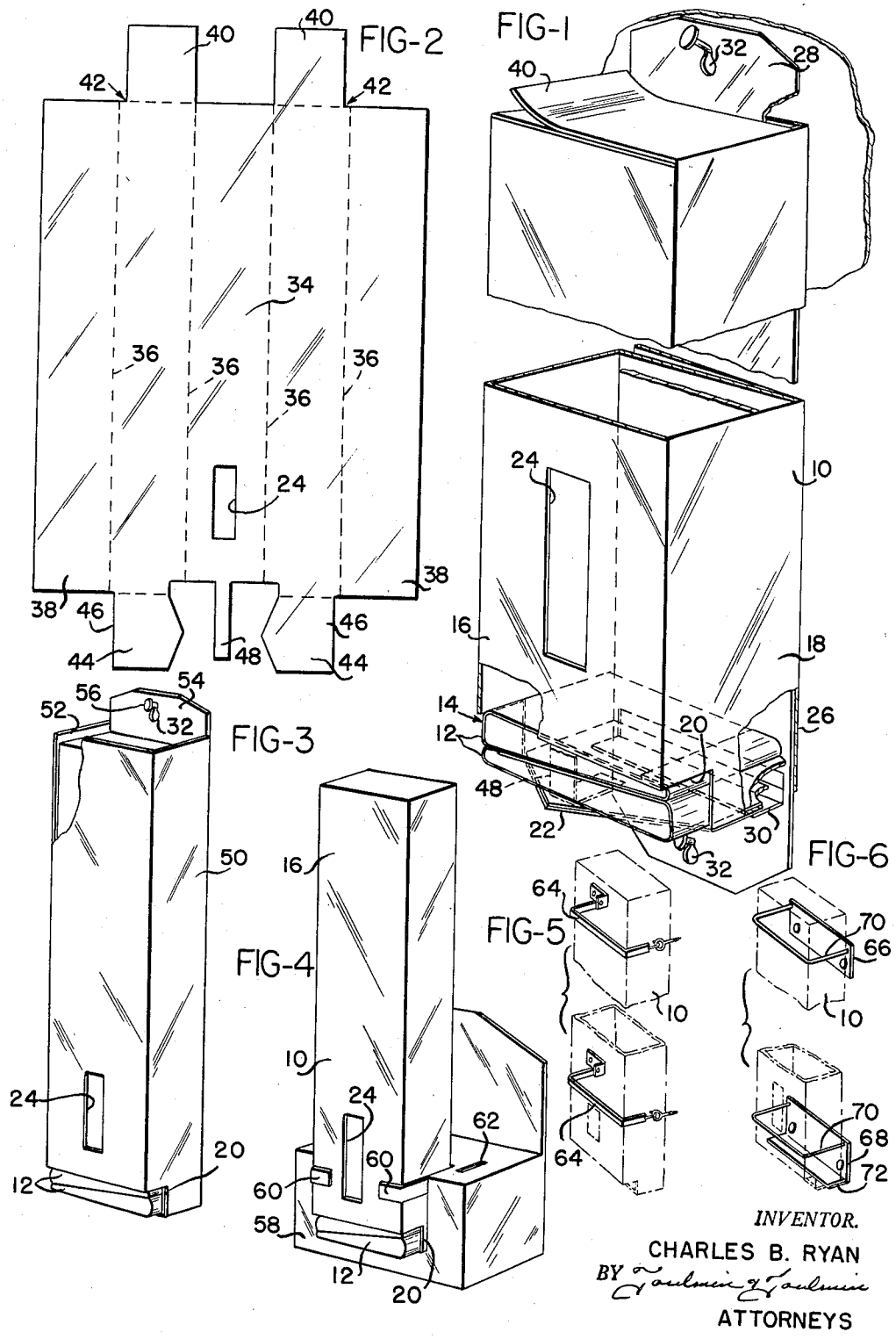
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MATCH BOOK DISPENSER AND SUPPORTING BRACKET THEREFOR

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MATCH BOOK DISPENSER AND SUPPORTING BRACKET THEREFOR

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2 Claims. (Cl. 206—30)

This invention relates to a device for holding such articles as paper match books, including an arrangement for dispensing the match books, and to a supporting means for the device.

