

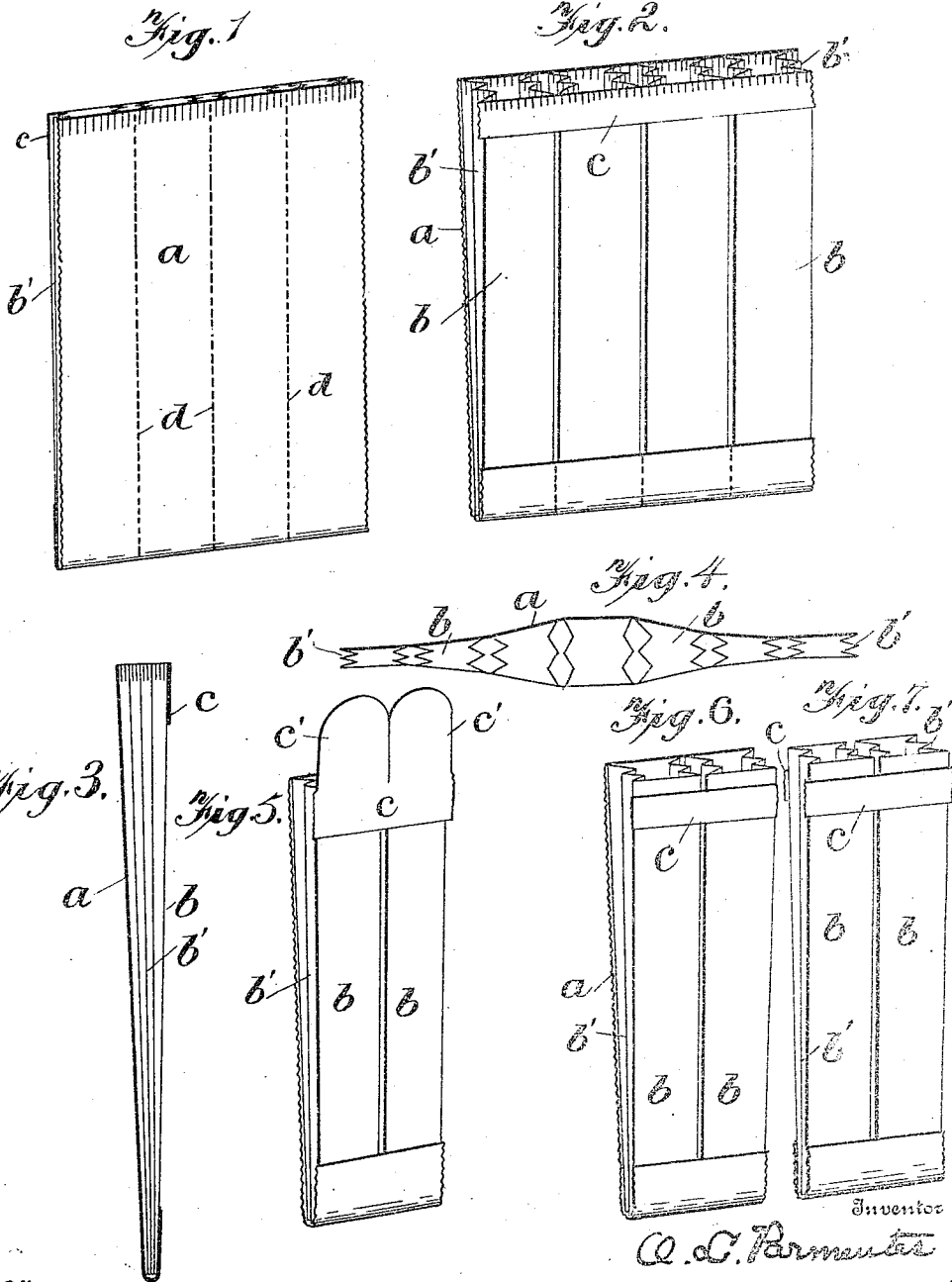
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Patented Oct. 1, 1901.

O. L. PARMENTER.
CIGAR POCKET.

(Application filed May 20, 1901.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CIGAR-POCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 683,790, dated October 1, 1901.

