Dec. 30, 1930. H. C. WARNER 1,787,222

COMBINATION CONTAINER AND DISPLAY DEVICE

Filed Dec. 19, 1928

Fig. 1.

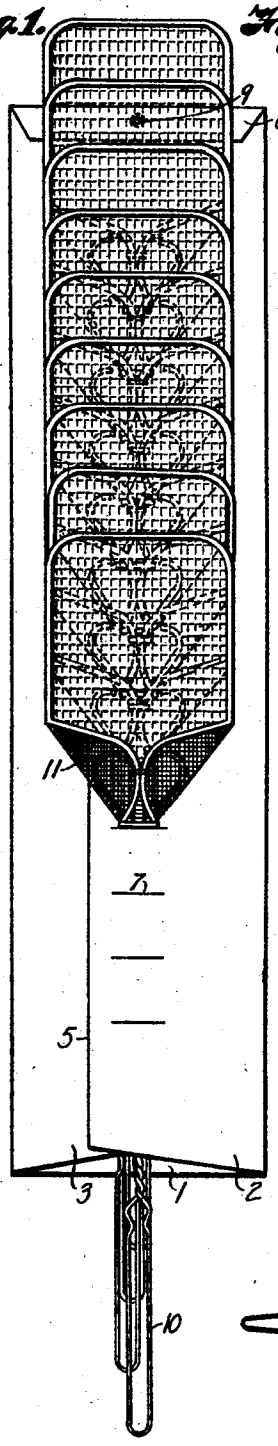


Fig. 2.

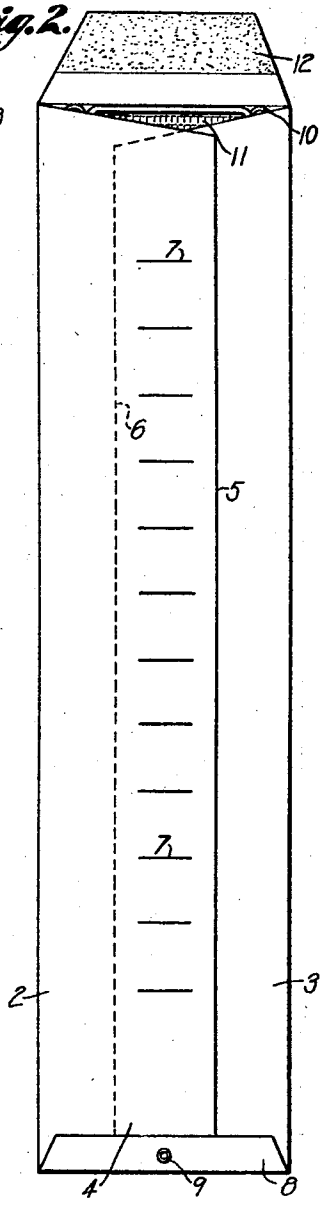


Fig. 3.

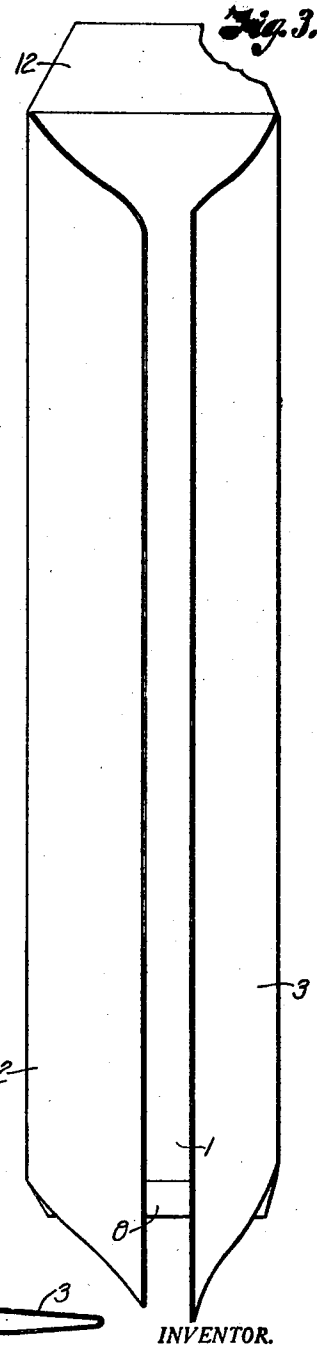
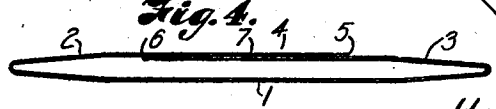


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINATION CONTAINER AND DISPLAY DEVICE

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My invention relates to shipping containers and more particularly to envelopes, the principal object of the invention being to combine display rack features with container features in envelopes for shipping long handled articles such as fly swatters.

