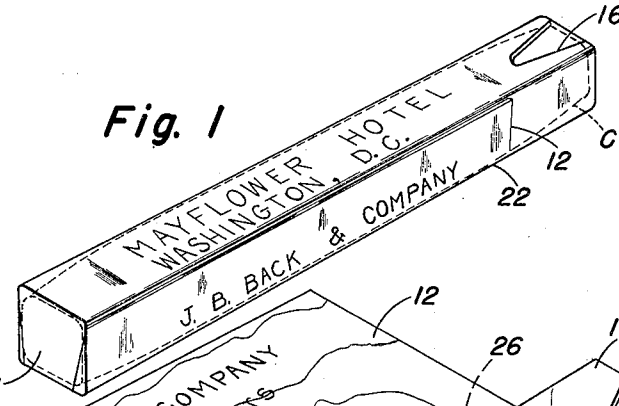
July 3, 1951 J. B. BACK 2,559,000

CIGAR WRAPPER

Filed Oct. 10, 1947

Fig. 1



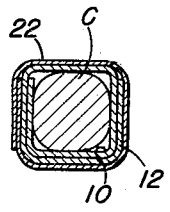


Fig. 3

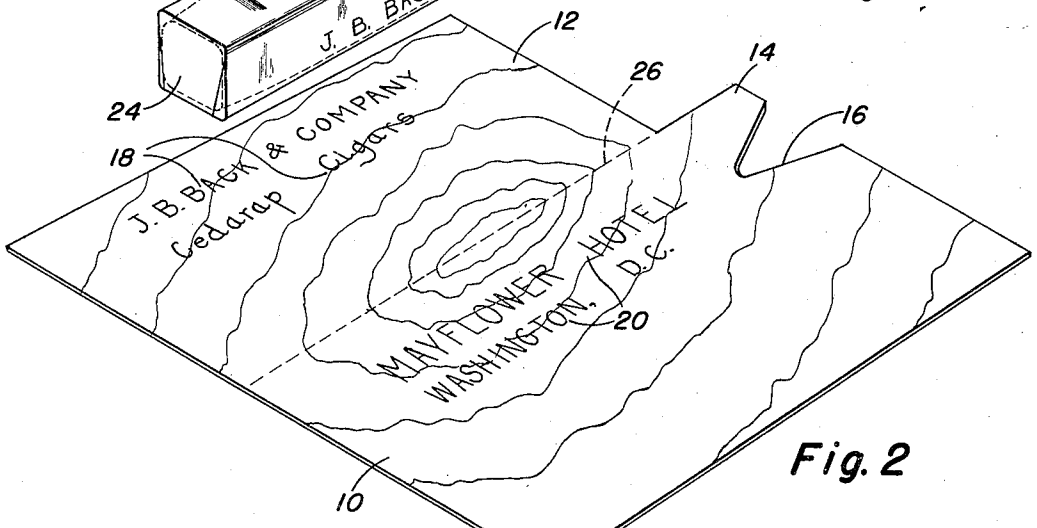


Fig. 2

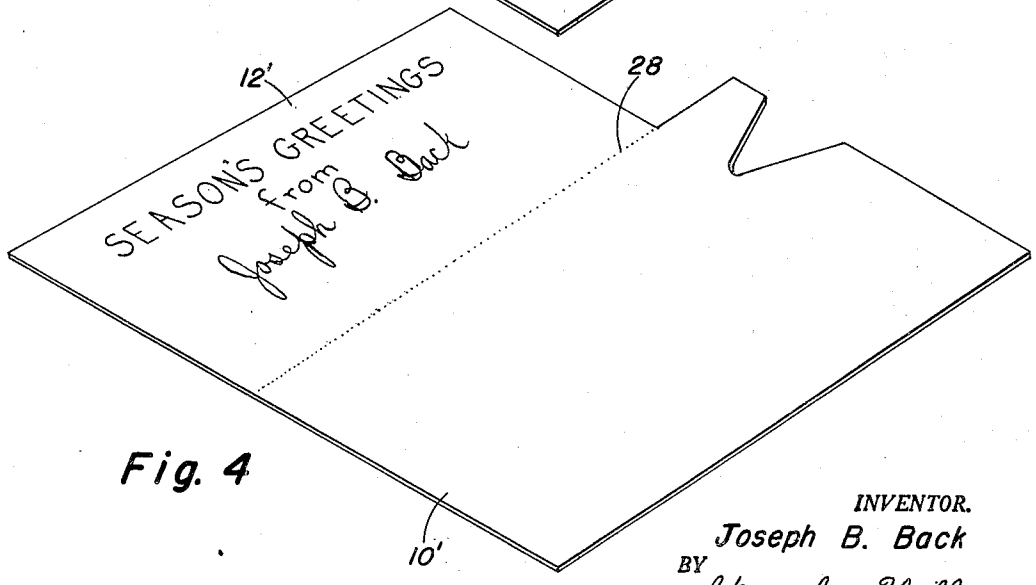


Fig. 4

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Patented July 3, 1951

2,559,000

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,559,000

CIGAR WRAPPER

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Application October 10, 1947, Serial No. 779,032

3 Claims. (Cl. 312—31)

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This invention relates to cigar wrappers, designed to prevent breakage of the tobacco leaf wrapper of the cigar by crushing pressure, and to also shield the cigar against the deteriorating effect of unfavorable atmospheric conditions.

