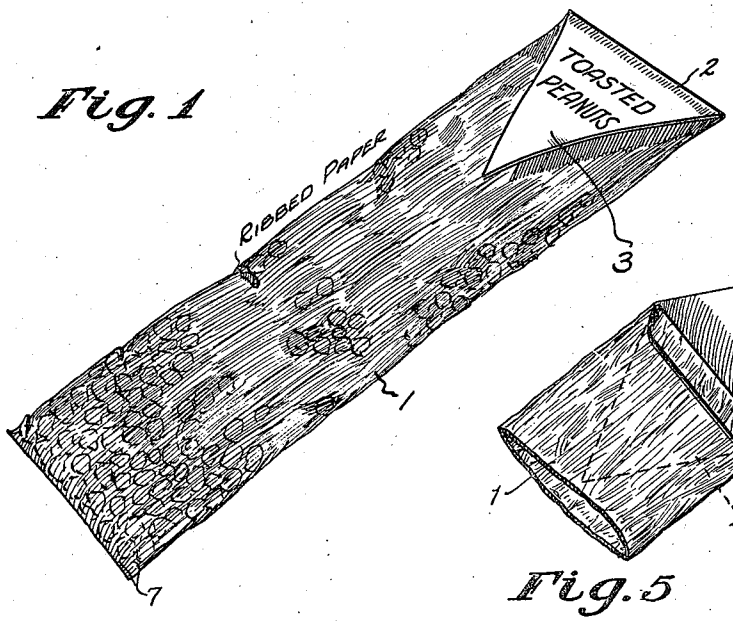


Fig. 5

Fig. 2.

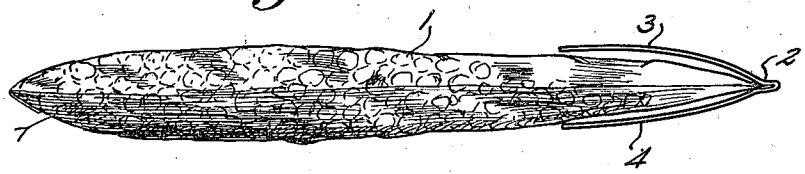


Fig. 3

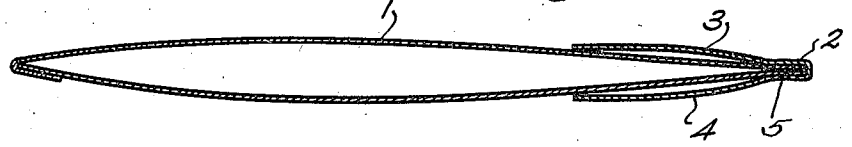




Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TOM HUSTON, OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA.

PAPER BAG AND SEAL.

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My invention relates to a new and improved type of paper bag and seal, which is particularly designed for the packaging and displaying of salted peanuts and the like.

It has been the practice heretofore to supply salted peanuts, salted almonds and the like to the market in bags of ordinary shape, i. e. either wide, nearly square and flat, or short flat-bottom satchel type bags, made from smooth glassine or oiled paper, the bags, after being filled by hand from a bulk container, having their open ends folded together as the only means for closing same. Such practice is objectionable because unsanitary and because, not being sealed air tight, the contents of the bags become quickly unpalatable. The majority of such bags on the market are short, squat and unattractive in appearance and tend readily to burst open and spill their contents when pressed or shaken together, so that it has not heretofore been deemed practicable to ship peanuts and the like in such packages. Due to their shape such bags cannot be attractively arranged in glass display jars, which should be used to protect them from moisture. Further in removing the lower bags from such jars it is necessary to reach deep down into the jar which is not easy to do when the jar stands, as it usually does, on top of a display counter. And, finally, when such a bag has been delivered to the customer the latter must use his or her fingers inserted into the bag to remove its contents which practice is not only objectionable as unsanitary but also because it soils the fingers with the salt and oil of the nuts. Moreover a careful study of the use of such bags has led to the discovery that the oil from the peanuts tends to cloud the glassine paper customarily used so that it becomes less transparent and less desirable as a display package; further, that the salt from the nuts has a tendency to stick to the glassine paper, rendering it more opaque.

The object of my present invention is to devise a bag which will avoid all of the objections above described and which will possess peculiar advantages for marketing and displaying the product in question. To this end my invention contemplates a new type of bag which shall be very narrow and elongated so that it can be conveniently grasped in one hand and yet will hold the desired quantity of nuts which can be poured therefrom directly into the mouth without tending to spill or requiring contact with the hand. Moreover, the long, slender, flat type of bag has the advantage of reducing to a minimum the width of its end joints that must be sealed and such ends, being remote from the greater mass of bulk material in the bag, will be only to a negligible degree subjected to strain as a result of pressure on the contents of the bag so that a more secure sealing can thus be obtained and one which will not burst, though coming under such substantial stress, resulting from pressure on the contents of the bag while being shipped or handled, as would cause the ends of the ordinary short, nearly square bag, even though sealed, to burst open.

My invention further contemplates making the bag from a ribbed glassine or oiled paper, as I have discovered that this ribbed paper has the peculiar characteristic of becoming more transparent as it absorbs oil from the contents of the package and of having no noticeable tendency to collect the salt from the contents. As a result, my improved bag will tend to become more and more transparent after it has been filled and thus will afford the most attractive display for its contents. By arranging the ribs 7 lengthwise of the long slender bag I reinforce it so that it will stand erect in the sealed cans during shipment and in the glass display jars in which it is marketed, thus preserving and presenting the merchandise in a most effective and attractive manner, not heretofore attained for this class of goods, and making it easier to load the jars and to remove the bags therefrom, as sold.

