Feb. 4, 1947. B. J. TAMARIN 2,415,117

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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Fig. 1.

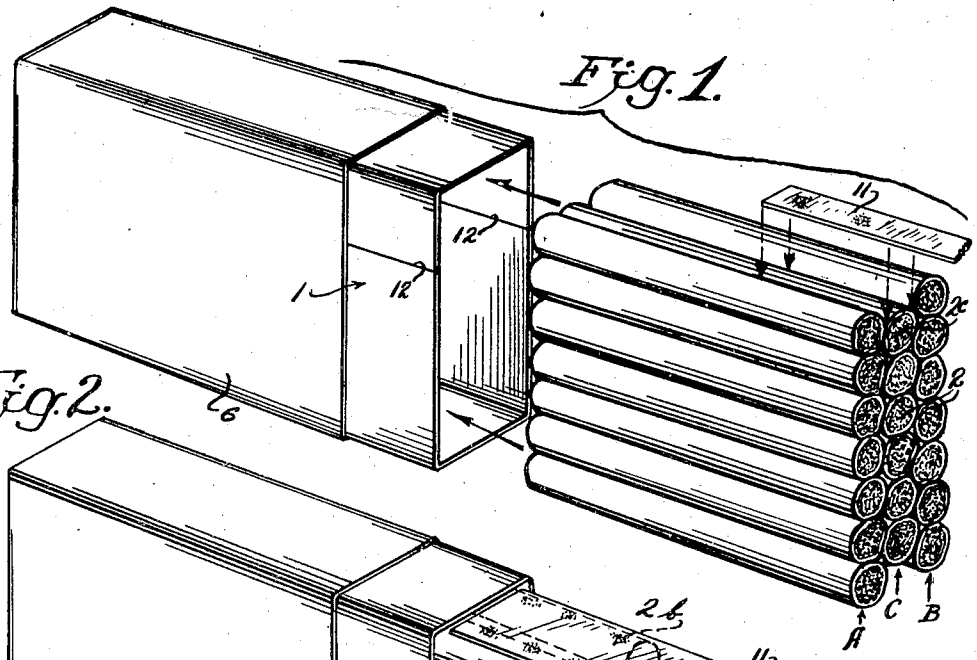
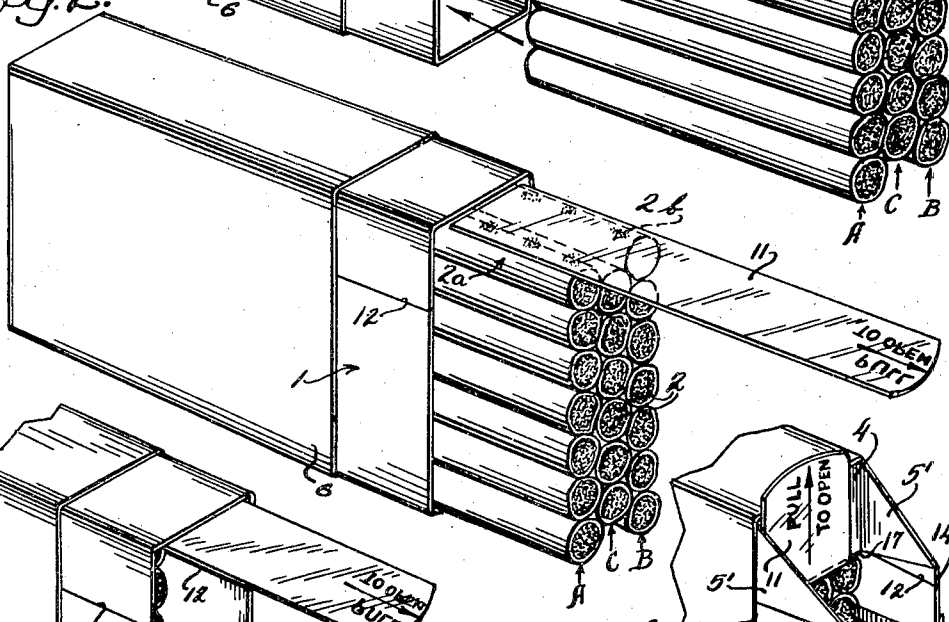


Fig. 2.



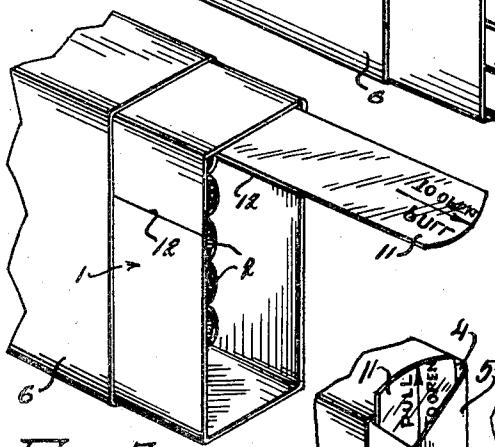


Fig. 3.

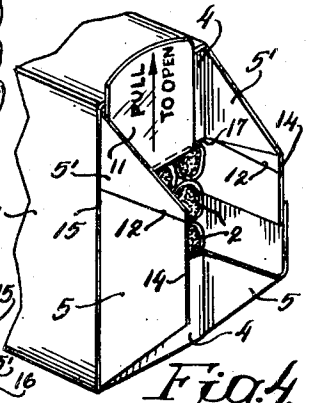


Fig. 4.

