

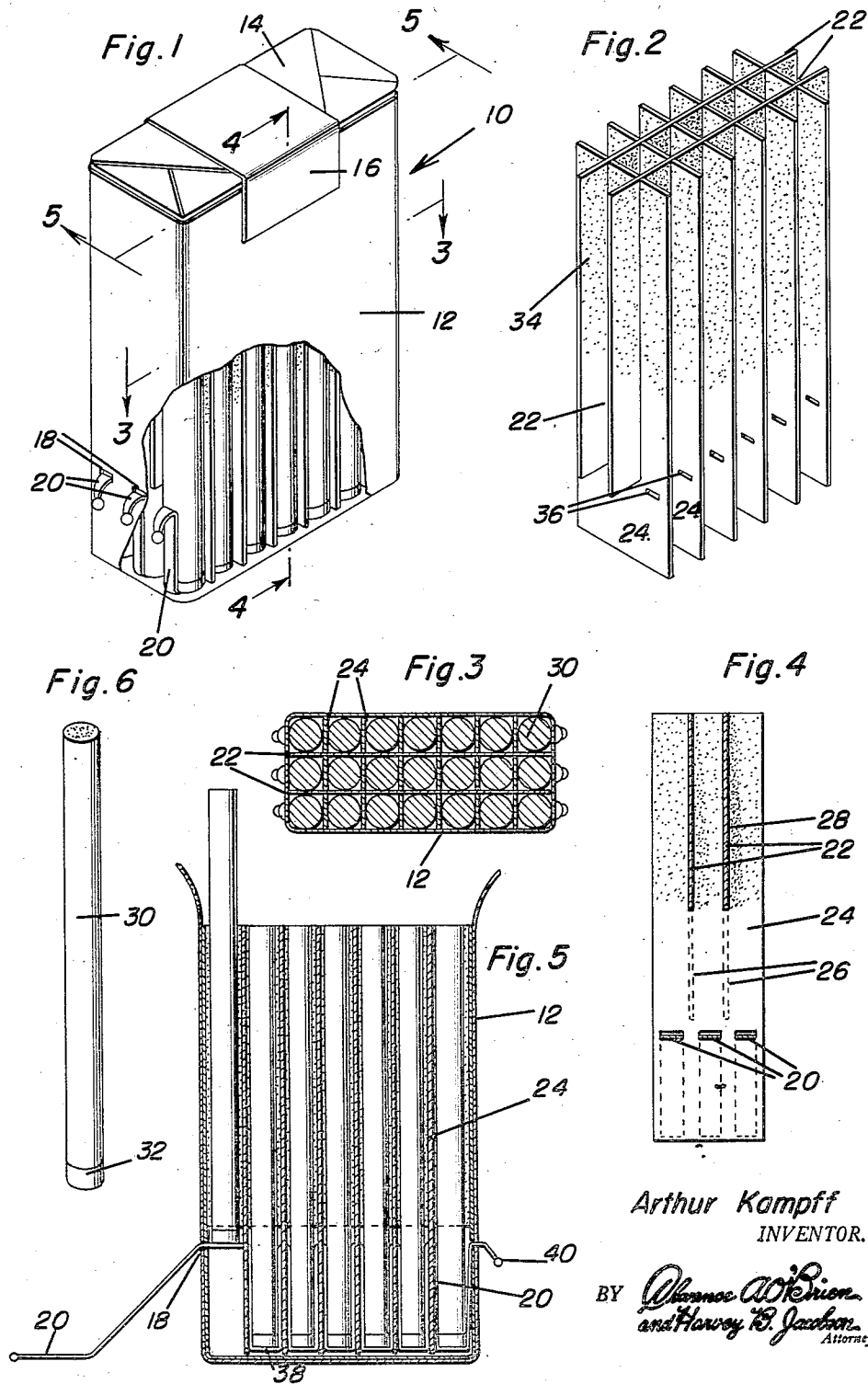
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MATCHLESS CIGARETTE PACK

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MATCHLESS CIGARETTE PACK

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1 Claim. (Cl. 221—88)

This invention relates to the art of packaging and the class of containers and receptacles and more particularly to a cigarette pack of novel and useful construction.

The primary object of this invention resides in the provision of a cigarette pack which is adapted to maintain the cigarettes contained therein in a manner preventing the crushing, bending, or compressing of the cigarettes while providing means for permitting the ready withdrawal of the cigarettes in a convenient manner and in an individual step-by-step rotation.

A further object of this invention resides in the provision of a cigarette pack having means for igniting a sensitized tip of a cigarette contained therein.

The construction of this invention features interengaged longitudinal and transverse divider plates, the transverse divider plates having slots therein for reception of ribbons for providing means for discharging the cigarettes contained within the pack one at a time. It is to be especially noted that until the first cigarette has been completely lifted no pressure is applied upon the second in the series of cigarettes due to the fact that the slots in the transverse plates are spaced substantially upwardly from the bottom edge of the transverse plates.

Still further objects and features of this invention reside in the provision of a matchless cigarette pack that is strong and durable, comparatively simple in construction and manufacture, capable of being constructed from various readily available materials such as paper, metal, plastic, etc. and which is of very little increased bulk than a conventional cigarette pack while being highly advantageous thereover.