In my issued patent, No. 2,022,641, dated November 26, 1935, I have shown a cigar wrapper comprising a thin cedar wood sheet of uniform length and width, within which the cigar is enclosed throughout its length and which is provided with one or more openings therein through which the color of the cigar wrapper may be observed when the cigars are closely packed in a box or container. It is one of the important objects of my present invention to provide such a wrapper of cedar sheet or other opaque material, of improved form and construction, and including a major section thereof folded around the body portion of the cigar to provide overlapped portions thereof at three sides of the cigar, and a relatively narrow end portion providing a single thickness of the wrapper material surrounding the more densely compressed mouth end portion of the cigar. This latter portion of the wrapper sheet is provided with an appropriately located opening through which the color of the tobacco leaf may be observed, and which serves as an indicator in packing the cigars in the box so that the overlapping portions of the wrapper sheet are opposed to adjacent cigars in the same row and to those in the previously laid row. In packing the wrapped cigars in a box or container of standard dimensions, the multiple thicknesses of the wrapper sheet at the opposite sides and bottom of the individual cigars, provide yieldable cushioning means, tending to prevent excessive crushing pressure on the enclosed cigar, and breakage of the tobacco leaf. Thus, the required number of wrapped cigars may be easily and quickly packed in the box, without distorting the shape or breaking the wrapper leaf thereof.

It is another object of the invention to provide a cigar wrapper of flexible opaque material, having a relatively wide section, a portion of which may be utilized as a business or personal greeting card, and readily detached from the wrapper, after the cigar is removed.

It is another object of the invention to provide the relatively narrow end section of the wrapper sheet with a recess or opening therein which extends through the end edge of the sheet so that, in addition to the color of the tobacco leaf, different standard shapes of cigars, such as "perfecto," "blunt," or "panatela," can be readily distinguished.

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It is also the general object and purpose of the present invention to improve the construction and utility of the patented cigar wrapper as above characterized, without materially increasing the production cost thereof, while retaining the same simple method of applying the wrapper to the cigar.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention comprises the improved cigar wrapper, and the construction and relative arrangement of its several parts, as will hereinafter be more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and subsequently incorporated in the subjoined claims.

In the drawings, wherein I have disclosed several simple and practical embodiments of the invention, and in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved wrapper applied to a cigar and enclosed within an outer envelope of transparent sheet material, such as "cellophane";

Figure 2 is a perspective view illustrating one embodiment of the improved wrapper formed from a single, thin sheet of cedar wood;

Figure 3 is a transverse sectional view showing the cigar confined within the folded wrapper by the outer transparent envelope; and

Figure 4 is a perspective view similar to Figure 2, illustrating a slightly modified form of the wrapper sheet.

Referring in further detail to the drawings, and for the present more particularly to Figure 2 thereof, the protecting wrapper for the cigar is preferably formed from a sheet of thin, flexible cedar wood or other opaque, aromatic material, and is accurately cut by a suitable die to provide a body section 10 having a length substantially equal to the length of the cigar, and of sufficient width to be folded entirely around and completely enclose the cigar with the exception of its opposite end surfaces.

The wrapper sheet also includes a section 12 extending laterally from the body section 10 and longitudinally from one end edge of the latter to a point in spaced relation to the opposite end thereof, the latter end portion 14 of the body section 10 projecting beyond the section 12 of the wrapper and being adapted to enclose the mouth end of the cigar. This portion 14 of the body section, adjacent the section 12, is preferably provided with a longitudinally extending notch or recess 16 therein, which opens upon the end edge of the portion 14 of the wrapper.

The wrapper section 12 is also of less width than the body section 10, and in addition to its functional purpose as a part of the wrapper in protecting the enclosed cigar, may also bear suitable printed matter indicated at 18, and be readily separated from the body section of the wrapper 10 for use as a business card. The name of the customer or purchaser of the cigars may also be printed upon the body section 10 of the wrapper, as shown at 20.

Referring now to Figure 3 of the drawing, the cigar C is placed upon the unprinted side of the body section 10 of the wrapper sheet with its mouth end opposed to and in substantial alignment with the recess 16, and said body section is then folded around the four sides of the cigar from end to end. The separable card extension 12 of the wrapper sheet is then folded upon the folded part of the body section 10 at three sides of the cigar to thus provide multiple layers or thicknesses of the wrapper material enclosing the major body portion of the cigar, in which the tobacco filler is less densely packed than in the mouth end portion of the cigar, which is enclosed within the single thickness of the wrapper sheet formed by the end portion 14 thereof. Preferably, the inner or apex end of opening or recess 16 is of arcuate or rounded form as shown in Figure 2, which tends to prevent splitting of the thin cedar sheet as it is manipulated and folded around the cigar.

