April 27, 1937. J. H. HORSLEY 2,078,665

CIGARETTE CASE

Filed April 29, 1935

Fig. 1.

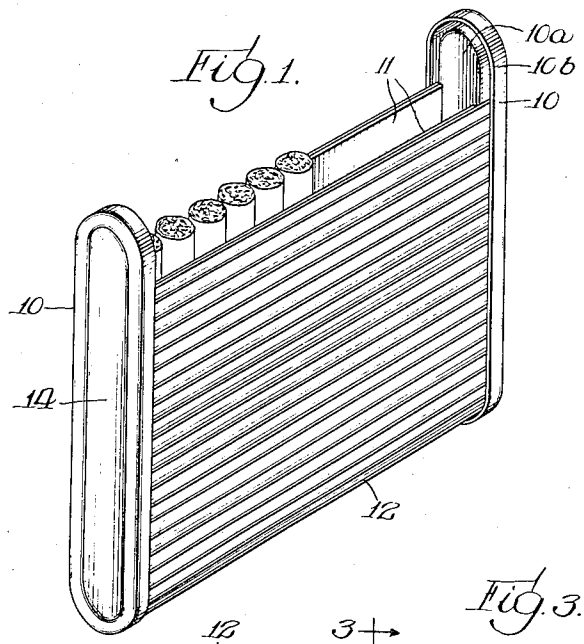


Fig. 2.

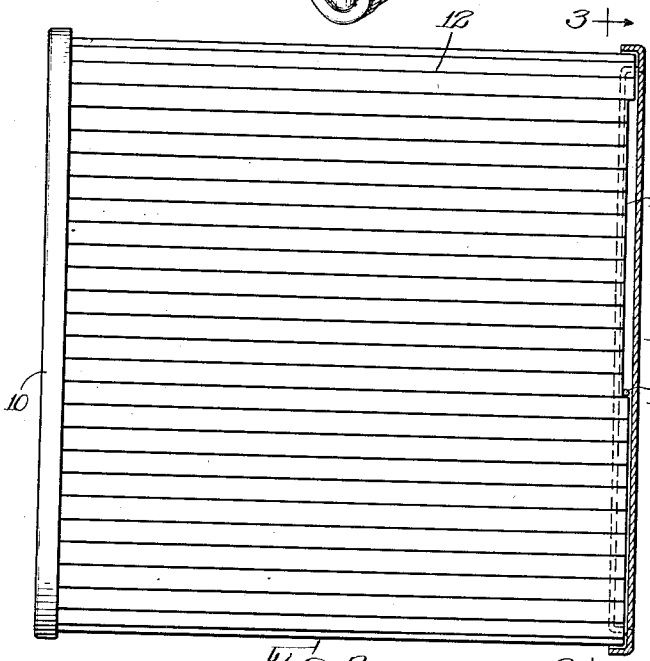


Fig. 3.

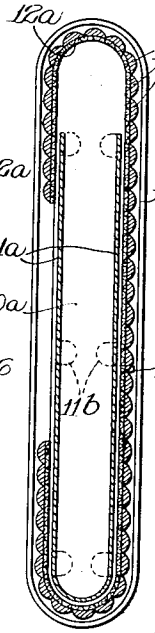


Fig. 5.

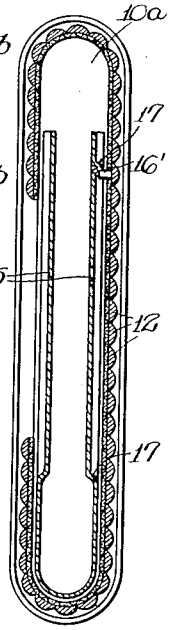
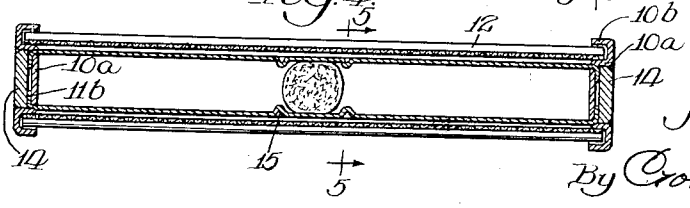


Fig. 4.



Inventor,
James H. Horsley,
By Cromwell Greenwood
Attys.

Patented Apr. 27, 1937

2,078,665

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,078,665

CIGARETTE CASE

James H. Horsley, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Shanklin Manufacturing Co., Springfield, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application April 29, 1935, Serial No. 18,818

7 Claims. (Cl. 206—41)

This invention relates to cigarette cases, particularly such cases adapted to be carried in the pocket of a garment.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of such a cigarette case having a sliding cover or closure and in which the cigarettes are effectively protected against injury or ejection by the closure incident to operation thereof to open or close the case.

Another object is the provision of such a case which is of a light and compact construction that includes a flexible sliding closure and wherein the contained cigarettes are effectively protected from injury by the closure incident to its operation to open and close the case.

Other objects include the provision of a light, compact and at the same time strong construction for a cigarette case of the character above indicated, which can be manufactured at low cost.

Other and further objects will be indicated or pointed out hereinafter, or will be apparent upon an understanding of the invention.

For the purpose of explaining the invention, I illustrate in the drawing forming a part of this specification, and hereinafter describe, certain structural forms in which the invention may be embodied, but it is to be understood that these are presented for purpose of illustration merely and are not to be construed in any fashion calculated to limit the appended claims short of the true and most comprehensive scope of the invention in the art. It is furthermore to be understood that whereas the invention is herein described as embodied in a cigarette case, it is to be understood that it is appropriate for use in cases or containers for various other articles.

