

W. E. ELLIOTT.
CARTON FOR MERCHANDISE.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 31, 1912.

1,116,043.

Patented Nov. 3, 1914.

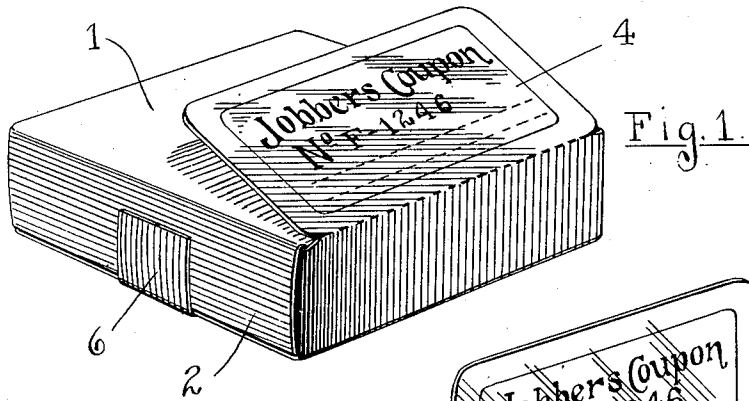


Fig. 1.

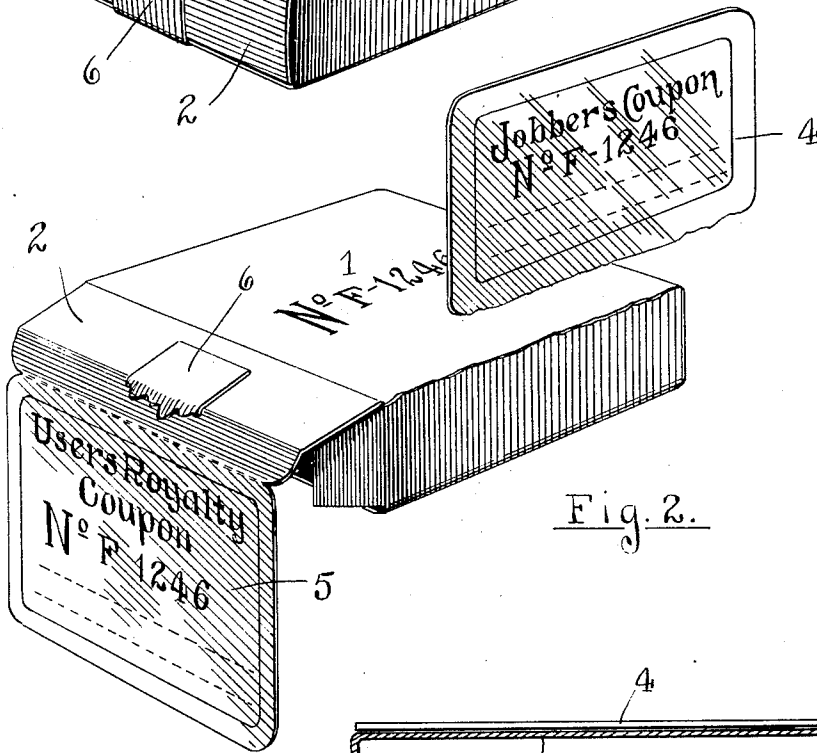


Fig. 2.

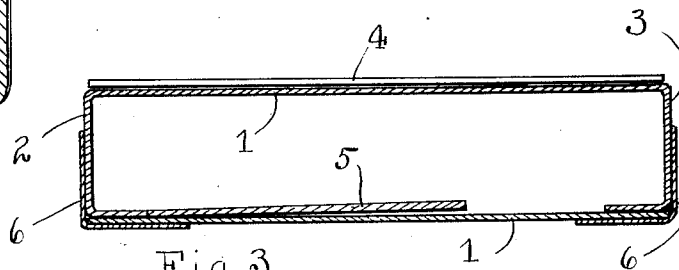


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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CARTON FOR MERCHANDISE.

1,116,043.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 3, 1914.

