

Nov. 9, 1937.

C. S. ANDREWS

2,098,818

SEALED CONTAINER

Filed June 9, 1932

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

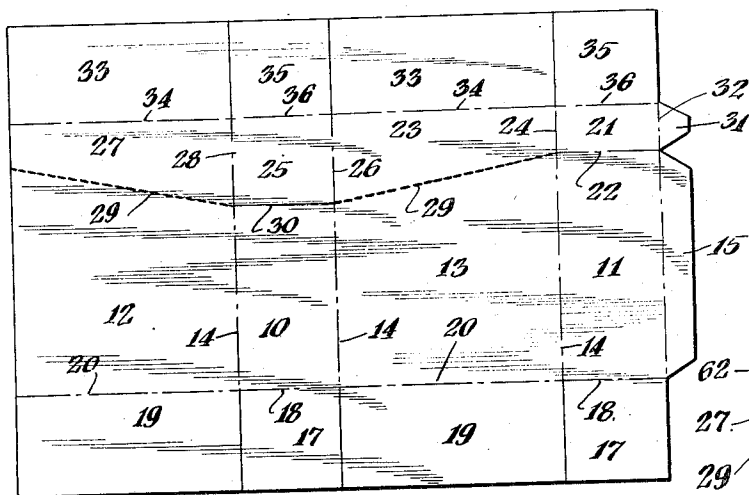


Fig. 2

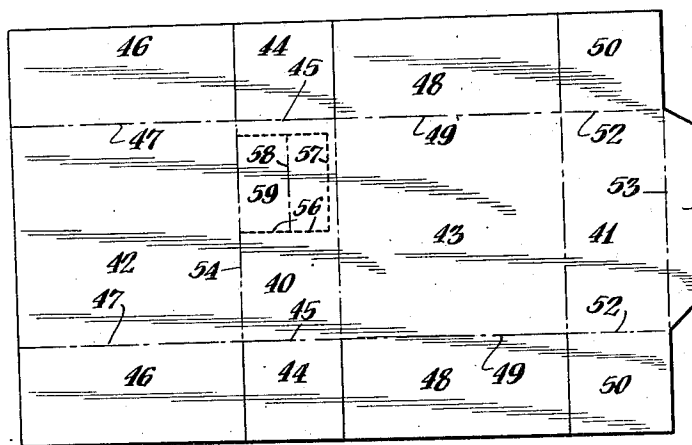


Fig. 7

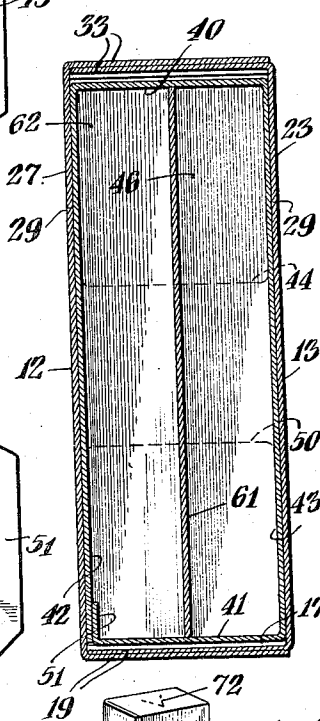


Fig. 9

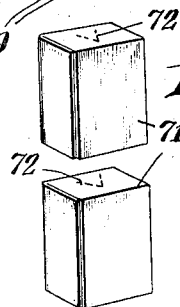
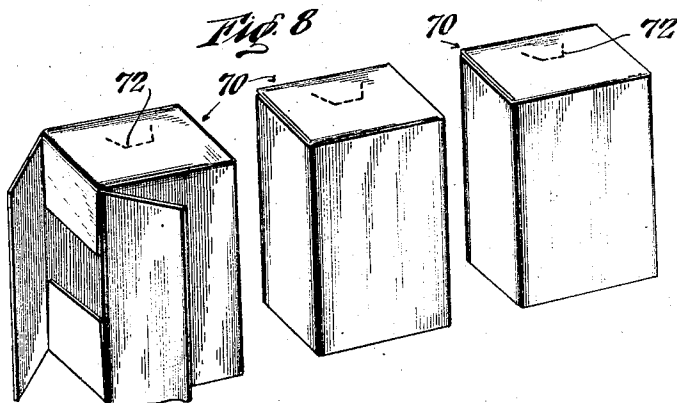