In said drawing,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cigarette case embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view of same, parts being broken away;

Fig. 3 is a sectional elevational view on approximately line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of an embodiment like Fig. 1, but illustrating a stop arrangement somewhat different from that shown in Fig. 2; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional elevational view on approximately line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

The nature of the invention will be understood most quickly from an explanation of the embodiments here illustrated, which will now be described.

The case is made up of end members, indicated generally by the reference numeral 10, which end members are connected by a body member or members 11 to form a receptacle which is closed at the bottom but open at the top, said receptacle being narrow, viz., of a width such as to accommodate the thickness of a cigarette. This receptacle is adapted to be closed by a slidable, flexible closure member which is designated generally by the reference numeral 12.

The end members 10 may be formed as identical metal stampings having a laterally offset or dished portion 10*a* with arcuate ends and laterally deflected marginal flanges 10*b* running parallel with the peripheral wall of the offset portion 10*a* so as to provide a channel therebetween. The body member or members are formed to provide continuous parallel walls 11*a* which extend from one end member to the other and are secured to the laterally offset portions 10*a* in a suitable fashion, as by means of tongues 11*b* extending from their ends and fitting through suitable slots in said portions 10*a*, said tongues being bent over against the outer surfaces of said laterally offset portions. The depressions in the outer sides of the end members 10 may be fitted with suitable decorative inserts 14, secured in place in any appropriate fashion.

The closure 12 is formed of a sheet 12*a* of strong flexible material to which is secured a plurality of thin decorative slats 12*b* which run transversely of the sheet and are disposed in close collateral association with one another. This closure member is somewhat shorter than the full peripheral extent of the offset portions 10*a*. The margins of the sheet 12*a* and ends of the slats 12*b* are disposed in the channels between the flanges 10*b* and peripheral walls of the portions 10*a*, so that the closure may slide longitudinally in said channels, its inner surface running adjacent the outer surfaces of the body member. Thus the closure may be slid to a position such as shown in Fig. 1, to open the case, or to a position such as illustrated in Fig. 3, to close the case, the closure riding on the peripheral walls of the portions 10*a*.

Since, in order to provide a case which is desirably thin, light and compact, the slats 12*b* have to be quite thin and of light material, they are likely to have some flexibility such as to permit their being flexed inwardly more or less, between their points of support on the portions 10*a*. The walls of the body member prevent such flexing of the closure into contact with the contents of

the case, and thus safeguard the contents against injury or dislodgment by the closure incident to operation thereof.

The receptacle formed by the body member preferably is of such depth that the upper ends of cigarettes placed in upright position therein will project slightly above the body member, substantially as illustrated in Fig. 1, so that they may be grasped individually by the fingers to withdraw them. In order to maintain the cigarettes in more or less upright position in the receptacle, the body member or members may be provided at suitable points with inwardly struck beads or ridges 15 (see Figs. 4 and 5) adapted to contact one or more cigarettes. Fig. 4 shows such an arrangement for so supporting a cigarette at the middle of the case. With such arrangement cigarettes at either side thereof will be prevented from falling down, either by the middle cigarette or by the ridges.

It is desirable to provide a stop arrangement to establish the limit positions of the closure. One stop arrangement is illustrated in Fig. 2, one of the end members 10 being provided with a stop member 16 projecting into the channel in which the margin of the closure runs, a marginal portion of the closure being notched out as shown at 12*a*, to accommodate the extent of sliding movement thereof requisite to move it to open and closed positions, the portions of the closure at the end of the notch coming against the stop to establish the limit of movement. An alternative stop arrangement is illustrated in Fig. 5, wherein a stop member 16 is carried by the closure member and projects inwardly to ride in a groove in the body member, such as the channel of one of the beads 15. This stop member comes against abutments 17 at the ends of such groove to determine the limit of movement of the closure closure member.

The construction above described provides a case which is desirably thin, light and compact and which affords effective protection for its contents and permits their removal with facility.

What I claim is:

1. A case of the class described comprising end members having arcuate upper and lower end portions, a body member shaped to form an arcuate bottom and parallel oppositely disposed side walls, said body member having its side margins connected to said end members to form a narrow receptacle which is open at its top below the arcuate upper ends of the end members, said end members being provided withinwardly presented channels extending along the outer sides of the bottom and side walls of the body member and arcing upwardly from the top opening thereof, and a flexible closure having opposite margins slidably retained in such channels whereby said closure may be slid along the outer surfaces of said bottom and side walls to and from a position wherein portions of it form a closure arching over said top opening.

2. A case as specified in claim 1 and wherein the side walls of said body member are arranged for cooperation with a cigarette therein to support it in approximately upright position with its upper end at said top opening.

3. A case as specified in claim 1 and wherein said end members are provided with inwardly dished portions forming end walls for the receptacle and guideways for the closure.

4. A case as specified in claim 1 and including cooperating stop members on and concealed by said receptacle and closure for limiting the extent of movement of the latter about the bottom and side walls.

5. A case as specified in claim 1 and including cooperating stop members provided on said closure and one of said end members and disposed in the channel of the latter.

6. A case as specified in claim 1 and including a stop member carried on the closure and projecting inwardly therefrom and spaced stops provided on the body member for cooperation with said first mentioned stop to limit movement of the closure in each of opposite directions.

7. A case of the class described comprising, in combination, a body member shaped to form an arcuate bottom and opposite side walls of a receptacle, end members having arcuate upper end portions and formed with inwardly deflected marginal flanges and inwardly dished panels spaced from said flanges to afford intervening channels, said body member having marginal lugs extending through apertures in said inwardly dished panels and clinched over against the outer sides thereof to secure said end members to the body member to form end walls of the receptacle, inserts secured in the depressions formed by the dished panels in covering relationship to said lugs, and a closure guided in the channels of the end members for sliding movement along the outer surfaces of the bottom and side walls and over the top opening of the receptacle.

JAMES H. HORSLEY.