Feb. 14, 1950 W. H. COLGATE 2,497,071

PACKAGE

Filed Nov. 21, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

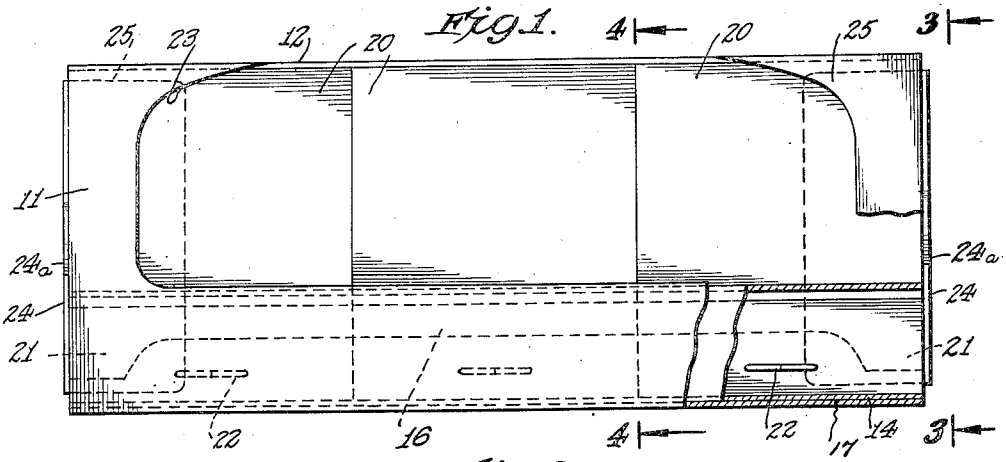


Fig. 2.

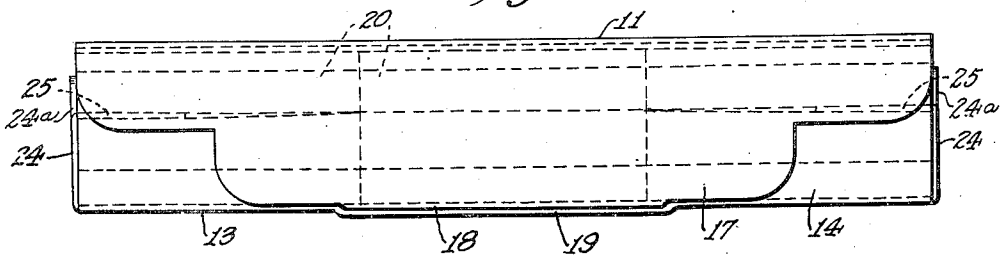


Fig. 3.

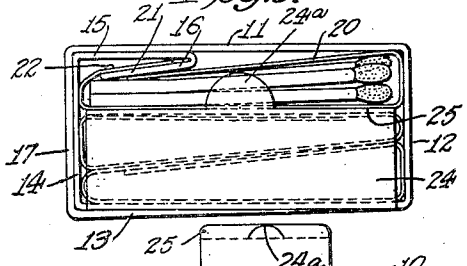
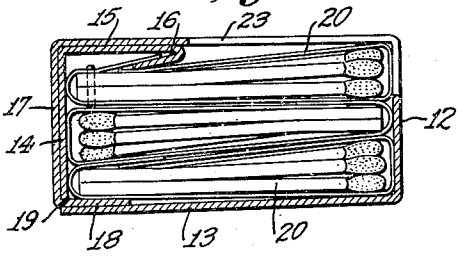


Fig. 4.



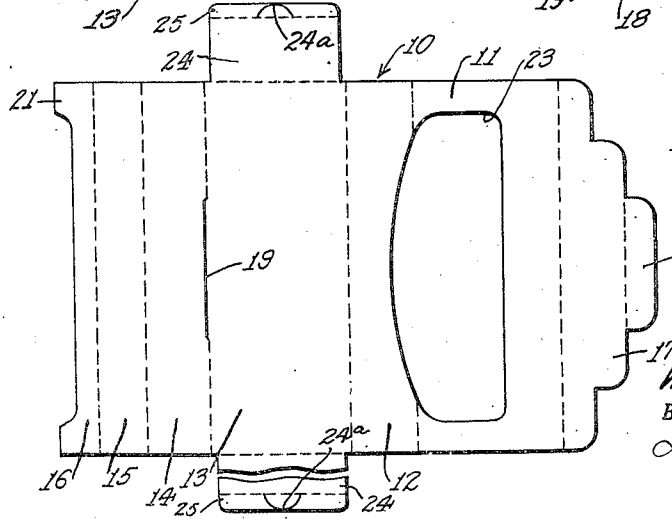


Fig. 5.

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Feb. 14, 1950 W. H. COLGATE 2,497,071

PACKAGE

Filed Nov. 21, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 6.