Fig. 8



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Fig. 5

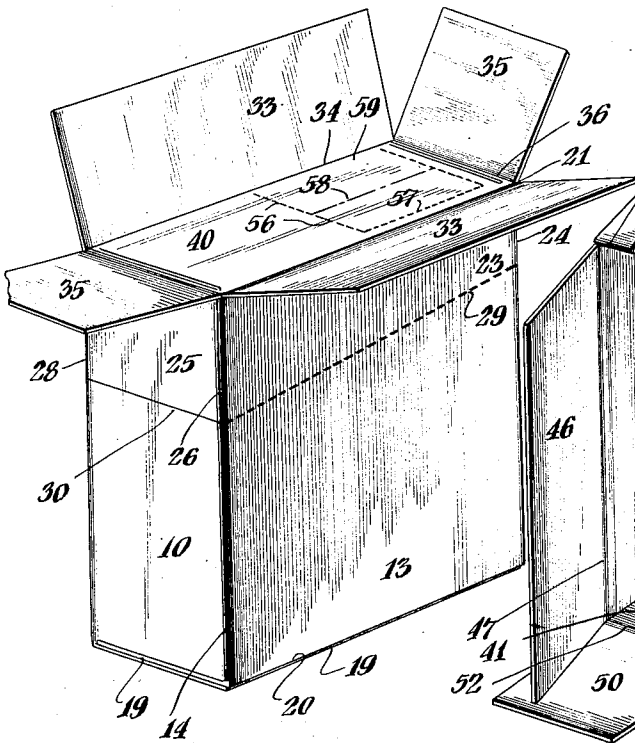


Fig. 4

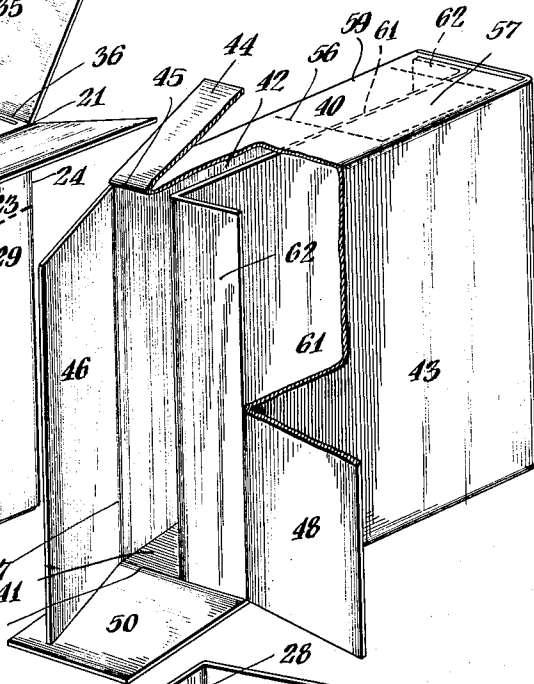


Fig. 6

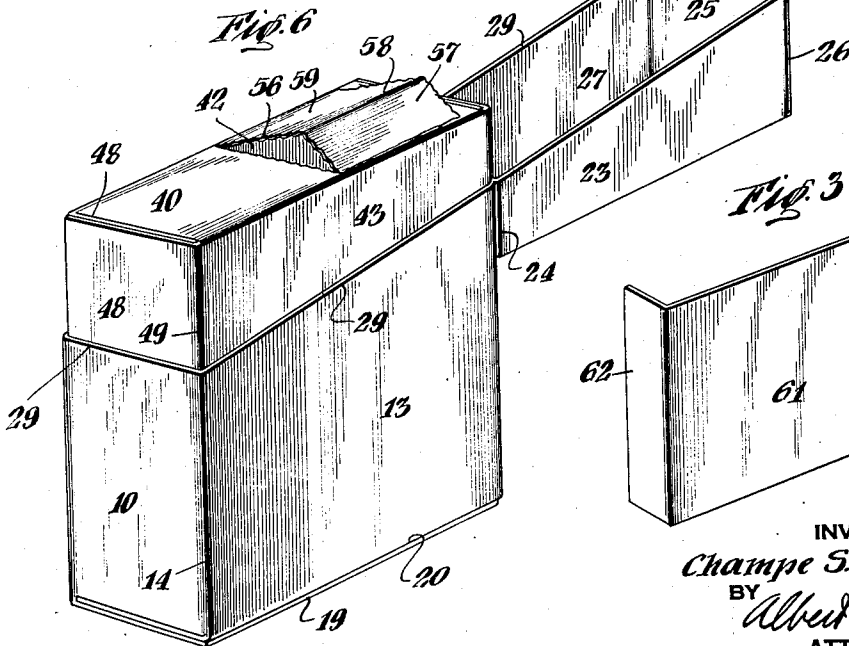
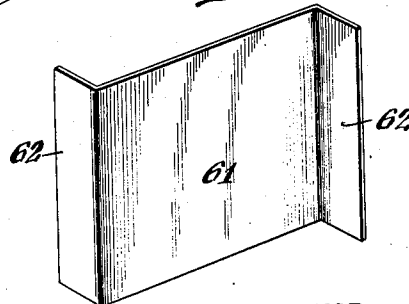


Fig. 3



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2,098,818

SEALED CONTAINER

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Application June 9, 1932, Serial No. 616,253

5 Claims. (Cl. 229—17)

This invention relates to sealed containers and more particularly to a container comprising a sealed outer shell having therein one or more individually sealed cells or units, each cell being adapted to contain and preserve the contents packed therein against deterioration.

It is well known that coffee, tea, spices and like foods and materials lose their flavor and aroma, often deteriorate so as to be harmful to health, or otherwise ineffective to serve their full purpose, when they become exposed to air over extended periods of time. Containers heretofore used to preserve materials of this nature have been made of metal, and very often have been hermetically sealed. Such containers are very expensive to manufacture and pack, greatly adding to the cost of the contents as finally delivered to the user. For purposes of economy, containers heretofore used are sometimes made of considerable size so as to contain a larger quantity. But this attempt toward economy also has its objections, since in using large containers the contents are often exposed for a long time before they are finally used up with the result that the final portion of the contents becomes harmed after the opening and unsealing of the container, and the advantage of a sealed container is thus largely lost.

It is an object of my invention to provide a sealed container which is inexpensive to make, which can be easily and quickly packed, and which fully protects the contents against deterioration.

Another object of my invention is to provide a multiple sealed pack for perishable products, into which the contents may be easily and quickly inserted by hand or automatic machinery, and from which the desired amount of material may be removed without exposing the remaining part to the deteriorating action of the atmosphere.

