Oct. 16, 1951 W. B. BUTLER 2,571,199

CARTON WITH CORNER-SHAPED CLOSURE CAP

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Fig. 1.

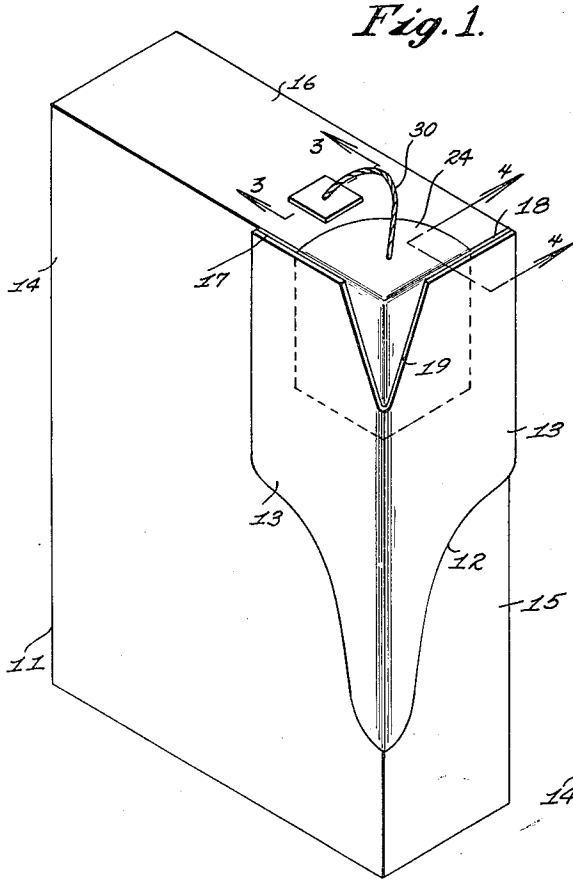


Fig. 2.

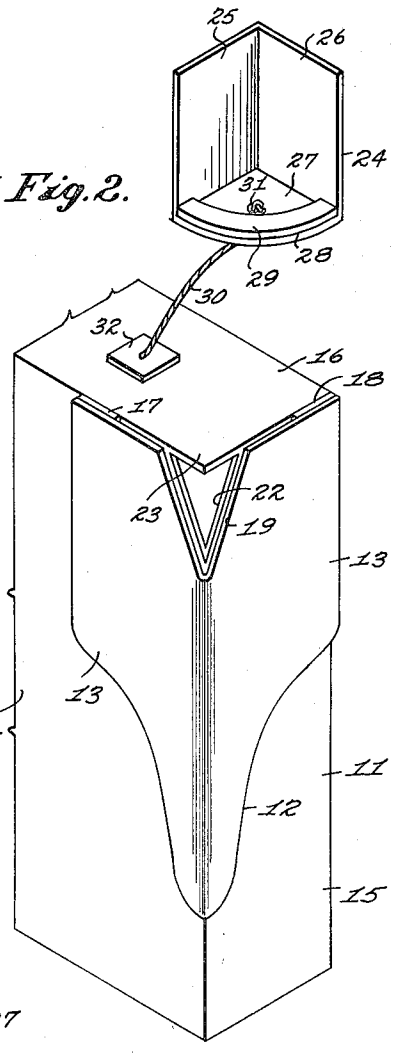


Fig. 3.

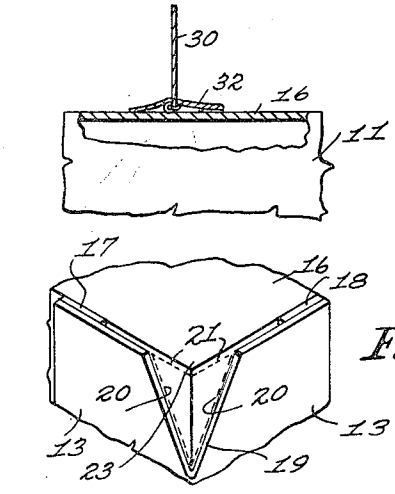


Fig. 4.

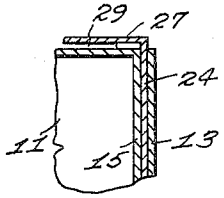


Fig. 5.