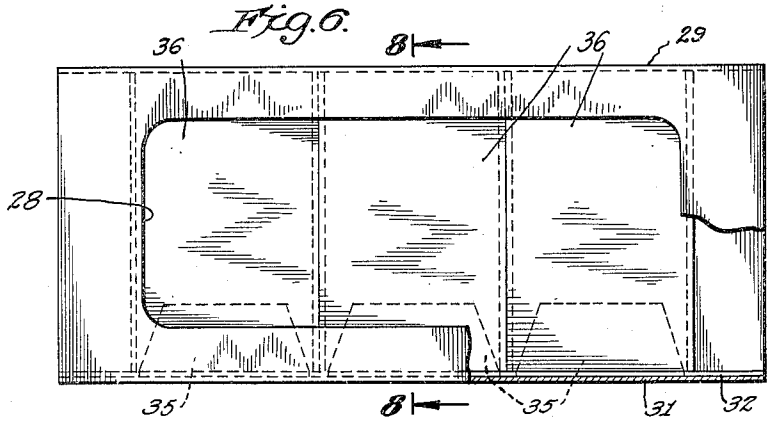


Fig. 7.

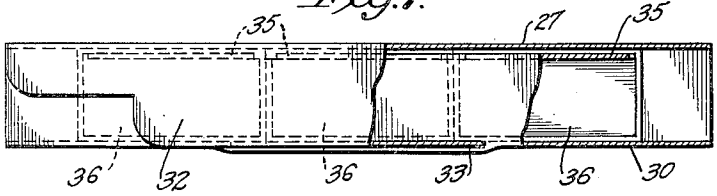


Fig. 8.

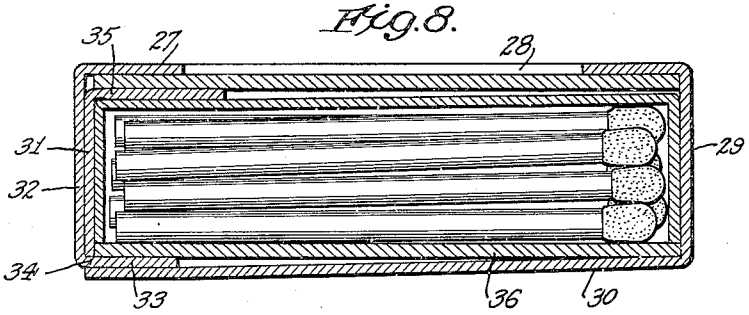
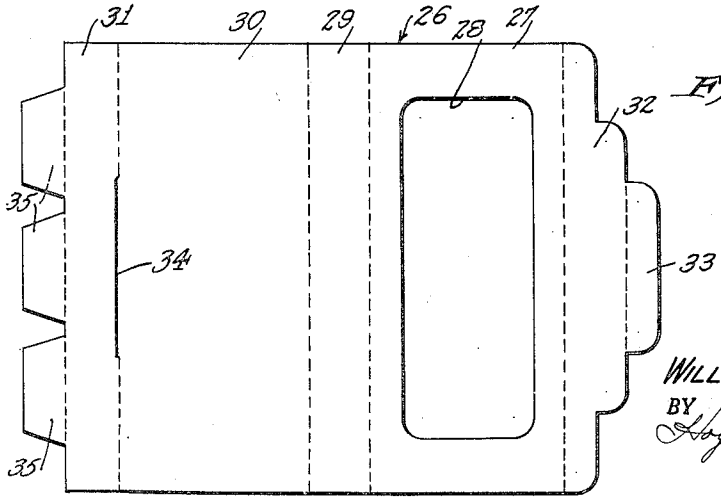


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,497,071

PACKAGE

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Application November 21, 1944, Serial No. 564,428

3 Claims. (Cl. 206—45.31)

1

The present invention relates to containers or wrappers and embodies, more specifically, an improved form of container adapted to receive and hold a plurality of articles therein while providing facility for displaying the contents of the container.

Numerous forms of containers or display packages have heretofore been provided in which articles, such as match books and the like, are held in such fashion as to display the contents of the container.

An object of the present invention is to provide a container of the above character wherein certain of the contents are exposed for display purposes while held by the container; the structure being such as to prevent removal of the contents therefrom.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a container of the above character wherein a suitable display aperture is provided to display the contents of the container and wherein mechanism is also provided for preventing the removal of the contents from the container except by either opening the entire container or by destroying the container or the contents.

Further objects of the invention will be apparent as it is described in greater detail in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a plan view, partly broken away and in section, showing a container constructed in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a front view showing the container of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an end view of the container on line 3—3, Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a view in section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Figure 5 is a plan view of the container in the open position;

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing a modified form of the invention;

Figure 7 is a front view of the container shown in Figure 6, being partly broken away and in section;

Figure 8 is a view in section taken on the line 8—8 of Figure 6 and looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Figure 9 is a developed view of the container of Figure 6.

