Oct. 11, 1938. G. L. KYSETH 2,132,741

PACKAGE OPENER

Filed March 9, 1937

Fig. 1.

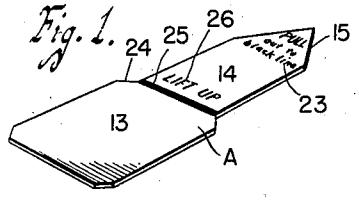


Fig. 2.

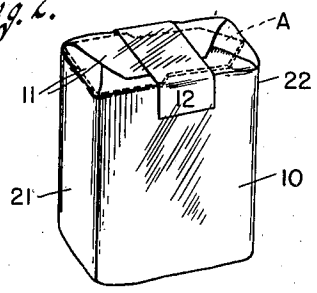


Fig. 3.

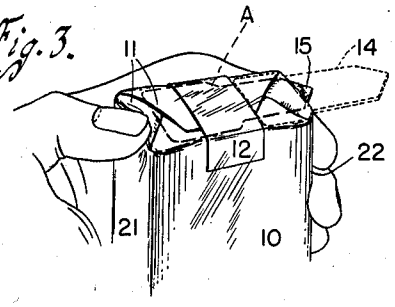


Fig. 4.

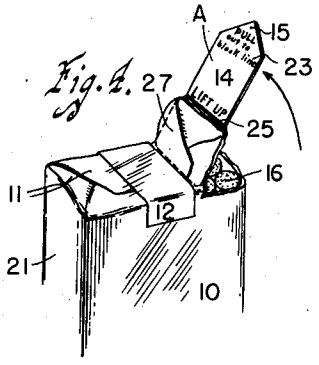


Fig. 5.

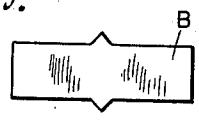


Fig. 6.

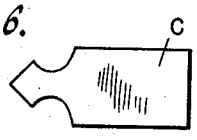


Fig. 8.

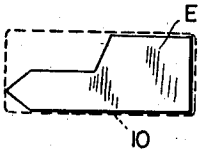


Fig. 7.

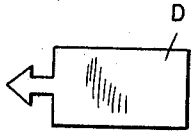
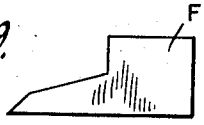


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PACKAGE OPENER

George L. Kyseth, Clarion, Iowa

Application March 9, 1937, Serial No. 129,855

2 Claims. (Cl. 229—51)

My invention relates to a package opener and to the combination of a particular kind of package with the particular opener.

It is my purpose to provide the combination of a package, such as that used for cigarettes with a package opener placed in the package and adapted to be pushed, by flexing one part of the package, for piercing another part, so that a part of the opener will then project from the package, so that it can be slid farther, which opener has shoulder means for coacting with the package wall, and conveniently determining the way in which the package should be opened. The part of the opener which remains in the package when the shoulder reaches the wall of the package is of such size that when the projecting part of the opener is pulled away from the package for tearing the package open, there will be produced an opening of the desired size.

With this and other objects in view, my invention consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of the various parts of my package opener, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a package opener embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a package, such as a cigarette package, having one of my package openers therein and properly combined therewith for cooperation.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the upper part of the package, illustrating the opener partially projecting from the package.

Figure 4 is a similar view illustrating the package opener pulled upwardly for the purpose of tearing open a part of the end of the package.

Figures 5 to 9 inclusive illustrate modifications of the package opener of Figure 1.

My improved package opener is particularly designed for use in cigarette packages, but it may be employed for other purposes. I will describe it, however, in connection with a cigarette package.

It will be understood that the cigarette package is used for the purpose of illustrating one practical way in which my opener may be used.

There is always some difficulty in opening an ordinary package of cigarettes. That difficulty has been increased by the current, almost universal, practice of putting a Cellophane case or wrapper around the package of cigarettes. The public likes the Cellophane wrapping because that keeps the cigarettes fresh. However, there is difficulty in opening the package at all, and still more difficulty in providing a small opening in the end of the package. There is much objection to opening the whole end of the package, because then the tobacco and loose cigarettes are likely to spill into the pocket or the woman's hand bag. Women frequently have no knife or convenient means for opening a cigarette package.

I have provided a means whereby the package may be conveniently opened, but I have gone farther and provided a means whereby the package may be opened quickly and accurately for leaving a small opening at one part only of the end of the cigarette package.