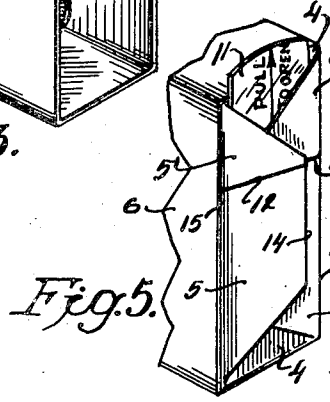


Fig. 5.

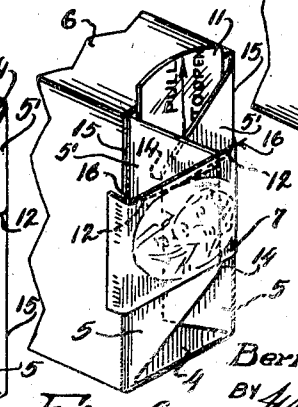


Fig. 6.

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Feb. 4, 1947. B. J. TAMARIN 2,415,117

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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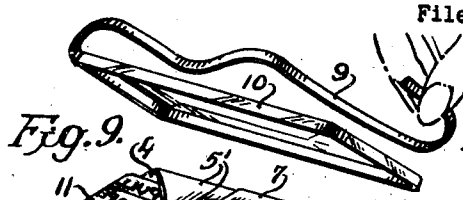
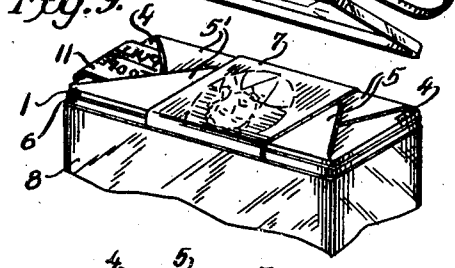


Fig. 9.



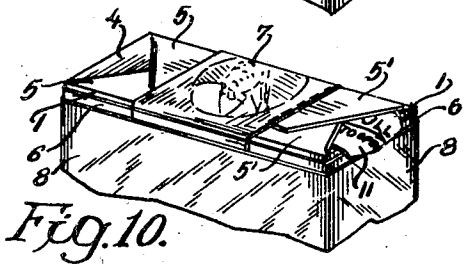


Fig. 10.

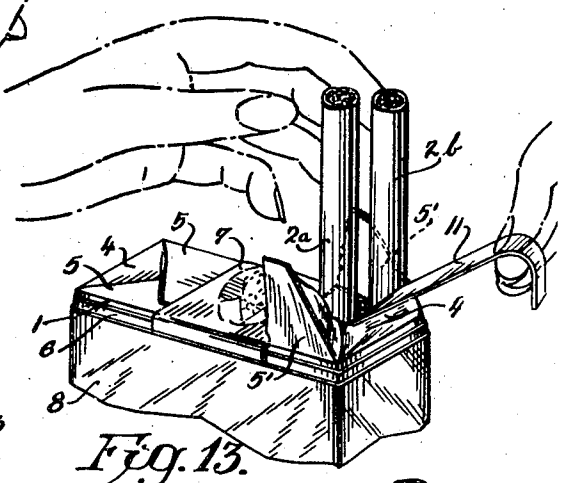


Fig. 13.

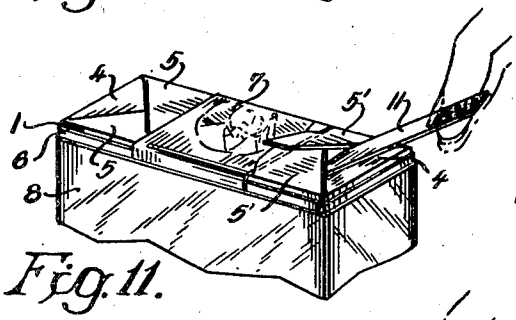


Fig. 11.

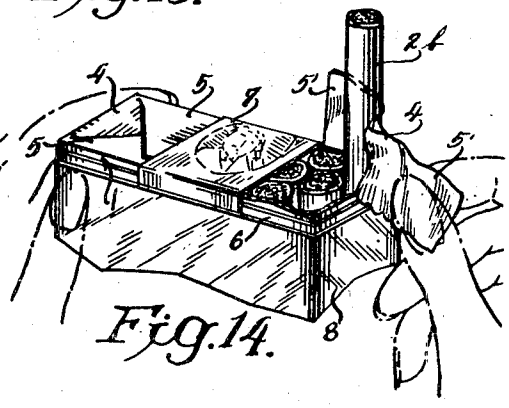


Fig. 14.

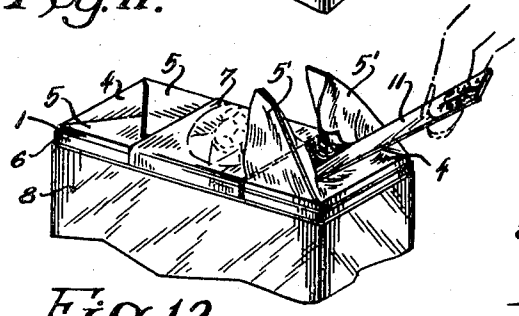


Fig. 12.

