Feb. 10, 1948. D. GREENE 2,435,826

CIGARETTE PACKAGE CASE

Filed May 9, 1944

Fig. 1.

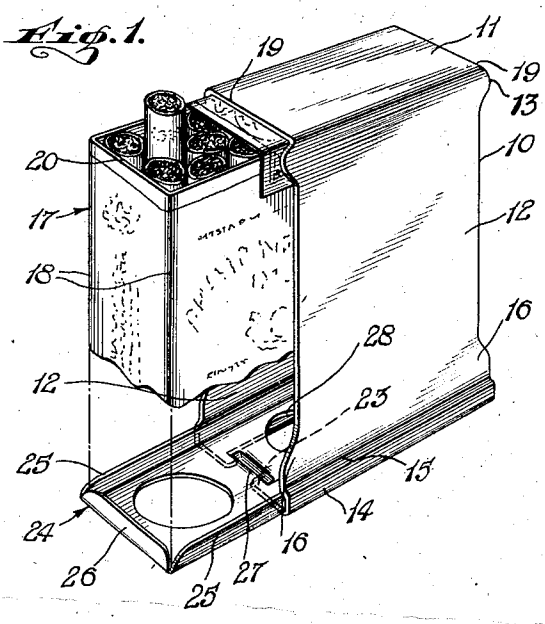


Fig. 3.

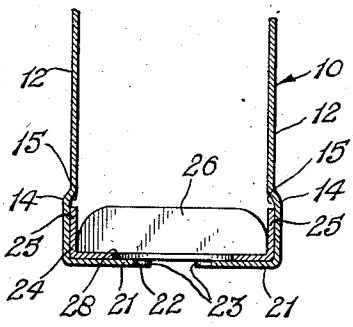


Fig. 2.

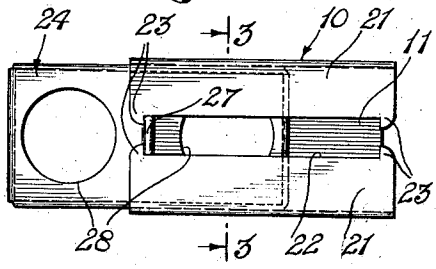
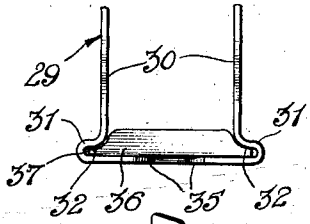


Fig. 5.



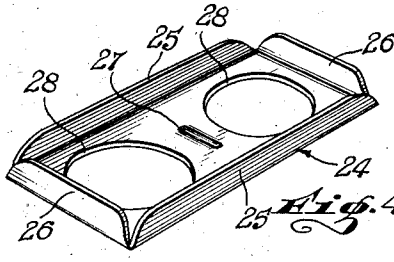
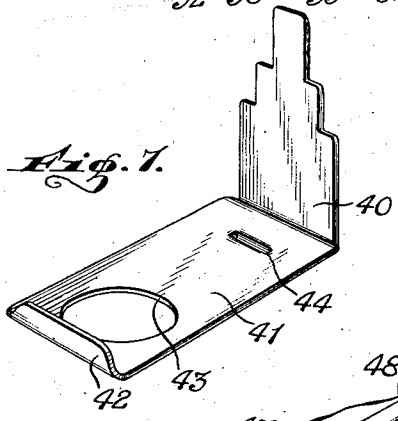


Fig. 4.

Fig. 7.



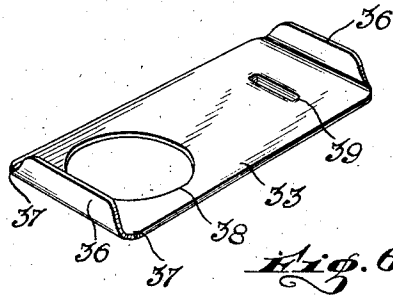
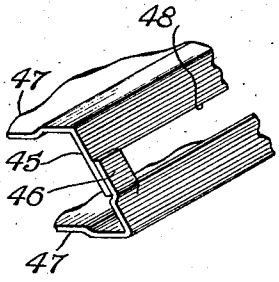


Fig. 6.

