Jan. 31, 1933. R. E. MUDD 1,896,008

CIGARETTE CASE

Filed April 11, 1932

Fig. 1

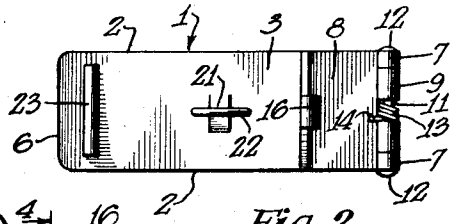
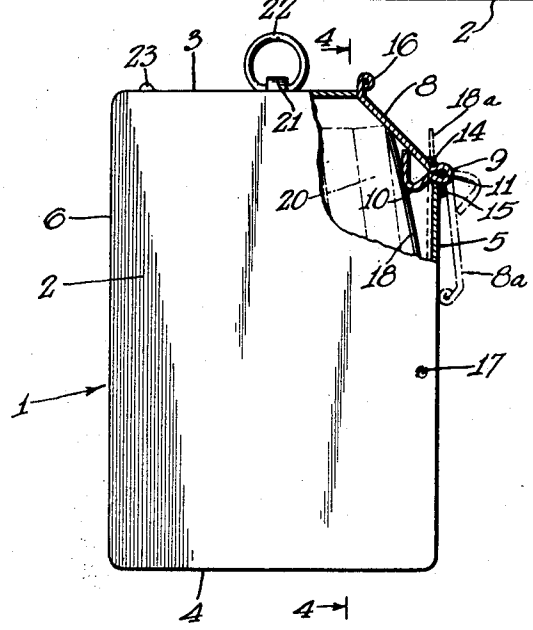


Fig. 2



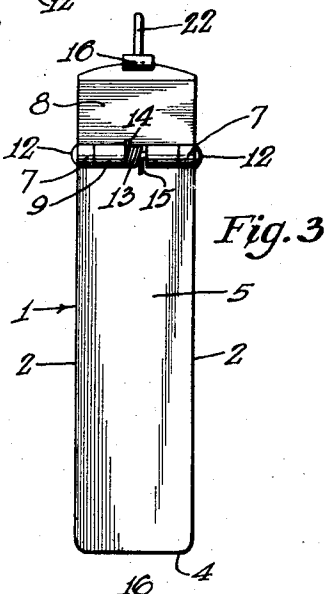
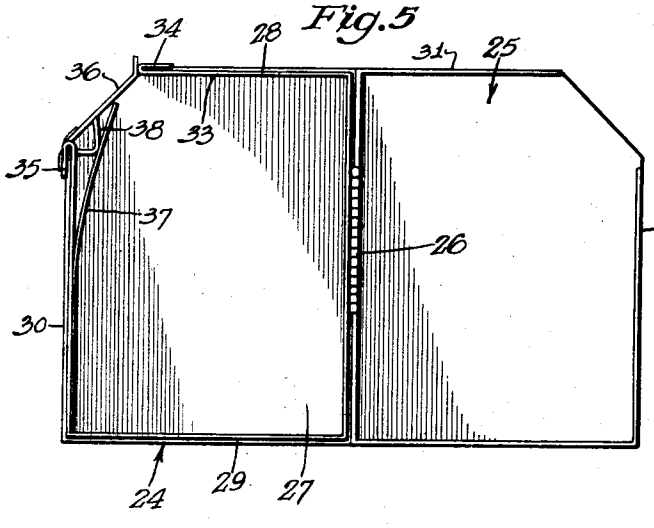


Fig. 3

Fig. 5



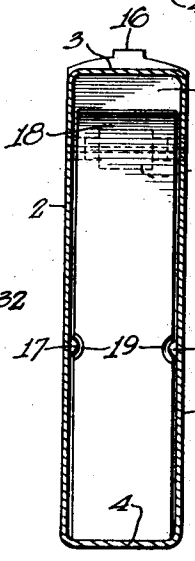
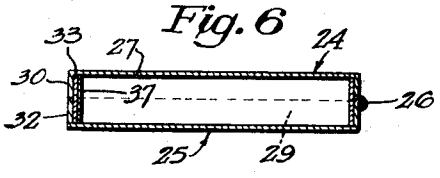


Fig. 4

Fig. 6



Inventor:
Rolla E. Mudd.

By: Munn & Co.
Attys.

Patented Jan. 31, 1933 1,896,008

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ROLLA E. MUDD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CIGARETTE CASE

Application filed April 11, 1932. Serial No. 604,611.

My invention relates to improvements in cigarette cases, and it consists in the combinations, constructions, and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a novel cigarette case which may be conveniently carried, and which is adapted for being operated by a single hand of the user for removing the cigarettes therefrom.