The package is indicated generally by the reference numeral 10. The upper end of the package is ordinarly sealed with overlapping flaps 11 and is provided usually with the revenue stamp 12.

The cigarette package, of course, is made of flexible material.

My improved package opener is shown in Figure 1. It is made of any suitable material, preferably of stiff paper. At one end, it consists of the substantially rectangular part 13, which is of the outline and size desired for the hole to be made in the top of the package.

Projecting from the portion 13 is a narrower portion 14, having the pointed end 15.

This entire package opener is indicated generally by the character A.

The package opener A is packed in the package above the ends of the cigarettes 16, its position being indicated by dotted lines in Figure 2.

The total length of the opener A is such as to enable it to rest just underneath the top of the package and to have slightly less area than the cross sectional area of the package.

Thus when it is desired to open the package, the user can press the end wall 21 toward the end wall 22 causing the sharp point 15 of the opener A to pierce the end wall 22.

The portion 14 may be provided with indicating characters 23—"Pull out to black line"—or other characters as desired, or such characters may be omitted.

Where the portion 14 joins the portion 13, there are the shoulders 24, and along this line of juncture, I preferably provide a black or other colored heavy line 25 and adjacent thereto the characters 26 indicating—"Lift up"—or something of that sort.

The user grasps the portion 14 and pulls it farther from the package until the shoulders 24

engage the wall 22. Then the user follows the injunction—"Lift up"—and pulls the portion 14 up with a quick vigorous movement.

The portion 13 is stiff enough to tear out a rectangular part 27 of the top of the package 10, thus leaving an opening of proper and definitely predetermined size.

Figures 5 to 9 show modified forms of the opener indicated at B, C, D, E and F. The use of these modified forms will be obvious.

The advantages of a device of this kind will be obvious.

It may be noted in the first place that without the shoulders 24 or their equivalents, the device would not be nearly so efficient or satisfactory.

By providing the shoulders, it is possible to simply pull out the opener until the shoulders engage the package wall 22, and then by the tearing movement, the opening can be made of exactly the desired size. If the shoulders were not provided, it would require a good deal more care to get the opening of the size desired, and in many instances, the opener would be pulled out of the package instead of tearing the end open.

The addition of the opener is very inexpensive.

The simplicity of the device will have been seen from the foregoing description. It may be mentioned at this point that it can be used and a package conveniently opened with one hand. For instance, the hand grasping the package, as shown in Figure 3, can be used for projecting the pointed end of the opener through the wall 22. The two first fingers can be then used to pull the opener to package tearing position, and one of them may then be used to force the opener up to the position shown in Figure 4 for opening the package. Thus the cigarette package can be opened while driving a car or doing any work that requires one hand.

It is not necessary to remove the gloves to open a package.

This sort of opener does not change the size, shape or appearance of the package, does not in any way interfere with the method of packing or the sealing of the package or the Cellophane wrapper, or the placing of the stamp.

Neither does it in any way affect the cigarettes.

One advantage is that the opener can be used to carry advertising.

The great point, of course, however, is to provide a device that will make a neat opening of the right size with a minimum of care and a maximum of certainty.

It might be mentioned that in an effort to make cigarette packages easier to open, some of the manufacturers have sealed the package at the top rather lightly with the result that the seal does not always hold. Where my opener is provided, any seal may be used, in fact the tighter the better.

A package equipped with my opener can be opened faster than before and the tightness of the seal makes the device work better.

As will be seen from the drawing, certain modifications may be made, particularly in the size and shape of the opener, and, of course, it will be understood that any suitable material may be employed, and it is my purpose to cover by my claims, any modifications of the kind mentioned, which may be reasonably included within their scope.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination of a container having a flexible wall and a pierceable wall, with an opener within the container having a pointed end and a portion connected with the end, having shoulders at the line of juncture with the end, projecting laterally from the pointed end part of the opener and adapted to engage the wall when the pointed end is forced through the wall and thus to tend to stop farther movement of the opener.

2. The combination with a container having opposed walls, one movable toward the other, with an opener in the container having a perforating end, and a substantially rectangular end, said ends terminating adjacent said respective walls, the rectangular end having a shoulder at the line of juncture with the perforating end, projecting laterally with relation to such end and adapted to engage the container wall as the perforating end is pulled from the container, and thus to tend to stop farther movement of the opener.

GEORGE L. KYSETH.