Application filed May 20, 1901. Serial No. 61,133. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORVILLE L. PARMENTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Racine, county of Racine, State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Pockets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain improvements in sheets or connected series of pouches, pockets, or receptacles, such as are particularly adapted, for instance, to receive cigars, and are commonly known in the trade as the "Parmenter cigar-pockets."

An object of the invention is to provide a sheet or series of connected collapsible pouches or receptacles constructed and arranged in an improved manner, whereby the pouches of each sheet can be compressed into as small a compass as possible for packing or shipment and yet so that the pouches can be easily opened for the insertion of cigars or other articles for which the particular pouches may be adapted.

The invention consists in certain novel features in construction and in arrangements or in combinations of parts, as more fully and particularly described and pointed out hereinafter.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a series of connected cigar-pockets, showing the front side of the sheet or series. Fig. 2 is a similar view, but looking at the rear side of the sheet or series of pockets and showing the opening-strip connecting the upper portions of the expanding walls of the series of pockets. Fig. 3 is an end or edge view, enlarged, of the sheet of pockets shown in the preceding figures. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the sheet of pockets, illustrating how the opening of one pocket opens those adjacent thereto partially, so that the point or tip of the cigar can be easily inserted therein. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of several connected cigar-pockets provided with the opening-strip, said strip being so formed as to project beyond the mouths of the pockets and form sealing-flaps. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view showing several connected pockets, the

opening-strip being shown located a light distance below the upper ends or mouths of the pockets and not extending flush with the mouths and slitted, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of several connected pockets, illustrating a modified arrangement.

In the specific example shown in the drawings the sheet of connected pockets comprises a main connecting or backing sheet *a*, in length equal to the full length of the series or sheet of pockets and in width equal to or greater than the length of each pocket.

b designates the pockets, each preferably composed of a tube of flexible material, having the bellows or collapsible sides *b'* and the flat rear walls or faces. These tubes are all parallel with each other and are pasted, cemented, or otherwise secured side by side closely arranged on the backing-sheet *a* with their mouths at one end along one longitudinal edge of said backing-sheet and having their opposite ends suitably closed, usually compressed and sealed by doubling the backing-sheet over said ends and sealing the same down on the rear faces of the tubes. It will thus be noted in the specific form shown that the front walls of the pockets are entirely covered by the backing-sheet, while the rear walls of the tubes are covered and connected only for a short distance at their lower ends. Each tube is hence free to expand at its rear independently of all other tubes when a cigar is inserted, whereby cigars of different dimensions and diameters can be inserted in adjacent pockets of the same sheet without causing the same to bind, and each pocket can be distended to its full capacity and, if need be, its rear flexible wall rounded or convexed outwardly to accommodate the cigar without in any way disturbing or changing the shape of the adjacent pockets. This advantage does not accrue where the pockets are connected together along both their front and rear walls throughout the full lengths thereof. However, experience has demonstrated that sheets of pockets constructed about as hereinbefore mentioned are sometimes somewhat inconvenient to open to receive the cigar-tip and that it is sometimes desirable to open the mouth of a pocket partially to properly insert the cigar-tip. Hence

it has sometimes been found desirable in the manufacture of the pockets to only slightly compress the same, so that the pockets will be normally somewhat open at their mouths when delivered for use to facilitate the insertion of the cigar-tips therein without requiring that the pockets be first partially opened by the fingers. When the pockets are thus only slightly compressed, leaving them normally slightly open at the mouths, the sheets of pockets cannot be tightly packed for shipment, nor can they be conveniently packed tightly, as is usually desirable, in cigar-boxes or in cases or covers, nor in certain other connections where it is usually desirable that the sheets of pockets be packed closely and tightly into as small a space or compass as possible. At this point it is appropriate to state that the collapsible sides of each pocket are usually formed by providing the sheet of paper forming the tube with angular intumed folds extending longitudinally throughout the length of the tube. Each collapsible side can be formed by one or more angular folds, the ends of the sheet forming the inner wall of the pocket being pasted or otherwise secured to the backing-sheet.

