

V. PRIMAVERA & G. GALLO.
CIGARETTE CASE.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 18, 1916.

1,226,591.

Patented May 15, 1917.

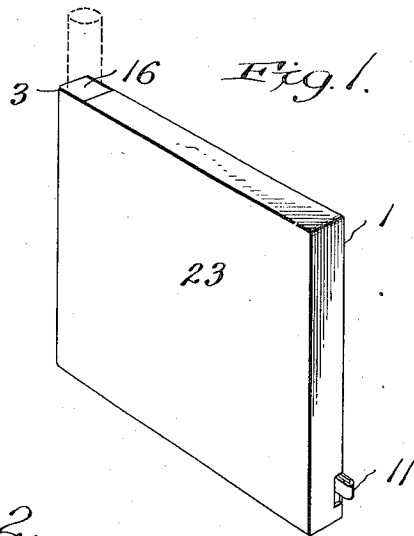


Fig. 2.

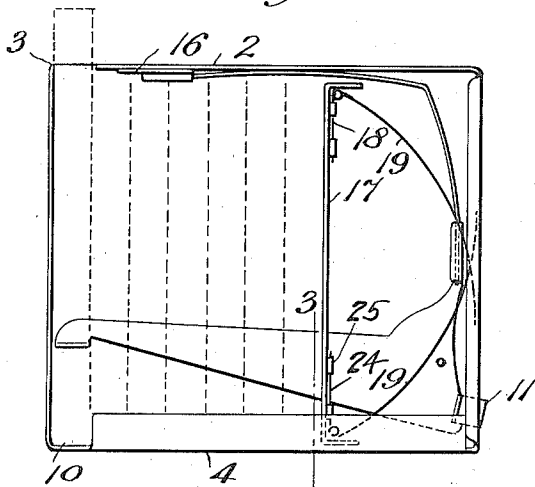
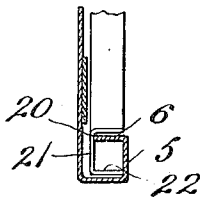


Fig. 3.



Witness

A. V. Doyle

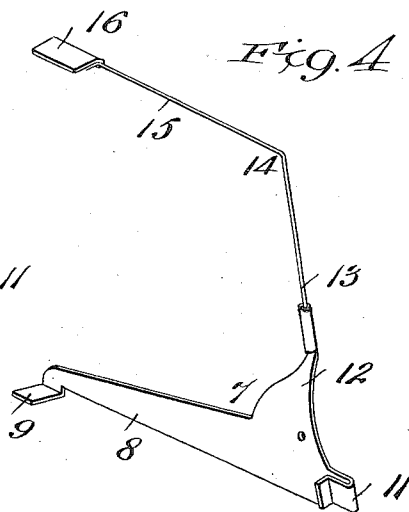


Fig. 4

Inventors,
Vincent Primavera
Giuseppe Gallo.
Victor J. Evans,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VINCENT PRIMAVERA AND GIUSEPPE GALLO, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CIGARETTE-CASE.

1,226,591.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 15, 1917.

Application filed January 18, 1916. Serial No. 72,816.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, VINCENT PRIMAVERA and GIUSEPPE GALLO, subjects of the King of Italy, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cigarette-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cigarette cases or receptacles and has for its principal object, the provision of a device of this character which will include an ejecting mechanism operating to successively move the cigarettes to a point about the exterior of the case whereby to permit the same to be readily removed without the necessity of the operator opening the case as the cigarettes are to be used individually, and we further aim to provide means whereby the case cannot be refilled after the removal therefrom of its original contents.

A further object of the invention resides in the provision of a case having a discharge passage, means for singly moving the cigarettes through said passage, and means normally closing said passage to render the case dust-proof and protected against the elements.

A further object of the invention is to provide a structure of the class mentioned which will be sanitary; one wherein the cigarettes can be effectually ejected without injury thereto, and one which will consist of parts which may be compactly associated with the case or receptacle so that the same will not occupy more space than that now given to cigarette containers without the improved ejecting mechanism.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like reference numerals indicate similar parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the container or case.

Fig. 2 is a side view thereof showing one of the side walls removed.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the ejector.

In defining a structure of the character hereinbefore referred to, we particularly are desirous of combining the same with a package or container so that the proportion of the latter over its original size need not be materially changed. When speaking of the original size of the container it is meant that size which usually accommodates about ten cigarettes. We wish also to emphasize the fact that the structure herein contemplated may be employed in connection with what is termed a non-reusable or non-refillable box. In view thereof, it is further necessary to lay stress on the simplicity of the operating mechanism constituting the present invention, whereby it may be associated with the package without adding to any appreciable extent to the cost of manufacture thereof.

The package or container 1 herein shown, is provided with a wall 2 having a passage 3 therein near one corner of the container. This passage is proportioned so as to permit of the single discharge of a cigarette there-through. The opposite wall 4 of the container is upstruck at 5 and it is extended inwardly at 6 to form a ledge which is designed to slidably support the cigarettes. This ledge extends to a point in line with the inner vertical walls of the passage 3 for a purpose to be hereinafter explained.