Paper match books are presently supplied in packages of fifty in the form of a rectangular box with the match books arranged in two rows therein. While this manner of packaging and supplying the books of matches is generally satisfactory for conveying the matches to their point of sale or point of use, it leaves much to be desired in convenience when the books of matches are being used or are being dispensed one or two at a time to a purchaser.

Having the foregoing in mind, the primary object of the present invention is the provision of an arrangement for packaging match books of the nature referred to which offers advantages in connection with the dispensing of the books of matches after the package has been opened.

Another object of this invention is the provision of an improved package for receiving books of matches from which the said books can be removed one at a time, and which package is so arranged so that it can be conveniently mounted on a wall or in some other suitable permanent location.

A still further object of this invention is to provide in combination with a carton for paper book matches, a supporting bracket particularly adapted for supporting the carton so the books of matches can be conveniently removed therefrom one at a time.

A particular object of this invention is to provide an improved carton and a blank from which the carton is made and from which carton the books of matches can be removed one at a time as they are to be used.

These and other objects and advantages will become more apparent upon reference to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a preferred form of the carton according to my invention and a supporting bracket therefor;

Figure 2 is a development showing the blank from which the carton is made;

Figure 3 is a perspective view similar to Figure 1 but showing a modified supporting arrangement for the carton;

Figure 4 shows a still further supporting arrangement for the carton;

Figure 5 illustrates an arrangement for supporting the carton on a wall by elastic bands; and

Figure 6 is a view like Figure 5, but showing the carton supported by means of rigid loops.

Referring to the drawings somewhat more in detail, Figure 1 illustrates an elongated carton **10** rectangular in cross-section, and of a size to receive a standard book match, as indicated at **12**, at the bottom of the view.

The carton comprises a feed opening **14** at the bottom through which the match books can be drawn one at a time, and the front wall **16** of the carton extends downwardly over the next to the bottom book of matches, so

that only the lowermost book will be drawn out at any time.

For convenience in grasping the opposite ends of the book of matches, the side walls **18** of the carton have notches **20** therein which form continuations of the opening **14** in the front wall. This provides ready access to the opposite ends of the book of matches so that the lowermost one can be drawn upwardly at any time.

The lowermost portion of the carton at **22** is formed so that the center projects outwardly adjacent the plane of the front wall of the carton whereby the books of matches are supported so that they will not tilt downwardly and which could possibly interfere with the proper feeding of the books of matches from the carton.

The front wall **16** of the carton may advantageously comprise the aperture **24** through which the contents of the carton can be observed to determine the quantity remaining.

According to this invention, the carton is provided with a slot immediately forward of the back wall **26** thereof and through which the supporting bracket **28** can be inserted from the bottom of the carton. Bracket **28** comprises a shelf **30** for engagement with the bottom of the carton to support the carton on the bracket, and the upper and lower ends of the bracket may be extended so that they can be provided with apertures **32** for receiving supporting elements such as screws or nails. Shelf **30** may be struck out from bracket **28**, as illustrated, or may be in the form of a separate element fixed to bracket **28** in any suitable manner.

Reference to Figure 2 will reveal the manner in which the blank from which the carton is made is formed. The blank comprises a generally rectangular center portion **34** which may be scored, as indicated by the dashed lines at **36**, so the blank can be folded to form the body of the carton. The two outermost portions of the blank at **38** will, of course, overlap when the carton is folded about and can be glued or stapled together to hold the carton in its folded-up condition.

Extending upwardly from the two panels of the blank next inwardly from the outer panels **38** are the tabs **40** which fold over each other to form the upper end of the carton. These tabs are notched along their entire lengths, as at **42**, so that when the carton is folded up and the tabs **40** are brought together and connected by gluing or stapling, the previously mentioned slot through which bracket **28** extends is provided.

