

May 23, 1939.

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2,159,459

EXTRACTOR FOR TIGHTLY PACKAGED ARTICLES

Filed Feb. 14, 1938

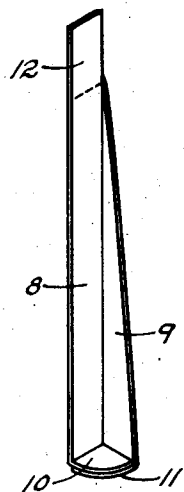


FIG. 1

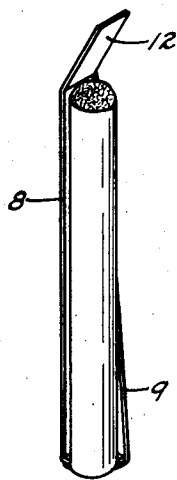


FIG. 2

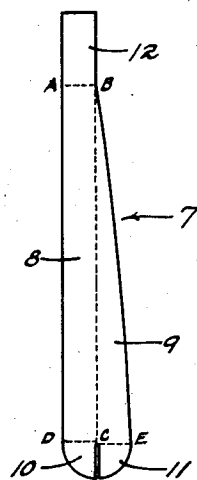


FIG. 3

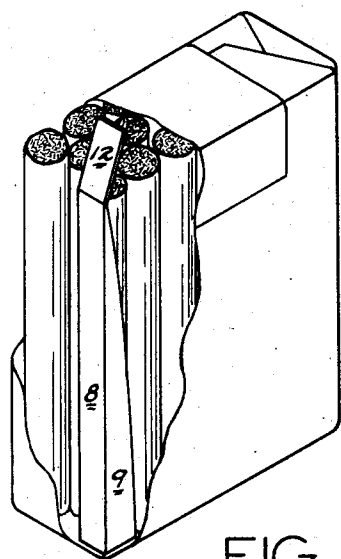


FIG. 4

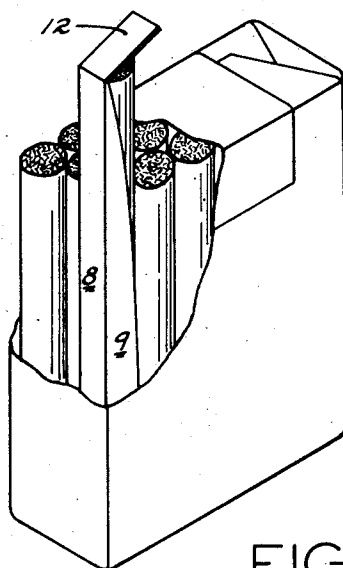


FIG. 5

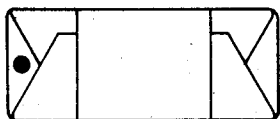


FIG. 6

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2,159,459

EXTRACTOR FOR TIGHTLY PACKAGED ARTICLES

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Application February 14, 1938, Serial No. 190,441

1 Claim. (Cl. 206—56)

This invention relates to an individual extractor for tightly packaged articles, and the chief object of the invention is to provide a device of this class which fits nicely within the package alongside any individual one of the packaged articles without necessitating enlargement or change in shape of the normal package.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this class which accomplishes removal of a first article from a package without injury to that article or to any of the other articles in the package, thus making additional room for each of the other articles in the package so that they may be easily removed individually.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of this class which not only embodies these special attributes, but which also embodies the attributes of simplicity, cheapness of manufacture, and reliability.

The details of construction of a preferred form of my invention together with other objects attending its production, will be better understood from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing, which was chosen for illustrative purposes only, and in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an extractor constructed in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 but shows the relation of the extractor to the article to be extracted;

Figure 3 is a plan view of a preshaped blank from which the extractor is made;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a package containing a plurality of similar articles, with a portion of the package cut away to show the manner in which the extractor fits within the package;

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4, and shows the manner in which the extractor removes one article from the package; and

Figure 6 is a suggested way of marking a package to designate the approximate location of the enclosed extractor.

For purposes of clarity the invention will be described in its relation to cigarettes and packages thereof, but it is to be understood that its use is not limited to this particular type package or article.

The invention is preferably formed from a comparatively thin sheet of fibrous material, such as paper, but I do not wish to be limited to this particular material, as other more or less flexible materials would serve the purpose. The material is first cut into a blank 7, of the shape

illustrated in Figure 3, which then comprises a substantially rectangular side wall 8, a substantially triangular side wall 9, a sector shaped base member 10 which is integral with the side wall 8, a similar sector shaped base member 11 which is integral with the side wall 9, and a lifting tab or flap 12, which is integral with the other end of the side wall 8.

The dotted lines A—B, B—C, C—D, and C—E are the lines along which the various parts mentioned above are folded to form the complete extractor.

It is believed that Figure 1 clearly illustrates the degree of folding along these lines. The two side walls are folded to lie in planes substantially at right angles to each other, although this angle will vary with the exterior shape of the package within which the extractor is to be enclosed; for instance, if the package is substantially hexagonal in shape then the angle at which these two side walls meet would be approximately 60°. The base members 10 and 11 are also folded to be in planes substantially at right angles to the two side walls. The base member 10 overlies the base member 11 so that the adjacent surfaces of the two touch. Any type of adhesive substance or material may be used to firmly secure the two adjacent surfaces of these base members together. When the adhesive material has set, the extractor is rendered comparatively rigid, the side walls and base together acting both as compression and tension brace members.

It will be noted that the side wall 9 is somewhat shorter than the side wall 8, and meets the latter at the lower end of the tab 12, thus leaving the tab 12 free to be folded along the line A—B to a position substantially at right angles to the side wall 8. It will also be noted that the length of the side wall 9 is substantially equivalent to the length of the article to be extracted, so that when the extractor is in its position within the package, as shown in Figure 4, the tab 12 folds over to lie snugly over the upper ends of the packaged articles.

The thinness of the material of which the extractor is made eliminates the necessity of changing the size or shape of the package in any way. While it is entirely possible to use any number of the extractors in a single package, it is not necessary to do so, since the removal of one of the articles usually makes enough room for the remaining ones that they may be removed easily. I suggest, however, if only one extractor is enclosed in each package, that the exterior of the

package be marked in any suitable manner, such as illustrated in Figure 6, to designate the approximate location of the enclosed extractor. This would eliminate the opening of the wrong side of the package. If one extractor is positioned on each side of the package, however, no marking is required.

While I have described and illustrated a specific embodiment of my invention, I am aware that numerous alterations and changes may be made therein, and I do not wish to be limited except by the prior art and the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

15 A blank for producing an extractor for tightly packaged articles comprising: a narrow elongated substantially rectangular side wall member, and a slightly shorter substantially triangu-

lar side wall member joined together along a common side edge, said edge being creased for folding, the bases of said two side wall members being in alignment; a substantially quarter circular base sector member integrally connected to each of said side wall members along its respective base, the two sector members being arranged so that their outer arcuate edges together substantially form a divided semi-circle the diameter of which is defined by a folding crease; and a foldable removal tab for said extractor at the top of said rectangular side wall member formed by a crease line extending laterally across said member at a point substantially in alignment with the apex of said triangular side wall member.

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