

Jan 6, 1931.

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1,787,710

FOLDING CLOSURE FOR TOBACCO POUCHES

Filed Nov. 11, 1929

Fig. 1.

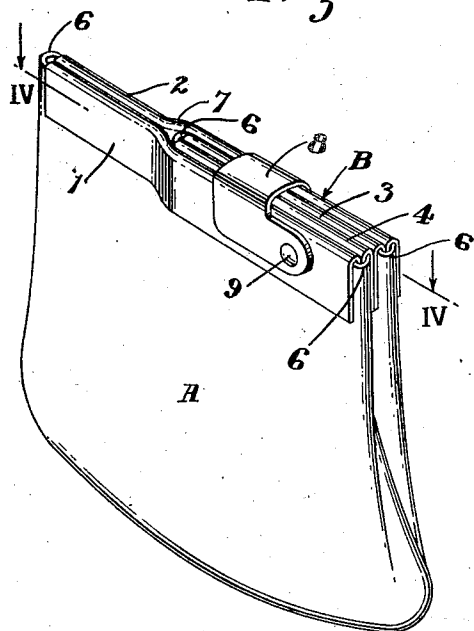


Fig. 2.

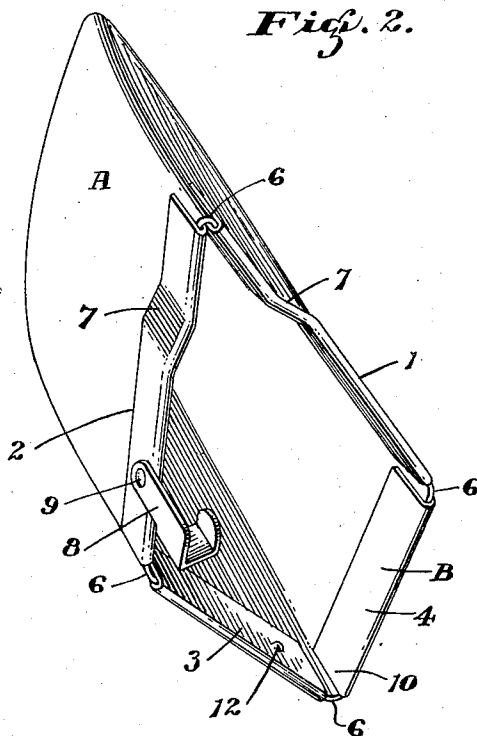


Fig. 3.

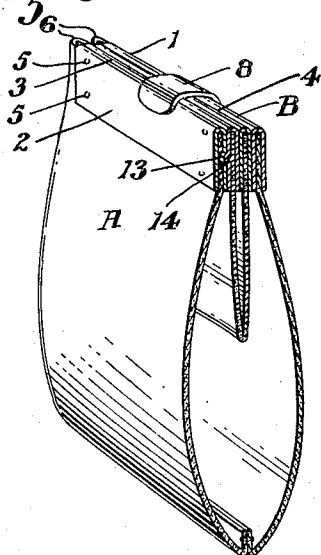
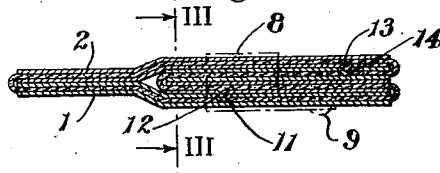


Fig. 4.



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FOLDING CLOSURE FOR TOBACCO POUCHES

Application filed November 11, 1929. Serial No. 406,328.

This invention relates to a tobacco pouch, or like container, and especially to a folding closure therefor.

The object of the present invention is to generally improve and simplify the construction and operation of folding closures for tobacco pouches or the like; to provide a folding closure which may be readily opened or closed and one which forms a flat bar like closure without presenting protuberances of any character; to provide a closure which is foldable to contract the mouth of the pouch and to provide means for securing the closure in folded position; and further, to provide a closure which may be widely opened for the removal of long cut tobacco and which may also be narrowed down into the form of a spout to permit pouring out of granular or short cut tobacco.

The folding closure is shown by way of illustration in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the pouch showing the closure in folded and closed position,

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the pouch showing the closure in open position,

Fig. 3 is a perspective view partially in section, said section being taken on line III—III of Fig. 4, and

Fig. 4 is a cross section taken on line IV—IV of Fig. 1.

In accordance with the present invention the body, indicated at A, may be made of any suitable flexible material, such as leather or the like, while the closure indicated at B is preferably constructed of a substantial or rigid material, such as metal or the like.

