A. R. GWYNN.

TOBACCO PACKAGE CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 22, 1915.

1,182,559. Patented May 9, 1916.

Fig. 1

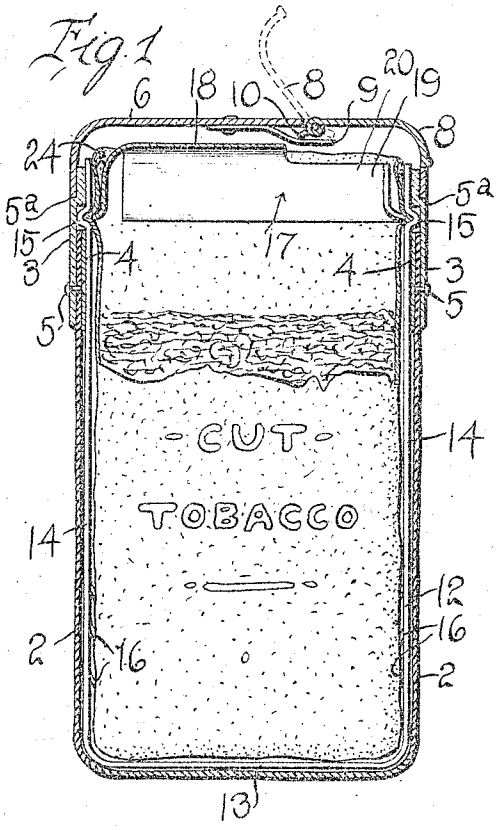


Fig. 2

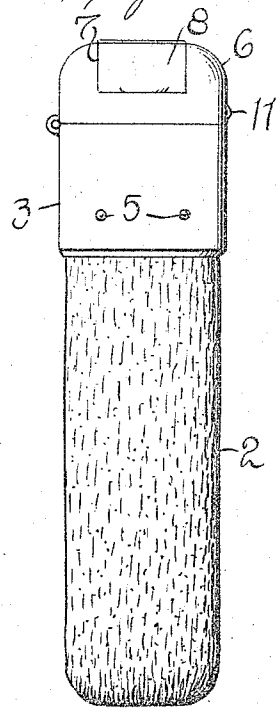


Fig. 3

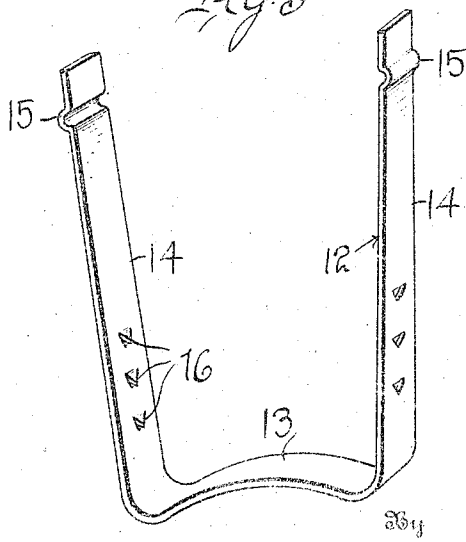
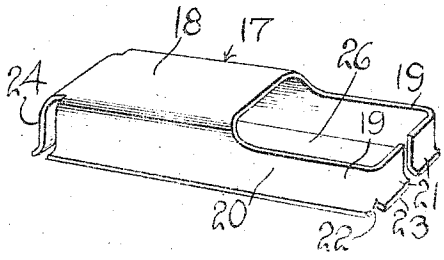


Fig. 4



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TOBACCO-PACKAGE CONTAINER.

1,182,559. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 9, 1916.

Application filed May 22, 1915. Serial No. 29,848.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT R. GWYNN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Phoenix, in the county of Maricopa and State of Arizona, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tobacco-Package Containers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to containers, and particularly to a container for holding bags of smoking tobacco.

One of the objects of my invention is the provision of a container so constructed that a bag or package of smoking tobacco as ordinarily put upon the market may be inserted within the container and the tobacco discharged therefrom from time to time as may be required.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for holding the bag within the container, to provide means for normally closing the outlet opening of the container, and further to provide means for holding the mouth of the bag distended so that the tobacco may be readily discharged therefrom.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for readily inserting a bag within the container and readily removing the bag after the tobacco has been exhausted.

