

May 29, 1934.

I. CORBE
BAG OR LIKE CONTAINER
Filed June 30, 1933

1,960,232

Fig. 1.

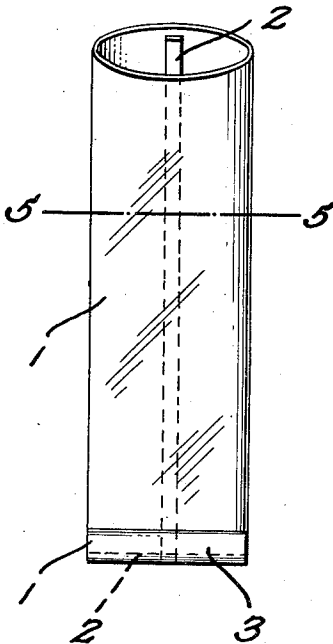


Fig. 2.

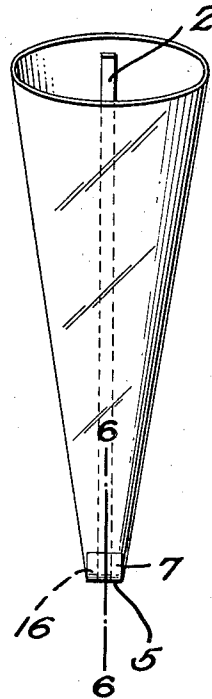


Fig. 5.

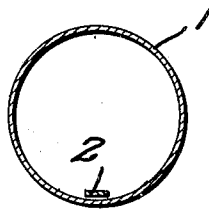


Fig. 3.

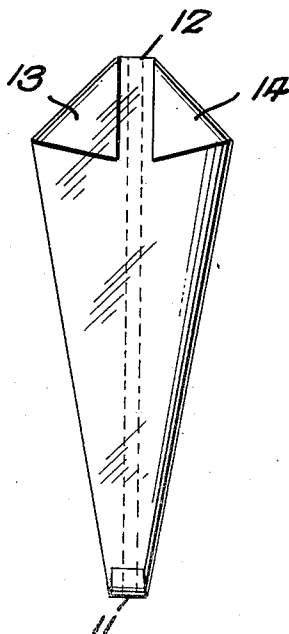


Fig. 4.

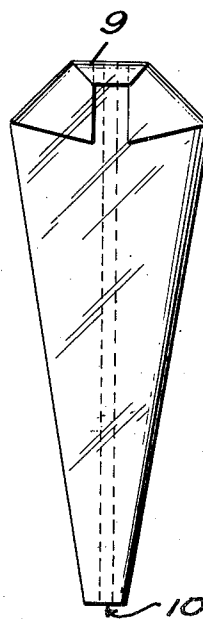
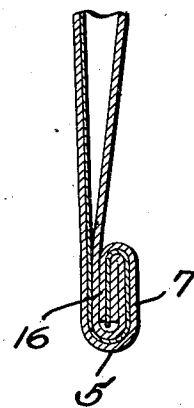


Fig. 6.



INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,960,232

BAG OR LIKE CONTAINER

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Application June 30, 1933, Serial No. 678,334
In Great Britain November 10, 1932

3 Claims. (Cl. 229—53)

My invention relates to improvements in containers and has, as a chief object to provide a simple inexpensive device by which transparent film (or better known under the trade name "Cellophane") or similar material can be easily converted into a container that can be easily and repeatedly opened and closed so that it may be conveniently used for a large number of products such as powders, salts, crystals, teas, herbs, grains, fruits, vegetables, candies, nuts, macaroni also jellies, pastes, creams, or thick liquids such as castor oil, glycerine and similar products, in this way the transparent film can be substituted for glass, stone, metal, wood, cardboard, certain fabrics and heavy wax paper, in order to obtain the following advantages.

First, sanitation; as transparent film does not rust and does not accumulate germs proportional to wood, metal, paper or cardboard. From a sanitary view point, it is even an advantage on glass, as the chips of a broken or cracked transparent film container is harmless to the contents.

Second, visibility.

Third, economy; transparent film being less expensive and much lighter in weight is a great saving in the cost of production and transportation.

Another object is to construct a container of the class described provided with means for opening and closing the two opposite ends of the container repeatedly, without adding additional parts or labor. This is for the purpose of obtaining more convenience and service.

A container is filled with mixed candies, say, lemon drops and chocolate caramels. If the consumer desires a caramel and it happens to lay at the bottom of the container, according to my device, all that is necessary is to open the bottom end and reach for the caramel. Another object of the two openings is that the same container can be used equally for products requiring to be used in large or small quantities as the container may be conic shaped. So for small quantities the narrow end can be opened and for large quantities the wide end can be used.

