Feb. 22, 1944. L. V. BELL 2,342,240

CIGARETTE PACKAGE OR THE LIKE

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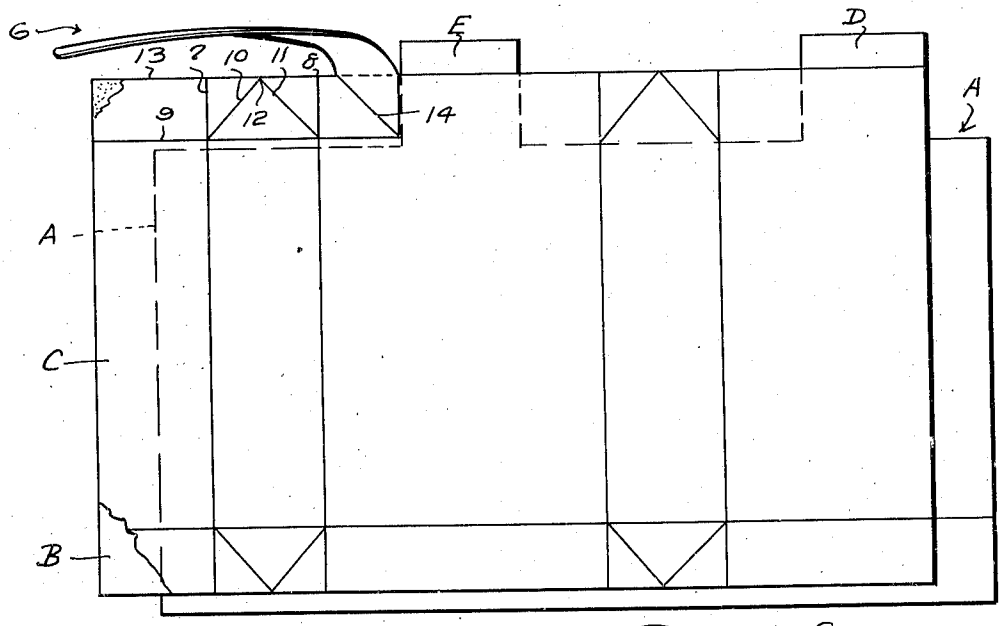


Fig. 1.

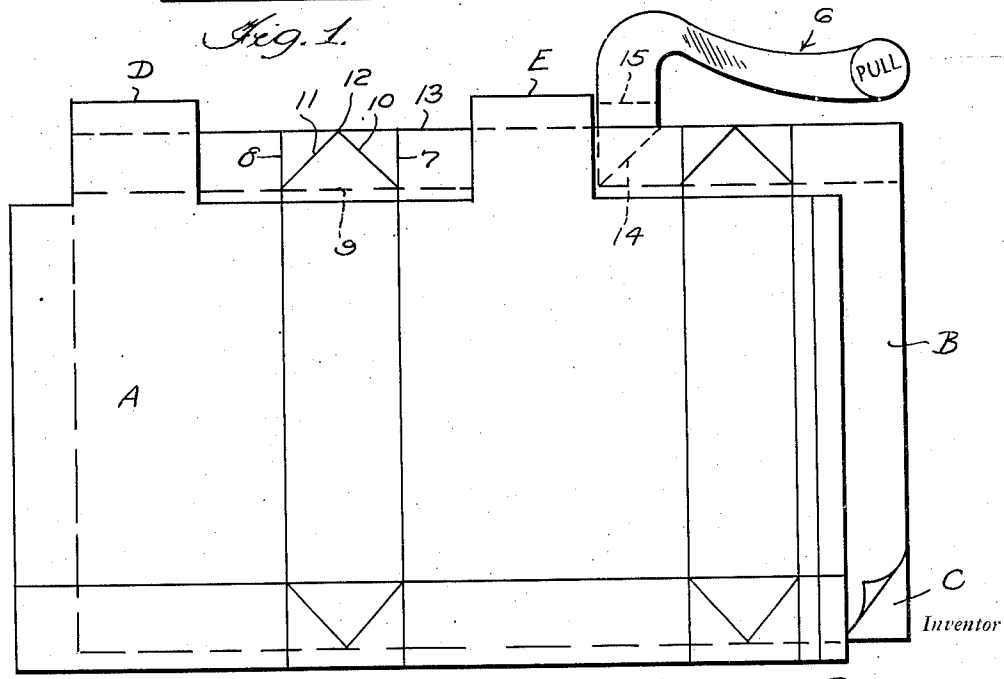


Fig. 2.

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CIGARETTE PACKAGE OR THE LIKE

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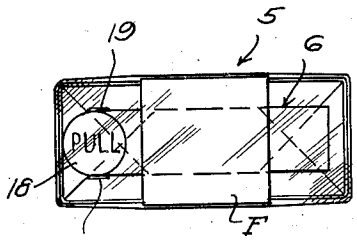


Fig. 3.