Referring to the above drawings and particularly to the form of the invention shown in Figures 1 to 5, a container is shown at 10 as being formed with a top section 11, back side 12, bottom 13, inner front side 14, and retaining strip 15 having a reversely extending locking strip 16 secured thereto. The top side 11 is provided with an outer front side 17 and locking flap 18, the flap 18 being adapted to be inserted in slot 19 to secure the container in the assembled position, as illustrated in Figures 2 and 4. The container is scored or folded along the dotted lines, as shown in Figure 5, and assembled by folding into the position illustrated in Figure 4. In the form of the invention, as illustrated, the container is shown as adapted to mount match books 20, as illustrated in Figures 1, 3, and 4.

2

In order that the match books may be locked into the container so that their removal is prevented without destroying the container or the match books, the locking flange 16 is provided, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 4, so that removal of the match books through the display window or cut-out portion 23 by motion in a direction transverse to the longer axis of the container is prevented. When desirable, the locking flange 16 may be further provided with end tabs 21 which, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 3, lie outside of the staples 22 of the end match books so that, if the match books are capable of being slid endwise of the container, the staples will engage the tabs and prevent removal or dislocation of the books. The top side 11 of the container is formed with a window or cut-out portion 23 in order that at least a portion of the contents of the container may be viewed for display purposes. This is illustrated in Figure 1.

If the container is to receive more than the one layer of match books, the match books of the lower layers are locked against removal by means of end flaps 24 having locking flaps 25 which are inserted between the top row of match books and the row next beneath the top row, as illustrated in Figure 2. End flaps 24 may be formed with lock tabs 24*a*, see also Figure 3, which prevent endwise removal of the contents of the container. Thus, if the end tabs 21 do not extend to the end of the container, the lock tabs 24*a* prevent pilfering of the contents of the container.

The manner in which the match books or other contents of the container are held in assembled position by the container is illustrated clearly in Figures 1 and 3, and it will be seen that at least a portion of the contents are held in such position that they are clearly visible for display purposes and yet cannot be removed from the container without injuring or destroying either the books or the container.

In the form of the invention shown in Figures 6 to 9, the container is adapted to receive contents such as match boxes. In this form of the invention, the container is shown at 26 as being provided with a top side 27 having a window 28 therein, a back side 29, a bottom 30, an inner front side 31, and an outer front side 32. The outer front side is formed with a flap 33 which is adapted to be inserted in a slot 34, as illustrated in Figure 8, and the flap 31 is formed with locking flaps 35 which are inserted between the telescoping members of the match boxes 36. The locking flaps 35 thus prevent endwise removal of the match boxes from the container, and the boxes are held in such position that they are displayed through the window 28 while being prevented from being removed from the container. In both forms of the invention, the flaps 18 and 33 may be glued in assembled position, if desired, and variations of the invention will be readily apparent.

Where, in the claims, the contents of the container are referred to as "match books," it is understood that contents, such as match boxes, are also to be included.

Although the invention has been described with specific reference to the structures shown in the accompanying drawings, it is not to be limited save as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, a container formed from a one piece blank having fold lines defining top, bottom and side panels, means to maintain the blank in assembled position as a container, a plurality of match books or the like disposed within said container, said match books each having a cover including a retaining flap secured thereto adjacent one end and a cover portion inserted beneath said retaining flap, an aperture in the top through which at least certain of said match books in the container are displayed, a flap integral with said blank extending parallel to the top of the container from one side thereof towards the said aperture, a second flap integral with the last named flap extending reversely from said aperture towards said one side and contacting the cover portion of the match book covers and extending toward the retaining flap thereof whereby the match books are locked within the container.

2. A substantially rectangular container formed from a one piece substantially elongated rectangular blank having spaced parallel transverse fold lines defining top, bottom, and side wall panels, a transverse fold line adjacent one end of the blank defining a panel extending inwardly along the top wall from an adjacent side wall, said last named panel having a reversely bent portion terminating in a free edge spaced from said last named side wall, the side opposite said last named side wall having an aperture therein and the other end of said blank having a lock flap inserted in a slit substantially in one of the fold lines to secure the blank in assembled position.

3. A substantially rectangular container formed from a one piece substantially elongated rectangular blank having spaced parallel transverse fold lines defining top, bottom, and side wall panels, a transverse fold line adjacent one end of the blank defining a panel extending inwardly along the top wall from an adjacent side wall, said last named panel having a reversely bent portion terminating in a free edge spaced from said last named side wall, the side opposite said last named side wall having an aperture therein and the other end of said blank having a flap secured to the blank in a position substantially parallel to one of said panels to secure the blank in assembled position.

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