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CONTAINER FOR COILED RIBBONS AND THE LIKE

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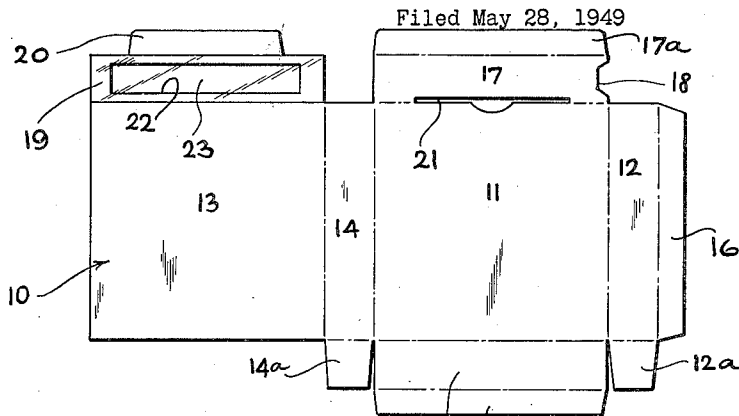


FIG. 1.

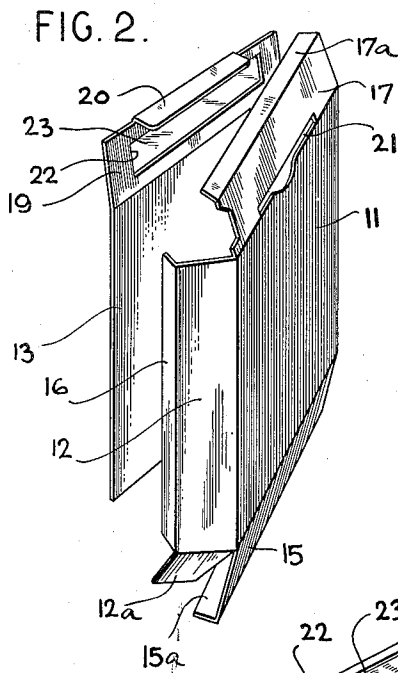


FIG. 2.

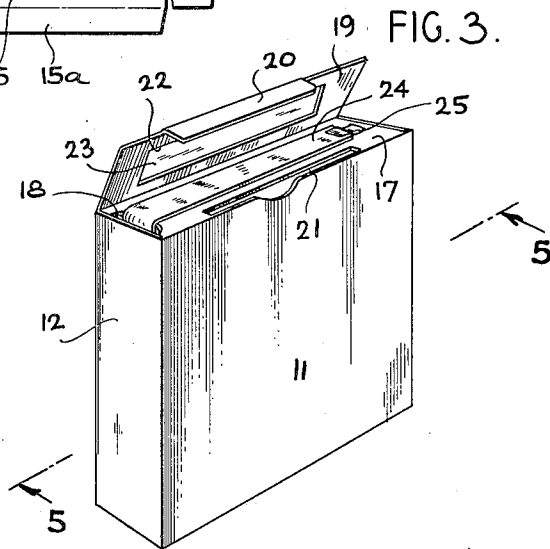


FIG. 3.

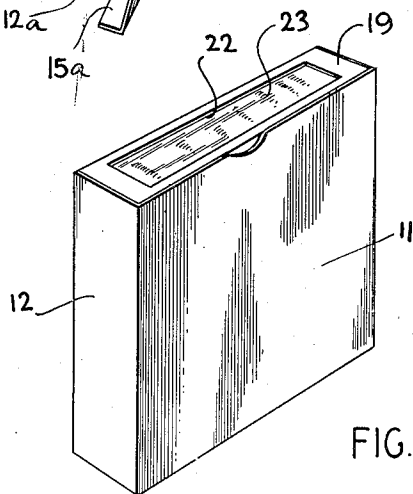


FIG. 4.

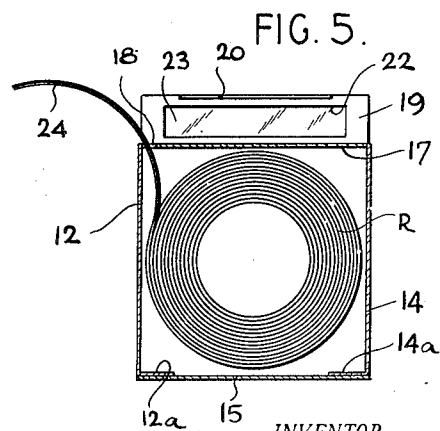


FIG. 5.

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CONTAINER FOR COILED RIBBONS
AND THE LIKE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 206—52)

1 This invention relates to an improved container adapted for use in packaging coiled articles such as ribbons, tapes and the like.

It is a general object of the invention to provide a simple and inexpensive container which will effectively serve to maintain the article in a clean and sanitary condition and which will allow the observer to determine the nature and color of the article by instantaneous visual inspection without the necessity of handling and opening the container.

Coiled articles such as ribbons and tapes present a difficult packaging problem because of their natural tendency to unwind. An assortment of such articles is ordinarily kept in retail establishments in open display and the articles consequently become soiled, unsightly and partially uncoiled as a result of handling by sales personnel and prospective customers.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a container which will prevent the coiled article from unwinding and which is constructed and arranged in such a manner as to allow a terminal portion of the coiled article to be disposed in visible position so as to permit easy determination of the nature and color of the housed, coiled article.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a container of the character indicated which may be constructed readily from a single, unitary carton blank.