After the cigar has been wrapped in the aromatic cedar sheet as above described, it is enclosed in an outer envelope of transparent sheet material 22, such as "cellophane." The ends of this sheet are suitably folded as indicated at 24 over the open ends of the folded cigar wrapper, and the ends of the cigar to substantially seal the ends of the wrapper and preserve the original freshness of the cigar.

In packing the cigars in rows or layers in a box, each row contains a predetermined number of cigars which are closely confined in side by side contact with each other between the end walls of a box of standard size. This tight engagement of the individual wrapped cigars with each other and with the end walls of the box may be accomplished without difficulty or such distortion of the cigars as would break the outer tobacco leaf thereof, since, by means of my improved wrapper, when the cigars are inserted in the box with the recess 16 in the end portion 14 of the wrapper uppermost, the multiple layers of the wrapper material formed by the sections 10 and 12 thereof at the opposite sides and the bottom of the wrapped cigar provide yieldably resistant cushioning means opposed to adjacent cigars in the same row and to those in the row beneath. It will, of course, be understood that, for clarity of illustration, the thickness of the sheet material of the cigar wrapper and the outer envelope 22, is greatly exaggerated in Figure 3 of the drawings. Therefore, the required number of cigars may be easily and quickly packed in a box of standard dimensions, without danger of such distortion or crushing of the body of the cigar as would result in the breaking of the outer tobacco leaf.

The elongated recess 16 in the end portion 14 of the wrapper, not only permits the color of the cigar to be readily observed, but also reveals the particular shape of the cigar end to the view of the observer or customer. This feature is of particular advantage where a number of cigars of the "perfecto," "blunt" or "panatela" shapes are carried together in the pocket, as it provides means for readily differentiating between the different cigar shapes, and the selection of the particular cigar desired.

After the wrapper is removed from the cigar, if it is of cedar wood or similar material, the business card section 12 thereof may be readily detached from the body section 10 by sharply folding along the line indicated at 26 in Figure 2 of the drawings, which is longitudinally coincident with one side edge of the end portion 14 of the body section. As this material is quite frangible, the separation of the card 12 from the body section 10 will occur along a straight continuous line substantially parallel with the opposite longitudinal edge of the card 12.

In Figure 4, I have shown a slight modification, in which the cigar wrapper sheet may be made from gold, silver, or other fancifully colored paper, for use in packing the cigars for the holiday trade. In this case, the card 12' may bear a printed personalized greeting appropriate to the season, and is connected with the body section 10' of the wrapper sheet along a line of perforations 28 so that the greeting card can be readily detached therefrom. Otherwise, the construction of this embodiment of the invention is the same as that above described. However, if desired in this case, the notch or recess 16 for exposing the cigar end may be omitted.

From the above description and the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that, without materially increasing the production cost of my patented cigar wrapper, I have provided the wrapper of cedar sheet or other opaque material with an additional part which provides plural layers of the wraper material around three sides of the cigar, and protects the body thereof against crushing or distorting pressures in packing the cigars in a box of standard dimensions. Also, this additional part of the wrapper sheet may be conveniently utilized as a business or greeting card, and readily separated from the wrapper body and retained by the purchaser after he has removed the cigar from the wrapper. Also the recess 16 in the end of the wrapper body, at its wide open end, extends substantially across the mouth end of the cigar so that the shape thereof, as well as the color of the tobacco leaf, can be readily observed through the outer transparent envelope 22.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiment is therefore to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are therefore intended to be embraced therein.

What is claimed and desired to be secured by United States Letters Patent is:

1. In a cigar package, a wrapper comprising a thin sheet of opaque material having a body part of sufficient length and width to completely enfold a cigar, an indicia bearing card portion integral with one side edge of said body portion, foldable upon the latter and extending longitudinally from one end thereof to a point in spaced relation to its opposite end along a line of perforations, whereby said card portion may be readily separated from the body portion of the wrapper sheet, said body portion beyond the latter end of the card portion having a recess ex-

tending inwardly from its end edge, through which the shape and color of the cigar may be observed without removing the wrapper.

2. In a cigar package, a wrapper sheet of flexible opaque material having a body portion foldable around and in contact with a cigar throughout its length, an indicia bearing card portion separably connected with said body portion and foldable thereon to provide multiple pressure cushioning folds of the wrapper material, said body portion at one end extending longitudinally beyond said card portion to provide a single thickness of material surrounding one end of the cigar and having an opening therethrough visibly revealing the outer leaf of the cigar through said opening.

3. In a cigar package as defined in claim 2,

said wrapper body and card portion being cut from a single thin cedar sheet and said card portion, after removal of the wrapper from the cigar, adapted to be folded along a longitudinal line coincident with one side edge of the body portion of the wrapper and separated therefrom.

JOSEPH B. BACK.

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