Another object of my invention is to provide a multiple sealed container which is inexpensive to produce, which may be made in a variety of attractive shapes, designs and patterns, and which is permanently sealed to protect the contents against deterioration and the harmful effects of the atmosphere.

Still another object of my invention is to provide a quick, efficient and economical method of packing perishable products to protect them against the deteriorating effects of the atmosphere and other harmful conditions.

Further objects of the invention will become apparent as the disclosure proceeds.

Although the novel features which are believed to be characteristic of this invention will be particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto, the invention itself, as to its objects and advantages, and the manner in which it may be carried out, may be better understood by referring to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part thereof, in which:

Fig. 1 shows a cutout blank from which the body and cover portion of the outer container shell may be formed;

Fig. 2 shows a blank from which the body portion of the cellular insert may be formed;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a blank from which a cell spacer may be formed;

Fig. 4 shows the insert blank and spacer in the process of assembly;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the container showing the cellular insert within the outer shell, which is about to be sealed;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the container showing the cover portion of the outer shell swung open, and the cellular insert therein opened and unsealed;

Fig. 7 is a vertical cross sectional view through the complete sealed container;

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a battery of separate inner cells, adapted to be positioned side by side within the outer shell; and

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a pair of separate inner cells adapted to be stacked vertically within the outer shell.

Like reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the specification and drawings.