Application filed October 31, 1912. Serial No. 728,938.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. ELLIOTT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cartons for Merchandise; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in cartons for merchandise, and more particularly to cartons adapted to be used in connection with certain systems of doing business, and its object is to provide this carton with certain coupons and seals which are so arranged that they may be used in their consecutive order by persons so authorized by rules governing the system, and to provide the device with other useful features as hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

The carton which embodies this invention is adapted to contain merchandise to be used in certain lines of business wherein it is desirable to trace the passage of the goods from the hands of one dealer to another, to locate its ultimate destination and to prevent the consumption of the goods by any other person than the one to whom it is sold, and it consists essentially of a carton of ordinary form which is provided with a coupon detachably secured to the outside of the carton and which may be removed without opening the same, and a second coupon which is detachably secured to a flap on the inside of the carton and which may only be removed by breaking the seal which closes the carton and opening the same. Corresponding numbers are placed upon the carton and the coupons to facilitate in comparing and checking up the same.

The exact construction and arrangement of this device will be clearly understood by referring to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a carton embodying my invention showing the same before it has been opened, and with the outer coupon attached. Fig. 2 shows the carton with the seal broken and opened disclosing the detachable inner coupon and showing the outer coupon detached, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical section of the carton in its closed and sealed condition.

Like numbers refer to like parts in all of the figures.

1 represents the body of the carton which is preferably made of cardboard and is rectangular in shape, having flaps 2 and 3 to close its ends. Each end flap has a foldable portion 2' and 3', respectively, adapted to fold into the carton, as clearly shown particularly in Fig. 3. The outer, or so-called jobbers coupon 4, is detachably secured to the outside of the carton, being preferably an integral part or an extension of one of the folded sides of the same, and being provided with the necessary perforations at its base which will enable it to be readily detached. The inner, or so-called user's royalty coupon, is attached to the outer edge of the foldable part 2' of the end flap 2, being preferably an extension thereof and also provided with perforations which will enable it to be readily detached.

After the merchandise has been placed within the carton the inner coupon 5 is slipped inside and the end flap 2 is folded over to close the end of the same, and a seal 6 is fixed over the juncture between the end flap 2 and the side of the carton to prevent tampering with the contents. A like seal is fixed on the opposite end to prevent its being opened. The coupon 5' being detachably connected to the part 2' of the end flap 2, and said part 2' being foldable into the carton, the line of connection between the coupon and foldable part 2' is removed slightly from the outer edge or end of the coupon so as to protect said line of connection and prevent wear on the carton incident to handling or otherwise from accidentally disconnecting the coupon from the flap. These cartons each bear corresponding numbers to facilitate comparing the coupons after they have been returned to the manufacturer.

In actual use the cartons together with their contents are first placed in the jobber's hands, and as he disposes of them he detaches the outer coupon and places thereon the name of the person to whom it is sold for consumption, after which he returns this coupon to the manufacturer. When the consumer opens the carton to remove the contents therefrom the inner coupon will be displayed and he will detach this, place his name thereon, and return it also to the manufacturer. In this way the manufacturer can trace each carton to its ultimate

destination, can keep account of the number of cartons purchased by each individual consumer and can be insured that the carton has not been transferred from one person to another after the same is purchased from the jobber as the coupons bear corresponding numbers which must coincide as well as the names placed thereon. The carton also bears a number which corresponds to the numbers on the coupons so that the packages in stock may be checked up without referring to the coupons.

What I claim is:

A carton formed from a single blank of material comprising a body portion consisting of opposite side members connected by an end member, a detachable jobber's coupon formed integral upon the end of one of said

side members, an end flap formed upon one edge of the opposite of the side members, a flap formed upon the opposite side of the last-mentioned side member, and an inner coupon detachably connected to the last mentioned flap, said last mentioned flap adapted to close one end of the carton and having a portion thereof extended therein in spaced relation from the detachable coupon to engage the inner side of the opposite side member as and for the purposes set forth.

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

WILLIAM ELIJAH ELLIOTT.

Witnesses:

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