Fig. 8.



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Patented Feb. 10, 1948

2,435,826

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,435,826

CIGARETTE PACKAGE CASE

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Application May 9, 1944, Serial No. 534,776

7 Claims. (Cl. 206—41)

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This invention relates to cases for use in storing and protecting packages of cigarettes while carried about in a pocket, pocketbook or the like, to maintain the cigarettes against crushing or destruction. More particularly, the invention relates to a device of this type and kind employing a slide having a limited movement through one or both sides of the casing of the holder to expose at least one side of the cigarette package for the discharge or removal of cigarettes therefrom. The novel features of the invention will be best understood from the following description when taken together with the accompanying drawing, in which certain embodiments of the invention are disclosed, and in which the separate parts are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views; and in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a container or holder showing the same in an open position and diagrammatically illustrating the arrangement of a cigarette package therein.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the structure as seen in Fig. 1.

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

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the slide shown in Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive detached.

Fig. 5 is a side view of the lower end portion of a modified form of case, showing another form of slide which I employ.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the slide shown in Fig. 5, detached.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Figs. 4 and 6, showing another form of slide which I employ; and

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of one lower corner portion of a modified form of casing which I employ.

The cigarette case or holder comprises a substantially box shaped casing 10 of the general form illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawing. This casing comprises a top wall 11 and depending and substantially parallel and similar front and back walls 12, having side extensions 13 at their upper ends and outwardly offset portion 14 at their lower ends forming channels 15 on inner surfaces of the walls. It will also appear that the lower ends of the walls 12 are widened, as seen at 16 to conform with the width of the projections 13.

The width between the projections 13 and 16 will be substantially the same as the width of a package of cigarettes 17 so that the corner portions 18 of the package will be exposed at the corner portions of the casing, thus presenting a better package for carrying about in the pocket and minimizing the edges of the casing exposed to the

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pocket. It will also be apparent that the ends 19 of the top wall 11 are set inwardly, thus exposing the upper corners 20 of a cigarette package.

Extending from the outwardly offset portions 14 of the walls 12 are inwardly extending bottom wall members 21 having an elongated opening 22 between adjacent edges thereof, and the ends of the walls 21 at both sides of the casing 10 have inwardly projecting stop fingers 23 for limiting movement of a slide 24 in both directions through the open sides of the casing 10.

In the construction shown in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, the slide 24 comprises a plate having upstanding side flanges 25 and corresponding upstanding end flanges 26. The flanges 25 fit and operate in the channels 15, as clearly seen in Fig. 3 of the drawing and also engage the walls of the cigarette package 17 to hold the same upon the slide 24. The end flanges 26 also retain the package 17 against displacement from the slide, and further provide finger pieces for moving the slide longitudinally of the channels 14 of the casing.

Centrally of the slide 24 is formed a downwardly directed depression to form a stop 27 engaging the inwardly projecting fingers 23 to limit movement of the slide in both directions. In other words, the slide may be extended at either open side of the casing, and one of such extensions of the slide is shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing. The slide also preferably has large openings 28 formed therein through which a finger may be passed to aid in ejecting a cigarette from the package 17, as indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that the front and back walls 12 are yieldable toward and from each other, thus providing for attachment and detachment of the slide 24. However, with the slide extended through one side of the casing 10, it is possible to assemble a package of cigarettes in the holder and upon the slide 24, but as stated, whenever desired, the walls 12 may be sprung apart sufficiently to release the stop 27 for complete uncoupling of the slide.

At this time it is well to point out that the complete holder may be made of any suitable metal or of plastic material, or a combination of metal and plastics, and that wall portions 11 and 12 may be characterized in any desired manner for ornamentation.

In Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawing is shown a slight modification wherein a casing 29 has at the lower ends of the front and back walls 30, outwardly and sharply bent flange portions 31 forming deep

channels 32 in the casing. These channels are sufficiently narrowed to freely receive the thickness of a slide plate 33, shown detached in Fig. 6 of the drawing, and also illustrated in position in Fig. 5. Aside from the foregoing change, the casing 29 is of the same construction as the casing 10. In other words, it is provided with a longitudinal opening 34 similar to the opening 22, with finger stops 35 at the ends thereof similar to the fingers 23.

With the slide or slide plate 33, the side flanges 25 are not employed, and upwardly turned end flanges 36, similar to the flanges 26 are employed. However, the plate of the slide 33 is made wider to form projecting sides 37 which operate in the deep channels 32. The slide 33 is further modified to the end that a single finger piece aperture 38 is employed at one end thereof, and the depressed stop bar 39 is disposed at the other end portion of the slide, thus this slide is made for movement through one open side only of the casing. This same structural feature is applicable to the slide shown in Fig. 4, and in like manner, the structure of the slide shown in Fig. 4, particularly with respect to the location of the stop 27 is applicable to the structure shown in Fig. 6.

In like manner, either one of the slides shown in Figs. 4 and 6 may include, instead of the end flanges 26—36, upwardly extending wall portions 40, as shown in Fig. 7 of the drawing. For purposes of illustration, this wall portion 40 has been applied to a slide 41 similar to the slide 33. In other words, a slide having the one narrow upstanding flange 42 at one end, the single finger piece aperture 43 at the same end, and the depression stop bar 44 at the other end.

The upstanding plate 40 forms a backing for one of the side walls of the cigarette package, and a finger piece against which pressure may be applied in moving the slide into open position, the width of the wall 40 at the lower wide end portion thereof being such as to fit freely within and between the front and back walls of the casing.

With all the forms of the construction shown, it will be understood that the spacing between the flanges 26—36 and the flange 42 together with the wall 40 is equal or substantially equal to the width of the cigarette package to be mounted in the holder. Where packages are made of drastically different sizes, holders will be made to suit these sizes, but as most commonly used cigarette packages are of standard size, a single holder will suffice for the majority of uses.

I have found from experience that a holder of the type and kind under consideration will maintain the wrapper of the cigarette package in proper shape at all times, down to the consumption of the last cigarette. Further, the holder occupies very little added area to the area of the cigarette package, thus taking up no great amount of additional room in the carrying or storage of the cigarette package.

Further in constructing the holder of light material and minimizing the weight of such materials by an openwork structure in the wall portions the weight of the complete holder can be materially minimized. It is also to be pointed out that in some instances, the complete holder may be made of other light sheet materials, such as cardboard, and from this standpoint used as advertising mediums, even to the end of being given away with the sale of each package of cigarettes. However, in cardboard structures, instead of leaving the front and back walls separate for spring action relatively to each other, the inwardly directed stop fingers similar to the fingers 23 and 35 will be made longer and to overlap, as seen at 45 and 46 in Fig. 8 of the drawing, and these overlapped fingers secured together so as to support the walls 47 in definite spaced relationship to each other and to close the ends of the longitudinal opening 48 in the bottom of the casing, in which opening the stops similar to the stops 27, 39 and 44 will operate.

In this connection, it is well to point out that the uniting of the walls 47, as at 45 and 46 will take place after the slide has been assembled in the casing.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A cigarette package case, comprising a casing having top, bottom, front and back walls, the sides of the casing being open, the bottom wall having an elongated opening, a slide arranged in the casing and movable over said bottom wall, lower end portions of the front and back walls having channels receiving the side portions of said slide to guide the slide in its movement longitudinally of the casing, the slide having upstanding end wall portions adapted to engage a package of cigarettes arranged upon the slide to retain the same against displacement therefrom, said slide having a stop member operating in the elongated aperture of the bottom wall, and said bottom wall having means at the ends of the aperture for limiting movement of the slide in both directions on said bottom wall.