My invention further contemplates providing a new and effective seal for this type of package which will insure a positive tight closure at the top of the bag and add materially to its attractive appearance, it being important to note that such sealed bags permit of the packaging, under sanitary conditions, of the nuts and like edibles at the plant and their safe shipment free from tendency to rapid deterioration to the jobber and their distribution to the retailer. To this end I provide a label or seal folded upon itself and gummed on the inner side, at least to a substantial extent on each side of the fold, and this label is

applied by sealing its fold about the end of the bag. The label, where it is folded, must have the width of the bag, when it is relied on to completely seal the latter, but where the open end of the bag is sealed or has a gummed flap, the label will supplement and reinforce such a closure. Moreover, the label ends are preferably shaped and colored to provide an ornamental seal and, if desired, either or both may be left free so that its loose end or ends will attract attention to the label and add distinctiveness to the package.

My invention further comprises the novel details of construction and arrangements of parts, which are hereinafter more particularly described and claimed, and which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings which form a part of this specification, and in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved bag.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view through the bag with its contents omitted.

Fig. 4 is a view showing the manner in which the contents of the package are eaten.

Fig. 5 is a detail side view showing the label applied over a package sealed with a gummed flap.

Similar reference numerals refer to similar parts throughout the drawings.

In the embodiment of my invention illustrated, I show a bag 1 which is narrow in width and elongated so as to constitute a distinctive package for the marketing of edible products of the kinds described, in that it can be readily grasped in the hand and its open end can be inserted in the mouth to empty its contents thereinto without requiring them to be handled. By reason of its unusual length compared to its width, the bag can be given the requisite holding capacity without interfering with its availability to be conveniently handled in the manner just described.

This bag is left open at one end before filling and is made preferably of ribbed glassine or oiled paper. I provide a sealing label having a wide central portion 2 and tapered narrowed ends or flaps 3 and 4. The label across its fold at the center has the width of the open end of the bag and is gummed on its inner side along the fold so that it can be moistened and sealed about the open end of the bag, as shown in Fig. 3, to form an effective air and germ tight closure for the package which may be solely relied upon to seal the bag, or the sides of the open end and may be gummed or sealed together, as at 5 in Fig. 3, or a gummed flap 6 (Fig. 5) may be employed. The flaps 3 and 4 of the seal are, to the desired extent, left loose, thus giving a distinctive appearance to the sealed package and providing means which may be readily grasped and pulled upward to break the seal and open the bag. Obviously, the loose ends of the label can have any distinctive design which will add attractiveness and distinctiveness to the package. The bag is preferably made of ribbed glassine or oiled paper, which, when it becomes greasy or oily from its contents, will not lose its transparency because it will not become shiny so as to reflect the light but will due to its irregular ribbed surface break up the light rays, whereas smooth glassine or oiled papers, as they become oiled, their outside becomes shiny, causing the light rays to be reflected to the detriment of the transparency of the bag. Moreover, for peculiar reasons which I do not understand, it would appear from a comparison of the ribbed glassine bags with the plain glassine bags that the salt from the peanuts will not tend to adhere to the ribbed paper to the same extent that it does to the smooth paper, and thus it does not tend to adversely affect the transparent characteristic of the bag.

Though I have described with great particularity the details of the embodiment of the invention herein shown, it is not to be construed that I am limited thereto, as changes in arrangement and substitution of equivalents may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A long, slender display bag for loose bulk edibles, made of transparent paper, the bag in length being longer than the width of a man's palm so as to project substantially from the grasping hand, the bag in width being narrow enough for insertion into the mouth, whereby its end joints are reduced to a practical minimum in length and are removed from the greater mass of the bulk contents of the bag so as to be substantially protected from stresses due to pressure on said mass applied to an intermediate portion of the bag, and means to close the ends of the filled bag.

2. A display bag according to claim 1, in which the bag is formed flat with its ends sealed flat, thereby to adapt it to hold the bulk contents thereof away from its end joints to protect them when the filled bag is shipped.

3. A receptacle for toasted peanuts and like bulk edibles, comprising an elongated bag formed of translucent paper and made narrow enough to be embraced within a hand clasp, long enough to project at both ends from the grasping hand, and small

enough to have its opened end introduced into the mouth to directly discharge its contents thereinto.

4. A receptacle for salted peanuts and like bulk edibles, comprising a thin narrow elongated bag formed of ribbed transparent paper with the ribs running lengthwise of the bag to stiffen it, the ends of the filled bag being sealed and small enough to enter the mouth to permit the bag's contents to be discharged directly thereinto.

5. A long slender display bag for toasted peanuts and like bulk edibles, comprising a narrow elongated bag adapted to be embraced within the clasp of the hand and to project at both ends from said hand, said bag being formed of ribbed glassine paper with the ribs running lengthwise of the bag to stiffen it, and a label adapted to be folded on itself and having its bight, which is substantially equal in width to the bag and gummed, sealed about an end of the bag, the ends of the label being reduced in width to give a distinctive ornamental appearance to the package.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

TOM HUSTON.