

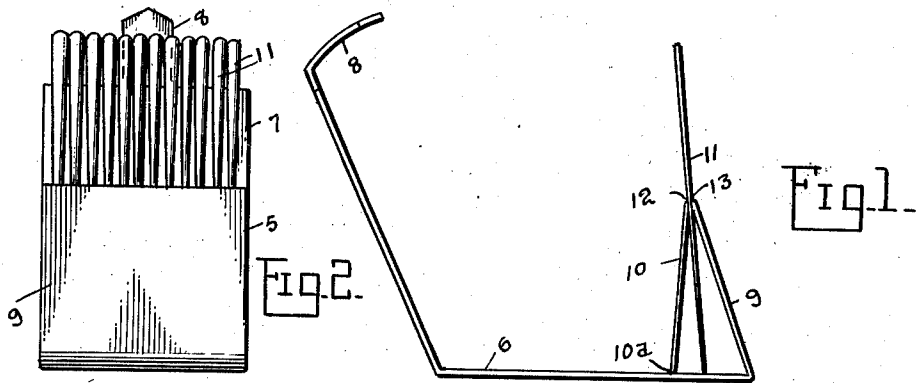
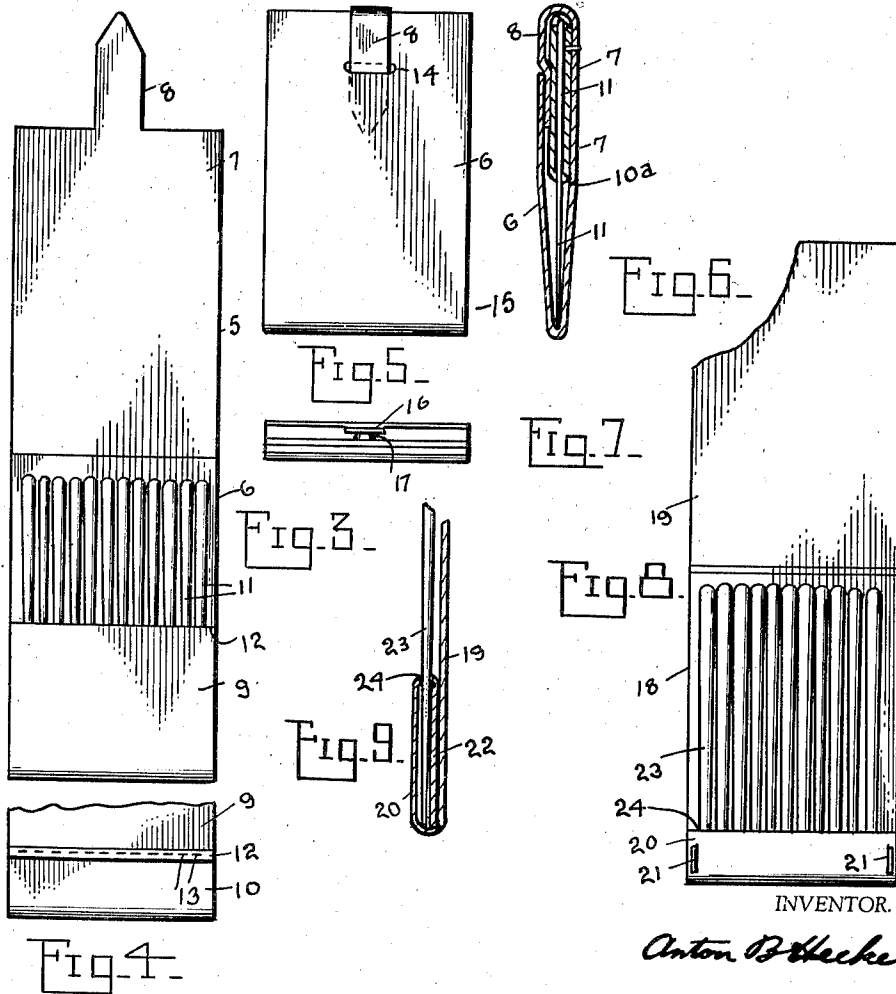
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SELF OPENING TOOTHPICK PACKAGE

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SELF OPENING TOOTHPICK PACKAGE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 206—29)

This invention relates to a toothpick package, and its leading object is to provide a container for a series of toothpicks, which can be folded upon itself to protect the toothpicks, and which when opened will support the toothpicks in upright display position, to permit of easy removal of individual toothpicks.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a holding package having a folded retainer formed with a series of retaining openings spaced apart to receive toothpicks, and so constructed that the toothpicks are clutched when the package is folded, and further provided with means for securing the retainer in closed position.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain new and useful constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, clearly described in the following specification, and fully illustrated in the drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view, showing the package in open position, with the toothpicks supported in upright positions.