A further object of my invention is to provide a novel cigarette case in which only a few of the cigarettes contained therein will be exposed when the case is opened for removing the cigarettes therefrom.

A further object is to provide a cigarette case having only a small opening therein whereby the cigarettes may be removed therefrom, but which opening is so arranged that the cigarettes may be conveniently removed.

A further object is to provide a cigarette case having an opening therein whereby the cigarettes may be removed from the case, and being further provided with a self-closing door normally positioned for closing the opening.

A further object is to provide a cigarette case having a small opening therein whereby the cigarettes may be removed from the case and a door for normally closing the opening, said cigarette case being further provided with means whereby the cigarettes disposed within the case may be moved away from the opening when the door is in its closed position.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming part of this application, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a cigarette case embodying my invention, a portion of the device being shown in section,

Figure 2 is a top plan view of my device,

Figure 3 is an end elevation of my device,

Figure 4 is a section taken along the line 4—4 of Figure 1,

Figure 5 is an elevational view of a modified form of my device, and

Figure 6 is a section taken along the line 6—6 of Figure 5.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a casing 1 comprising side portions 2, a top portion 3, a bottom portion 4, an end portion 5, and an opposite end portion 6. The casing may be formed of any suitable sheet metal. A corner of the casing is cut away by cutting away a portion of the sides 2, the top 3, and the end 5 for providing an opening in communication with the interior of the casing.

The end 5 is provided with rolled or loop portions 7. A door or cover member 8 is provided and may be formed from the same or similar material to that from which the casing 1 is made. The door 8 is formed for providing an end thereof with a pair of loop portions 9 and cam portions 10 which are continuous with the loop portions 9. The loop portions 9 are disposed in spaced-apart positions, as shown in Figures 2 and 3, and are positioned between the loop portions 7 of the casing 1.

A pin 11 extends through the loop portions 7 and 9 for hingedly connecting the cover 8 with the end portion 5. The pin 11 is provided with head portions 12 for retaining the pin 11 in position. A coil spring 13 is disposed on the pin 11 and positioned between the rolled portions 9 of the door 8 and has an end 14 in engagement with the cover 8, and the other end 15 in engagement with the end portion 5 of the casing. The spring 13 is for the purpose of yieldingly holding the door 8 in its closed position shown in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive. The door 8 is further provided with a rolled end portion 16 so that the door may be easily actuated by the operator.

The side portions 2 of the casing are provided with aligned indented portions 17 which are positioned in spaced-apart relationship with respect to the end portion 5 of the casing 1. A leaf spring member 18 is disposed within the casing 1 and may be constructed of any suitable light spring material. The width of the spring member 18 is substantially equal to the distance between the side portions 2 of the casing. A portion of the leaf spring member 18 is positioned

between the indented portions 17 and the end portion 5 of the casing, and is provided with recessed edges 19 for receiving the indented portions 17.

It will be noted on referring to Figure 1 that when the door 8 is in its closed position or is being moved to its closed position, the cam portions 10 engage the spring member 18 for holding the top portion of the spring member 18 in spaced-apart relationship with respect to the end portion 5 of the casing.

When the spring member 18 is in the position shown in Figure 1, the cigarettes 20 are moved to their dotted line positions so that they will not engage the door 8 when it is being closed, which would result in the cigarettes being crushed or broken. When the door 8 is moved by the operator to its dotted line position 8*a*, the spring member 18 will move to its dotted line position 18*a*, at which time the cigarettes 20 may be withdrawn from the case.

The top portion 3 of the case is provided with a stamped-out loop portion 21 for receiving a ring or annular member 22 so that the case may be connected with a chain or the like. The top portion 3 is further provided with a raised portion 23 for preventing the operator's finger from slipping from the case when the door 8 is being opened.

In Figure 5, I have shown a modified form of my device which comprises a box portion 24 having a cover portion 25 hingedly connected therewith, as at 26. The box portion 24 comprises a bottom portion 27 having a top flange portion 28, a bottom flange portion 29, and an end flange portion 30. The cover portion 25 is likewise provided with a top flange portion 31 and an end flange portion 32. In Figure 5, the cover portion is shown in its open position whereby the box may be filled with cigarettes. When the cover portion is closed, it is disposed in a superposed position on the box 24, at which time the flange portions of the cover will be in engagement and alignment with the respective flange portions of the bottom of the box.

It will be noted that the bottom portion 27 and the flange portions 28 and 30 connected therewith, together with the cover portion 25 and the flange portions 31 and 32 connected therewith, are provided with cutaway portions so that when the cover 25 is disposed in its superposed position with respect to the box portion 24 that the case will be provided with an opening therein similar to that described for the casing 1.

