

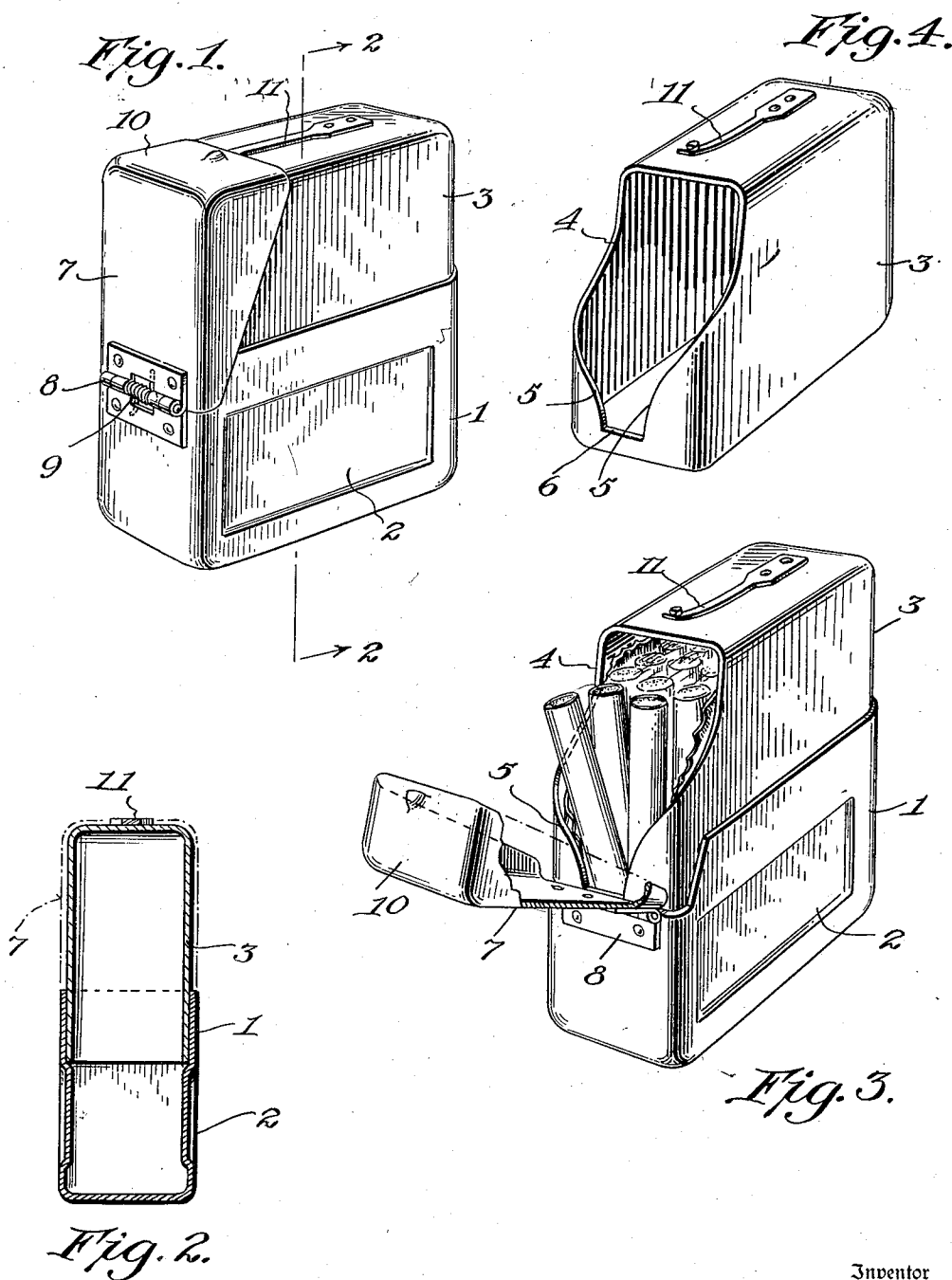
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POCKET CIGARETTE CASE

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## POCKET CIGARETTE CASE

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This invention relates to pocket cigarette cases and more particularly to a case which is adapted to receive bodily a complete package of cigarettes as now generally constituted in the more popular brands.

The primary object of the invention resides in the provision of such a case which is so designed as to readily and automatically present the cigarettes singly for extraction.

Another object of the invention consists in providing a single delivery cigarette case in which spring-pressed followers, ejectors and the like are unnecessary whereby a cigarette case of low cost may be provided which retains the advantages of the more complex and more expensive constructions.

A further object of the invention resides in the construction of a telescopic cigarette case provided with a dispensing opening and closure therefor, in which the closure serves the additional function of securely locking the parts together when the closure is in operative position.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings; in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the cigarette case.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the case containing a partly consumed package of cigarettes; and

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the upper telescopic section of the case.

Referring to the drawings in greater detail, the numeral 1 indicates the base or lower section of the cigarette case, preferably embossed as indicated by numeral 2, for the purpose of gripping a conventional package of cigarettes. Telescopically associated with the lower section 1 is an upper section 3 adapted to be bodily removed for the purpose of inserting a complete package of cigarettes in the lower section.