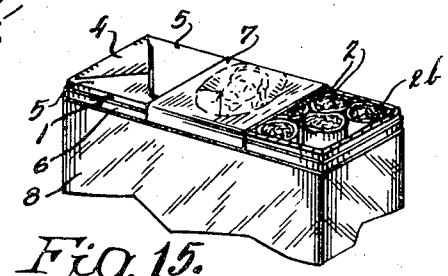


Fig. 15.

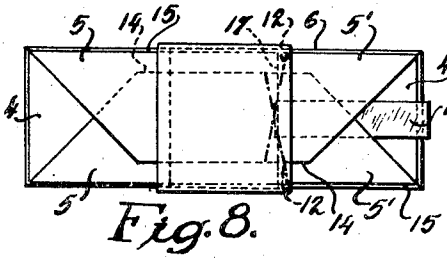


Fig. 8.

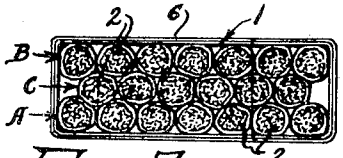


Fig. 7.

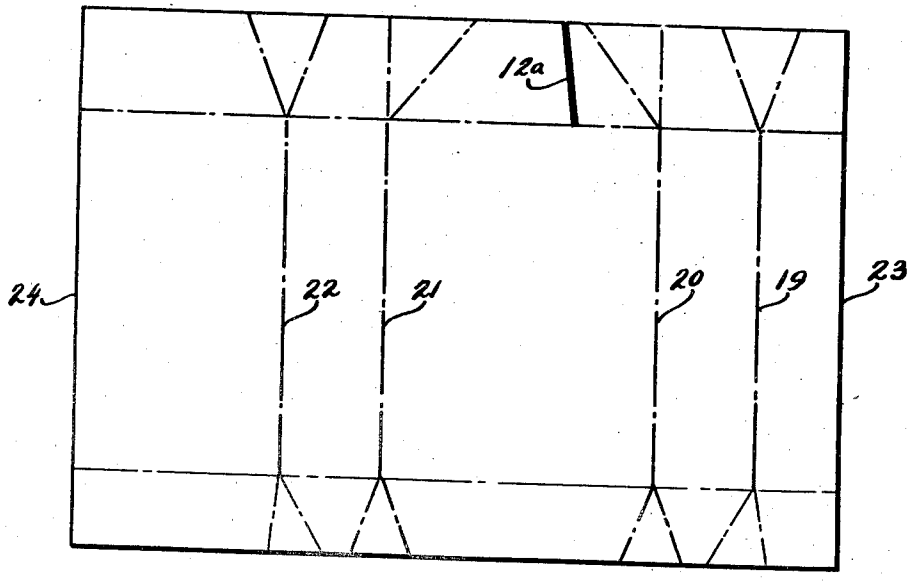
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Feb. 4, 1947. B. J. TAMARIN 2,415,117

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

Filed Dec. 3, 1942 4 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 16.



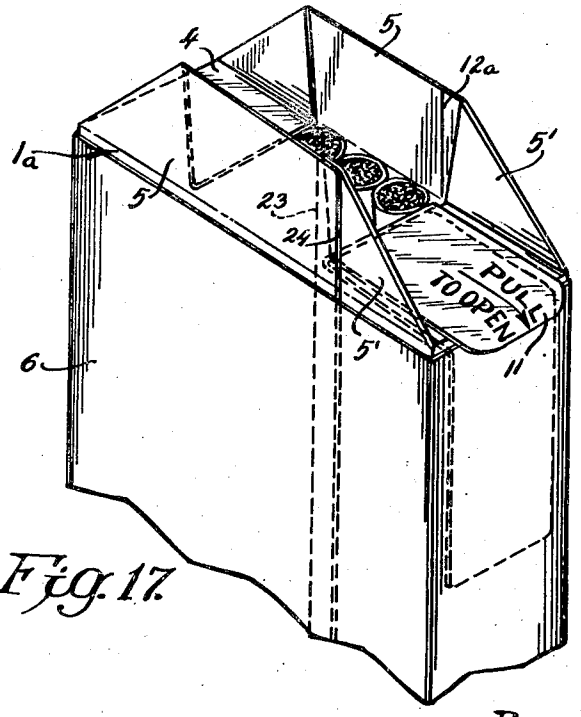


Fig. 17.

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Feb. 4, 1947. B. J. TAMARIN 2,415,117

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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Fig. 20.

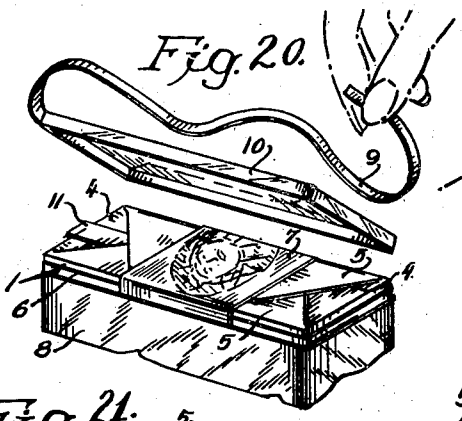


Fig. 21.