Referring now to the drawings, I have shown in Fig. 1 a blank from which the body and cover portion of the outer shell may be formed. This blank comprises generally a front wall portion 10, a rear wall portion 11 and side wall portions 12 and 13 hinged together along the score lines 14. In forming the body portion of the container, the flap portion 15 hinged to the back portion 11 along the score line 16, is glued or otherwise secured to the free edge of the side wall portion 12. Flaps 17 are hinged respectively to the front wall portion 10 and rear wall portion 11 along the score lines 18, and flaps 19 are similarly hinged along score lines 20 to the side wall portions 12 and 13. The flaps 17 and 19 are turned inwardly, folded one upon the other, and glued or otherwise secured together in the well known manner to form the bottom wall of the container.

The cover portion of the box is preferably

formed integral with the body portion and comprises a rear flange portion 21 hinged to the wall portion 11 of the box along the score line 22. The side flange portion 23 is hinged to the rear flange portion 21 along the score line 24. The front flange portion 25 is similarly hinged to portion 23 along the score line 26 and the side flange portion 27 is likewise hinged to the portion 25 along the score line 28, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. Flange portions 23 and 27 are defined from the body portion of the box by a line of weakness 29, and the front flange 25 may be separated from the wall portion 10 by the cut 30, as shown in Fig. 1. A flap 31 hinged along the score line 32 to the rear flange portion 21 may be glued or otherwise secured to the free edge of the flange portion 27. The cover flaps 33 hinged to the flange portions 23 and 27 along the score lines 34, and the flaps 35 hinged to the flange portions 21 and 25 along the score lines 36, may be folded inwardly in superimposed relationship and secured together by cement or other means to form the top wall of the cover portion of the box.

Referring more particularly to Fig. 2 the cut-out blank for forming the cellular insert for the box comprises a top portion 40, a bottom portion 41, and side portions 42 and 43. Flaps 44 are formed on either end of the top portion 40, and defined therefrom by the score lines 45. Flaps 46 formed on the side portion 42 are defined therefrom by the score lines 47, and side portion 43 is provided with flaps 48 defined therefrom by the score lines 49. The bottom portion 41 is provided with side flaps 50 defined therefrom by the score line 52.

In assembling the cellular insert, the securing flap 51 defined from the bottom portion 41 by the score line 53 is cemented or otherwise secured to the free edge of the side wall portion 42. One set of flaps 44, 46, 48 and 50 are then folded in superimposed relationship to close and seal one end of the container, as shown in Figure 4. The material to be packed is then inserted and the other set of flaps 44, 46, 48 and 50 are then folded in superimposed relationship and carefully sealed to exclude the air. To obtain access to the contents, the top portion 40 of the insert may be perforated as indicated at 56 to define a tab portion 57. The tab part 57 is broken through with the finger or other instrument. The part 57 as it breaks folds along the score line 58. If the container is to be opened further, the part 59 is lifted upwardly tearing loose along the score 56.

The space within the insert unit above described may be divided up into two or more cellular spaces by a division wall, such as shown in Figure 3. The division wall may comprise a wall portion 61 having securing flaps 62 along two or more edges thereof. The division wall may be inserted within the insert unit, secured to and sealed to the walls thereof to form an airtight partition.

In packaging the product, the sealed insert unit above described is inserted through the open end of the outer shell, as shown in Figure 5. The flaps 33 and 35 are then folded in superimposed relationship, secured together and sealed. The insert unit may be dipped in paraffin after sealing to render the same fully airtight. After the contents are fully packed, the complete container may also be so treated to also render the outer container fully airtight.

It is well known that some materials, such as

coffee, are susceptible to damage by loss of aroma and flavor, and also become rancid and spoil on exposure to air. By using double sealed units, both nearly airtight, the container may be made of paperboard material which provides as satisfactory a container as the sealed metal ones, at greatly less cost. Further, the container may be divided up into a plurality of separate compartments or cells designed and constructed to hold a quantity suitable for a single meal or serving, thus preventing the necessity of opening a full sized container and exposing the contents thereof to the air while a single helping or serving is taken out.

