Aug. 27, 1929. S. A. KORNSWEET 1,725,869

CIGARETTE PACKAGE OPENER AND CLOSURE

Filed Jan. 17, 1928

FIG. 1.

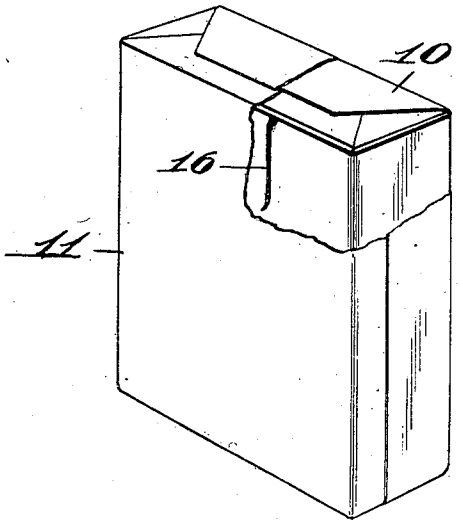


FIG. 2.

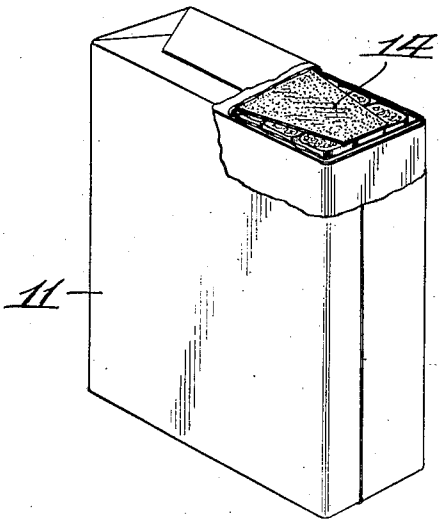


FIG. 3.

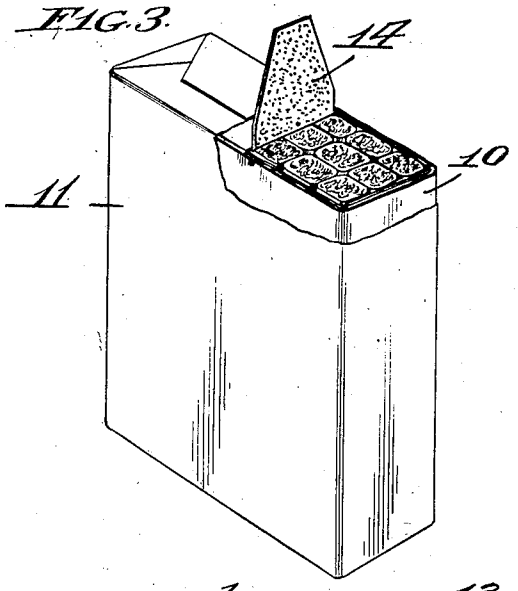


FIG. 5.

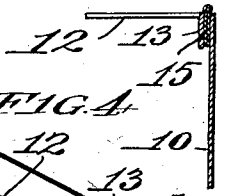
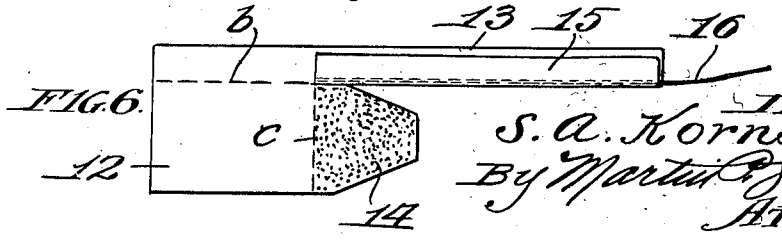


FIG. 4.

FIG. 6.



INVENTOR.
S. A. Kornsweet.
By Martin P. Smith,
ATTORNEY.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL A. KORNSWEET, OF VENICE, CALIFORNIA.

CIGARETTE-PACKAGE OPENER AND CLOSURE.

Application filed January 17, 1928. Serial No. 247,274.

My invention relates to a cigarette package opener and closure, i. e., a device that is applied to the interior of a cigarette package and which includes means for severing or cutting a portion of the package along predetermined lines in order that a portion of the top of the package may be readily removed and a part of the inserted member serving as a door or closure for the opening formed in the package.

The principal objects of my invention are to provide a cigarette package opener and closure that is relatively simple in construction, capable of being readily applied to the wrapper of the package at the time the cigarettes are being wrapped, further, to provide a device of the character referred to that will cut or sever the wall of the package along a definite and predetermined line, and further, to provide a closure member that has roughened surfaces on which matches may be scratched and lighted.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts that will hereinafter be more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cigarette package with a portion of the outer covering member broken away in order to show the projecting portion of the package opening device.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a cigarette package that has been opened by my improved device and showing the closure that serves as a temporary door for the opening.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the closure elevated in order to remove the contents of the package.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the section of paper that forms the inner wall of the package and showing my improved opener and closure in position thereupon.

Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a plan view of my improved opener and closure before the same is applied to the wrapper of the package.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawings which illustrate a practical embodiment of my invention, 10 designates a rectangular section or sheet of paper that forms the inner wall of the wrapper of a cigarette package and this inner wall member is adapted to fold on the dotted lines *a*, as illustrated in Fig. 4, when the package is properly formed and packed with cigarettes.

It is the usual practice, after the package has been formed, to enclose the same with an outer covering member 11, which is preferably thin, transparent paper that is treated with paraffin or the like, so as to render the same moisture-proof.

My improved opener and closure comprises a substantially square or rectangular section 12 of medium weight paper or light weight cardboard, for instance, two or three ply manila paper, and formed integral with one end of this rectangular section, is an elongated narrow strip 13, the same projecting from the end of the section 12 at one side thereof.