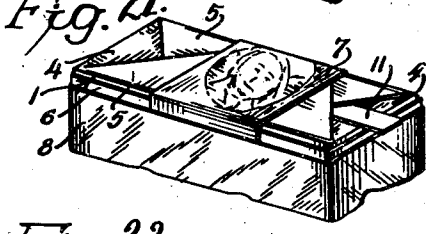


Fig. 22.

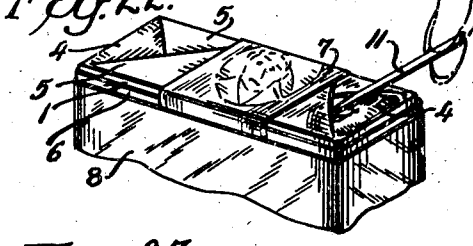


Fig. 23.

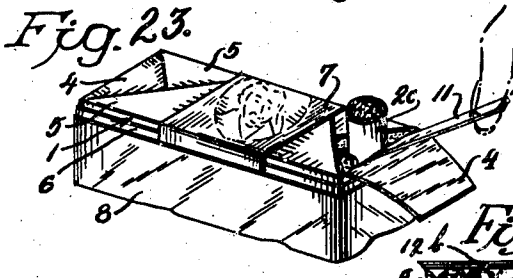


Fig. 24.

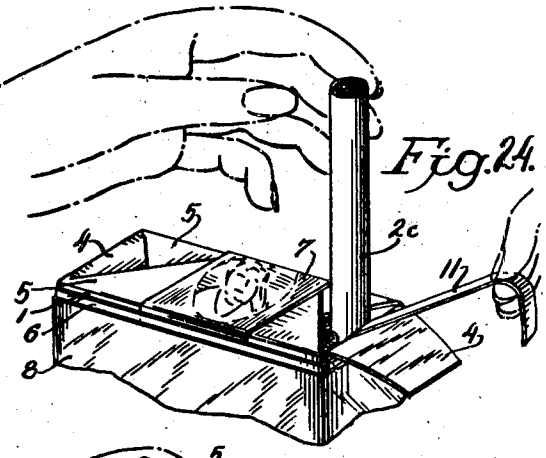


Fig. 25.

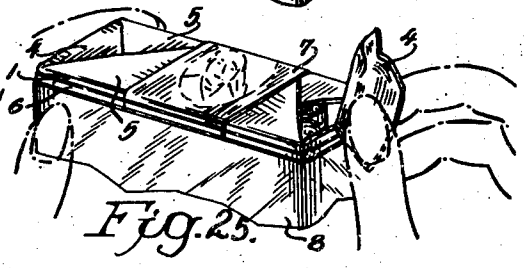


Fig. 26.

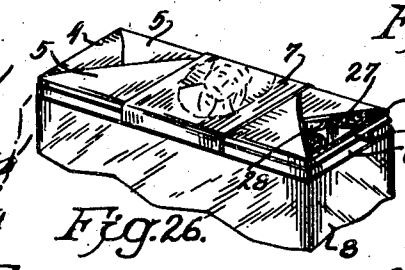


Fig. 27.

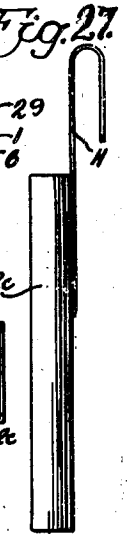


Fig. 19.



Fig. 18.

Fig. 28.

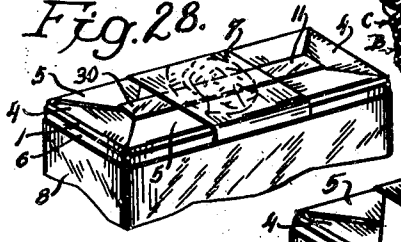
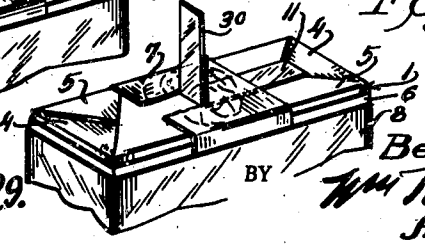


Fig. 29.



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Patented Feb. 4, 1947

2,415,117

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,415,117

CIGARETTE PACKAGE

Bernard J. Tamarin, Flourtown, Pa.

Application December 3, 1942, Serial No. 467,676

13 Claims. (Cl. 206—41.2)

1

The present invention relates to the packaging of articles, particularly the packaging of cigarettes, and has for its primary object the provision of a cigarette package having means capable of being manipulated to facilitate the opening of the package and withdrawing of cigarettes therefrom.

It is also a most important object of the invention to provide a cigarette package wherein a flexible strip is associated with the package-forming material and with at least one of the cigarettes enclosed within the package so that, upon exerting an initial pull on said strip, a part of the package-forming material will be displaced to form a restricted opening through which at least one of the cigarettes will be ejected through the continued pulling action on the strip, thus permitting the opening of the package, and removal of the cigarettes without danger of destroying the general good appearance of the package or of mutilating the cigarettes being withdrawn.

