

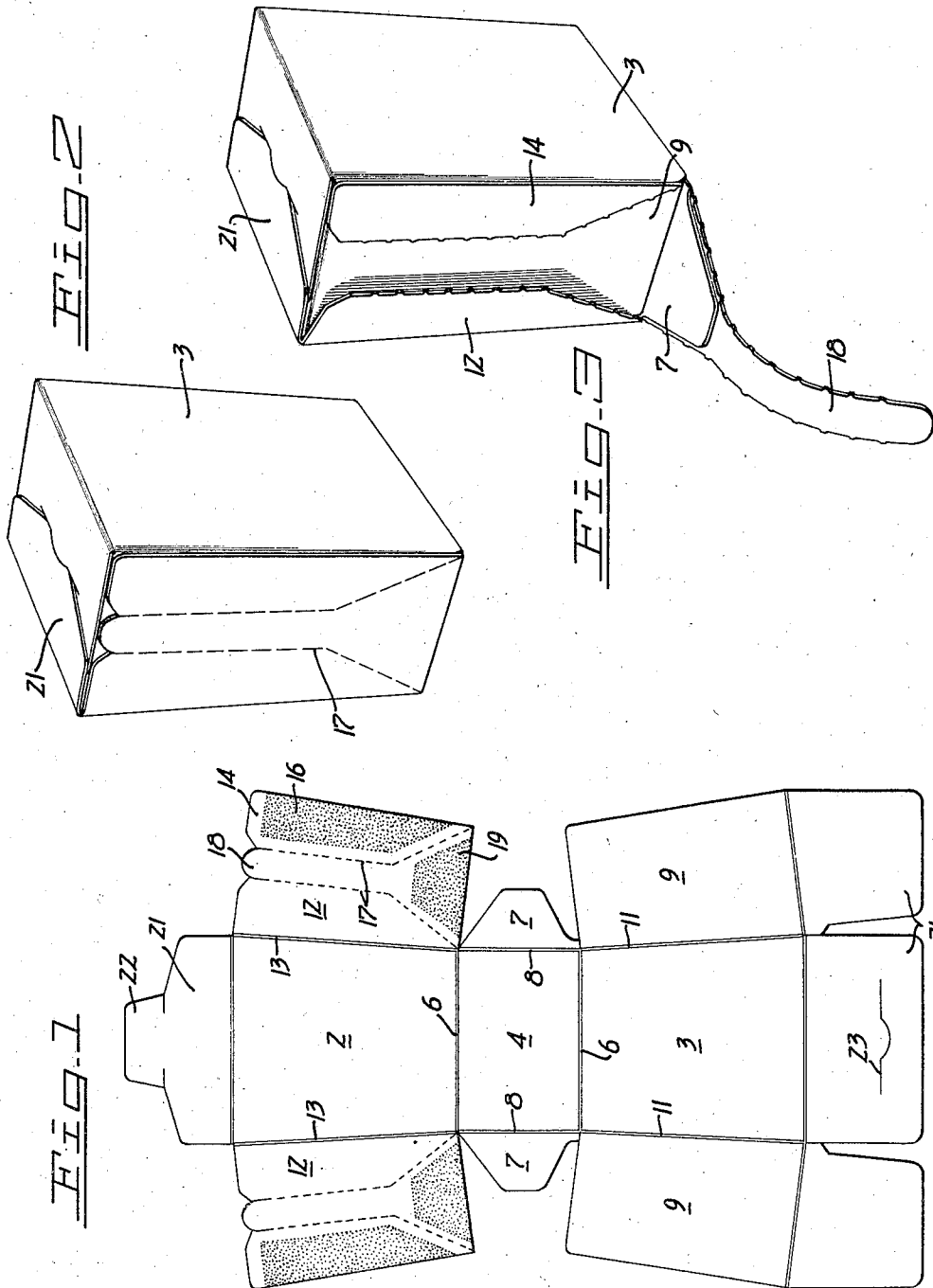
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CONTAINER

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CONTAINER

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7 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

Our invention relates to fibreboard containers, and more particularly to a pail for holding material such as ice cream.

It is among the objects of our invention to provide a container of the character described having tear strips so arranged that tearing out the strips frees the walls so that the container may be spread out flat to expose the contents.

Another object of our invention is to provide an improved construction and arrangement of the tear strips to prevent freeing the container walls other than in the intended manner.

A further object is to provide a container of the character described having tear strips which remain attached to the container when the latter is spread out flat.

The invention possesses other objects and features of advantage, some of which, with the foregoing, will be set forth in the following description of our invention. It is to be understood that we do not limit ourselves to this disclosure of species of our invention, as we may adopt variant embodiments thereof within the scope of the claims.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank from which our pail is folded; and

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing the completed pail.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the pail with one of its tear strips torn out.

In terms of broad inclusion, our container comprises walls including opposing panels, and tear strips in the panels, whereby tearing out of the strips frees the walls to allow spreading the container out flat. The lower ends of the tear strips are preferably secured to tabs foldably connected to the bottom of the container so that the strips are attached to the tabs in the spread out condition.