Extending downwardly from the same two panels as carry the tabs **40** are the tabs **44** which are also notched along their outer edges, as at **46**, to provide for the slot at the bottom of the carton for receiving the bracket **28**, and which have their inner ends generally triangularly shaped to provide for the supporting shelf for the books of matches previously referred to.

A feature of my invention resides in the relatively narrow strip or tab **48** that extends downwardly from the center panel of the blank. This tab or strip, as will be seen in Figure 1 is availed of for closing the aperture **14** until it is desired to remove books of matches from the carton. When it is desired to commence the dispensing of books of matches from the carton, the tab or strip **48** is torn off close to its connection with the front wall of the carton, and the aperture **14** is thus completely exposed.

I also contemplate supplying a metallic container for receiving the entire carton, as illustrated in Figure 3. In this figure the metallic container **50** is generally similar to the carton, except that it is open at the top at **52** for receiving the carton and has its back wall extended, as at **54**, at either the top or at both the top and bottom for engaging suitable supporting means **56** for wall mounting of the container.

Of particular merit for use in stores where the matches

are to be dispensed one or two at a time as a purchase item, there may be provided the pedestal element **58**, as shown in Figure 4, having a recess for receiving the carton **10**, and which is retained in place in the recess by the arms **60**. Pedestal **58** may advantageously be hollow, and a slot **62** provided for placing coins therein so that a self-service dispensing and coin receiving device is provided.

I also contemplate supporting container **10** on a wall or the like by other types of bracket means, as illustrated in Figure 5, wherein elastic elements **64** are supported on the wall and through which the carton **10** can be inserted to be supported thereby due to the resilient pressure with which the elements hold the carton against the wall.

The Figure 6 arrangement shows spaced brackets **66** and **68** adapted for wall mounting in vertically spaced relation and each comprising a wire loop **70** of a size for slidably receiving the carton **10** and the lower bracket **68** comprising a shelf **72** that provides a stop for limiting the vertical movement of the carton.

Several advantages obtain from the packaging of book matches according to my invention, and the provision of supporting means therefor. The packaging of the matches in the described manner makes available a substantial area of the carton for receiving printed matter in the form of advertising, thus making the package an attractve item for the merchandiser. The combination of the carton and the supporting bracket has advantages for the purchaser in the convenience with which the carton can be mounted on a wall or other convenient place, and the convenience with which the books of matches can be withdrawn from the carton as they are used.

It will be understood that other forms of cartons could be employed, as well as other types of supporting brackets therefor, and that the essential features of this invention center about the constructional elements and the arrangements thereof by means of which the foregoing advantages are obtained.

It will be understood that this invention is susceptible to modification in order to adapt it to different usages and conditions, and, accordingly, it is desired to comprehend such modifications within this invention as may fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination; a carton formed of a blank of stiff paper or the like comprising fold lines extending in spaced relation thereacross parallel to one side edge of the blank whereby the blank is divided into five sections said blank being folded along said lines to form a rectangular carton with the two side sections of the blank overlapping in back, tabs extending from the tops and bottoms of the sections on each side of the center section overlapping and secured together to provide top and bottom closures therefor, said tabs having their back edges stepped back from the back wall so as to leave a slot in front of the back wall of the carton there being a notch extending across the bottom of the said center section and part-way into the said sections on opposite sides thereof to form a feed opening in the bottom of the completed carton, and a flat stiff supporting strip extending completely through the said slot in the carton in front of the back wall and comprising means at its ends for securing it to a wall surface, and shelf means extending outwardly from said supporting strip to supportingly engage said bottom closure.

2. In combination as claimed in claim 1, with the lowermost wall formed by the bottom closures tapering rearwardly from a point in the center substantially coplanar with the said center section of the carton to a point on the side sections where the notch terminates, said lowermost wall extending rearwardly from the ends of the notches the width of the carton.

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