The ejecting mechanism consists of a rocking lever 7 stamped from a single piece of thin metal or other suitable material. The lever is provided with a relatively long arm 8 having a length approximately corresponding with that of the container 1. At one end, the arm is provided with a horizontal ejecting finger 9 which is normally disposed in the space 10 between one end of the ledge 6 and the adjacent end of the container. This construction is necessary in order to permit one cigarette to always be disposed at a point slightly lower than the remaining cigarettes in the package and thus permit certain movement to be imparted to the ejector to gradually advance the cigarettes in the direction of the dispensing open-

ing 3. At the opposite end the ejector is provided with a short actuating extension 11 which is extended through a passage in the adjacent end wall of the container, being substantially exposed therefrom to permit of its being engaged by the finger and pressure applied thereto to effect rocking of the ejector. In addition to this extension, the ejector is provided with a short lever arm 12 which is terminally rolled about or otherwise suitably secured to one terminal 13 of a spring 14.

In order to prevent dust and objectionable elements from entering the package, it is intended that the passage 3 be normally closed and successively opened and closed through positive movements of the ejector. The double purpose of the spring 14 will now be observed and as illustrated, said spring is provided with a branch 15 which is terminally connected with a closure 16. This closure freely slides under the wall 2 and under the action of the spring, it is held closed normally and at the same time the finger 9 of the ejector is maintained in an active cigarette receiving position in the recess 10. The spring 14 is preferably formed of a very thin steel wire so as to not add to the bulk of the package and to also accommodate itself to the cigarettes on movement of the ejector. We desire that it also be observed on reference to Fig. 2, that the ejector arm 8 is so arranged with respect to the cigarettes whereby making it impossible for the arm to come in contact with the ends of the cigarettes. In this manner we eliminate tearing of the wrapper and each individual cigarette, when removed from the container, will be equally as intact or perfect as when it was originally placed within the container.

Having described the structural details constituting the closure mechanism and the ejecting mechanism, operation of the mentioned parts is now described as follows:— On applying pressure to the extension 11, the ejector arm 8 will be rocked and as a consequence thereof that cigarette which rests upon the finger 9 will be moved toward the discharge passage 3. The depth of the recess 10 is greater than the diameter of the passage 3 and hence it follows that certain movement of the cigarette can be effected without suddenly bringing the same into contact with the closure 16. Simultaneously on applying pressure to the extension 11, the spring 14 will be extended through movements of the arm 12 and incident thereto, the closure 16 will be moved to a released or opened position. A similar cycle of movements of the respective parts follows on releasing the pressure of the

hand from said extension 11. Broadly speaking the peculiar combination of parts herein made use of, results in the cigarettes being singly acted upon and the closure 16 operated in succession of movement of the arm 8 causing the closure to be gradually opened as the finger 9 approaches the same and then subsequently released to its former position on the return of the ejector to its recess 10.

With a view to facilitating an active retention of the cigarettes with the ejecting mechanism, it is preferred that a follower 17 be employed. This follower is free to slide within the container and secured thereto are terminals 18 of springs 19. The opposite terminals of said springs are free to bear against the adjacent walls of the container and under the normal tensioned condition of the springs, the follower very nicely bears against the cigarettes and the tendency of the follower is to cause the cigarettes to successively approach the ejector. The base of the follower is off-set at 20 and extended downwardly at 21 between one side of the container and the adjacent edge of the ledge 6 and also off-set at 22 as shown in Fig. 3. When the receptacle is of the non-reusable type, the wall 23 thereof may be permanently secured to the receptacle as will be understood. However, we do not wish to limit ourselves to this form of container as the mechanism forming the essential parts of the invention may be combined with any well known form of container.

In order to hold the follower against the action of the springs 19 at the time of filling the container with cigarettes, we employ a suitable latch 24 adapted to engage with the keeper 25 on the follower. This latch may be depressed manually after the package is filled. The follower is then released and will operate against the cigarettes for the purpose intended.

The follower as described is constructed of flat material. It lies parallel with the adjacent side of the container, occupying very little room in the container whereby to permit the latter to be used in combination with said mechanism without the latter adding objectionable bulk thereto. The simplicity of construction of the various parts permits of said parts being combined with the container at a comparatively low cost and the container, together with the ejector mechanism, may be thrown away after the package has filled its purpose as a container for its original contents.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. A package having a closure, an ejector arranged lengthwise of the package and including a long arm and a short arm, means

for simultaneously moving the closure and ejector embodying a single spring wire having one terminal attached to the closure and its opposite terminal attached to the upper
5 extremity of the short arm of the ejector.

2. A package having a closure, a rocking ejector including a long arm and a short arm, means for simultaneously moving the closure and ejector embodying a single
10 spring wire having one terminal attached

to the closure and its opposite terminal attached to the short arm of the ejector.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

VINCENT PRIMAVERA.
GIUSEPPE GALLO.

Witnesses:

CHRIS FEINLE, Jr.,
ANNA V. DOYLE.