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M. ALLAND

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CLOSURE FOR CIGARETTE AND SIMILAR PACKAGES

Filed March 17, 1930

Fig. 1.

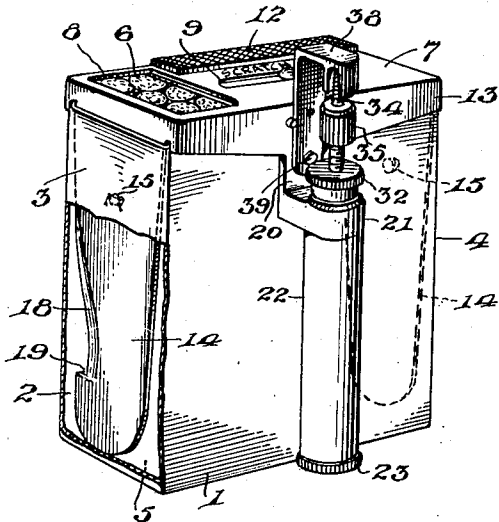


Fig. 2.

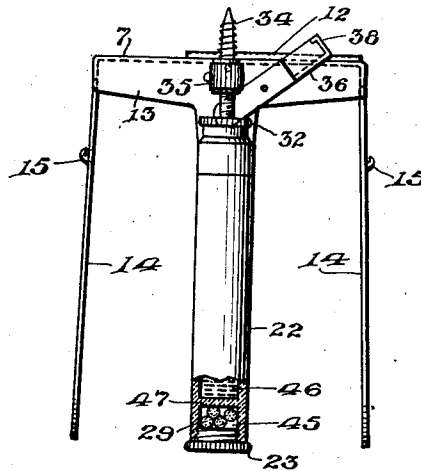


Fig. 3.

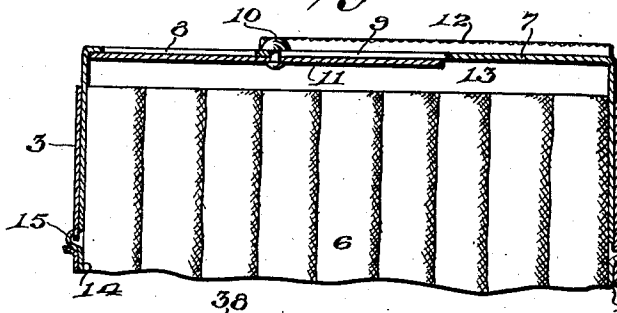


Fig. 4.

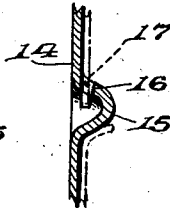


Fig. 5.

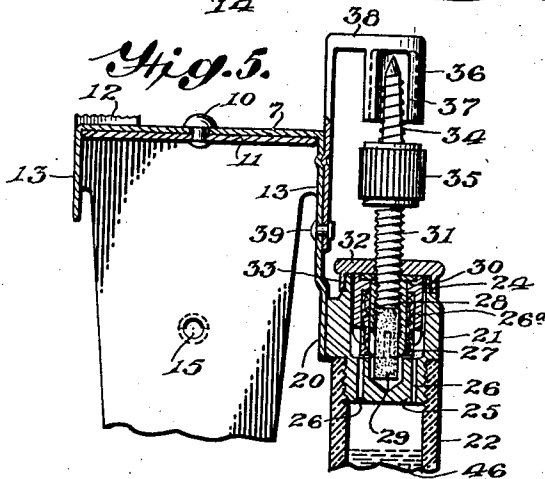
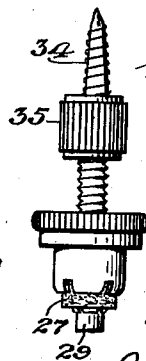


Fig. 6.



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CLOSURE FOR CIGARETTE AND SIMILAR PACKAGES

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The object of the invention is to provide a closure for packages such as those containing cigarettes and articles of such general character.

5 Another object more specifically is to provide a closure comprising a central body portion to cover the open end of a cigarette package, laterally disposed parallel flanges to overhang and protect the free edge portions of the oppositely positioned relatively broader sides of the package, depending normally diverging flattened resilient fingers operative when positioned in a package to press the relatively narrow sides of the same 10 apart and thereby stretch the relatively broader side walls of the package, each of said fingers being provided with an undercut lug or tooth, facing rearwardly of the direction of movement when inserting the 15 fingers into a package, to prevent the accidental withdrawal of the closure from a package.

A further object is to provide such a closure with a bracket supporting a fuel container, having an opening and a removable closure for said opening, carrying a wick and a flint adapted to be rubbed against an abrading surface also carried by the body portion of the device.

20 Still another object is to provide the body portion of the device with an aperture through which the contents of a package may be withdrawn, and to provide the closure of the fuel container with a relatively coarse screw for engaging certain of the contents to facilitate extracting them.

A still further object is to provide the device with a pivoted shield for the extracting screw and to form the closure for the fuel container of two principal elements, one being a hollow wick container with means for supporting the flint, and there being a combined cover for the open end of said fuel container and as a lock nut upon the threaded portion of a flint-advancing means, the opposite 45 end of which means comprises said extracting screw. Throughout this description the term "flint" is employed to refer to any suitable material, which, when struck or rubbed 50 against an abrading surface, will result in

the creation of sparks capable of igniting fuel carried by an adjacent wick.