If separate cells 70 are found preferable, they may be made in the same way as the insert units shown in Figure 4, and positioned side by side, as shown in Figure 8. Or again, the abbreviated separate cells 71 shown in Figure 9 may be used, stacked one upon the other. These may all be filled by inserting the contents through the side, and removal of the contents may be effected by providing a line of perforations 72 at the top wall, which can be torn away and an opening thus provided.

When the package is ready for use by the consumer, the cover portion is separated from the body portion of the outer shell by cutting along the perforated line 29 and then swinging open the cover portion on the hinged flange 22, exposing the inner cell to view. One or more of the tab portions 57 are then cut along the perforated lines 56 and the contents of the particular cell may be poured out.

It will be readily appreciated that the container, and more particularly the inner cells, may be of such size and design as to contain a suitable quantity of material to serve one helping or meal, so that the contents thereof can be used up at one time and not allowed to stand exposed to the air.

While the invention has been described with particular reference to a two-cell container, it will be appreciated that any number of cells may be formed and that the dimensions of the several parts may be so configured and arranged as to permit the packaging of any desired total quantity of material in a container, and the use of any subordinate quantity thereof at any one time by the provision of separate compartments or cells.

While certain novel features of the invention have been disclosed and are pointed out in the annexed claims, it will be understood that various omissions, substitutions and changes may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A sealed container of the character described, comprising in combination, an outer shell and a closed tubular member telescoped therein, said member having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the contents are inserted, a sealed but openable portion through which the contents may be removed, said outer shell having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the cellular member is inserted, the sealable flaps of the outer shell being on a side other than a side overlying the sealable flaps of the tubular member and a sealed portion adapted to be separated from the main portion of the outer shell along a perforated line to provide a hinged cover therefor through which the contents may be removed, said member there-

after providing means for frictionally retaining the hinged cover portion in closed position.

2. A sealed container of the character described, comprising in combination, an outer shell and an inner containing member therein, said member having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the contents are inserted, and a sealed but perforated and openable portion through which the contents may be removed, said outer shell having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the cellular member is inserted, and a sealed portion adapted to be separated from the main portion of the outer shell along a perforated line to provide a hinged cover therefor, the top of said cover overlying the perforated openable portion of said inner containing member and providing an opening through which the contents may be removed, said containing member providing a collar operative to guide the telescoping movements of said hinged cover.

3. A sealed container of the character described, comprising in combination, an outer shell and an inner containing member therein, said member having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the contents are inserted, and a sealed but perforated and openable portion through which the contents may be removed, said contents inserting opening being located on one side of the member and said contents removing opening being located on another side of the member, said outer shell having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the member is inserted, and a sealed portion adapted to be separated from the main portion of the outer shell along a perforated line to provide a hinged cover therefor, the top of said cover overlying the perforated openable portion of said inner containing member and providing an opening through which the contents may be removed, said containing member providing a collar operative to guide the telescoping movement of said hinged cover.

4. A sealed container of the character de-

scribed, comprising in combination, an outer shell and a closed cellular member therein, said member having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the contents are inserted, and a sealed but perforated and openable portion through which the contents may be removed, said outer shell having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the cellular member is inserted, the sealable flaps of the outer shell being on a side other than a side overlying the sealable flaps of the tubular member, and a sealed portion adapted to be separated from the main portion of the outer shell along a perforated line to provide a hinged cover therefor through which the contents may be removed, said member providing a collar operative to guide the telescoping movement of said hinged cover, said hinged cover being hinged along a side wall of the container.

5. A sealed container of the character described, comprising in combination, an outer shell and a cellular member therein, said member having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the contents are inserted, and a sealed but perforated and openable portion through which the contents may be removed, said contents inserting opening being located on one side of the member and said contents removing opening being located on another side of the member, said outer shell having sealable flaps closing the opening through which the cellular member is inserted, and a sealed portion adapted to be separated from the main portion of the outer shell along a perforated line to provide a hinged cover therefor, the top of said cover overlying the perforated openable portion of said inner containing member and providing an opening through which the contents may be removed, said member providing a collar operative to guide the telescoping movement of said hinged cover, said hinged cover being hinged along a side wall of the container.

CHAMPE S. ANDREWS.