Jan. 21, 1941. A. J. TANNER 2,229,426

CONTAINER

Filed July 20, 1937 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

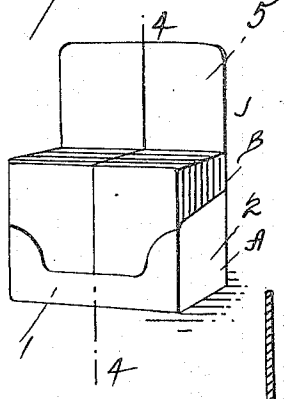


FIG. 3.

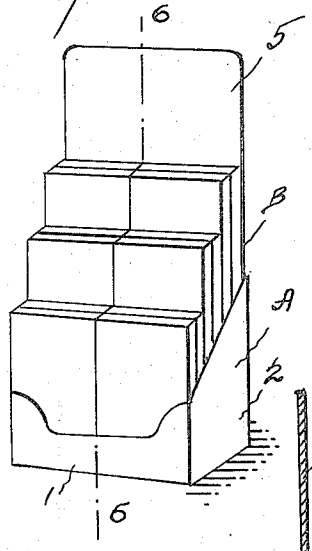


FIG. 2.

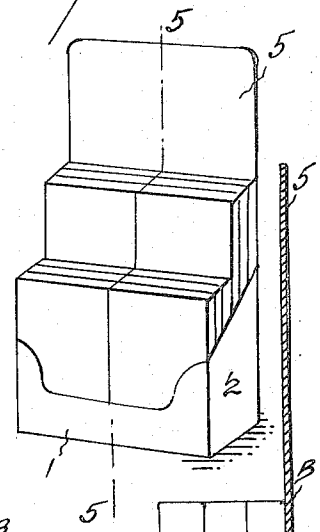


FIG. 4.

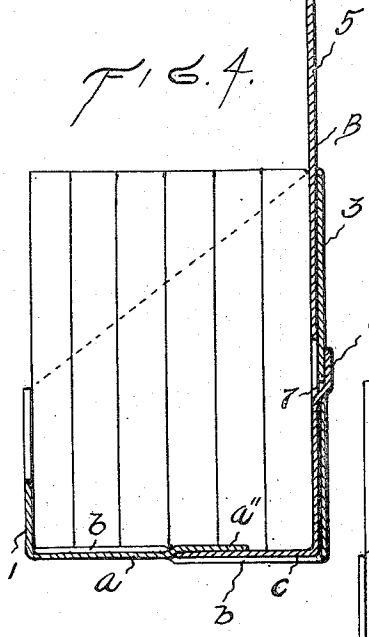


FIG. 6.

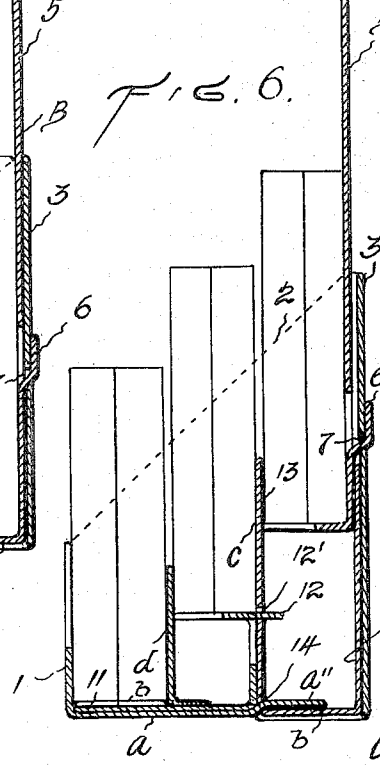
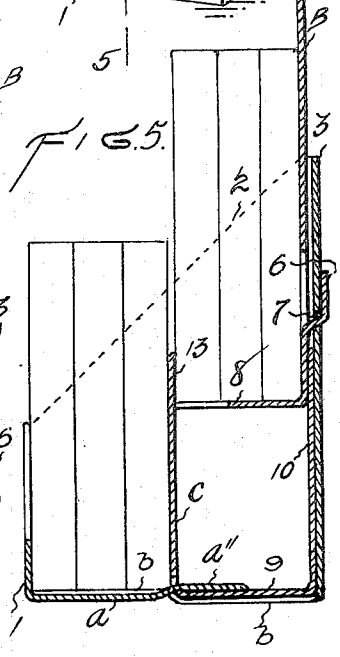


FIG. 5.