A continuous strip of material 33 is positioned on the inner sides of the flange portions of the box portion 24 and comprises a part of the box portion or casing. The continuous strip of material terminates in U-shaped end portions 34 and 35 which extend around and may be connected with edges of the flange portions 28 and 30, respectively. The width of the strip of material 33 is substantially equal to the distance between the bottom portion 27 and the cover portion 25 when the cover portion 25 is disposed in its superposed position with respect to the box portion.

It will thus be noted that the width of the strip of material 33 is substantially equal to the combined inner widths of the flange portion 28 and the flange portion 31 so that when the cover 25 is disposed in its closed position, the end portion of the flange portion 31 adjacent the opening will be disposed within the U-shaped portion 34, and likewise the end portion of the flange portion 32 adjacent the opening will be disposed within the U-shaped portion 35, at which time the U-shaped portions 34 and 35 will tend to reenforce the edges of the flange portions 31 and 32, respectively, of the cover.

The U-shaped portion 35 is provided with cut-out portions so that a door 36 which is similar in construction to the door 8 shown in Figure 1 may be hingedly connected therewith. A leaf spring member 37 similar to the leaf spring member 18 is connected with the strip of material 33 by any suitable means, such as soldering or rivets. The door member 36 is provided with a cam portion 38 similar to the cam portion 10 connected to the door 8, for actuating the spring member 37.

When the cover portion 25 is in its closed position, it may be connected with the box portion of the case by any suitable catch means, not shown. When the case shown in Figure 5 is closed, the operation thereof for removing the cigarettes therefrom will be substantially the same as that for removing the cigarettes from the container shown in Figure 1.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. When it is desired to fill the casing 1 with cigarettes, the door 8 is moved to the dotted line position 8*a* and held in that position, during which time cigarettes may be inserted through the opening in the casing until the casing is full.

When the door 8 is released, it will be moved by the spring 13 to its closed position shown in Figure 1, and during the movement thereof, the cam portion 10 will move the spring member 18 so that the cigarettes will not hinder the closing of the door 8 nor be crushed by the door. The same operation of course takes place when it is desired to remove one or more cigarettes from the case.

It will be noted that the door closes with a snap action so that if the casing is dropped while the door 8 is open, the door will close before the casing can fall to the ground and thereby prevent the cigarettes from falling out of the case or becoming soiled.

The action for the form of my device shown in Figure 5 is the same as that described in connection with the device shown in Figure 1, except that the cover portion 25 may be swung open, as shown in Figure 5, so that the box portion may be filled. After the box portion has been filled, the cover 25 may be closed and the cigarettes may then be removed from the case by actuating the door 36 in the same manner, as has been described in regard to actuating the door 8 for removing the cigarettes from the casing 1.

I claim:

1. A cigarette container comprising a casing having an opening therein, a door movably connected with the casing and adapted for closing the opening, means operatively associated with the door for moving the same to its closed position, and means for moving the cigarettes in the container away from the opening when the door is moved to its closed position.

2. A cigarette container comprising a casing having an opening therein, a door hingedly connected with the casing and adapted for closing the opening, a resilient member disposed within the casing and operable by the door for moving the cigarettes in the container away from the opening when the door is moved to its closed position, and spring means for moving the door to, and yieldingly retaining the door in, its closed position.

3. A cigarette container comprising a casing having an opening therein, a door hingedly connected with the casing and adapted for closing the opening, a resilient member disposed within the casing and operable by the door for moving the cigarettes in the container away from the opening when the door is moved to its closed position, and means connected with the door and adapted for engagement with the resilient member for moving the resilient member when the door is moved.

4. A cigarette container comprising a rectangular casing having a corner cut away for providing an opening therein, a door hingedly connected with a side of the casing and normally positioned for closing the opening, and a resilient member disposed within the casing and operable by the door for moving the cigarettes in the container away from the opening when the door is moved to its closed position.

5. A cigarette container comprising a rectangular casing having a corner cut away for providing an opening therein, a door hingedly connected with a side of the casing and normally positioned for closing the opening, a resilient member disposed within the casing and operable by the door for moving the cigarettes in the container away from the opening when the door is moved to its closed position, and spring means operatively connected with the door for moving the door to, and yieldingly retaining the door in its closed position.

6. A cigarette container comprising a rectangular casing having a corner cut away for providing an opening therein, a door hingedly connected with a side of the casing and normally positioned for closing the opening, a resilient member disposed within the casing and operable by the door for moving the cigarettes in the container away from the opening when the door is moved to its closed position, and means connected with the door and adapted for engagement with the resilient member for moving the resilient member when the door is moved.

ROLLA E. MUDD.