July 5, 1949. B. A. RAFOTH 2,475,294

CARTON

Filed Sept. 20, 1946.

Fig. 1.

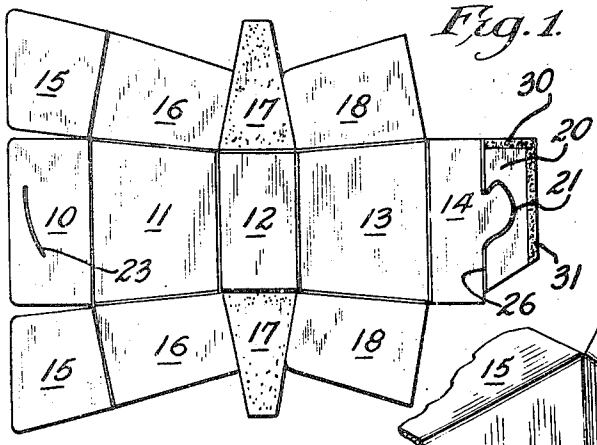


Fig. 2.

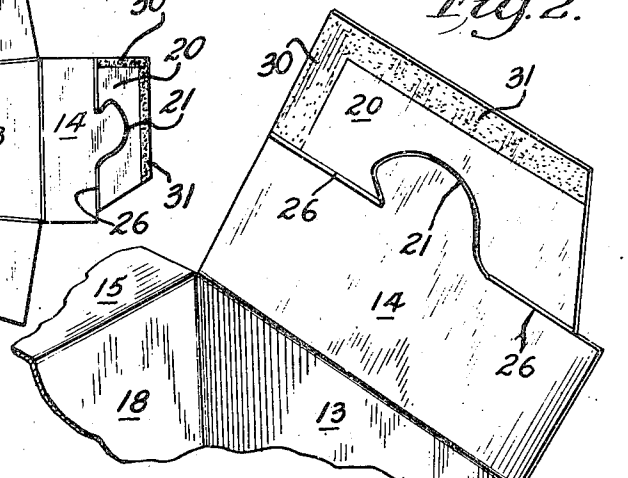


Fig. 3.

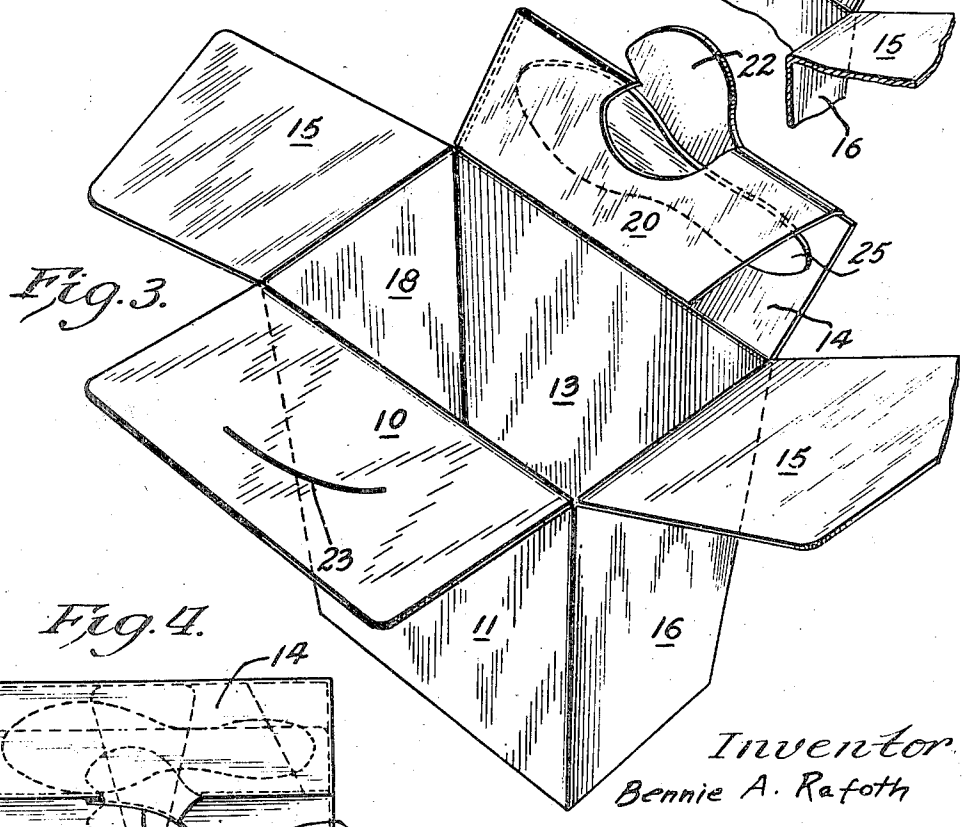


Fig. 4.

Inventor
Bennie A. Rafoth
By Joseph Rossman
Atty.

Patented July 5, 1949

2,475,294

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,475,294

CARTON

Bennie A. Rafoth, Appleton, Wis., assignor to Marathon Corporation, Rothschild, Wis., a corporation of Wisconsin

Application September 20, 1946, Serial No. 698,144

1 Claim. (Cl. 229—1.5)

1

This invention relates to a package or carton provided with means for retaining a spoon within the package.