The closure shown in the present instance consists of four bar like sections, such as indicated at 1, 2, 3 and 4. Each bar is U-shaped in cross section as shown in Fig. 3 and is secured to the upper edges of the pouch by being crimped or punched as indicated at 5. The several bars when applied are slightly separated endwise and the material of the pouch thus forms flexible connections or hinges 6, which permits folding of the several bars as shown in Fig. 1, or spreading or opening up of the bars as shown in Fig. 2. Bars

1 and 2, see Figs. 1 and 2, are slightly offset or bent as indicated at 7 so as to permit the bars 3 and 4 to be folded inwardly and to lie between the same as in Fig. 1. This method of folding permits the mouth of the pouch to be considerably retracted when closed.

A latch, such as shown at 8, is employed for the purpose of securing the bars of the closure when they assume the folded position. This latch is pivotally secured to the bar 1, as indicated at 9, and as such may be readily swung to closed or open position, thereby permitting the pouch to be quickly opened or closed as desired. By opening the bars, as shown in Fig. 2, a spout-like discharge mouth is formed at the point 10, thus permitting granular or short cut tobacco to be readily poured into a pipe or the like. Again the bars may be more widely separated when the pouch contains long cut tobacco thus permitting ready insertion or removal thereof.

By referring to Fig. 4, it will be noted that the inner surface of bar 1 is provided with a recess, such as shown at 11, and that bar 3 is provided with a protuberance 12. Bar 2 on the other hand is provided with a protuberance 13 while bar 4 is provided with a recess, such as shown at 14. The protuberances 12 and 13 enter the recesses 11 and 14 when the bars are folded, as shown in Fig. 1, and as the protuberances and recesses are arranged at opposite ends of the bars 3 and 4, they will be supported and rigidly secured against vertical movement or displacement when assuming a folded position, this being particularly true when the latch 8 is applied as shown in Fig. 1.

The pouch as a whole is exceedingly simple in construction and as the closure is formed by separating the bars endwise with relation to each other the material of the pouch forms hinge connections, thus simplifying the construction and entirely eliminating pintle connections such as are usually employed. By offsetting the bars 1 and 2 as shown at 7 bars 3 and 4 may be folded inwardly between the same as shown in Fig. 1, thus materially shortening or contracting the mouth of the pouch when folded, this being desirable as pouches of this character are

usually carried in the pocket. Protuberances of any character are entirely avoided and as the bars are flat comparatively little space is required.

While certain features of the present invention are more or less specifically described, I wish it understood that various changes may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims. Similarly, that the materials and finishes of the several parts employed may be such as the manufacturer may decide, or varying conditions or uses may demand.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is —

1. A device of the character described comprising a flexible container having a mouth opening at one end and closed at the other, a pair of rigid bars secured to the mouth end of the container said bars being offset substantially midway of their length to form an intermediate space when the mouth of the container is closed and the bars are folded against each other, a second pair of rigid bars also secured to the mouth end of the container and of a length to permit them to be folded into the intermediate space formed by the offset portions of the first named bars, all of said bars being slightly separated end for end to permit closing of the mouth of the container and folding of the bars so that they will contact with each other and lie parallel, and means securing the bars with relation to each other when folded.

2. A device of the character described comprising a flexible container having a mouth opening at one end and closed at the other, a pair of rigid bars secured to the mouth end of the container said bars being offset substantially midway of their length to form an intermediate space when the mouth of the container is closed and the bars are folded against each other, a second pair of rigid bars also secured to the mouth end of the container and of a length to permit them to be folded into the intermediate space formed by the offset portions of the first named bars, all of said bars being slightly separated end for end to permit closing of the mouth of the container and folding of the bars so that they will contact with each other and lie parallel, means securing the bars with relation to each other when folded, and means securing the bars against vertical movement with relation to each other when folded.

3. A device of the character described comprising a flexible container having a mouth opening at one end and closed at the other, a pair of rigid bars secured to the mouth end of the container said bars being offset substantially midway of their length to form an intermediate space when the mouth of the container is closed and the bars are folded against each other, a second pair of rigid bars also secured to the mouth end of the con-

tainer and of a length to permit them to be folded into the intermediate space formed by the offset portions of the first named bars, all of said bars being slightly separated end for end to permit closing of the mouth of the container and folding of the bars so that they will contact with each other and lie parallel, means securing the bars with relation to each other when folded, and interlocking means on the bars securing the bars against vertical and endwise movement with relation to each other when folded.

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