Another important object of the invention resides in the provision of a combined package opening and cigarette ejecting element which may be incorporated in the types of cigarette packages now commonly used in the trade so that the invention may be readily utilized without necessitating material changes in established and generally standardized methods of soft shell packaging of cigarettes.

According to the present general practice in the art, the popular type of soft shell cigarette package consists of twenty cigarettes wrapped in package-forming sheet material (usually paper) shaped in the form of a shell into which are introduced the twenty cigarettes arranged in three paralleling rows. Such packages are made in so-called automatic cigarette packaging machines which automatically operate, among other things, to shape the package-forming sheet material into the package shell, gather the twenty cigarettes according to definite methods in three paralleling rows, introduce the gathered cigarettes into the pre-shaped package shell, close the package by folding portions of the package-forming material into tucks and overlapping flaps, and finally complete and seal the package by applying the usual Government revenue stamp transversely over said folded flaps.

Upon being ejected from the packaging machine per se, the complete cigarette package passes through a final stage which wraps and seals the package in a sheet of transparent material (usually Cellophane) for the purpose of improving the appearance of the package and, moreover,

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preventing detrimental variation in the moisture content of the tobacco.

As previously stated, the cigarette packaging machine operates according to definite methods to gather the twenty cigarettes into three paralleling rows and, in accordance with one method of packaging, the machine functions to provide seven cigarettes in one outer row, six cigarettes in the other outer row, and seven cigarettes in the intermediate row, whereas in accordance with another method of packaging, the machine operates to provide seven cigarettes in each of the two outer rows and six cigarettes in the intermediate row. The invention may be used equally well with both of these methods and, for clarity and convenience herein, the package resulting from the first mentioned method of packaging will be referred to as the 7–7–6 type of cigarette package, whereas the package resulting from the second mentioned method of packaging will be referred to as the 7–6–7 type of cigarette package.

In order that the invention and its mode of operation may be more readily understood by those skilled in the art, I have, in the accompanying drawings and in the detailed description based thereupon, set out a possible embodiment of the invention.

In these drawings:

Figures 1 through 6 are perspectives illustrating the successive steps in producing a cigarette package in accordance with the invention;

Figure 7 is a top plan of a 7–6–7 type of cigarette package;

Figure 8 is an enlarged diagrammatic detail of a package top showing the relation of the tuck, flaps, and stamp;

Figures 9 through 14 inclusive are perspectives respectively illustrating the successive steps in the operation of one form of the invention as applied to the cigarette package;

Figure 15 is a perspective showing the appearance of the open package;

Figure 16 is a face elevation of a package-forming blank slightly modified in accordance with this invention;

Figure 17 is a perspective of a cigarette package embodying the blank illustrated in Figure 16;

Figure 18 is a top plan of a 7–7–6 type of cigarette package;

Figure 19 is a detail of a package top showing the tuck constructed in accordance with a form of the invention particularly adaptable to the 7–7–6 type of cigarette package;

Figures 20 through 26 are perspectives respectively illustrating the successive steps in the op-

eration of that form of the invention adaptable to the 7–7–6 type of cigarette package;

Figure 27 is a side elevation of a cigarette with the combined package opening and cigarette ejecting element associated therewith;

Figures 28 and 29 are perspectives of a further modified form of the invention and its mode of operation.

Referring more particularly to the drawings wherein like characters of reference will designate corresponding parts throughout, the package shown is of conventional structure and it consists of a package shell 1 enclosing the cigarettes 2 arranged in rows disposed in parallel relationship, that is, two outer rows A and B respectively and an intermediate row C. The package shell 1 is formed in the usual manner from a blank of package-forming material consisting of a sheet of paper or of several layers, such as an inner layer of paper and an outer layer of tin foil, or the like. The blank is folded to provide front, rear, opposite side, top, and bottom portions which may be suitably held in place by means of adhesive.

The package top portion with which the invention is particularly concerned is formed by so relating the shell 1 shaped from the blank of package-forming material that a part thereof extends beyond the normal upper extremities of the cigarettes 2, as more clearly shown in Figure 3. This extended part is then folded to cover said extremities of the cigarettes by tucking the opposite side portions inwardly against the extremities of the cigarettes to form a pair of tucks 4 and provide a pair of flaps 5 respectively extending from the rear portion to the front portion of the package, which flaps are then folded inwardly in overlapping relation over the tucks.

Arranged about the outer side of the package is an outer cover 6 preferably consisting of paper disposed to extend adjacent to, but not beyond, the package top and usually having printed thereon the brand name or trade-mark, descriptive advertising, and similar data. The usual Government revenue stamp 7 is affixed transversely of the overlapping flaps 5 thus sealing the same. A transparent wrapper 8, usually in the form of a sheet of Cellophane, is wrapped and sealed by means of adhesive all around the package. A tearing tape 9 may be associated with the Cellophane wrapper in the ordinary well known manner to facilitate the opening of that portion 10 of the wrapper located over the top of the package for opening the latter in the manner more clearly shown in Figures 9 and 20.

The package construction thus far described is that of the ordinary cigarette package now in common use and this general construction is present in each of the several forms of the invention disclosed herein.