The section 3 is closed at its top, sides and ends, with the exception of a cut-out portion as more clearly seen in Figure 4. This cut-

out portion extends from the top of the section 3 downwardly to a point adjacent the bottom of one end thereof, and has its side edges converging downwardly as indicated by numeral 5. The base of this opening which is of a width approximately equal to the thickness of a cigarette is designated by numeral 6.

For the purpose of closing the discharge opening 4 of the cigarette case when not in use, a lid 7 is provided. This lid is hinged to the lower section 1 as indicated by numeral 8, and a coil spring 9 is mounted on the hinge pintle in conventional manner for swinging the lid to open position. The lid is provided with an overhanging portion 10 adapted to overlap the top of the upper section 3, and on the latter is mounted a latch 11 of any preferred construction for cooperation with a complementary portion on the lid 7. It will be apparent that by thus constructing the lid 7 it not only serves to close the discharge opening 4, but also as a means for securely locking the sections 1 and 3 against accidental separation.

In use, the upper section 3 is removed and a package of cigarettes inserted in the lower section 1 which securely grips the end of the package. While the package is thus held in position the upper end thereof and part of the side and front edge are torn off. The section 3 is then replaced in frictional engagement with the lower section. The lid is then moved to closed position against the pressure of spring 8 and is secured by the latch 11. To remove a cigarette it is only necessary to depress the latch 11 so as to release the lid which is then opened by spring 9. The first few cigarettes are removed from the case in the usual way; however, as the exposed cigarettes are extracted, the ones adjacent the opening 4 will tilt forward as shown in Figure 3, as one cigarette is extracted another takes its place until the package is empty. The shoulders or inclined portions 5 of the opening 4 will retain all but one of these cigarettes; i. e., the one which falls between the shoulders and rests on the base 6 of the slot. Thus it will be apparent that the device serves as a single delivery

cigarette case inasmuch as it presents the cigarettes individually for removal. After the desired number of cigarettes have been removed the lid 7 is moved to closed position and automatically pushes the front row of cigarettes back into the case. The dimensions of the cigarette package as well as those of the case are such that even the last cigarette in the case will be automatically presented for removal with its outer end resting on the lower edge 6 of the dispensing opening 4. After the package is emptied, the section 3 is removed, the lid 7 being first moved to open position, and a full package of cigarettes substituted for the empty container.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be observed that an extremely simple and inexpensive construction of cigarette case is provided; that it functions to deliver cigarettes singly without the aid of moving parts; that it is entirely closed so as to avoid unduly drying out the cigarettes; and that it is readily operable to permit the insertion of a package of cigarettes, and yet is securely locked against accidental separation of the sections of the case.

In accordance with the patent statutes I have described what I now believe to be the preferred form of the invention, but it is to be understood that various minor changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the spirit of the invention, and all such variations are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim as new is:

1. A cigarette case adapted to receive a package of cigarettes, said case comprising two telescoping sections, one of said sections provided with a cut-out portion in one corner thereof, and a lid hinged to the other section and adapted to close the cut-out portion.

2. A cigarette case adapted to receive a package of cigarettes, said case comprising upper and lower telescoping sections, the upper section provided with a diagonal cut-out portion in one corner thereof, a lid hinged to the lower section for closing said cut-out portion and adapted to overlap a portion of said upper section.

3. A cigarette case adapted to receive a package of cigarettes, said case comprising upper and lower telescoping sections, the upper section provided with a diagonal cut-out portion in one corner thereof, a spring hinge on the lower section, a lid secured to said hinge and adapted to close said cut-out portion, and a latch on the upper end of said upper section for releasably retaining said lid in closed position.

4. A cigarette case provided with a diagonal opening in one upper transverse corner thereof, said opening extending from a point in the upper wall of the case to a point in a

side wall thereof approximately midway of its top and bottom, the side edges of said opening converging toward each other adjacent its lower end.

5. A cigarette case provided with a diagonal opening in one upper transverse corner thereof, said opening extending from a point in the upper wall of the case to a point in a side wall thereof approximately midway of its top and bottom, the side edges of said opening converging toward each other at its lower end and spaced apart a distance equal to the thickness of a cigarette.

6. A cigarette case provided with a diagonal opening in one upper transverse corner thereof, said opening extending from a point in upper wall of the case to a point in a side wall thereof and continuing vertically downward in said side wall, the side edges of the vertical portion of said opening converging toward each other adjacent its lower end.

7. A cigarette case provided with an opening beginning in a side wall at a point substantially midway between the top and bottom of the case, said opening extending vertically upward within the confines of the side wall, thence diverging to the extreme width of the side wall and continuing diagonally upward to the top of the case.

8. A cigarette case provided with an opening beginning in a side wall at a point substantially midway between the top and bottom of the case, the edges of said opening extending vertically upward within the confines of the side wall, then flaring outwardly on a curve and continuing diagonally upward to the top of the case.

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