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CARTON WITH CORNER-SHAPED CLOSURE CAP

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5 Claims. (Cl. 222—543)

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This invention relates to containers, and more particularly to covering devices or tops for use in connection with cartons or packages.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved arrangement of a box top and cover therefor, said arrangement being very simple in structure, being easy to manipulate, and providing a removable closure for a container after the container has been opened.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved removable closure for a box top, such as for the top of a food receptacle or package, said closure being very simple to manipulate, the closure being adapted to substantially seal the opening in the top of a container, and the closure being provided with means for preventing loss thereof.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a container provided with an improved closure device according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective view similar to Figure 1, but showing the closure element removed from covering relationship with respect to the opened top corner of the container;

Figure 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional detail view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is an enlarged cross-sectional detail view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the top corner of a container prior to the opening of said top corner to permit the pouring of the contents of the container, the arrangement being in accordance with the present invention.

Referring to the drawings, 11 designates a container such as a container for cereal or other food, the container being generally rectangular in shape and being made of cardboard or other similar material. The container 11 is substantially conventional in construction, except at one of its upper corners, the container having fastened thereto at said upper corner a cardboard strip, designated generally at 12. Strip 12 comprises identical side wings 13, 13 extending at right angles to each other and disposed adjacent the respective side and side walls of the container 11, indicated respectively at 14, 15. The container has a top wall indicated at 16. The side wings 13, 13 are secured in spaced relation to respective walls 14 and 15 by interposing spacer strips 17 and 18 between the side marginal portions of said side wings and respective walls 14, 15, the elements being glued together so that a right-angled vertical sheath or receptacle is defined between the strip 12 and the upper corner portion of the container 11. At said upper corner, the strip 12 is formed with a V-notch, designated at 19.

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As shown in Figure 5, the upper corner portion of the container is scored or perforated along the lines 20, 20 adjacent the edges of the V-notch 19 and is also scored along the top marginal lines 21, 21, whereby an opening, such as shown at 22 in Figure 2, will be defined at the upper corner when the box is cut along the scored lines 20, 20 and 21, 21, and the portion of the box enclosed by said score lines is removed. The pouring opening thus defined is provided with an overhanging lip 23 defined by the corner of the top 16 of the box, as shown in Figure 2. The lip 23 acts as a guide or baffle element in pouring material from the box, whereby the material may be more accurately directed than would be the case if the guide lip were omitted.

Designated at 24 is a right-angled corner-shaped cap, made of cardboard or the like, and shaped to fit in the sheath or sleeve defined at the upper corner of the box by the strip member 12 and the spacer strips 17 and 18. The corner cover 24 comprises right-angularly arranged side wall elements 25 and 26 connected by a horizontal top wall element 27, said top element 27 having an arcuate peripheral edge 28, and being reinforced adjacent said peripheral edge by an arcuate cardboard strip 29 glued or otherwise suitably secured to the bottom surface of the wall element 27. Designated at 30 is a piece of string having one end passing through an aperture in the wall 27 of the corner cap and knotted, as shown at 31. The other end of the string 30 is secured in a similar fashion to a tab 32 of cardboard or the like, glued or otherwise suitably secured to the box top 16 adjacent the corner thereof. As shown in Figure 1, the corner cap 24 may be disposed in the right-angled sheath or sleeve defined by the corner strip 12 with respect to the walls 14 and 15 of the box in covering relation to the opening 22 subsequent to the cutting away of the material of the box to form said opening, as previously described. To expose the opening 22, the cover 24 is merely lifted by means of the string 30 from the position of Figure 1 to the open position of Figure 2, allowing material to be dispensed from the box through the opening 22. The opening may be covered by replacing the corner cap 24 in its sheath or sleeve, as above defined, to return the cover to the position of Figure 1. In this position, the arcuate stiffening strip 29 engages the top wall 16 of the box with substantially sealing contact.

When the box is sold, the cover 24 is in the position shown in Figure 1, the box being covered by a suitable wrapper or being sold without such a wrapper. To open the box, the consumer first lifts off the cover 24 by means of the string 30 and then cuts away the corner of the box along

the scored lines 20, 20 and 21, 21 to thereby define the pouring opening 22. Material may then be dispensed from the box through said opening. When the box is to be stored for future use after having been opened, the cover 24 is replaced in the position shown in Figure 1, whereby the opening 22 is protected against the entry of insects or other sources of contamination. Whenever it is desired to dispense the material from the box, the cover 24 may be lifted off, as above described, by means of the attachment string 30.