Further objects of the invention are to provide for alignment and compact assembly of fly swatters in display position, for retaining the handles thereof within an envelope while the body portions are supported in display position, to adapt an envelope for securely supporting a plurality of swatters without hazard of tearing the envelope, and to utilize reinforced portions of envelopes for supporting the swatters in display position.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the invention, I have provided improved details of structure, the preferred forms of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a container embodying my invention and adapted for supporting fly swatters in display position.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the container in inverted position to that shown in Fig. 1 and illustrated in its first use as a shipping container for fly swatters.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the portions of the container in position before attaching the flaps to form the shipping container.

Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the container on a line intersecting one of the transverse slits provided to receive the handles of the swatters.

Referring in detail to the drawings:

1 designates generally a back portion and 2 and 3 side members or flap portions of an envelope overlapping to form the front of the envelope. I especially provide for side flaps of such length that they will overlap sufficiently to form a panel 4 preferably extending along the longitudinal center of the envelope, as defined in Fig. 2 by the full line 5 representing the longitudinal free edge of the side member 2 and the dotted line 6 representing the longitudinal free edge of the side member 3. The overlapping portions of the side members of the envelope are secured in any suitable manner, for example by gluing.

I then produce a series of transverse parallel slits 7 in the panel 4 and preferably arrange them on the axis of the envelope for a purpose presently described.

An end flap 8 which is laid over the side members forming the front, is suitably attached to the outer faces of the side members, to close the envelope and form the bottom thereof when articles are inserted for shipment, and an eyelet 9 is mounted in the end flap and adjacent portions of the overlapping side members, whereby the bottom end of the envelope is adapted for mounting on a hook to comprise the upper end of the envelope when the same is adapted to serve as a rack.

The container is particularly adapted for containing and supporting long handled articles such as fly swatters having relatively long handles 10 and head or web portions 11 which are wider than the handles, illustrated articles being of such form and shape that they may be assembled in a relatively thin area for packaging. The container is provided of suitable length and width to receive a plurality of assembled and registering fly swatters.

A sealing flap 12, Fig. 2, at the open end of the envelope may be folded over the open end and sealed for shipping the package.

The envelope is preferably constructed of relatively tough paper and the edges of the slits will be sufficiently engaged to prevent hazard of entanglement with articles with which they may come in contact. When the package has been received and it is desired to display the contents, the end opposite the eye 9 may be opened in any suitable manner, for example, by removing the flap 12, the fly swatters will be removed, and the envelope mounted on a hook as illustrated in Fig. 1. The fly swatters may then be mounted on the envelope, the handles being inserted through the slits to extend within the envelope and the heads of the swatters being supported on the abutments formed by the slitting of the front. The handles of the swatters positioned in the lower slits of the

series will extend outwardly from the open end of the envelope while the handles of the swatters in the upper slits will extend entirely within the envelope.

It is apparent therefore that the envelope may thus be transformed into a supporting rack, that the swatters will be supported in vertical alignment in relatively small area, that the back and front of the envelope will retain and anchor the handles for supporting the swatters in erect position, the weight of the handles as anchored in the envelope tending to seat the heads firmly in the slits. The overlapping flaps of the front of the envelope constitute a stronger and reinforced portion of the envelope, for slitting to receive the swatters.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A support for fly swatters and the like comprising an envelope provided with transverse slits to admit the handles of the swatters to the envelope to retain the handles for support of the swatters with the heads thereof exterior to the envelope.

2. A shipping container for fly swatters and the like comprising an elongated envelope adapted to contain a plurality of swatters and having transverse slits spaced longitudinally of the envelope for extending the handles of the swatters into the interior of the envelope and supporting the swatters from the envelope.

3. A fly swatter support comprising an envelope having a closed end, hanging means at the closed end, and being formed with overlapping flaps and provided with parallel transverse slits in the double thickness of said overlapping flaps to receive the handles of fly swatters for support of the head portions by said double thickness and anchoring of the handles between the body members of the envelope.

4. A combined shipping container and rack for fly swatters and the like having elongated handles and head portions, comprising an envelope having length corresponding to the length of the swatters and a plurality of parallel transverse slits and provided with hanging means at its closed end, the slits having length less than the width of the head portions whereby the handles may be inserted through the slits into the interior of the envelope for retention by the walls thereof and the heads may be supported on the abutments formed by the slits.

5. A combined support and shipping container for fly swatters comprising an envelope having an integral back, and a front formed by overlapping flaps to provide a portion of double thickness extending longitudinally of said front, said portion being provided with a plurality of transverse slits forming abutments whereby the handle of a fly swatter may be inserted in a slit and extended for anchoring by the back and front and the head may be supported from said abutments.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HARRY C. WARNER.