In greater detail, and referring particularly to Figure 1 of the drawing, the container or pail of our invention is folded from a blank comprising side walls 2 and 3 foldably connected to opposite edges of a bottom 4 by crease lines 6. End tabs 7 are foldably connected along the other edges of the bottom by crease lines 8. Extending from opposite edges of side wall 3 are the end walls 9 foldably connected to the side wall along crease lines 11. By this arrangement side walls 2 and 3 may be folded up and end walls 9 folded in to form the pail; the walls being preferably shaped to form a tapered pail for nesting purposes.

The pail is held assembled by sealing flaps or

panels 12 foldably connected to opposite edges of side wall 2 by crease lines 13. These flaps have outer strip portions 14 carrying a suitable adhesive 16 for securing the flaps to the underlying end walls 9. Each flap also has a pair of spaced lines of weakness 17, forming an intermediate tear strip 18. These lines are preferably formed by perforating the material. Tear strip 18 terminates at its upper end in a finger engageable portion and at its lower end in an enlarged base portion; the upper portions of perforated lines 17 being substantially parallel and the lower portions preferably diverging outwardly toward the corners of the flaps. This provides a tear strip having a lower edge coextensive with the edge of the flap. This makes it difficult to grasp any part of the side wall structure for tearing, except the intended upper end of the tear strip.

In our preferred construction the enlarged base portion of our tear strip is secured by suitable adhesive 19 to tab 7 which is interposed between the end wall and the sealing flap. When the tear strip is torn out, as shown in Figure 3, it remains as part of the container structure. It will be noted that the tear strips come out neatly and leave clean edges without the disagreeable effect presented when glued surfaces have been pulled apart.

Suitable closure flaps 21 are preferably foldably connected along the upper edges of the side and end walls. A locking tab 22 and an associated receiving slit 23 are preferably provided on the side wall flaps to lock the closure. Upon tearing out of strips 18, and after unlocking the closure flaps, the walls are free to be folded out flat for exposing the contents. In the case of ice cream this exposes the product for slicing. It is to be noted that in our preferred construction, where the tear strips 18 are secured to tabs 7, the tear strips remain attached to the container when the latter is spread out flat.

If desired the adhesive 19 may be omitted, in which case the tear strip is completely detached when torn out.

We claim:

1. A container comprising a bottom, a wall, a sealing flap having a portion of its free edge only secured to said wall, a tab foldably connected to the bottom, and a tear strip in the unsecured portion of the flap and having an end secured to said tab.

2. A container comprising a bottom, side walls foldably connected to the bottom, end walls foldably connected to one of the side walls, sealing flaps foldably connected to the other side

wall and having portions secured to the end walls, tabs foldably connected to the bottom, and tear strips in the sealing flaps and each secured at one end to one of said tabs, whereby tearing out of said strips frees the walls to allow spreading the container out flat with the tear strips attached to said tabs in the spread out condition.

3. A container comprising a bottom, side walls foldably connected to the bottom, end walls foldably connected to one of the side walls, sealing flaps foldably connected to the other side wall and having portions secured to the end walls, tabs foldably connected to the bottom, and tear strips in the sealing flaps and each terminating at one end in a finger engageable portion and at the other end in an enlarged base portion secured to one of said tabs.

4. A container comprising a bottom, side walls foldably connected to the bottom, end walls foldably connected to one of the side walls, sealing flaps foldably connected to the other side wall and having portions only secured to the end walls, tapering tabs foldably connected to the bottom and interposed between said end walls and flaps, said flaps each having in the unsecured portions spaced lines of weakness to provide tear strips extending downwardly across the flaps, the upper portions of said lines being substantially parallel and the lower portions diverging outwardly toward corners of the flaps along the side edges of said tabs.

5. A container blank comprising a sheet of material cut and scored to form a bottom, side walls extending from opposite edges of the bottom, end walls extending from opposite edges of one of said side walls, and sealing flaps extending from opposite edges of the other side wall, each of said flaps having spaced lines of weakness to form an intermediate tear strip extending from end to end of the flap and an outer fastening strip, upper portions of the lines in each flap being substantially parallel and other bottom portions diverging outwardly to-

ward corners of the flaps, and tapering tabs extending from edges of the bottom between the end walls and sealing flaps, said tabs being of an area not materially greater than the area between the diverging spaced lines of weakness.

6. A container comprising opposed ends and opposing lateral walls, a flap foldably connected to one of said opposing walls to form a third wall, a sealing flap foldably connected to the other of said opposing walls and overlying the third wall, said sealing flap having spaced lines of weakness to form an intermediate tear strip and an outer fastening strip, means for securing the fastening strip to said third wall, a flap forming a fourth wall, a sealing flap, said fourth wall flap and said last named sealing flap being foldably connected respectively to said opposing walls, said last named sealing flap overlying said fourth wall flap and having spaced lines of weakness to form an intermediate tear strip and an outer fastening strip, means for securing said last named fastening strip to said fourth wall, the fold lines for said flaps and the said lines of weakness extending between the container ends, one of said container ends being constituted by disengageable end flaps, each of said end flaps being foldably connected to one of said walls, said lines of weakness diverging adjacent that container end which is remote from said interlocking end flaps, said end flaps being disengageable following tearing of the container on said lines of weakness by outward folding of the lateral walls to which the same are secured.

7. A container comprising a bottom, a wall, a sealing flap having a portion of its free edge secured to said wall, a tab foldably connected to the bottom, and a tear strip in the unsecured portion of the sealing flap and having an end secured to said tab, the lower part of the tear strip diverging outwardly toward the corners of the sealing flap.

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