In accordance with the invention, a flexible strip 11, preferably made of Cellophane, is affixed by means of a suitable adhesive to at least one of the cigarettes, preferably, although not necessarily, to the outermost side of the cigarette 2c at one of the ends of the intermediate row C. By providing a wider strip, as shown in Figure 2, it is possible to affix such a strip to two cigarettes, that is, the cigarette 2a at one end of the row A and the cigarette 2b at one end of the row B in the 7–6–7 type of package. In the 7–7–6 type of cigarette package, such a strip will be affixed to the cigarette 2a at one end of row A and the cigarette 2c at one end of the row C.

In practice. and as illustrated in Figure 1, the strip 11 may be, and preferably is, attached to the cigarette or cigarettes in the course of operation of the cigarette packaging machine at the stage of transference of the grouped cigarettes from the cigarette gathering means into the preshaped shell. Thus the strip 11, being associated with the cigarette or cigarettes, is introduced into the package shell 1 with the cigarettes, as illustrated in Figure 2, so that said strip extends in parallel relation to the adjacent tuck forming portion of the package, as shown in Figure 3. In this manner, upon formation of the tucks as illustrated in Figure 4, a section of the strip becomes located between the upper extremities of the cigarettes and the under side of the associated tuck, whereas upon folding of the flaps as indicated in Figure 5, the remaining section of the strip becomes located between the upper side of the said tuck and the under side of the overlapping flaps, the free end of the strip being exposed at the corresponding side portion of the package. The Government revenue stamp 7 then acts to effectively retain the package tuck 4, flaps 5, and strip 11 in assembled relation, as illustrated in Figure 6.

Because of this construction, it will be understood that when a pull is exerted on the strip, the package is opened in the manner to be specified more fully hereinafter to form an opening through which the cigarette 2c or the cigarettes 2a and 2b or the cigarettes 2a and 2c are ejected through continued pull on the strip.

In order to ease the operation of the strip 11 and provide for the formation of a neat opening for the extraction of the cigarettes from the package, the portions of the package-forming material intended to constitute the flaps 5 are provided with slitted, perforated, scored, or otherwise weakened lines 12 at a point in close proximity to that one of the tucks 4 with which the strip 11 is associated. It is particularly to be noted that the weakened lines or slits 12 start at the edge 14 of the flaps 5 and extend diagonally with respect to the adjacent edge of the stamp 7 to the edges 15 of the package top so as to terminate, as indicated by the reference character 16 (Fig. 6), at the edge portions of the stamp intersecting the fold lines of the tuck 4 and adjacent to the leading edge 17 of said tuck 4 (Fig. 4).

Instead of two weakened lines or slits 12, it is possible also to provide but one, as indicated at 12a in Figure 16, by folding the blank 18 of package-forming material in the manner indicated by lines 19, 20, 21, and 22 for the formation of the package shell 1a (Figure 17) so that the edges 23 and 24 of said blank become located in diametrically opposed relation to the single weakened line or slit 12a and terminate at a point where the edge of the stamp is to be located on the completed package.

It will be understood that the provision of the weakened lines or slits 12 or the provision of the weakened line or slit 12a with the arrangement shown in Figures 16 and 17 define separable sections 5' in the flaps 5.

From the foregoing description of the two forms of the invention referred to, it will be understood that when the portion 10 of the Cellophane wrapper 8 is removed by means of the tearing strip 9 (Figure 9) to expose the top of the package (Figure 10) the extended part of the strip 11 may be grasped and pulled (Figure 11). As represented in Figure 12, the pulling of the strip 11 causes the associated tuck 4 and the sections 5' of the flaps 5 to be lifted due to the provision of the weak-

ened lines or slits 12 or because of the weakened line or slit 12a and overlapping edges 23 and 24 forming an opening for the free ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes affixed to the strip 11 (Figure 13). Thereafter the lifted portions of the package-forming material may be torn away from the package (Figure 14) thus leaving a neat substantially square opening defined by the adjoining edges of the stamp and of the front, rear, and side portions of the package shell for the subsequent withdrawal of the cigarettes.

Whereas the two forms of packages thus far described are applicable to both 7–6–7 and 7–7–6 types of cigarette packages, another form of the invention (that shown in Figures 18 through 26) is particularly adaptable for the 7–7–6 type. In this type of package, the cigarette 2c at the end of row C is located directly beneath that portion of the overlying tuck 4 which extends beneath the overlapping flaps 5. With such an arrangement therefore, slitted, perforated, scored, or like weakened lines 12b may be provided in said tuck, such lines extending from the corners 25 of the package to the leading edge 17 of the tuck. Therefore, when the portion 10 of the Cellophane wrapper 8 is torn away by means of the tearing strip 9 (Figure 20) to expose the top of the package (Figure 21) the extended part of the strip 11 may be grasped and pulled (Figure 22). As represented in Figure 23, the pulling of the strip 11 causes the tuck 4 to be lifted due to the provision of the weakened lines or slits 12a, allowing the free ejecuion of the cigarette 2c affixed to the strip (Figure 24). Subsequently the lifted tuck may be torn away from the package thus leaving a neat substantially triangular opening defined by the folded edges 27 and 28 of the flaps 5 and top edge 29 of the adjoining package side through which opening the cigarettes may substantially be extracted.