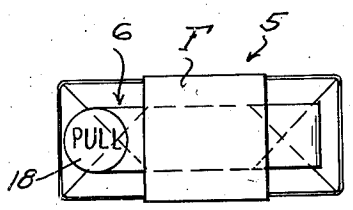


Fig. 4.

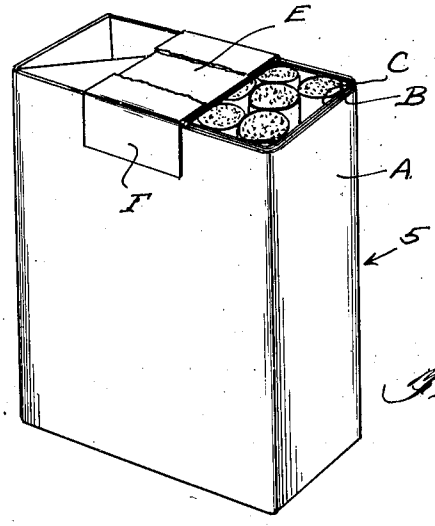


Fig. 5.

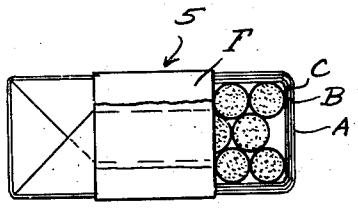


Fig. 6.

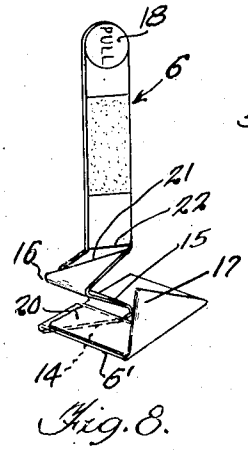


Fig. 8.

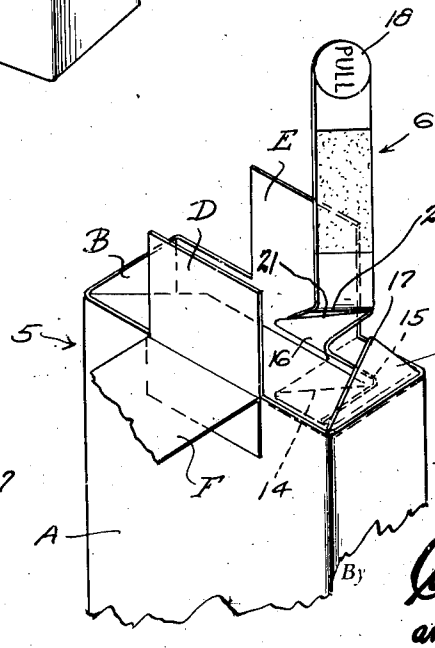


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,342,240

CIGARETTE PACKAGE OR THE LIKE

Leroy Valentine Bell, Wakefield, R. I.

Application February 17, 1942, Serial No. 431,299

2 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

My invention relates to improvements in paper cigarette packages of the type which involve an inner paper wrapper, an intermediate foil or equivalent wrapper and an outer wrapper, and a revenue stamp extending across the openable top of the package, and the primary object of the invention is to provide simple and efficient pull tab means which is easily and quickly operable from a partially concealed flat lying condition, to an upstretched position in which a continued pull on the tab results in severance of a substantial portion of the revenue stamp, followed by severance and removal of portions of the top of the package at one side of the revenue stamp, so as to expose the cigarettes or other contents of the package for use.

Another important object of my invention is to provide improvements in the subject matter of my prior Patent No. 2,252,611, granted August 12, 1941, for Package, package opener, and stamp canceler, so that this general form of package and package opener is made more practical and efficient from the manufacturing standpoint and the standpoint of the user, and a neater and more presentable package is provided.

Other important objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from a reading of the following description taken in connection with the appended drawings, wherein for purposes of illustration I have shown a preferred embodiment of my invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a general plan view of the inner side of the flattened out package showing the tearing and opening tab cemented in place on the inner face of the inner wrapper.

Figure 2 is an elevational view of the opposite side of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the package enclosed in an extra Cellophane wrapper.

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 with the Cellophane wrapper removed.

Figure 5 is an enlarged perspective view showing the package after the operation of the tab.

Figure 6 is a top plan view of Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the tab before folding into position during the formation and closing of the package.

Figure 8 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the pull tab in extended position and showing further its association with the top of the package.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral 5 generally designates the present package, which, with the exception of the presence and precise arrangement of the opening and tearing tab 6 is formed like the package described in my prior Patent No. 2,252,611 alluded to above. The package consists of an outside wrapper A of suitable paper on which the decorative material is usually applied, the inner foil or other similar material wrapper B, and the inner wrapper C which is usually of light weight paper. In this instance the inner wrapper C is provided with rectangular tabs D and E to project upwardly intermediate the ends of the upper edges of the inner wrapper. The tabs D and E are arranged to be superimposed by folding over upon each other and they are held in this position by mucilage and the revenue stamp F which is secured by mucilage across the top of the package as indicated in the drawings and in the usual manner. Under the tabs D and E the top of the inner wrapper C is folded in a generally conventional manner as indicated in Figure 7 of the drawings.