These, together with the various ancillary objects and features of the invention which will become apparent as the following description proceeds, are attained by this matchless cigarette pack, a preferred embodiment of which has been illustrated in the accompanying drawings, by way of example only, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the novel cigarette pack with parts thereof being broken away to show other parts in detail;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the assembled and interengaged transverse and longitudinal divider plates;

Figure 3 is a horizontal sectional view as taken along the plane of line 3—3 in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view as taken along the plane of line 4—4 in Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view as taken along the plane of line 5—5 in Figure 1 and showing the arrangement of ribbons for withdrawing the cigarettes in greatest detail; and

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a cigarette provided with a sensitized tip of any conventional and well-known frictionally ignitable material.

With continuing reference to the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals designate similar parts throughout the various views, reference numeral 10 generally designates the matchless cigarette pack compris-

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ing the present invention. This matchless cigarette pack 10 may be provided with an outer casing 12 of any suitable material such as paper, paperboard, cardboard or the like, provided with a removable sealed top as at 14 which can be readily overlain by the conventional revenue stamps as indicated at 16. In outer appearance the cigarette pack 10 does not differ in any material aspect from the conventional cigarette pack. However, the structural features comprising the present invention may be seen by viewing the slots as at 18 provided for a purpose to be henceforth explained and the ribbons as at 20 which have their ends extending through the slots 18. Within the casing 12 there is provided certain structures for accomplishing various functions. There are provided longitudinally extending divider plates 22 and transverse divider plates 24 of any suitable number so that the casing 12 can hold a given number of cigarettes. The longitudinal plates 22 are provided with vertically extending slits 26 therein for reception of a portion of the transverse plates 24. Likewise, the transverse plates 24 are provided with slits therein as at 28 for reception of the upper portions of the longitudinal plates 22. As can be readily observed, the longitudinally extending plates 22 are not of as great height as the plates 24 and are thus retained flush with the plates 24 at the upper edge but terminate a considerable distance above the bottom edges of the plates 24. The transverse plates 24 and the longitudinal plates 22 when interengaged form a plurality of rows of cells adapted to receive cigarettes 30 therein. It is noted that the cigarettes 30 may be provided with a sensitized coating 32 out of any frictionally inflammable substance such as is generally coated on matches and the like. This ignitable substance when engaged with an abrasive coating as at 34 provided on the upper portions of the longitudinal and transverse plates 24 provide means for igniting the cigarette upon withdrawal from the package. It is to be noted that the termination of the longitudinal plates 22 above the bottom edge of the plates 24 provide means for insuring against undesirable ignition of the cigarette should the coating of the plates 22 be accidentally placed in the wrong portion thereof. This is unlikely in the case of the plates 24 because such are provided with apertures or slots 36 in the lower portions thereof which slots are arranged in alignment to form rows comparable to the rows of cigarettes 30. The slots 36 are positioned in alignment with the apertures 18 in the pack 12 so that the ribbons 20 have passed therethrough in alignment. It is highly desirable to make the slots or apertures 24 of an elongated thin rectangular shape so as to provide adequate guides for the flat ribbons 20 while also substantially preventing twisting and the like. It is to be noted that with the top 14 of the cigarette package 12 removed or open upon pulling of any of the ribbons 20 the cigarettes will be successively lifted one by one a distance equivalent to that from the slots 36 to the bottom edge of the transverse members 24 or thereabout inasmuch as the bights of each ribbon as indicated at 38 are engaged about each individual cigarette. Hence, upon pulling of the ribbon 20 only one cigarette at a time will be lifted, such as is shown in Figure 5. This is an important feature of the invention since by so doing the user of this cigarette pack may readily grasp each individual cigarette by his lips alone and pulling it out of the cigarette pack will then automatically cause it to ignite because of the frictional engagement between the sensitized tip 32 and the abrasive 34. Spherical retainers 40 which are adapted to prevent the ends of the ribbon from being pulled within the slots or apertures 18 and also providing means for more readily enabling the ribbons 20 to be grasped. As each individual cigarette is lifted by pulling the ribbon 20, it becomes apparent that said ribbons, protruding

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from the pack, will increase the length. This is waste and can readily be disposed of by using the cigarette just lifted and lighted and being smoked, to burn off or singe the ribbon a reasonable distance from the pack, allowing a sufficient length to protrude so that the next cigarette can be lifted by again pulling the ribbon. In view of this burning of the ribbon, it will be necessary to use a material which is non-inflammable.

Since from the foregoing the construction and advantages of this matchless cigarette pack are readily apparent, further description is believed to be unnecessary.

However, since numerous modifications will readily occur to those skilled in the art after a consideration of the foregoing specification and accompanying drawings, it is not intended to limit the invention to the precise embodiment shown and described, but all suitable modifications and equivalents may be readily resorted to which fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

A cigarette pack comprising a plurality of longitudinally extending divider plates provided with slits in the lower portions thereof, a plurality of transversely extending divider plates provided with slits in the upper portions thereof, said transverse plates being of greater height than said longitudinal plates, said transverse plates engaging said longitudinal plates with a portion of said

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longitudinal plates engaged in the slits of said transverse plates, and a portion of said transverse plates engaged in the slits in said longitudinal plates forming a plurality of rows of cells each adapted to receive a cigarette therein, a plurality of slots in each of said transverse divider plates spaced from the bottom edge thereof, the slots in said transverse divider plates being aligned with each other and corresponding to the rows of cells forming rows of slots, said longitudinal plates terminating above said slots with all portions of said longitudinal plates being above said slots, ribbons extending through said rows of slots, cigarettes received in said cells, said cigarettes having a sensitized tip, and an abrasive coating on a portion of said transverse divider plates and said longitudinal divider plates for igniting said sensitized tip.

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