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CONTAINER

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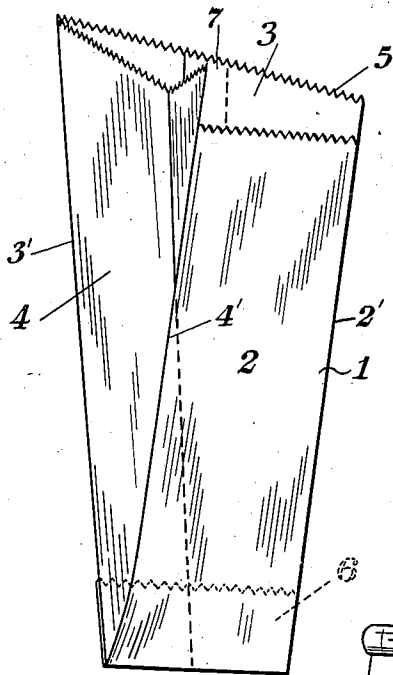


Fig. 1

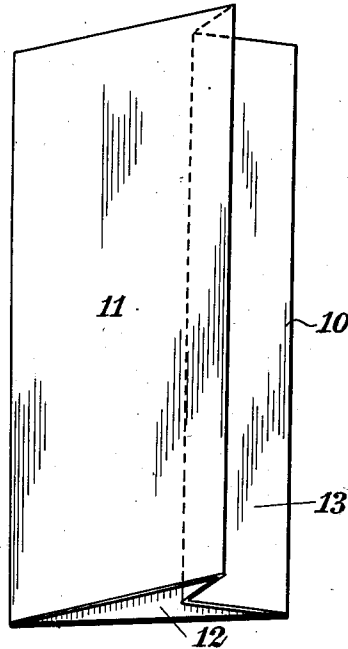


Fig. 2

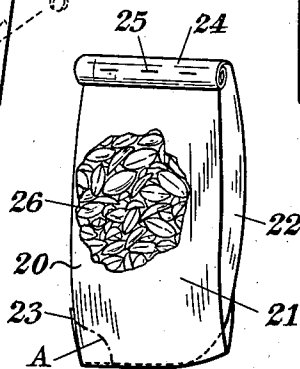


Fig. 3

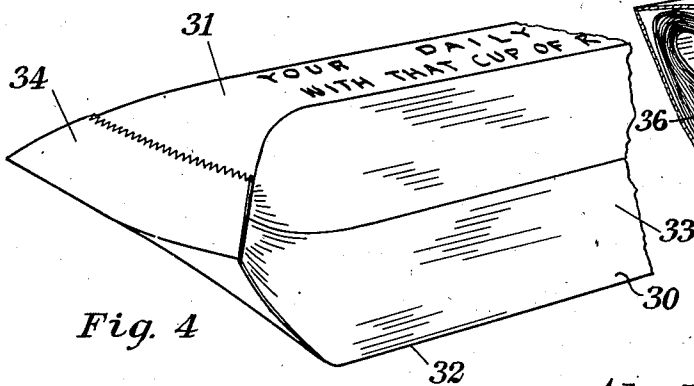
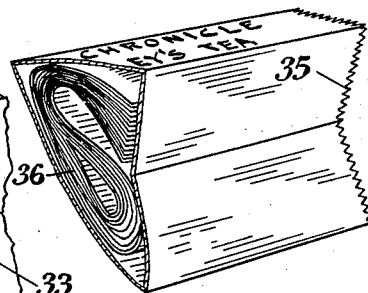


Fig. 4



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CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 229—53)

This invention relates to containers and wrappers for articles of manufacture and commerce.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a greatly improved form of container or wrapper, which is of relatively simple construction, which does not require any expensive or extensive changes in conventional equipment for its manufacture, which can be readily produced in very large quantities, and which is particularly well adapted for a wide range of useful applications in the field of packaging and wrapping of articles of manufacture and commerce.

The invention is of general application in its field, and the specific details of construction depend in large measure upon the specific purpose to which the containers and wrappers are to be applied. For illustrative purposes, the invention will be described with particular reference to the following subject matters:

(1) Bags or containers for small articles of merchandise such as nuts, candies, dried fruits, raisins and other commodities generally marketed in package form.

(2) Protective coverings for periodicals such as newspapers and magazines and such other articles as are generally delivered to porches, lawns, etc. and permitted to remain exposed to the elements for varying lengths of time before being taken into the house.

Not only are the foregoing two of the most promising applications of the invention, but they lend themselves admirably for the specific disclosure of the invention such as is required by the patent statutes. Hence, although the invention will be described with considerable detail and particularity and certain specific terms and language will be utilized, it is to be understood that the present disclosure is illustrative rather than restrictive, and that no limitations are to be imported which are not required by the language of the claims and the state of the prior art.