It will be apparent from Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings that the upper part of the inside or innermost wrapper C has its upper edge projecting above the upper edge of the outside wrapper A on which the tabs E and D are located, that the projecting portion of the innermost or inner wrapper C is provided at the positions of the ends of the package with parallel fold lines 7 and 8 which are arranged vertically and at right angles with respect to a horizontal fold line 9, and that angulated fold lines 10 and 11 extending from the point of intersection of the fold lines 7, 8 and 9, meet at the point 12 which is coincident with the upper edge 13 of the innermost or inner wrapper C. The described portions correspond to the right hand end of the top of the package. The front portion of the left end of the top of the package folded down after the front of the rear top edge has been folded down leaving the portions at the right hand end of the top stand up as indicated in Figure 7 of the drawings. Between the tab E and the left hand edge of the wrapper C a tape or strong paper ribbon, constituting the tab 6 is secured by cementing or other suitable means to the inner side of the innermost wrapper C, and the attached portion 6' of the tab has a diagonal fold line 14, under the portion 6'.

The pull tab has a right angular bend 15 substantially parallel to the adjacent edge of the top fold 20, as shown in Figures 7 and 8 and another right angular bend 16 in the opposite direction. The bends 15 and 16 are spaced at about the width of the top fold 20. A diagonal bend 21 follows the bend 16 and this is followed by a bend 22 positioned substantially at right an-

gles to the bends 15 and 16. The triangular tab 17 is placed in the pocket between the bends 16, 21 and 22, with the remaining unbent portion of the pull tab lying along the top of the package under the revenue stamp F.

The package is formed and made up and closed in a manner similar to that described in my prior patent herein identified, except that before closing up the right hand end of the top thereof and imposing the revenue stamp F, the attached end of the tab 6 is folded along the right angular line 15 as indicated in Figure 7 of the drawings in a laterally outward direction and then bent on a similar rectangular line as indicated by the numeral 16 in the opposite direction and the resultant accordion pleat is compressed and the triangular tab 17 is brought down into place thereover, with the remaining portion of the tab 6 flattened on the top of the folded tabs D and E. The revenue stamp F is then applied to the package over the tabs E and D and the tab 6 lying thereover, so that the free end 18 of the pull tab is exposed at the opposite side of the tabs D and E and the revenue stamp F, as indicated in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings. The exterior Cellophane wrapper, commonly used, is applied to enclose the package described, and the slits 19 are formed in the top of the Cellophane wrapper to be on opposite sides of the free end of the pull tab to facilitate the tearing of the Cellophane wrapper by the insertion of the finger or thumb nail to gain access to the pull tab for opening the package as described.

The right hand top portion only of the package is opened and the revenue stamp F cut away as indicated in Figure 5 of the drawings, by pulling up on the free end of the tab 6 with the right hand in a right hand movement while holding the package in the left hand. After passing through the revenue stamp the tab 6 reaches the position illustrated in Figures 7 and 8 of the drawings. From this position continued pulling in an upward direction on the free end of the tab results in tearing away of the top portions of the inner wrapper C, and the intermediate wrapper B, the outer wrapper A being undisturbed so as to expose the contents of the package, such as cigarettes, as shown in Figures 5 and 6 of the drawings.

Although I have shown and described herein a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be definitely understood that I do not wish to limit the application of the invention thereto, except as may be required by the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. In a cigarette package, a rectangular container including an outer wrapper terminating at one end of the container, and inner and intermediate wrappers, respectively, folded from the sides and ends of the top of the container to provide overlapping flaps extending along said sides and end flaps interlapping with said first flaps, a pair of tabs on said outer wrapper folded down over the first flaps across the same in overlapping relation, a revenue stamp secured over said tabs, and a pull tab of tape-like form and uniform width having one end secured flat to the inner flap at one end of the top and folded along oblique and right angled transverse lines adjacent said secured end thereof into interlapping relation with the flaps of said end of the top and having a major portion extending along one side of the top over the same and said tabs and beneath the revenue stamp and terminating in a free finger grip end projecting from beneath said stamp.

2. In a cigarette package, a rectangular container including an outer wrapper terminating at one end of the container, and inner and intermediate wrappers, respectively, folded down from the sides and ends of the top of the container to provide overlapping flaps extending along said sides and end flaps interlapping with said first flaps, a pair of tabs on said outer wrapper folded down over the first flaps across the same in overlapping relation, a revenue stamp secured over said tabs, and a pull tab of tape-like form and uniform width having one end secured flat to the inner flap at one end of the top and folded along oblique and right angled transverse lines adjacent said secured end thereof into interlapping relation with the flaps of said end of the top and having a major portion extending along one side of the top over the same and said tabs and beneath the revenue stamp and terminating in a free finger grip end projecting from beneath said stamp, said pull tab having adhesive on one side thereof securing the same to said stamp.

LEROY VALENTINE BELL.