The cigarette ejected from the package by means of the strip 11, of course, will have the strip 11 adhering thereto, as shown in Figure 27. It will be understood that the strip may be removed from the cigarette so that the same may be smoked.

If it is found desirable to break the sealing stamp 8 simultaneously with the opening of the package in the manner shown and described in my copending application Serial Number 275,855, filed May 26, 1939, for the purpose specified therein, this may be accomplished by merely extending the free end 30 of the strip to pass underneath the stamp in the manner shown in Figure 28 so that by pulling said free end, the strip will tear the stamp, as illustrated in Figure 29.

Obviously modifications may be made in the embodiments of the invention herein shown and described without departing from the gist of the invention. Therefore, any modifications coming within the scope of the subjoined claims are to be considered within the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A cigarette package comprising: a blank of package-forming material shaped into a shell provided with front, rear, and opposite side portions enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said blank being folded to form a top consisting of a pair of tucks extending partway across the top of the package from the opposite side portions thereof, and a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with the tucks; a sealing stamp disposed

transversely of the flaps to seal the package top; certain of the portions of said blank folded to form the package top having weakened lines; and a flexible strip adhesively attached to one or more cigarettes adjoining the side portion of the package shell and associated with the flap and tuck-forming portions of the blank and extending outwardly thereof whereby the extended portion of the strip may be pulled to lift the last mentioned portions of the blank, thus providing an opening for the ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes adhering to the strip through continued pull on the latter.

2. A cigarette package comprising: a blank of package-forming material shaped into a shell provided with front, rear, and opposite side portions enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said blank being folded to form a top consisting of a pair of tucks extending partway across the top of the package from the opposite side portions thereof, and a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with the tucks; a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the package top; certain of the portions of said blank folded to form the package top having slits; and a flexible strip adhesively attached to one or more cigarettes adjoining the side portion of the package shell and associated with the flap and tuck-forming portions of the blank and extending outwardly thereof whereby the extended portion of the strip may be pulled to lift the last mentioned portions of the blank, thus providing an opening for the ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes adhering to the strip through continued pull on the latter.

3. A cigarette package comprising: a blank of package-forming material shaped into a shell provided with front, rear, and opposite side portions enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said blank being folded to form a top consisting of a pair of tucks extending partway across the top of the package from the opposite side portions thereof, and a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with the tucks; a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the package top; certain of the portions of said blank folded to form the package top having slits; and a flexible strip adhesively associated with one or more cigarettes adjoining the side portion of the package shell and associated with the flap and tuck-forming portions of the blank and extending outwardly thereof whereby the extended portion of the strip may be pulled to lift the last mentioned portions of the blank, thus providing an opening for the ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes associated with the strip through continued pull on the latter.

4. A cigarette package comprising: a blank of package-forming material shaped into a shell provided with front, rear, and opposite side portions enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said blank being folded to form a top consisting of a pair of tucks extending partway across the top of the package from the opposite side portions thereof, and a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with the tucks, and including a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the package top, said flaps having weakened lines starting at the edges of the flaps, extending to the edges of the package top, and disposed adjacent to the tuck

at one side portion of the package shell to terminate at that edge portion of the stamp adjacent the leading edge of the tuck at said side portion of the package shell; and a flexible strip adhesively attached to one or more cigarettes adjoining said side portion of the package shell and extending along the underside around the leading edge and over the upper side of the mentioned tuck and beneath the sections of the flaps overlapping said tuck whereby the exposed portion of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck together with said sections of the flaps from the weakened lines to said side portion of the package shell, thus providing an opening for the ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes adhering to the strip through continued pull of the latter.

5. A cigarette package comprising: a blank of package-forming material shaped into a shell provided with front, rear, and opposite side portions enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said blank being folded to form a top consisting of a pair of tucks extending partway across the top of the package from the opposite side portions thereof, and a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with the tucks, and including a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the package top, said flaps having slits starting at the edges of the flaps, extending to the edges of the package top, and disposed adjacent to the tuck at one side portion of the package shell to terminate at that edge portion of the stamp adjacent the leading edge of the tuck at said side portion of the package shell; and a flexible strip adhesively attached to one or more cigarettes adjoining said side portion of the package shell and extending along the underside around the leading edge and over the upper side of the mentioned tuck and beneath the sections of the flaps overlapping said tuck whereby the exposed portion of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck together with said sections of the flaps from the weakened lines to said side portion of the package shell, thus providing an opening for the ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes adhering to the strip through continued pull of the latter.

6. A cigarette package comprising: a blank of package-forming material shaped into a shell provided with front, rear, and opposite side portions enclosing a plurality of cigarettes, said blank being folded to form a top consisting of a pair of tucks extending partway across the top of the package from the opposite side portions thereof, and a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with the tucks, and including a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the package top, said flaps having weakened lines starting at the edges of the flaps, extending to the edges of the package top, and disposed adjacent to the tuck at one side portion of the package shell to terminate at that edge portion of the stamp adjacent the leading edge of the tuck at said side portion of the package shell; and a flexible strip connected with one or more cigarettes adjoining said side portion of the package shell and extending along the underside around the leading edge and over the upper side of the mentioned tuck and beneath the sections of the flaps overlapping said tuck whereby the exposed portion of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck together with said sections of the flaps from the weakened lines to said side portion of the package shell, thus providing a substantially square opening defined by said edge of the stamp and adjoining front, rear, and side portions of the package shell for the ejection of the cigarette or cigarettes adhering to the strip through continued pull of the latter.