Large quantities of ice cream, sherbet, frozen ices and desserts and the like are being sold in paper cartons or packages which are usually provided with a hinged cover that is opened so that the consumer may eat the food directly from the container by means of a wooden spoon or other implement that may be provided. Such packages are sold on trains, amusement places, parks, refreshment places and in outdoor stands. It has been customary to hand the consumer a spoon with each purchase or to place a spoon loosely inside the package which the consumer can use for eating the food products. It is not desirable or sanitary to handle spoons used for food. Furthermore, when spoons are inserted within the package they are often lost or misplaced.

According to the present invention, means are provided as an integral part of the carton so as to form a pocket portion within which a wooden spoon or other implement may be inserted and in which it will be securely retained while being shipped or stored until it is used by the consumer. The pocket portion is furthermore provided with a locking portion to retain it in closed relation to the carton until the package is opened. The pocket portion occupies relatively little space and is constructed in such manner that it can be readily positioned within the package so as not to bulk or bulge the package or deform it in any way. Upon opening the cover of the carton it is possible to readily remove the spoon or other implement by merely slipping it out of the pocket portion for convenient use.

Other advantages and objects of this invention will be apparent from the following specification and drawings wherein,

Figure 1 is a plan view of the inside face of the blank from which my carton is formed,

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmental perspective view of the partially completed carton made of the blank shown in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the completed carton made from the blank shown in Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the completed and closed carton.

Referring to the drawings, an illustrative embodiment of my invention is shown in Figures 1 to 4 wherein a single integral blank of cardboard or other suitable material is suitably cut and scored to provide a front panel 11, a bottom panel 12, a rear panel 13, a top closure or cover panel

2

14 and cover extension panel 20 hinged thereto. These panels are hingedly connected to each other along parallel fold lines so that they may be folded in suitable relation to each other when the carton is made as illustrated in Figure 3. The front panel 11 is provided with hinged side wall panels 16. The bottom panel 12 is provided with integrally hinged retaining flaps 17. Rear panel 13 is provided with integrally hinged wall panels 18. Rear panel 13 is provided with an integrally hinged closure or cover panel 14 having an extension panel 20 hinged thereto along score line 26 which is interrupted by a curved cut line 21 at its middle portion for a purpose to be explained later. The side panels 16 are provided with hinged closure flaps 15. Front panel 11 is provided with a hinged closure panel 10 which has a slit 23 for receiving a locking tongue 22 provided on the top cover panel 14.

In forming a carton from the blank described, cover extension panel 20 is folded back on itself over along score line 26 on panel 14 from the position shown in Figure 2 to assume the position shown in Figure 3 and is adhered along lines of adhesive 30 and 31 to panel 14, whereby a pocket portion is provided for receiving and retaining a spoon or other implement 25. The spoon 20 can be readily slipped within the pocket portion so formed and is engaged therein merely by frictional engagement of the faces thereof. It will be noted that score line 26 is interrupted as previously stated by a curved cut line 21 in its middle region so as to form a locking tongue 22 when the extension panel 20 is folded over on the top cover panel. The steps of forming the pocket portion as described are preferably carried out while the blank is still in flat condition, although if desired the carton can be formed first in the condition shown in Figure 2 after which the pocket portion is formed as described.

The body of the carton is formed by folding the front and rear panels 11 and 13 at right angles to the bottom panel 12 and the side panels 16 and 18 are brought into overlapped relation to each other with the flaps 17 interposed therebetween, suitable adhesive being applied to the overlapped side panels and flaps to adhere them together so as to form the completed carton as shown in Figure 3.

After the contents, such as ice cream, are placed in the carton, flaps 15 are folded over the open end of the container and then the panels 10 and 14 are folded thereover and interlocked by inserting tongue 22 into slit 23 so as to assume the closed position shown in Figure 4.

When it is desired to use the contents within the package the panels 10 and 20 are unlocked and closure flaps 15 are folded outwardly to assume the position shown in Figure 3. The spoon 25 can then be removed by the consumer for removing the contents from the receptacle.

The construction of the pocket portion and locking feature can obviously be applied to cartons of many different constructions in addition to the specific construction herein described which is to be considered as merely an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Other modifications and changes are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A carton comprising a receptacle portion and hinged closure panels, said receptacle portion comprising front, rear, and end walls for retaining a product to be consumed, a closure panel hinged to the rear wall of said receptacle portion on a hinge line, an extension panel hinged to said closure panel along a score line positioned substantially medially thereof and substantially parallel to said hinge line, said score line being interrupted in an intermediate portion thereof by a curvilinear hook-shaped cut score extending into said extension panel to provide a locking tongue portion for said closure panel, said extension panel being adhered to the inner face of said first closure panel along a longitudinal edge and one intersecting edge to provide a pocket portion for receiving and retaining an implement for dispensing food packaged within said tray portion, and a second closure panel hingedly connected to said front panel, said second closure panel being provided with a slit for receiving said locking tongue portion in locking engagement.

BENNIE A. RAFOTH.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
768,670	Martin	Aug. 30, 1904
1,607,863	Betts	Nov. 23, 1926
1,687,678	Mallory	Oct. 16, 1928
1,908,251	Inman et al.	May 9, 1933
2,138,680	Siewert	Nov. 29, 1938
2,321,145	Jones	June 8, 1943

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
47,304	Norway	Dec. 16, 1929