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PACKAGE CONTAINER

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Fig. 1

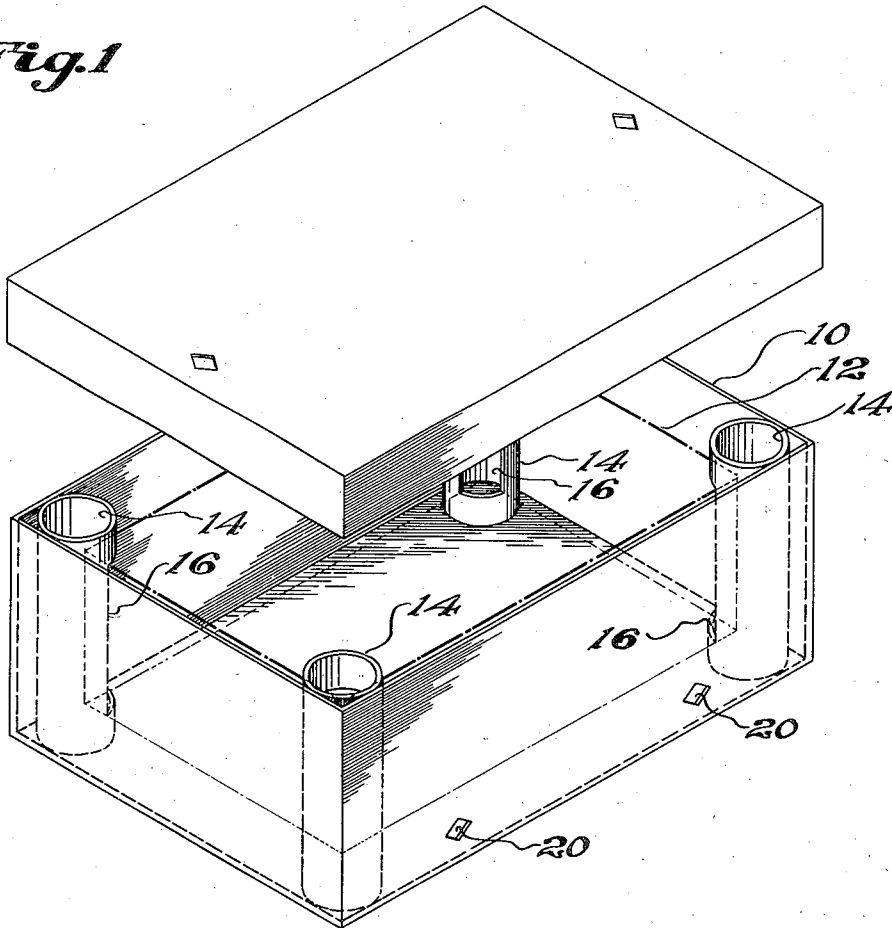
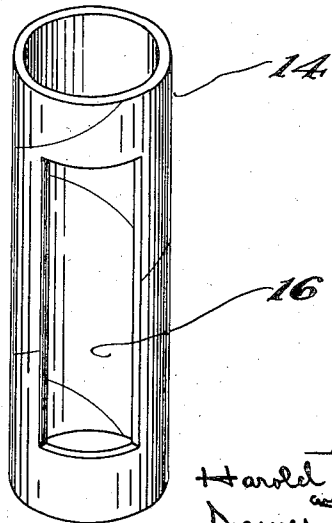


Fig. 2



Witness

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PACKAGE CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 229—14)

The present invention relates to containers designed for the handling and shipment of articles which are primarily fragile or perishable, and which must be protected against damage in handling or insulated against extreme variations in temperature.

The purpose and object of the invention is the provision of a container embodying inner and outer closures simply and adequately maintained in a permanent spaced relationship. With this general object in view, I have found that the provision of wound paper tubes of generally cylindrical form, cut to a length approximating the height of the outer closure, and each having a generally rectangular slot provided midway between opposite ends, and designed to receive a corner of the inner package, is well suited for the purpose. The diameter of the tubes is properly coordinated with the space between the inner and outer closures in order that the tubes shall completely fill the space at the corners and maintain the inner package against substantial movement with respect to the outer closure. The space between the closures may be left either free for the circulation of air, or if desired, provided with any suitable form of insulating medium.

In the accompanying drawing, Fig. 1 represents a perspective in outline of the double-walled package with the corner supports, the inner package being indicated by dotted lines to avoid confusion; and Fig. 2 represents one of the supporting tubes employed for spacing the inner package.

Referring particularly to the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the outer closure is indicated at 10, and the inner package at 12. Both closures in the illustrated embodiment of the invention are rectangular in outline, and the inner package is intended to contain confectionery or the like. The outer closure may be provided with ventilating openings 20, which provide for circulation of air about the inner package. The inner rectangular package 12 is supported in completely spaced relation to the outer closure by a series of corner tubes shown more particularly in Fig. 2, each of which may be conveniently formed from a length of wound paper or fibre tubing 14, having a rectangular slot 16 extending through the wall approximately midway between opposite ends. The slot corresponds in length to the height of the inner package to be supported, and is of sufficient size to permit substantial projection of the corner of the package into the tube.

In assembling the inner package may be provided with a corner post assembly upon each of the four corners, and then the entire assembly, including the inner package and corner posts, received within the outer closure, the diameter of the corner posts being such that they completely fill the space between the two closures and insure predetermined and uniform spacing of the two closures with respect to one another. The supporting tubes are of sufficient rigidity to properly maintain and support the inner package during handling and shipment, and when the outer closure is covered, are prevented from endwise movement therein, as the height corresponds to the interior height of the closure.

In the use of this spacing construction, the two closures may be left with a free space surrounding the inner closure communicating with the ventilating openings, or if so desired, the ventilating openings may or may not be dispensed with, and the space provided with insulating material of any suitable character.

What is claimed is:

1. A package container comprising an outer closure having corner portions, and cylindrical tubes positioned in the corners thereof, each provided with a supporting slot extending through the wall between opposite ends of the tube, the slots approximating the height of an inner package and designed to receive the corners of such a package and support it in completely spaced relation to the outer closure.

2. A package container comprising an outer closure having corner portions, an inner package, and a slotted paper tube engaging the corners of the inner package and projecting therebeyond at the top and bottom, the tubes being of predetermined diameter and designed to completely fill the space at the corners separating the inner package from the outer closure and maintaining the package in spaced relation to the outer closure both at the top and bottom and sides.

3. Spacer tubes for a double container having corner portions comprising a predetermined length of wound paper tube having a generally rectangular slot formed therein approximately midway between opposite ends of the tube, and designed to receive and closely engage the corner of a package to be supported thereby.

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