Referring to the specific application of the invention to bags or containers for small articles of merchandise such as nuts, etc., it is an important object of the invention to provide an improved form of container or bag which can be readily filled and sealed either manually or by machinery, which is particularly well adapted to protect its contents from contamination, spoilage and spilling, and which can be opened without undue difficulty by the ultimate consumer and without totally destroying the bag or spilling its contents.

Another important object is to provide a bag or container for small articles such as nuts, fruits,

candies, etc., which can be effectively used after being unsealed to protect the unconsumed portion of the contents from contamination and spoilage.

Referring to the specific application of the invention to protective coverings for articles such as periodicals which are delivered to porches and lawns and which are for this reason exposed to the elements, it is an important object of the invention to provide a protective covering which can very easily be applied to the article to be protected at the source of supply or by the delivery boy on his route, which is particularly well adapted to protect its contents from dirt and moisture and the elements, which can be readily removed from about the contents without destroying the wrapping or damaging the contents, and which can be reused either for its original purpose or for some other purpose such as the wrapping of food in the home.

Another important object is to provide a protective covering for periodicals such as newspapers and magazines, which is particularly well adapted to serve as an effective medium for advertising.

With the above and other objects in view, the container or wrapper of the invention consists essentially of a tube of cellulosic material comprising two longitudinal panels having a longitudinal edge in common, and a single expansible longitudinal gusset connecting the other longitudinal edges of the two panels.

As stated above, the container is made of cellulosic material. The specific cellulosic material depends in large measure upon the specific type of article to be wrapped or protected, i. e. the use requirements of the container. The container may be of opaque, transparent or translucent cellulosic material or a combination of such materials as in the case of window or panel display bags. As examples of suitable materials may be mentioned kraft paper, glassine and Cellophane.

In the case of small articles of foodstuffs such as nuts, candies, fruits, etc. the cellulosic material may advantageously be glassine or Cellophane or combinations of these two materials, or it may be waxed paper, particularly in the case of oily or deliquescent foodstuffs. The glassine or Cellophane may, if thought necessary or desirable, be treated with oil or water repellant materials. Many such materials are known and are available on the market, and it is therefore not considered necessary to list the suitable materials.

In the case of large articles such as newspapers and magazines, the cellulosic material should be relatively strong such as kraft paper and may advantageously be treated with a water-resistant or repellant material, of which there are many available on the market. Wax is mentioned as a suitable material for this purpose. Other cellulosic materials such as glassine or Cellophane or combinations thereof may be employed particularly if the Cellophane is of the water-resistant variety. It is preferable that the cellulosic material be of a type that can readily take printing inks, for protective coverings for newspapers and magazines provide an exceptionally effective advertising medium.

Referring briefly to the drawing, wherein are shown two illustrative applications of the invention:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bag constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention and suitable, depending upon its size, for the packaging or wrapping of either small or large articles;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a wrapper in the form of a tube made in accordance with the invention;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a bag containing small articles such as peanuts and closed about its contents, a portion of the bag being broken away to reveal the contents; and

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a newspaper wrapped in a protective covering made in accordance with the invention, part of the wrapper and the newspaper being broken away for clearness of illustration.

Referring to the drawing in greater detail and particularly to Figure 1 thereof, the container is shown in the form of a bag indicated generally by the numeral 1. The bag is formed from a tube comprising the two longitudinal panels 2 and 3 having the common longitudinal edge 2', and the longitudinal expansible gusset or plait 4 which connects the longitudinal edges 3' and 4' of the panels 2 and 3. The bag has the upper lip portion 5, the lower closed end 6 which is formed by turning the bottom of the front panel 2 onto the back panel 3, and the conventional form of longitudinal seam 7.

In Figure 2, the wrapper is shown in the form of an open tube 10 having the front longitudinal panel 11, the rear longitudinal panel 12 and the single connecting gusset 13. These elements are arranged in exactly the same way as in Figure 1.

In Figure 3, the bag of Figure 1 or the tubular wrapper of Figure 2 is shown enclosed and sealed about a large number of small articles such as peanuts. In this figure, the container itself is indicated generally by the numeral 20, the front panel is denoted by the numeral 21 and the connecting gusset is designated by the numeral 22. The lower margin of the front panel is shown turned over on the rear panel as at 23 to form the bottom of the container and the top of the container is rolled as at 24 and stapled as at 25 to close and seal the container about the contents.

