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E. L. LARSON ET AL

CONTAINER

Filed March 3, 1925

Fig. 1

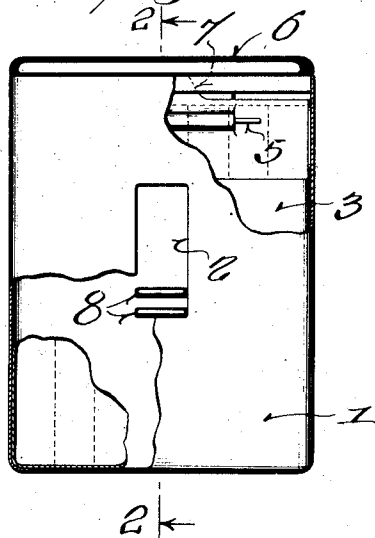


Fig. 2

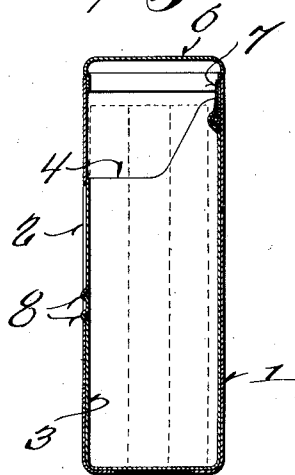
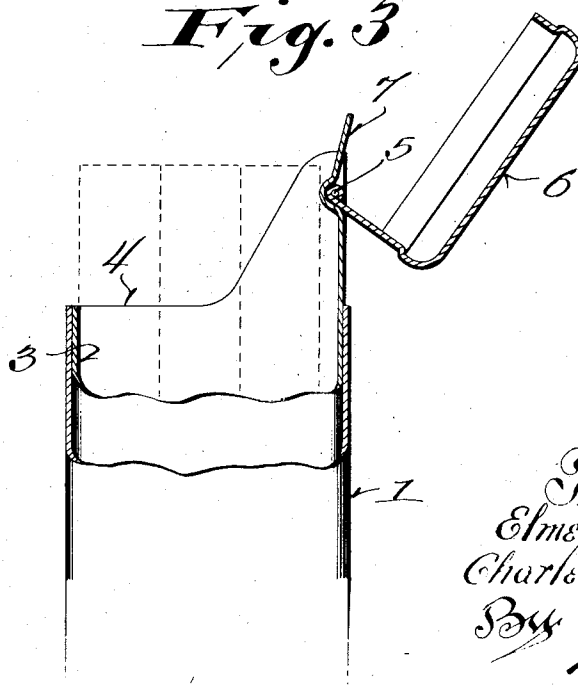


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CONTAINER.

Application filed March 3, 1925. Serial No. 12,856.

This invention relates to improvements in containers, and more particularly to a container designed for use in connection with cigarettes, tobacco, and various other small articles.

The primary object of the present invention resides in the provision of a container of the general character described, in which projection of the contents of the container will cause the cover to be released and swung to allow convenient and ready selection of the articles contained therein, and which upon retraction of the contents of the container the cover is automatically closed.

Another object is to provide a container of the foregoing character, which may be conveniently manipulated with one hand.

Incidental to the foregoing, it is a further object to provide a container with an inner slidable shell which may be projected from the outer casing by means of access through the latter, and to which a cover is hingedly connected and therefore released from the outer casing upon projection of the inner shell.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts substantially as hereinafter described and more particularly defined by the appended claims, it being understood that such changes in the precise embodiment of the herein disclosed invention may be made as come within the scope of the claims.

In the accompanying drawing is illustrated one complete example of the physical embodiment of the present invention constructed according to the best mode so far devised for the practical application of the principles thereof.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a container constructed in accordance with the present invention, parts being broken away and in section to more clearly illustrate the structural features.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, and

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view with parts broken away and in section.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawing, wherein one form of the invention is illustrated, the numeral 1 designates an outer casing having an open upper end, and provided in one of its sides

with a slot 2, the purpose of which will be described later.

For convenience in manufacture, the bottom of the casing 1 is partially open, but it is to be understood that the same can be entirely closed without affecting the invention. Slidably mounted within the casing 1 is an inner frame or shell 3 designed to carry a pack of cigarettes, or other type of small articles. To permit convenient access to the articles contained in the inner shell 3, the same has its front portion cut away at 4, while the rear wall extends upwardly to a point adjacent the top of the outer casing 1.

Hinged to the pintle 5 carried by the rear wall of the shell 3, is a cover 6 having its sides slightly shouldered to nest within the open mouth of the casing 1 to normally close the same when the shell is in its retracted position. The rear wall of the cover 6 is extended downwardly to engage the pintle 5, while the upper edge of the rear wall of the shell 3 is terminated in a resilient lip 7 adapted to engage the rear wall of the cover 6 and cause the same to be swung on its pintle when released from the mouth of the casing 1.

The front wall of the shell 3 is provided with ribs or projections 8 which extend through the slot 2 in the front wall of the outer casing 1 to permit manipulation of the inner shell.

In the operation of the device the container may be conveniently held in one hand and the projection 8 engaged by the thumb for the purpose of sliding the inner shell upwardly and projecting the same from the outer casing to permit convenient access to the articles carried within the shell. It is obvious that when the inner shell has been slid upwardly to a point where the cover is released from the mouth of the outer casing, the lip 7 will cause the cover to swing on its pintle to the position illustrated in Figure 3. And upon retraction of the inner shell the rear wall of the outer casing, upon engaging the rear wall of the cover 6, will force the same to a horizontal position against the tension of the lip 7, and as further retraction of the shell takes place the shouldered sides of the cover will nest within the open mouth of the outer casing to normally close the same.

From the foregoing it is obvious that a

very inexpensive and compact container has been provided in which the cover is easily opened and the contents projected by a simple operation of the thumb. It is further significant that a minimum number of parts are utilized, inasmuch as all links and levers are eliminated. Attention is further directed to the fact that the cover cannot be accidentally swung over as it is first necessary to slide the inner shell upwardly to a point where the cover is released from the outer casing. Further, due to the fact that the contents of the container are projected by sliding the inner shell upwardly and the cover opened by this operation, it is obvious that the same can be manipulated with one hand which is not the case where a projection of the contents depends upon first opening the cover, as required in most of the containers of this general character at the present time.

We claim:—

A container comprising an outer shell

having a slot formed in one wall thereof, an inner shell slidably mounted within said outer shell and having a thumb piece projecting through said slot, said inner shell having one end cut away at one side and having a cover hinged to the other side of such end, and a spring normally positioned within said cover, and having an outwardly turned lip adapted to bear against the inner side of said cover and spring such cover open when the inner container is slid outwardly with reference to the outer container, said spring lip being integral with the inner shell and formed by means of a tongue separated at its edges from the remaining portions of such inner shell by means of slits.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin.

ELMER L. LARSON.

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