Other objects will appear in the course of the following description.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a vertical section through my package container; Fig. 2 is an end elevation thereof; Fig. 3 is a perspective detailed view of the means for retaining the package within the holder; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the bag expander.

Referring to these drawings, it will be seen that the body of the container consists of a bag 2 which is preferably made of leather though it may be made of any other suitable material, this bag being approximately the size or slightly larger than the ordinary one ounce bag of smoking tobacco. The upper edge or margin of the leather bag 2 is supported by means of a rectangular rim 3, the upper edge or margin of the bag being held against this rim by means of an interior rim 4, rivets 5 being passed through these two rims and through the upper margin of the bag. The rim 3 at its upper end is reduced in thickness to provide a shoulder 5^a, and hinged to the rim 3 in any suitable manner is a lid 6, this lid having downwardly depending side and end walls. The top of the lid is cut away at one end, as at 7, to provide an opening, this opening extending across the rounded corner of the lid, as shown clearly in Fig. 1, and hinged to the lid is a door 8 which is held in either its closed or its open position by means of a spring 9 which is riveted to the top of the lid. As illustrated, this door is formed with a lug 10 engaging with the spring 9. The spring 9 resists any rotation of the door by engaging with the lug 10 in either the open position of the door or its closed position. Preferably, the lid is hinged along its side wall to the rim 3, while, as before stated, the opening 7 is in the end wall, and also preferably the lid is held closed by means of a snap catch 11 of any usual or ordinary construction.

For the purpose of supporting and holding a bag of tobacco within the bag 2 of the container, and in order to prevent the collapse of the tobacco bag after some of the tobacco has been withdrawn, I provide an approximately U-shaped member 12 or retainer consisting of a transversely flat spring strip. This is bent to provide a bowed portion 13 and two upwardly extending legs 14. These legs at their upper ends are formed with beads 15 which engage in the space between the lower face of the shoulder 5^a and the upper edge of the lining rim 4. Thus the member 12 is held in place. The legs 14 are preferably provided at intervals along their length with downwardly extending prongs 16 adapted to engage the material of the tobacco bag and prevent the withdrawal of the bag independently of the member 12, this member being in turn held in place by the engagement of the beads with the shoulders 5^a.

For the purpose of holding the mouth end of the tobacco bag open so that tobacco may be readily discharged from the container, I provide an expander, designated 17, which is made of a resilient metal blank formed so that it is transversely U-shaped and having a body 18 the sides of which are prolonged as at 19 to form the spring fingers 20, the ends of the fingers being inwardly turned toward each other as at 21, the lower edges of these inwardly turned fingers being nicked as at 22 and bent outward as at 23. The opposite end of the expander is cut

away to provide an outwardly and downwardly curved relatively wide finger 24 which acts when the container and bag are inverted, to direct the tobacco toward the opening 26 in the end of the expander.

In practical use the retainer 12 is placed within the holder and then a package of tobacco is placed between the two spring arms of the retainer 12. This will cause the bowed portion 13 of the retainer to expand so that the bag of tobacco will fit within the bag 2 and the retainer will be caused to fit against the wall of the bag 2 with the beads 15 engaging in the space between the shoulders 5^a and the adjacent edge of the metal strip 4. The strings of the tobacco bag are then cut or removed and the expander 17 is disposed in the top of the package with its edge fitting in the beads 15, as illustrated clearly in Fig. 1. This expander then holds the mouth of the bag open and holds the bag firmly in position clamping the mouth of the bag against the rim 3. When it is desired to use the tobacco the snap door 8 is opened and the tobacco shaken out as it would be from an ordinary bag. The door may then be closed to prevent the exit of tobacco from the container.

The container as described is simple in construction, neat in appearance, saves waste of tobacco, and keeps the tobacco fresh. At the same time it prevents the odor of the tobacco from becoming communicated to the clothes of the user, and avoids many of the inconveniences caused by the use of tobacco in bags.