A plurality of boxes of different cereals may be packed within the same wrapper. For example, two boxes of similar size may be stacked and enclosed in a single wrapper. Two small boxes may be placed side by side and stacked on top of a large box and enclosed in a single wrapper. Four small boxes may be grouped to define a rectangular stack and the stack may be enclosed in a single wrapper.

While a specific embodiment of a box top arrangement has been disclosed in the foregoing description, it is to be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention except as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a carton having a top wall and adjoining side and end walls depending from side and end edges said top wall to define a carton corner, said side and end walls being cut away to define a dispensing opening having said top wall as its upper boundary, a strip extending vertically along said corner comprising side wings secured to the exteriors of said side and end walls, said wings having portions spaced from the exteriors of the side and end walls and from the side and end edges of said top wall to define a sheath, and a corner-shaped cap comprising a top wall and sidewalls depending therefrom and downwardly inserted in said sheath between the exteriors of said carton side and end walls and said wings with the cap top wall overlying the carton top wall and closing said dispensing opening.

2. In a carton having a top wall and adjoining side and end walls depending from side and end edges said top wall to define a carton corner, said side and end walls being cut away to define a dispensing opening having said top wall as its upper boundary, a strip extending vertically along said corner comprising side wings secured to the exteriors of said side and end walls, said wings having portions spaced from the exteriors of the side and end walls and from the side and end edges of said top wall to define a sheath, and a corner-shaped cap comprising a top wall and sidewalls depending therefrom and downwardly inserted in said sheath between the exteriors of said carton side and end walls and said wings with the cap top wall overlying the carton top wall and closing said dispensing opening, said cap having means for lifting said cap out of said sheath to expose said dispensing opening comprising a string secured to the cap top wall.

3. In a carton having a top wall and adjoining side and end walls depending from side and end edges said top wall to define a carton corner,

said side and end walls being cut away to define a dispensing opening having said top wall as its upper boundary, a strip extending vertically along said corner comprising side wings secured to the exteriors of said side and end walls, said wings having portions spaced from the exteriors of the side and end walls and from the side and end edges of said top wall to define a sheath, and a corner-shaped cap comprising a top wall and sidewalls depending therefrom and downwardly inserted in said sheath between the exteriors of said carton side and end walls and said wings with the cap top wall overlying the carton top wall and closing said dispensing opening, said strip being formed with a notch registered with said dispensing opening arranged to be closed by said cap in its closed position.

4. In a carton having a top wall and joined side and end walls depending from side and end edges of the top wall to define an upper carton corner, portions of the side and end walls being cut away below said top wall to define a dispensing opening bounded at its upper end by said top wall, a corner strip extending vertically along the carton corner having side wings extending along the exteriors of said side and end walls, spacing means extending along outer vertical marginal portions of said wings and securing said wings to the side and end walls so that inner vertical marginal portions of said wings are spaced from the exteriors of said side and end walls so as to define an external sheath on the carton corner, and a corner-shaped cap comprising a top wall having joined sidewalls depending therefrom and arranged to be removably inserted downwardly in said sheath between said sheath and the side and end walls of the carton with the cap top wall overlying the carton top wall whereby said dispensing opening is closed by said cap.

5. In a carton having a top wall and adjoining side and end walls depending from the side and end edges of said top wall to define a carton corner, said side and end walls being cut away to define a dispensing opening having said top wall as its upper boundary, a strip extending vertically along said corner comprising side wings secured to the exteriors of said side and end walls, said wings having portions spaced from the exteriors of the side and end walls and from the side and end edges of said top wall to define a sheath, and a corner-shaped cap comprising a top wall and sidewalls depending therefrom and downwardly inserted in said sheath between the exteriors of said carton side and end walls and said wings with the cap top wall overlying the carton top wall and closing said dispensing opening, said carton top wall being unmutilated to define a guide lip between the carton side and end walls projecting outwardly over the upper end of the dispensing opening.

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