2. A cigarette package case, comprising a casing having top, bottom, front and back walls, the sides of the casing being open, the bottom wall having an elongated opening, a slide arranged in the casing and movable over said bottom wall, lower end portions of the front and back walls having channels receiving the side portions of said slide to guide the slide in its movement longitudinally of the casing, the slide having upstanding end wall portions adapted to engage a package of cigarettes arranged upon the slide to retain the same against displacement therefrom, said slide having a stop member operating in the elongated aperture of the bottom wall, said bottom wall having means at the ends of the aperture for limiting movement of the slide in both directions on said bottom wall, and the sides of said slide having flange portions engaging the channels of said front and back walls.

3. A cigarette package case, comprising a casing having top, bottom, front and back walls, the sides of the casing being open, the bottom wall having an elongated opening, a slide arranged in the casing and movable over said bottom wall, lower end portions of the front and back walls having channels receiving the side portions of said slide to guide the slide in its movement longitudinally of the casing, the slide having upstanding end wall portions adapted to engage a package of cigarettes arranged upon the slide to retain the same against displacement therefrom, said slide having a stop member operating in the elongated aperture of the bottom wall, said bottom wall having means at the ends of the aperture for limiting movement of the slide in both directions on said bottom wall, the sides of said slide having flange portions engaging the channels of said front and back walls, and said slide having a finger piece aperture at one end thereof facilitating removal of a cigarette from

a package supported on said slide when the slide is extended from the casing.

4. A cigarette package case, comprising a casing having top, bottom, front and back walls, the sides of the casing being open, the bottom wall having an elongated opening, a slide arranged in the casing and movable over said bottom wall, lower end portions of the front and back walls having channels receiving the side portions of said slide to guide the slide in its movement longitudinally of the casing, the slide having upstanding end wall portions adapted to engage a package of cigarettes arranged upon the slide to retain the same against displacement therefrom, said slide having a stop member operating in the elongated aperture of the bottom wall, said bottom wall having means at the ends of the aperture for limiting movement of the slide in both directions on said bottom wall, the sides of said slide having flange portions engaging the channels of said front and back walls, said slide having a finger piece aperture at one end thereof facilitating removal of a cigarette from a package supported on said slide when the slide is extended from the casing, and one end wall portion of the slide extending upwardly between the open end of the casing to form a finger piece for moving the slide in one direction in said casing.

5. A holder of the class described, comprising a casing formed from an elongated strip of material folded transversely to form a top wall, substantially parallel front and back walls and independent bottom wall parts movable toward and from each other, the bottom wall parts collectively forming an elongated aperture therebetween, said bottom wall parts having stop members at the ends thereof defining the ends of said aperture, an article supporting slide mounted on and keyed for movement longitudinally of the bottom wall parts, the slide being movable outwardly through at least one open side of the casing, and means on the slide engaging the stop members of the bottom wall parts to limit movement of the slide in both directions on said parts.

6. A holder of the class described, comprising a casing formed from an elongated strip of material folded transversely to form a top wall, substantially parallel front and back walls and independent bottom wall parts movable toward and from each other, the bottom wall parts collectively forming an elongated aperture therebetween, said bottom wall parts having stop members at the ends thereof defining the ends of said aperture, an article supporting slide mounted on and keyed for movement longitudinally of the bottom wall parts, the slide being movable outwardly through at least one open side of the casing, means on the slide engaging the stop members of the bottom wall parts to limit movement of the slide in both directions on said parts, and said slide having upstanding end wall portions retaining an article against accidental displacement therefrom.

7. In a holder of the class described, a casing comprising substantially parallel front and back walls joined at one end in a top wall, independent flat bottom wall parts extending angularly to the lower portion of the front and back walls, both sides of the casing being open to the extent defined by said front, back, top and bottom walls, the front and back walls being offset outwardly where they join the bottom wall parts to form channels extending longitudinally of the lower ends of said front and back walls, the ends of said bottom wall parts having inwardly projecting stop members, and free edges of the bottom wall parts being widely spaced between said stop members in forming an opening extending longitudinally of the bottom of the casing.

DAVID GREENE.

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