While I have illustrated the body of the container as being formed of a leather bag 2, it will be understood that this body of the container might be made of metal and that in numerous ways the details of the construction might be changed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A holder for tobacco packages comprising a container for a package, a lid forming part of the container and having a discharge opening in one end, a door normally closing the discharge opening, and means within the container for detachably engaging the sides of the package, said means also detachably engaging the wall of the container and retaining a tobacco package within the container.

2. A holder for tobacco packages comprising a container for a package and having a discharge opening in one end and a door normally closing the opening, and means removably disposed within the container for engaging and retaining a tobacco package therein.

3. A holder for tobacco packages comprising a container for a package and having a discharge opening in one end and a door normally closing the discharge opening, and a package retainer disposed within the container comprising an approximately U-shaped strip of resilient metal formed at the upper ends of its legs to engage the upper end of the container, the lower ends of the legs being formed with inwardly and downwardly directed prongs adapted to engage the walls of the package.

4. A holder for tobacco packages comprising a container for a package, a lid for the container having a discharge opening in one end and a door normally closing the discharge opening, and a package retainer disposed within the container and comprising an approximately U-shaped strip of resilient metal formed at the upper ends of its legs to engage the upper end of the container, the lower ends of the legs being formed with inwardly and downwardly directed prongs adapted to engage the wall of the package, that portion of the retainer connecting the legs being normally upwardly bowed.

5. A holder for tobacco packages comprising a container for a package and formed of flexible material, a rim attached to the upper end of the container and forming a part thereof, said rim being rectangular in plan view and having inwardly extending shoulders, a lid hinged to the rim and having a discharge opening in one end, a door normally closing said discharge opening, and an expander adapted to be removably disposed within the open end of the package and operatively engage with said shoulder to thereby be retained in place.

6. A holder for tobacco packages comprising a container for a package and formed of flexible material, a rim attached to the upper end of the container and forming a part thereof, said rim being rectangular in plan view and having inwardly extending shoulders, a lid hinged to the rim and having a discharge opening in one end, a door normally closing said opening, and a retainer detachably disposed within the container and comprising an approximately U-shaped strip of spring metal providing upwardly extending legs and an upwardly bowed transverse connecting portion, the legs at their upper ends being formed with beads engaging the shoulders on the rim and being provided with downwardly directed prongs adapted to engage the package.

7. In a holder for tobacco packages, the combination with a container, a lid normally closing the container and having an opening at its end, and a door normally closing the opening, of a resilient expander adapted to be disposed within the open upper end of a tobacco package, said expander normally projecting within the lid.

8. In a holder for tobacco packages, the combination with a container comprising a

body open at one end and less in depth than the height of the package, a lid covering the open end of the body and into which the upper end of the package projects, the lid being provided with a discharge opening in one end, a door normally closing said opening, and an expander adapted to be disposed in the open end of the package and over the contents thereof, said expander being of resilient material and having a discharge opening formed at one end adapted to coact with the discharge opening of the lid.

9. The combination with a container for holding a tobacco package and having a discharge opening, of a device for holding the open end of the package expanded within said container comprising a transversely curved strip of resilient metal having on four sides outwardly expansible resilient walls, the said strip at one end and above said walls being cut away to provide a discharge opening.

10. The combination with a container for holding a tobacco package and having a discharge opening at one end, of a package expander coacting with the container and adapted to be inserted in the open end of a package, said expander comprising a transversely curved strip of resilient metal having outwardly expansible side and end walls and having an opening for the discharge of tobacco adapted to register with the opening in the container.

11. The combination with a container for holding a tobacco package and having a discharge opening, of means for holding the open end of a tobacco package expanded within said container comprising a strip of resilient metal transversely curved to provide side walls, said strip being formed at one end to provide a relatively wide downwardly curved tongue, the side walls at the other end of the strip opposite said tongue having inturned ends, the body of the strip above said last-named end of the strip being cut away to produce a discharge opening.

12. A holder for tobacco packages including a container having a discharge opening, means detachably disposed within the container and detachably engaging the latter for detachably holding a tobacco package in place within the container, and a package expander adapted to be disposed in the upper portion of the package within said container and having an opening for the discharge of tobacco from the package.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT R. GWYNN.

Witnesses:
ESSIE WILLIAMS,
ELMER E. WILLIAMS.