To permit close or tight compression of the pockets of a sheet or series into as small a transverse space or thickness as possible and yet so as to automatically open the mouths of the pockets of a series adjacent to one pocket into which a cigar has been inserted, I provide what might be termed an "opening-strip" *c*, which is secured to the rear or independently-expanding faces of all the pockets of the sheet. This strip or connection can be formed and secured in any desired manner and can be composed of any suitable material for the purpose intended. I usually employ a narrow strip of flexible material—such, for instance, as paper—in length equal to the length of the sheet or series and secure the same across and connecting the rear face of each pocket, usually adjacent or close to the mouth ends of the pockets. This strip in no way interferes with the independent expansion of the pockets hereinbefore described, nor does it in any way interfere with a close compression of the sheet of pockets to an exceedingly small thickness transversely, and yet with a tightly-compressed sheet if a cigar is inserted in any one of the pockets the mouths of the immediately-adjacent pockets will be slightly distended to a greater or lesser extent through the medium of said opening-strip connecting the expanding walls of the pockets. The advantages of connecting the mouth portions of the expanding walls of the connected pockets are hence obvious. The insertion of a cigar in one pocket thus automatically opens the mouths of adjacent pockets, so that the cigar-tips can be easily and quickly inserted therein without the necessity of first partially opening the mouths with the fingers, and as each pocket is filled additional pockets have their mouths automatic-

ally opened to receive other cigars, and yet all the advantages of the independently-expanding walls of the sheet of pockets are retained.

In the specific example illustrated the pockets are detachably or separably connected together in the sheet or series—that is, one or more pockets can be separated or torn from the sheet or series, as the weakest portions of the sheet lie on lines between the pockets. If desired, the sheet can be weakened in any suitable manner on lines *d* between and separating the pockets. Usually it is not necessary to weaken, cut, or perforate the opening-strip on lines between the pockets, as said narrow strip readily tears transversely between the pockets when the pockets are separated one from the other. However, if desired, said strip can be weakened on lines between the pockets. Also, if desired, said strip can be formed of suitable width and so arranged as to project beyond the mouths of the pockets to form sealing-flaps *c'*, as shown in Fig. 5, and said flaps can be provided with paste or cement, so that when the pockets are filled the ends of the pockets can be compressed and the flaps closed over the same and pasted down on the front walls of the pockets to form sealed inclosed cigar-packages. When the opening-strip is thus provided with sealing-flaps, it can be transversely weakened on lines between the pockets, so as to readily separate with the pockets.

If desirable, it is possible that the pockets might be separately formed complete and then detachably connected together in sheets (see Fig. 7) by somewhat-narrow strips doubled over and sealed to and compressing the lower ends of the pockets and extending up the front walls of the pockets no farther than the sheet shown extends up the rear walls of the pockets and then connecting the mouth portions of the pockets along the front and rear walls by two opening-strips arranged on opposite walls of the pockets and both connected and arranged as the one strip *c* is shown arranged in the drawings. In such a construction the front and back walls of each pocket would be free to expand independently, the mouths would be automatically opened by the opening and connecting strips, and the pockets would be readily separable one from the other, as the lines of weakness would lie between the pockets whether or not the connecting-strips be cut or perforated.

It is evident that various changes and modifications might be resorted to in the forms and constructions described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. As an article of manufacture, a sheet or series of detachably-connected cigar-pockets provided with a continuous severable opening-strip traversing the mouth end portions of all the pockets and secured to the flat in-

dependently-expansible walls or faces of the pockets, and means other than said strip securing the pockets together at their closed ends and opposite walls or faces, substantially as described.

5 2. A sheet or series of connected pockets, each pocket having collapsible side walls and having a side expanding between its ends independently of the other pockets, an opening-strip extending transversely across and secured to and connecting all the pockets, said pockets being detachable one from the other and means, other than said strip, detachably connecting said pockets, substantially as described.

15 3. A sheet or series of connected pockets,

each pocket having collapsible side walls, and capable of expanding between its end portions independently of the other pockets, an opening-strip traversing and secured to all the pockets near their mouth ends and extended to form sealing-flaps to close the mouths of the pockets and means, substantially as described, other than said strip detachably connecting said pockets to form the sheet or series, substantially as described.

25 In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ORVILLE L. PARMENTER.

Witnesses:

E. B. HAND,
MAUDE WILD.