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FIG. 7.

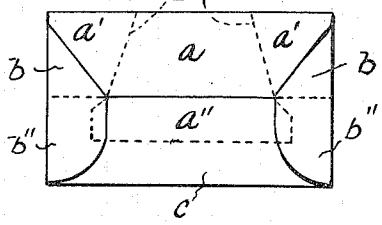


FIG. 17.

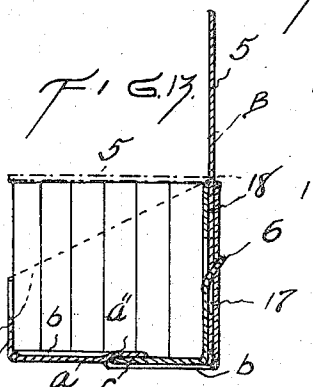


FIG. 14.

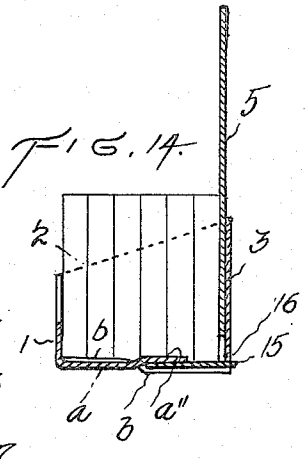


FIG. 8.

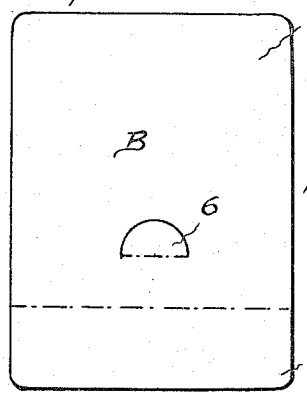


FIG. 9.

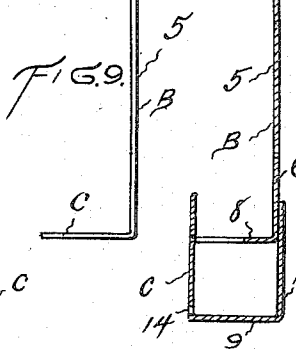


FIG. 11.

FIG. 10.

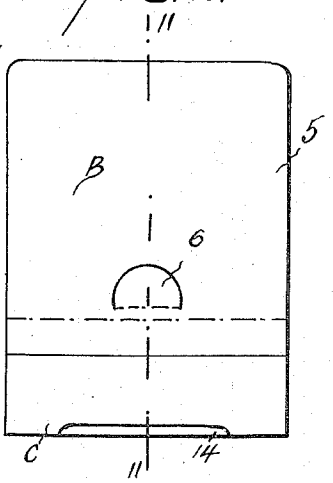
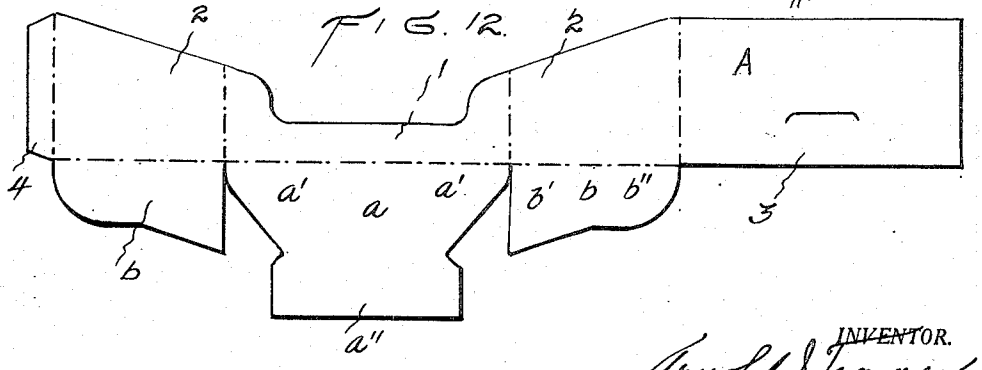


FIG. 12.