Another object for the two openings is that one container can be used for two relative products of different flavors, blends, colors, or kinds, such as; tobacco, jello powders, raisins and almonds, pecans and walnuts, yellow and green peas, etc. All that is necessary to prevent mixing is a division which can be done by placing a piece of soft material, with a small hole inserted in the center to allow the stem to pass through, at the point required.

Still another object of my invention is that if the container should happen to tear, crack, or break unless the damage extends the full vertical length of the tube, the container can still be continuously opened and closed for use.

Other objects attained by my invention will be pointed out hereinafter.

In the drawing attached hereto and forming a part thereof;

Figure 1 shows my container cylinder shaped open at the upper end.

Figure 2 shows my container conic shaped open at the lower end.

Figure 3 shows the conic shaped tube closed at the narrow end and partly closed at the wide end.

Figure 4 shows the conic tube closed at the wide end and opened at the narrow end.

Figure 5 shows the parts my container is composed of.

Figure 6 shows the parts of Figure 5 in assembled position.

No. 1 is a tube of transparent film open at both ends.

No. 2 is a stem of fine soft flexible metal and of similar length of the tube.

To assemble the container, the stem 2 is placed vertical at the center of the tube 1 as shown in Figure 5, this stem is to be placed loose entirely unsecured to the sides of the tube for the purpose I will describe below.

Before filling my container it is necessary to have one opening sealed first, which is done simply by bending one open end of the tube together with the end of the stem, after which it stays closed by the stiffness of the stem as shown in Figure 1 at 1, 2, and 3 and in Figure 2 at 5, 7, and 16. The container is then ready for filling, after which the other opening is to be sealed in the same manner as the first opening.

A container with a wide opening can be sealed as shown in Figure 3. The corners 13 and 14 near the opening are bent towards each other close to the center stem 12 forming the shape of a capital A. The point of the tube is then bent together with the loose stem as many times as it may be required as shown in Figure 4 at 9. The object of closing in this manner is for the purpose of avoiding the necessity of two separate strips.

To open the container for use of the contents all that is necessary is to unfold one of the openings. For large quantities the wide end is to be unfolded and for small quantities, the narrow end 11 shown in Figure 3 is to be unfolded and then the opening expands as shown in Figure 4 at 10.

For smoking tobacco, macaroni, or other prod-

ucts which are usually bailed or bundled before packing, I prefer the stem should be a little longer than the tube in order that the projecting end of the stem may be bent over one of the sides of the tube so the said contents may be conveniently placed in the container.

If the loose stem should happen to break at the folding point as a result of frequent opening and closing, the stem being the full length of the tube, the container can still be continuously and successively closed and opened until the contents are used out.

In conclusion I find it important to analyze and point out the practicability and the important advantages obtained by the loose stem.

First. It reduces the structure to the minimum.

Second. A hard substance when secured to a fine material like transparent film, it is outbalanced by the harder substance and causes shrinkage of the film resulting with cracks and breaks and reduces resistance against pressure but according to my device it evidently shows that even though both openings of the tube are secured by one and the same stem the sides of the tube still remain free from the stem, thus not only avoiding all these stated harmful results but also balancing and supporting the container as a whole.

I do not, however, wish to be understood as limiting myself to the loose stem as the stem may also be attached to one or both ends of the tube and being considerably less harmful if the attached part does not extend over the amount of space required for sealing.

Neither do I limit myself to the two openings as the loose stem is also an important advantage to a bag of transparent film having only one opening in which case one end of the stem is to be attached at the center of the lower sealed end of the bag.

Obviously various modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

I am aware that a metal lining also metal stems strongly secured to paper tubes covering the full

vertical length or part of the vertical length of the tube have been previously introduced as means for securing the opening of receptacles, but since my device is chiefly intended for transparent film which is a very fine and delicate material, a metal lining is useless as the metal obstructs the vision of the contents and a metal stem strongly secured to film is harmful for the reason stated above and does not provide a balancing support as I have previously analyzed. A stem covering only part of the length of the tube cannot secure two openings and provides no support at all. Furthermore, if the short stem happens to break, the opening of the container has no longer means of securance.

What I claim is:

1. A container for the purpose specified composed of a tube as described, one single stem of soft flexible material, said stem being of similar length with the said tube and placed loose vertically at the center of the said tube in a position suitable for securing both openings, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a container for the purpose specified composed of a tube of suitable material, a stem of soft flexible material of similar length of the said tube, the said stem being placed loose vertically at the center of the tube and attached in a manner as to stay free from the side parts of the tube in order to allow the contents to fill in around the stem and so prevent the film from injury that may be caused by the pressure of the edges of the stem, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a container for the purpose specified, a tube of suitable material having one opening, a stem of soft flexible material of similar length of said tube, and the said stem being attached to the lower sealed end within the said tube leaving the stem swinging loose all the way up for the purpose of providing a balancing support and securing the opening of the said tube, substantially as described.

ISRAEL CORBE.