Sept. 1, 1925. 1,552,013

J. L. SHROYER

PACKAGE CLOSURE

Filed Aug. 18, 1923

Fig. 1.

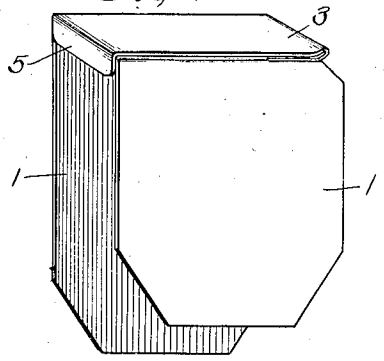


Fig. 2.

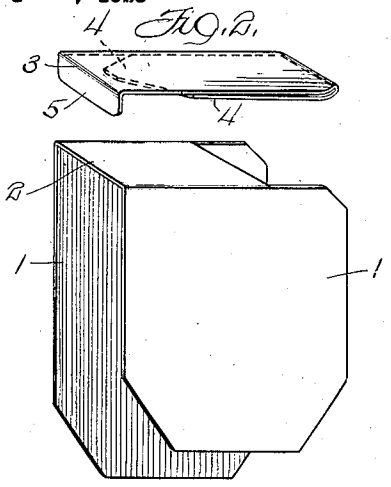


Fig. 3.

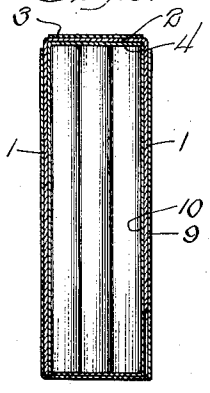


Fig. 4.

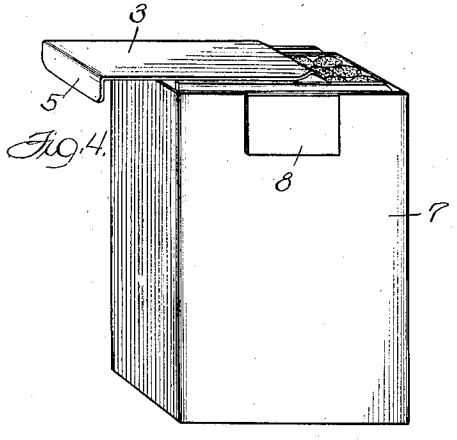


Fig. 5.

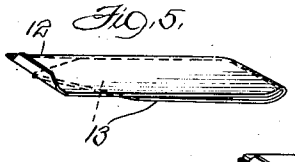
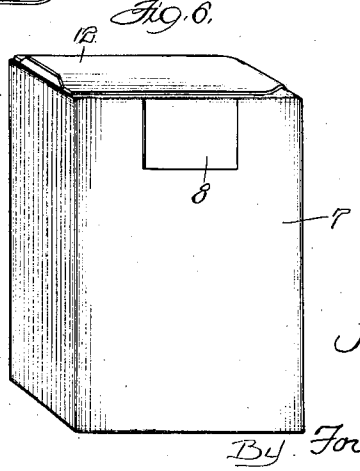


Fig. 6.



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By Foree Bain & Hinkle Attys.

Patented Sept. 1, 1925. 1,552,013

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB L. SHROYER, OF OAK PARK, ILLINOIS.

PACKAGE CLOSURE.

Application filed August 18, 1923. Serial No. 658,149.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB L. SHROYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oak Park, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Package Closures, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to package closures.

It will be explained as embodied in a closure for cigarette packages.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide an improved package closure.

Another object is to provide a package closure which may be readily applied to and removed from a package.

Another object is to provide a closure for ordinary cigarette packages.

Another object is to provide a cigarette package closure which will retain the cigarettes within the package when in closed position and which may be readily moved to open position to permit removal of the cigarettes.

Another object is to provide a closure which is simple, reliable, inexpensive and easily applied to a cigarette package.

Another object is to provide a closure which will prevent the crushing of a cigarette package and will assist in preserving the cigarettes in good condition.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

Embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein—

Fig. 1 is an assembled perspective of the preferred form of package closure.

Fig. 2 is a separated perspective thereof.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of a package of cigarettes with the closure applied thereto.

Fig. 4 is a perspective of a cigarette package with the closure in place and the package open for removal of cigarettes.

Fig. 5 is a perspective of a modified form of closure, and

Fig. 6 is a perspective of a cigarette package with the closure of Fig. 5 in place.

The preferred embodiment disclosed in Figs. 1 to 4 will first be described.

This closure comprises, in general, two elements, a cover support and a slidable cover mounted thereon.