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Patented Jan. 21, 1941 2,229,426

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,229,426

CONTAINER

Arnold J. Tanner, North Haven, Conn.

Application July 20, 1937, Serial No. 154,581

3 Claims. (Cl. 206—45)

The present invention has relation to containers useful for packing, shipping and displaying merchandise. Amongst other objects of the invention one is to provide a simple, economical and efficient container or package which is so designed that the blanks therefor may be produced with comparatively little waste. Further, the blanks are so designed that the container may be set up by the packer with comparatively little labor being involved in the assembling operation. Furthermore the dealer, when opening the package and setting it on the counter, for example, to display the merchandise therein, is not required to manipulate any member or members of the container where it is necessary that the operator should have instructions which must be followed to properly set up the container into the display position.

The improved container, due to special design and construction thereof, offers particular advantages as dispensing means for merchandise in the form of articles packed separately in the container, or within individual cartons.

The improved container is so constructed and arranged that the required rigidity of the container can be obtained with the use of comparatively light weight paper board of which the container is usually made. Furthermore the rigidity of the container is retained even when only a few articles are left therein.

The present invention can readily be applied to various types of container for mechandise, and in one form more particularly with a system of packing and display which forms the subject matter of Patent No. 1,680,309. With this system two container and display units are packed in a single package and each of the units has its individual display card, which when packed overlaps the other unit and in this way the display card is packed and is always retained in a rigid upright position, therefore, a uniform permanent position of the display card is maintained. Further the dealer is only required to remove the units from the package, and one or both units are placed on the counter without any manipulation by the operator of any devices.

In carrying out the present invention various embodiments thereof have been designed and these embodiments will be hereinafter more fully described with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a reduced perspective view showing one form of the container wherein all the contents stand on the same level;

Fig. 2 is a similar perspective view with the change that the contents are arranged to produce a double tier effect;

Fig. 3 is a similar perspective view wherein the contents are arranged to produce a triple tier effect;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the container or unit;

Fig. 8 is a front elevation of one form of the display card;

Fig. 9 is a side elevation of the same card;

Fig. 10 is a front elevation of another form of card or insert member;

Fig. 11 is a sectional view taken on line 11—11 of Fig. 10;

Fig. 12 is a plan view of the blank forming the body of the improved container or unit;

Fig. 13 is a cross-sectional view showing a modified form of the container or unit and

Fig. 14 shows a modification of a device used for retaining the insert member in place.

Referring to said drawings, in the several embodiments of said invention as illustrated, the improved container or unit is composed of two sheet blanks of which one, designated as A, forms the body member having front wall 1, side walls 2 and back wall 3. The blank A has a glue lap 4 to permit gluing by automatic machine operation in the usual way so that the body member will be in the form of a band. The blank A has the front and side flaps *a* and *b* depending and connected respectively to the front wall 1 and side walls 2. The other blank B comprises the show card 5 and a folding bottom end forming a rear flap *c*. These two blanks A and B are used with only slight variations to make up the different styles of containers illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

Referring now more particularly to Figures 1, 4 and 7, therein the two blanks A and B, shown in Figures 8 and 12, are employed in setting up this type of a container. The blank or body member A is opened and the side flaps *b* are folded at right angles and then the front flap or tongue *a* is folded so that the portion a^1 overlaps the portion b^1 of the flap *b*, and the portion *b''* overlaps the end or tongue *a''* of the flap *a*. The insert member B is then placed in position and the folding end *c* is engaged under the tongue *a''*. The flaps *a*, *b* and *c* interlocked together form the complete bottom of the container and an effectual self-retentive means for said bottom. In most instances, especially when the contents are comparatively light, with the aid of friction, the bottom will remain closed and the show card will stand in an erect position. Where positive means are required to prevent displacement of the card and bottom closure, an interlocking device for uniting the two members is employed and such device comprises

the tab 6 cut out of the card 5, and this tab engages the slot 7 in the back wall 3.

Referring now to Fig. 2, with this example, the blanks A and B illustrated in Figures 10 and 12 are used and the operation of assembling is the same only that the bottom fold *c* has the additional folds 8, 9, and 10, and the fold 10 is glued to the bottom of the card member so as to form a tubular shape. It should be noted that the folds *c*, 8, 9, and 10 are arranged so that the printed or prepared surface of the board used is exposed. The device just described provides a step used for the purpose of elevating the back row or rows of merchandise so as to produce what is known as a double tier container. With this example the connection afforded by the tab and slot connection 6—7 is essential so as to prevent toppling forward of the contents when the front row is removed.