With these and other objects in mind, the present invention comprises further details of construction and operation, which will be fully brought out in the following description when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the invention as applied to a cigarette package, 55 a portion of which is broken away in order to show one of the closure fingers; Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the closure member per se; Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical section of the upper portion of the closure member; 60 Fig. 4 is an enlarged section of one of the undercut lugs or teeth, showing the adjacent portion of a package wall in cooperation therewith; Fig. 5 is an enlarged transverse vertical section of the upper portion of the device taken through the improved lighter; 65 and Fig. 6 is an elevational view of the lighter element per se.

Referring to the drawing, a cigarette or similar package is shown as comprising front 75 and rear walls 1 and 2, connected by what will be termed end walls 3 and 4, the package being closed at the lower end by means of a bottom wall 5. It is assumed that the upper or top wall of the package has been 80 removed so that the cigarettes or other contents 6 are visible.

The improved closure comprises a preferably flat body portion 7, provided with an aperture 8, through which the contents of a 85 package may be extracted, and with a second aperture 9, in which slides a lug or rivet 10, the lower end of which is secured to a plate 11, which forms a sliding closure for the aperture 8 and normally lies against the 90 under or inner surface of said body portion 7. Upon the upper or outer surface of the body portion there is also carried an abrasive surface 12, or the surface of said body portion may itself be scored or otherwise 95 shaped to form a suitable abrasive.

The normal forward and rear edge portions of the body 7 are provided with integral depending flanges 13, adapted to overhang and protect the adjacent free edge por- 100

tions of the corresponding walls 1 and 2 of a cigarette package, while from the opposite ends of the body 7 depend integral fingers 14, which normally extend divergently downwardly (as shown in Fig. 2), and are provided with outwardly pressed teeth or lugs 15, preferably undercut at 16, or otherwise shaped to permit one's fingernail or other instrument to force the adjacent portion 17 of the package wall therebeneath (as shown in Fig. 4). As such a device as that herein described, after being operatively associated with a cigarette package, is seldom removed from such package until the contents of the latter have been entirely removed, there is no reason why the empty package cannot be destroyed, and it is therefore with this in mind that the positive package wall-engaging lugs are designed, and they thus serve to prevent the accidental separation of the closure and package to the point of badly mutilating, if not destroying, the package, should an attempt be made to force the separation of the closure from the package after they have once been operatively connected. It will also be noted that one of the fingers 14 is provided with a sharpened cutting edge 18, which terminates in a relatively abrupt shoulder 19, said cutting edge being employed to assist in the removal of the upper end of the package, in order that the device may be applied to such a package.

One of the flanges 13 is provided with a depending extension 20, to which is integrally secured a cylindrical bracket 21, which in turn operatively supports the normal upper end of a fuel container 22, closed at its normal lower end by any suitable means 23. The bracket 21 is further provided with an upwardly extending flange 24, while the lower portion of said bracket is spanned by a partition 25, having restricted apertures 26, adapted to permit fuel within said container to seep outwardly past said partition, but to prevent the fuel from flowing freely therefrom when the device is inverted.

The lighting element itself comprises a cylindrical member 26, within the lower portion of which is positioned a cylindrical wick 27, surrounding a concentric inner cylinder 28, within which is positioned, and from which freely extends downwardly, a suitable flint 29. The cylindrical members 26 and 28 are connected together at their adjacent upper portions 30 by any suitable means, while the latter is internally threaded in order to receive a correspondingly threaded flint-advancing member 31, which is also carried in threaded engagement a disc member 32, which serves as a lock nut to jam against the adjacent portions of said cylindrical members 26 and 28, to temporarily

secure the member 31 against movement with respect thereto, and is provided with a depending cylindrical flange 33, which surrounds the adjacent bracket flange 24 to positively prevent the escape of fuel from within said container.

The threaded member 31 merges into a coarsely threaded member 34 which may be employed similarly to a cork screw or the like for engaging and assisting in the removal of certain of the contents of a package to which the device is attached, and at the point of union of said threaded members 31 and 34 there is provided an enlarged knurled knob 35, adapted to be manually engaged for rotating said first threaded member to advance the flint 29 through the inner cylindrical member 28, after the lock nut 32 has been loosened with respect thereto. As the coarsely threaded member 34 normally extends freely upwardly, it is shielded by means of a cylindrical member 36, having a laterally positioned opening 37 and carried by means of an overhanging bracket 38, in turn supported by the adjacent flange 13 in normal alignment with the depending portion 20, said bracket 38 being angularly movable however by reason of its pivotal connection 39 with said closure flange, and while in raised position being operative to protect the free end portion of the threaded member 34, said bracket being oscillatable into the position shown in Fig. 2, to permit the lighter unit, as shown in Fig. 6, to be removed from engagement with the bracket 21. Having removed the lighter unit, and the wick 27 having been moistened by the liquid fuel within the container 22, the flint 29 is rubbed briskly against the abrading surface 12, with the result that sparks flying from said flint ignite the fuel carried by the wick and cause a flame, which may then be used to ignite a cigarette previously extracted from a package to which the closure has been operatively attached.

The closure 23 for the normal lower end of the lighter per se forms in fact a closure for a compartment 45 in the lower portion of the tube 22 and is separated from the liquid containing portion 46 of said tube by a partition 47. In this compartment several reserve flints 29 and/or wicks may be carried, according to the desire of the owner and operator of the device.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

A package closure, comprising a body portion, oppositely positioned fingers carried by said body and adapted to slidingly engage the walls of a package, and undercut lugs laterally extending from said fingers and so shaped as to permit said fingers to move freely in one direction with respect to

the package walls, and to prevent movement in the opposite direction without mutilation of such walls, after the material of the latter has been manually forced into the undercut of the lugs.

B. In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

MAURICE ALLAND.

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