The cover support is of somewhat U shape, having two substantially flat side members or legs 1, and an interconnecting yoke 2. Yoke 2 is not as long as the legs, as shown most clearly at the upper right corner of Fig. 2, so as to leave an opening to the contents of the package. The cover support may be made in one piece from a strip or sheet of suitable material such as steel or celluloid. For ease in application to a package one leg may be made longer than the other and the lower corners of both may be rounded or beveled as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The sliding cover comprises a substantially flat plate 3 and a retaining tongue 4 which may be formed together from a strip or sheet of suitable material, such as steel or celluloid. Plate 3 is made of such size as to completely close the end of the package with which the closure is to be used. Tongue 4 lies substantially parallel to and is yieldingly bent toward plate 3 to hold the cover in place. The resiliency of the material, ordinarily, will give sufficient biasing pressure. In order to facilitate the placement of the cover tongue 4 may be made somewhat pointed as shown in Fig. 2. One end of plate 3 may be bent at an angle to form a stop 5.

The preferred form of closure is assembled by slightly and temporarily separating plate 3 and tongue 4 and slipping the cover in place upon yoke 2 of the support. When the cover is in place, plate 3 lies against yoke 2 on the outside and tongue 4 lies against yoke 2 on the inside. The yoke thus acts as a retaining strip upon which the cover is slidably mounted. Stop 5 engaging the edge of yoke 2 prevents the cover from being inadvertently removed by sliding the same too far toward package closing position.

The assembled closure is applied to a package of cigarettes 7 as follows:

A part of one end of the cigarette package (for example the part one one side of revenue stamp 8) is removed in the usual manner. Then the legs 1 of the cover support are passed through the end of the package adjacent the longer edge corners and forced inwardly along the inside of opposite walls of the package. In cases where the package, like many cigarette packages, has double side walls, legs 1 may be inserted therebetween. For example, as shown in Fig. 3, legs 1 may lie between an inner wall layer 10, which is often of tin foil, and an outer wall layer 9, which is usually of paper. Ordinarily the legs will easily penetrate the

top of the package although slits may first be cut by a knife if desired. If the legs of the support are formed so as normally to diverge slightly from the yoke and the yoke is approximately the width of the package, the distortion necessary to bring the legs within the side walls of the package will create sufficient resistance to removal to prevent accidental separation when the legs are within the package. The tendency to separate will also keep the free ends of the legs tightly against the opposite walls of the package and thus prevent injury to the cigarettes.

When the legs of the cover support are fully inserted in the package the cover will lie against the top of the package. The cover may be moved or slid upon retaining strip or yoke 2 into a position to close the opening in the top of package 7, or into a position to uncover the opening in the top of the package as shown in Fig. 4. Stop 5 prevents the cover from being moved far enough toward closed position to result in separation of the cover and its support.

The closure may be removed from a package by merely withdrawing the legs of the cover support therefrom.

The legs of the cover support, stiffen the package and protect its contents against crushing or bending. The cover, when closed, assists in protecting the contents of the package and keeps the contents within the package. The cover, however, may be readily moved to open position so that the contents of the package may be removed. The closure may be quickly and easily applied to a package and as quickly and easily removed therefrom.

Figs. 5 and 6 show a cheaper arrangement wherein the top of the package itself forms the cover support. The cover comprises a substantially flat plate 12 and a sharpened tongue 13 which may be formed in one piece. When used on a cigarette package the revenue stamp 8 and the unremoved part of the package top serve as the retaining band for holding the cover in place. The cover may be applied to the package by removing a part of the package top as previously described, and then pushing the sharpened end of tongue 13 under the stamp just above the cigarettes. When the package is to be opened the point of tongue 13 is forced through the opposite corner of the package and the cover is slid upon the retaining band. Sliding the cover back to its original position closes the package.

This arrangement will serve to quite effectively close the package to retain the contents therein and will ordinarily suffice where stiffening of the sides of the package is not required.

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

1. A package closure, comprising an anchoring strip extending across the top of a package and apertured to expose a portion thereof, and a cover slidably mounted upon said strip and normally covering said aperture, said cover comprising a substantially flat plate lying on one side of said strip, bent back at one end into a yielding tongue lying on the other side thereof, and bent downwardly at its other end to form a stop.

2. An interchangeable package closure, comprising a cover support embodying depending members frictionally to connect said support to a package and a connecting strip extending across the top of the package and partially closing the same, and a cover slidably mounted upon said strip and normally completely closing the top of said package, said cover comprising a substantially flat plate lying on one side of said strip, bent back at one end into a yielding tongue lying on the other side thereof, and bent downwardly at its other end to form a stop.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribed my name.

JACOB L. SHROYER.