Referring now to Figure 3 illustrating a triple tier container. In this example it will be noted that the merchandise, in the form of cartons, is arranged in three rows, the rows being elevated one above the other. This effect is obtained by use of the blanks A and B, as illustrated in Figures 10 and 12, only the folding end *c* is higher than in the previous instance and of a depth to receive two cartons instead of three in a row. An additional elevating member or step *d* is inserted, and this device is in the form of a tube having an extension 11 which abuts against the front wall of the container so as to hold the step *d* against the step *c*, and if required a cut out tongue 12 is engaged in a slot 12^1 provided in the riser of the step *c*. It should be noted in such instances where means are required to prevent the contents from falling off the treads of the steps, a tab 13 is cut out from the tread, and which tab stands in a vertical position when folded so as to keep the contents in place.

In order to effect positive engagement of the insert member with the closure flap *a*, in both examples shown in Figures 5 and 6, the tongue *a''* is engaged in slot 14 provided at the bottom of step *c*.

Referring to Figure 14, herein a modification is shown comprising a tongue 15 cut out of the back wall of the insert member, and which tongue 15 is arranged to snap into engagement in a registering slot 16 located at the bottom corner fold of the back wall 3, and because of this engagement the show card will not be displaced should the container be lifted by grasping the display card in the performance of the operation.

The improved container as hereinbefore described and illustrated by the drawings, is in the form of a container or unit having a rigid and permanently upright show card, which is an advantage when two units are packed in a single shipping package.

It will be understood that the improved container can readily be applied in such instances where only a single unit is packed, and in which case the show card 5 should be folded down to lie against the container unit. In order to get the particular advantage of a constantly rigid show card the modification shown in Figure 13 has been devised. With this example, the blanks similar to those shown in either Figures 8 or 10 and 12 are used with the exception that the back wall of the insert member B is cut short, and the show card 5 is a separate member capable of having a limited independent sliding movement. This movement is allowed by slot 17 which is engaged by the tab 6. The show card has the crease 18 so as to bend at this point.

With the example last described, a single unit or container is packed for shipping by pulling the card upwardly so that the crease 18 will be in line with the top edge of the container and then the card may be folded down. When the container is set up for display of the contents the card is pushed down to the extent permitted by the slot 17, so that the fold 18 will be below the top edge of the container back wall and thereby the show card will be maintained in a constantly rigid upright position.

Various modifications may be made in carrying out the details of the invention hereinbefore described, and it is to be understood that any modification coming fairly within the terms of the appended claims shall be covered thereby.

I claim:

1. A packing and display container comprising an outer or body member having defined front, back and side walls, side flaps connected to and depending from said side walls, a front flap or tongue connected to and depending from said front wall, said side and front flaps constituting a partial bottom closure for said body member, a separate sheet member within said body member having a bottom folding extension interlocking with said front and side flaps to complete the bottom closure of said container, said bottom folding extension being arranged to fold to provide a step or elevating device and said step having a slot therein to receive said front flap or tongue.

2. A packing and display container comprising an outer or body member having defined front, back and side walls, side flaps connected to and depending from said side walls, a front flap or tongue connected to and depending from said front wall, said side and front flaps forming a partial bottom for said body member, a separate sheet member lying against said back member within said body member having a bottom extension folded to form a step or elevating device interlocking with said front flap to complete the bottom of said container, and said sheet member having a portion extending above the top edge of said back wall to provide a show or advertising card for the container.

3. A packing and display container comprising an outer or body member having defined front, back and side walls, side flaps connected to and depending from said side walls, a front flap or tongue connected to and depending from said front wall, said side and front flap forming a partial bottom closure for said body member, a separate sheet member within said body member having a bottom folding extension interlocking with said front and side flaps to complete the bottom closure of said container, locking means whereby said sheet member is immovably united with said body member, a separate sliding card interposed between said back wall and said sheet member, and said card having a vertically elongated slot engaging said locking means whereby sliding movement of said card is limited.

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