An additional object of the invention is the provision of a container of the character indicated which is provided with a closure flap having a viewing window and which is further provided with means for positively supporting a terminal portion of a coiled article in viewing position immediately underlying said closure flap so as to be easily inspected at all times.

The foregoing objects as well as additional objects and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent in the course of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention, and wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a blank from which the container may be formed;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the blank of Fig. 1 in partially assembled condition;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the container in assembled condition with a coiled article retained therewithin, the terminal portion of the article being disposed on a supporting panel for inspection

2 through the window of the closure flap of the container;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view similar to Fig. 3 but showing the closure flap in closed operative position with the terminal portion of the article visible through the window of the closure flap; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 3 illustrating the indentation or slot in the supporting flap through which the terminal portion of the coiled article may be extended.

Referring now to the drawing in greater detail, the container may be formed from a blank of cardboard, fiberboard or other suitable material which is generally designated by reference numeral 10 in Fig. 1. Blank 10 is formed with a front panel 11, a side panel 12, a rear panel 13 and a side panel 14 interconnecting said front and rear panels. Front panel 11 is provided with an integral bottom panel 15 having an extension tab 15a to be secured to a respective portion of rear panel 13 in assembling the container. Side panels 12 and 14 are provided with lower extensions 12a and 14a respectively which are to be secured to respective portions of bottom panel 15 for assembly purposes. Side panel 12 is further provided with an integral extension tab 16 which is secured to a respective portion of rear panel 13 in setting up the container. The structure thus far described is well known and conventional.

An important feature of the invention resides in the provision of means for supporting the terminal portion of the coiled article housed by the container in visible position immediately underlying a window opening formed in a closure flap of the container, so that the terminal portion may be inspected instantaneously by an observer at all times. In order to achieve this purpose front panel 11 is provided with an integral top supporting panel 17 having an extension tab 17a which is to be secured to a respective portion of rear panel 13 in setting up the container. Supporting panel 17 is provided at one end thereof with a slot or cut-out 18 in order to allow protrusion there-through of the terminal portion of the coiled article, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 5. A closure flap 19 is preferably formed as an integral extension of rear panel 13 and is provided with a tab 20 insertable within a slot 21 in order to releasably engage the closure flap in operative closed position illustrated in Fig. 4. Closure flap 19 is formed with a window opening 22 which may be provided with a transparent covering 23 of any suitable covering.

Thus, when the container has been set up in

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the form shown in Fig. 3 it forms a closed compartment for the coiled article R, said compartment being defined by front panel 11, rear panel 13, side panels 12 and 14, bottom panel 15 and top panel 17. The terminal portion 24 of the coiled article R may be protruded through cut-out 18 in order to be disposed in viewing position on the top surface of supporting panel 17, as shown in Fig. 3. The terminal portion 24 may be held against displacement from its viewing position by a piece of adhesive tape 25 or in any other suitable manner. After the terminal portion 24 of the ribbon, tape or other coiled article has been disposed in viewing position on supporting panel 17 and the closure flap 19 has been secured in the position illustrated in Fig. 4, said terminal portion may be readily inspected through the window opening 22 in said closure flap.

By reason of the described construction and arrangement, it is readily apparent that it is not necessary to open the container in order to determine the nature and color of the contents of the article housed therewithin. A large number and variety of coiled articles may be stacked neatly in a compact space in the retail establishment and the prospective customer may easily select any desired article or articles by visual inspection. The articles do not become soiled or unwound as a result of excessive handling.

Since certain modifications may be made in the container of the present invention without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the foregoing specification and shown in the accompanying drawing be interpreted merely as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

What is claimed is:

1. A container for ribbons, tapes and similar coiled articles, said container having a body portion defining a closed compartment for the coiled articles, said compartment including a hinged supporting panel for the terminal portion of said coiled article, a hinged closure flap for the container carried by said body portion, said supporting panel being arranged to immediately underlie said closure flap in the closed position thereof, a transverse slot in said supporting panel at one end thereof allowing protrusion of the terminal portion of said coiled article to reach and over-

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lie the top of the supporting panel for substantially the full length of said panel, a window opening in said closure flap, a longitudinal slot in said supporting panel adjacent the line of the hinge of said panel, and an integral extension on said closure flap on an edge of said flap remote from its hinge releasably engageable in said longitudinal slot of said supporting panel.

2. A container for ribbons, tapes and similar coiled articles, said container having walls defining a closed compartment for the coiled articles, one end of the container having a pair of hinged overlapping flaps, one of said flaps being an integral, hinged extension of one of the walls of the container, the second flap being an integral, hinged extension of a second wall, the inner flap being notched at one of its ends to permit a terminal of the coiled article to project and overlie the face of the inner flap for substantially the full length of the inner flap, the outer hinged flap being extended over said terminal and covering the same for substantially its full length, said outer flap having a window opening covered with a transparent material through which a substantial portion of the terminal of the coiled article is visible, the inner flap having a slot along its hinge and the outer flap having a tab at its free end entering said slot to thereby hold the two flaps in overlying relation with the terminal of the coiled article sandwiched between them.

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