The container of Figure 3 may be a relatively small bag suitable for individual use. It may advantageously be made of such dimensions as to be easily held in the hand and capable of being used to carry the contents thereof to the mouth, thus avoiding manual contact with the contents. It will be understood that the container is of such construction that it can be readily filled either manually or by machinery. The bag may be easily opened by tearing off an edge as at A. If

thought necessary or desirable, the area A may be marked off in a suitable manner or provided with serrations to facilitate the opening of the bag. After the bag is opened as above described, it may be used to protect the unconsumed portion of the contents, it being merely necessary to turn the bag upside down and fold the bottom of the bag onto the body of the bag.

In Figure 4, a newspaper is shown wrapped in a bag of the construction illustrated in Figure 1. The bag is designated by the numerals 30 and is illustrated as having the longitudinal panels 31 and 32 and the single connecting gusset 33. The bottom seam is indicated by the numeral 34 and the top is denoted by 35. The wrapped newspaper is indicated by the numeral 36. The top 35 of the bag is shown as being open, but it may be closed and may also be sealed in a suitable manner, if thought necessary or desirable.

As customarily sold, newspapers of conventional size and form are generally folded once about a line perpendicular to their length. When a newsboy hands a paper to a customer, the newsboy often folds the paper twice again at right angles to the first line of fold. The bag should preferably be of such size and form that a newspaper folded in the foregoing manner can be readily inserted therein. The newspaper 36 in Figure 4 is shown inserted in that manner.

It is to be noted that the newspaper after being inserted has a tendency to expand, thus maintaining the bag in expanded condition. Hence, when the newsboy places or throws the wrapped newspaper on the porch or lawn, the package presents an inclined upper surface. Water, therefore has a tendency to run off particularly if the material of the wrapper had been treated with a water-repellant composition. The wrapper protects the newspaper from being torn or soiled when the package is thrown, as is often the case when the newsboy is in a hurry or uses a bicycle for delivering his newspaper. The wrapper also protects the newspaper from being wet and soiled in case it falls on a wet or dirty spot or in a puddle of water.

The newspaper is readily removable from the wrapper, and the wrapper, particularly when it is in the form of a bag can be reused by the housewife for keeping foodstuffs or other articles. In addition to its functions of protecting the newspaper and of being suitable as a container for foodstuffs in the house after the newspaper has been removed, the wrapper provides an excellent and particularly effective medium for advertising purposes. It will be noted that the protective covering in Figure 4 bears a printed advertisement on its upper surface 31. Suitable advertisements may also be printed on the lower panel 32 as well as on the gusset 33.

From the foregoing description of the invention, it is thought to be apparent that there is thus provided a container and wrapper for articles of manufacture and commerce, which container and wrapper possesses many desirable features of structure and advantage, and which is susceptible of modification in its form, proportions, detail construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the principle or underlying concept of the invention and without sacrificing any of its advantages.

I claim:

1. A container for articles of manufacture and commerce, said container being formed from a tube of cellulosic material, said tube comprising only two longitudinal similar panels having a

longitudinal edge in common and a single expandable longitudinal infolded gusset connecting the other longitudinal edges of said panels, one of the longitudinal panels at one end of the tube being folded over onto the other panel to form a bottom for said container, said bottom constituting a transverse edge common to both panels, the bottom end of said gusset being fixedly secured in said infolded position to the bottom of said container along said transverse edge, the container being adapted to be expanded to receive a bulky article and when in expanded condition having a substantially triangular cross-section, said cross-section tapering near the bottom of the container to the common transverse edge.

2. A container for articles of manufacture and commerce, said container being formed from a tube of water-repellant cellulosic material, said tube comprising only two longitudinal similar panels having a longitudinal edge in common and a single expandable longitudinal infolded gusset connecting the other longitudinal edges of said panels, one of the longitudinal panels at one end of the tubing being folded over onto the other panel to form a bottom for said con-

tainer, said bottom constituting a transverse edge common to both panels, the bottom end of said gusset being fixedly secured in said infolded position to the bottom of said container along said transverse edge, the container being adapted to be expanded to receive a bulky article and when in expanded condition having a substantially triangular cross-section, said cross-section tapering near the bottom of the container to the common transverse edge.

3. A container for articles of manufacture and commerce, said container being in the form of a tube of cellulosic material open at both ends, said tube comprising only two longitudinal similar panels having a longitudinal edge in common and a single infolded longitudinal gusset connecting the other longitudinal edges of said panels, one of the longitudinal panels at one end of the tube being adapted to be folded over onto the other panel to form a transverse edge common to both panels, said container being adapted to be expanded to receive a bulky article and when in expanded condition having a substantially triangular cross-section.

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