The section 12 is scored so as to fold readily along a longitudinally disposed line *b*, the same being in direct alignment with the inner edge of the strip 13.

Projecting from the end of the section 12 to the side of the strip 13, is an integral tongue 14, both surfaces of which are coated with fine sand or emery in order to provide match scratching surfaces, and this tongue which serves as a closure for the opening that is cut in the package is adapted to bend on the scored line C, that is transversely arranged between the body of section 12 and said tongue 14.

A section of relatively thin material, preferably tissue paper, is folded at its center to provide an elongated narrow strip 15, and arranged within this folded strip and lying immediately adjacent to the line along which said strip is folded, is a flexible member 16 such as a thread or fine wire, and after said member 16 has been inserted in the folded strip, the two parts thereof are secured to each other by a suitable adhesive and the doubled strip is secured to strip 13 by a suitable adhesive so that the flexible member 16 lies along the lower edge of the strip 13, as illustrated in Fig. 6.

When the opener and closure are applied to the inner member 10 of the package, the face of strip 13 upon which the doubled member 15 is positioned, is secured preferably by an adhesive to the inner face of the inner wall member 10 of the package, so that said strips lie across those portions of the member 10 that form one of the side walls of the completed package, one of the end walls, and a portion of the other one of the side walls, the arrangement of the applied member being clearly illustrated in Fig. 4.

When the cigarettes are packed in the package and the wall thereof is wrapped around the cigarettes, the member 12 and the closure member 14 are folded down so that they occupy a position at right angles to the plane occupied by the attached strips 13 and 15, and said parts 12 and 15 are positioned directly beneath those portions of the wrapper that form the top of the package.

The flexible member 16 projects a short distance from the ends of the strips 13 and 15, and when the package is finished, the projecting end of said member 16 extends a short distance thru the wall of the package and lies immediately beneath the transparent outer wrapper 11, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

To form an opening in the cigarette package that is equipped with my improved opener and closure, the outer transparent wrapper 11 of the package is broken or torn away so that the projecting end of member 16 may be grasped between the thumb and finger and by pulling outward upon said flexible member, the same will cut or tear thru the thin paper strip 15 and likewise thru the wrapper 10 of the package, so that the latter will be severed along the upper corner of portions of the two sides and one end thereof, and this line of cut being defined by the upper edge of the strip 13 which is of relatively heavy material, such as manila paper.

After the package has been cut along the lines just described, that portion of the top of the package above the cut is torn off and discarded and the projecting member 14 overlies the ends of the cigarettes that would otherwise be exposed and thus, provides a closure for the opening, and which closure is provided with roughened surfaces upon which matches may be scratched and lighted.

Under normal conditions, the closure 14 lies flat upon the upper ends of the cigarettes, as illustrated in Fig. 2 and when it is desired to remove a cigarette, the closure is swung upward into the position illustrated in Fig. 3.

Thus, it will be seen that I have provided a cigarette package opener and closure that is relatively simple in construction, inexpensive of manufacture, capable of being readily applied to the wrapper of the package and which device is very effective in performing the functions for which it is intended.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts of my improved cigarette package opener and closure may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of my invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A cigarette package opener and closure comprising a substantially rectangular body member, an elongated strip of flexible material projecting from one end of said body member at one side thereof, a folded section of thin material secured to said elongated strip, a flexible member carried by said folded strip and positioned adjacent to one edge of said elongated strip and a closure member formed integral with and projecting from the end of said body member adjacent to said elongated strip.

2. A cigarette package opener and closure comprising a substantially rectangular body member, an elongated strip of flexible material projecting from one end of said body member at one side thereof, a folded section of thin material secured to said elongated strip, a flexible member carried by said folded strip, and positioned adjacent to one edge of said elongated strip, a closure member formed integral with and projecting from the end of said body member adjacent to said elongated strip, and both faces of which closure member are roughened to provide match scratching surfaces.

3. The combination with a cigarette package wrapper of a substantially rectangular body member, positioned beneath the top of the wrapper, a closure member formed integral with and projecting from one end of said body member, one of the surfaces of said closure member being roughened to provide a match scratching surface, a narrow strip of material formed integral with and projecting from the end of said body member adjacent to said closure, and a flexible member secured to said narrow strip and lying along one edge thereof.

4. The combination with a cigarette package wrapper of a substantially rectangular body member, positioned beneath the top of the wrapper, a closure member formed integral with and projecting from one end of said body member, one of the surfaces of said closure member being roughened to provide a match scratching surface, a narrow strip of material formed integral with and projecting from the end of said body member adjacent to said closure, a flexible member secured to said narrow strip and lying along one edge thereof, and one end of which flexible member extends thru the wall of the wrapper to which the opener and closure is applied.

5. The combination with a cigarette package wrapper of a narrow strip of material secured to the inner face of the wrapper adjacent to the top thereof, a flexible member secured to said narrow strip and lying along the upper edge thereof, a portion of which flexible member extends to the exterior of the wrapper to which the opener and closure is applied, a rectangular body member formed integral with one end of said narrow strip and a closure member formed integral with one end of said body member.

6. The combination with a cigarette package wrapper of a narrow strip of material se-

cured to the inner face of the wrapper adjacent to the top thereof, a flexible member secured to said narrow strip and lying along the upper edge thereof, a portion of which flexible member extends to the exterior of the wrapper to which the opener and closure is applied, a rectangular body member formed integral with one end of said narrow strip, a closure member formed integral with one end of said body member, and both surfaces of which closure member are roughened to provide match scratching surfaces.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

SAMUEL A. KORNSWEET.