Fig. 2 is a front view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the package in extended flat open position.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail view, showing the openings of the retainer.

Fig. 5 is a plan view, showing the package folded.

Fig. 6 is an edge view thereof, partly in vertical section.

Fig. 7 is an end view of a modified form.

Fig. 8 is a plan view, partly broken away, showing a modified construction.

Fig. 9 is detail sectional view, enlarged, thereof.

Referring to the drawing illustrating my invention, 5 designates the blank forming the folding package, and which is shown to include the back wall 6, the cover wall 7 and its bendable coupling tongue 8, and a retainer which consists of a section 9 hinged to the back wall 6, and another section 10, hinged to the outer edge of the section 9.

The inner section 10 is adapted to swing into open position, as shown in Fig. 1, when the package is opened, so that the outer end edge 10a of this section will engage the inner face of the back wall 6, and support the companion section 9 in upright position.

The two hinged sections 9 and 10 are considerably shorter than the back wall, which has a length approximating that of the toothpicks 11. The fold edge or joint 12 which provides the hinge connection between the sections 9 and 10

is formed with a series of small, pin-like, openings 13, spaced apart from each other equal distances, so that the ends of the toothpicks can be forced through these openings, so that the toothpicks will be retained in spaced relation to each other.

The back wall 6 is formed with a slot 14 to receive the coupling tongue 8, as shown in Fig. 5. When the package is folded upon itself the sections 9 and 10 of the folding retainer will be folded into compact condition, thus clutching the toothpicks which have portions thereof located entirely between the retainer sections. This will tend to hold the toothpicks in neat parallel relation to each other, so that individual toothpicks can be selected by a person and easily withdrawn from the package.

Approximately one-half of each toothpick projects from the bend or hinge joint 12, outwardly of the retainer, so that the supply is presented for quick and direct observation, and each toothpick is supported in an upright position, completely separated from the back wall and cover wall, so that it can be easily withdrawn. When one toothpick is withdrawn it will not interfere with the other toothpicks, which will remain in position.

When the coupling tongue is withdrawn from its receiving slot the entire package will spring into open position, as shown in Fig. 1, and the two sections of the retainer will act as a self opening easel, to elevate the toothpicks above the table on which the package is positioned.

The package is protected by a transparent cover or wrapper 15 of "Cellophane", or similar material.

Instead of the coupling tongue I may employ a pair of snap button elements 16 and 17, as shown in Fig. 7 to connect the cover wall to the back wall.

In the modified embodiment of the invention, according to the Figures 8 and 9, the first two sections or fields 22, 20, which are hinged by the first scored folding, are rather short, so that they cover only the pointed ends of the toothpicks 23, which are inserted into the perforations 24, provided in that first scored folding. The second section or field, 20, is connected to the third rather long section or field, 18, by the means of a somewhat more rounded second folding, as this is shown at the lowermost ends of the Figures 8 and 9; and the section or field 18 is followed, after another rounded scoring or folding, by the section or field 19, which is partly broken away in Figure 8, whereas in the Figure 9 this field 19 is not shown at all, and only less than the lower

halves of the field 18 and of the toothpicks 23 are shown. The field 20 is further provided, close to its side edges, with two slight protrusions or tongues 21, to hold the end of the section or field

5 18, when the whole package is closed.

Various changes in the construction, details and arrangements of parts, may be resorted to, within the scope of the claim, which defines the invention herein disclosed.

10 Having described my invention I claim:—

Package or envelop for toothpicks and the like, made of a long rectangular blank of cardboard or the like, which is transversely scored, folded and perforated in such manner, as to have in consecutive order two smaller sections or fields of

15 equal length, separated by one scored folding containing a row of perforations, and followed by two

equally long larger sections or fields, formed by two other foldings, which are scored to be bent to the same side as the first one and perforated folding, the dimensions and arrangement of the different sections or fields and of the different 5 scored foldings being such, that in the opened or unfolded package the first two sections or fields will form a wedgelike pyramid, standing on the next section or field, and holding between them in vertical position, closest to the user, the tooth- 10 picks or the like inserted into the perforations in the top edge of that pyramid, whereas in the closed package the toothpicks or the like are completely covered by the first two shorter and the subsequent two longer sections or fields of the 15 package.

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