7. In a cigarette package having front, rear, and opposite side portions, the combination of a top portion comprising: a pair of tucks extending partway across the top portion from the side portions thereof; a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with said tucks; a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the top portion, each of said flaps having a slit associated with one of said tucks and disposed contiguous to one edge of said stamp; and a flexible strip connected with one or more cigarettes and folded under and over the tuck associated with said slits and under the flaps, whereby an end of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck and portions of said flaps defined by said slits to provide an opening for the ejection of the cigarettes.

8. In a cigarette package having front, rear, and opposite side portions, the combination of a top portion comprising: a pair of tucks extending partway across the top portion from the side portions thereof; a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with said tucks; a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the top portion, each of said flaps having a weakened line associated with one of said tucks and disposed contiguous to one edge of said stamp; and a flexible strip connected with one or more cigarettes and folded under and over the tuck associated with said weakened lines and under the flaps, whereby an end of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck and portions of said flaps defined by said weakened lines to provide an opening for the ejection of the cigarettes.

9. In a cigarette package having front, rear, and opposite side portions, the combination of a top portion comprising: a pair of tucks extending partway across the top portion from the side portions thereof; a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with said tucks; a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the top portion, each of said flaps having a slit traversing the same under the stamp and along a line contiguous to one edge of the stamp; and a flexible strip connected with one or more cigarettes and folded under and over one of said tucks and under the flaps, whereby an end of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck and portions of said flaps defined by said slits to provide an opening for the ejection of the cigarettes.

10. In a cigarette package having front, rear, and opposite side portions, the combination of a top portion comprising: a pair of tucks extending partway across the top portion from the side portions thereof; a pair of flaps extending inwardly from the front and rear portions of the package in overlapping relation with respect to each other and with said tucks; a sealing stamp disposed transversely of the flaps to seal the top portion, each of said flaps having a weakened line traversing the same under the stamp and along a line contiguous to one edge of the stamp; and a flexible strip connected with one or more cigarettes and folded under and over one of said tucks and under the flaps, whereby an end of the strip may be pulled to lift the tuck and portions of said

flaps defined by said weakened lines to provide an opening for the ejection of the cigarettes.

11. A package shell comprising front, back and side members, one of said side members having an extension folded down along a fold line and across an end of the shell to form a tuck, said front and back members having extensions folded down along fold lines and across said end of the shell and forming flaps at least partially overlying said tuck, means for securing said flaps in folded down position, said flaps including sections overlying said tuck only and movable independently of said tuck and readily detachable from and unfoldable relatively to the remainder of said flaps along separation lines extending from the inner edges of said flaps to and terminating at the fold line between said flaps and said front and back members, said lines of separation being adjacent to said securing means and permitting the unfolding of said sections without releasing the remainder of said flaps from said securing means, and pull-tab means extending above and below said tuck and between said tuck and the said flap sections overlying said tuck for pulling on the inner portion of said tuck to turn it along its fold line and detach said separable sections and turn them along their fold lines to form a spout-like member on said shell.

12. A package shell enclosing cigarettes and comprising front, back and side members, one of said side members having an extension folded down along a fold line and across an end of the shell to form a tuck, said front and back members having extensions folded down along fold lines and across said end of the shell and forming flaps at least partially overlying said tuck, means for securing said flaps in folded down position, said flaps including sections overlying said tuck only and movable independently of said tuck and readily detachable from and unfoldable relatively to the remainder of said flaps along separation lines extending from the inner edges of said flaps to and terminating at the fold line between said flaps and said front and back members, said lines of separation being adjacent to said securing means and permitting the unfolding of said sections without releasing the remainder of said flaps from said securing means, and a pull strip adhesively attached to the side of a cigarette aforesaid between the ends thereof and extending below and above said tuck and between said tuck

and said flap sections overlying said tuck for pulling on the inner portion of said tuck to turn it along its fold line and detach said separable sections and turn them along their fold lines to form a spout-like member on said shell and moving said last named cigarette longitudinally by continued pulling on said strip after the unfolding of said tuck and flap sections.

13. A package shell comprising front, back and side members, one of said side members having an extension folded down across an end of said shell and forming a tuck and said front and back members having extensions folded down over said end of said shell, a sealing member overlying said front and back members and the folded down extensions thereof and having an edge spaced from the side member last named, said front and back member extensions having flap sections overlying said tuck and secured thereto along edges only thereof, said flap sections being readily separable and unfoldable from the remainder of said front and back member extensions without unfolding the latter and along separation lines consisting of slits crossing one another diagonally beneath said sealing member and extending from said front and back members inwardly and to an increasing extent under said sealing member without being substantially constrained thereby, the outer ends of said separation lines terminating at the said edge of the sealing member and at the fold lines between said front and back members and their extensions, and a pull strip forming a loop around said tuck and extending between said tuck and said overlying flap sections.

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