

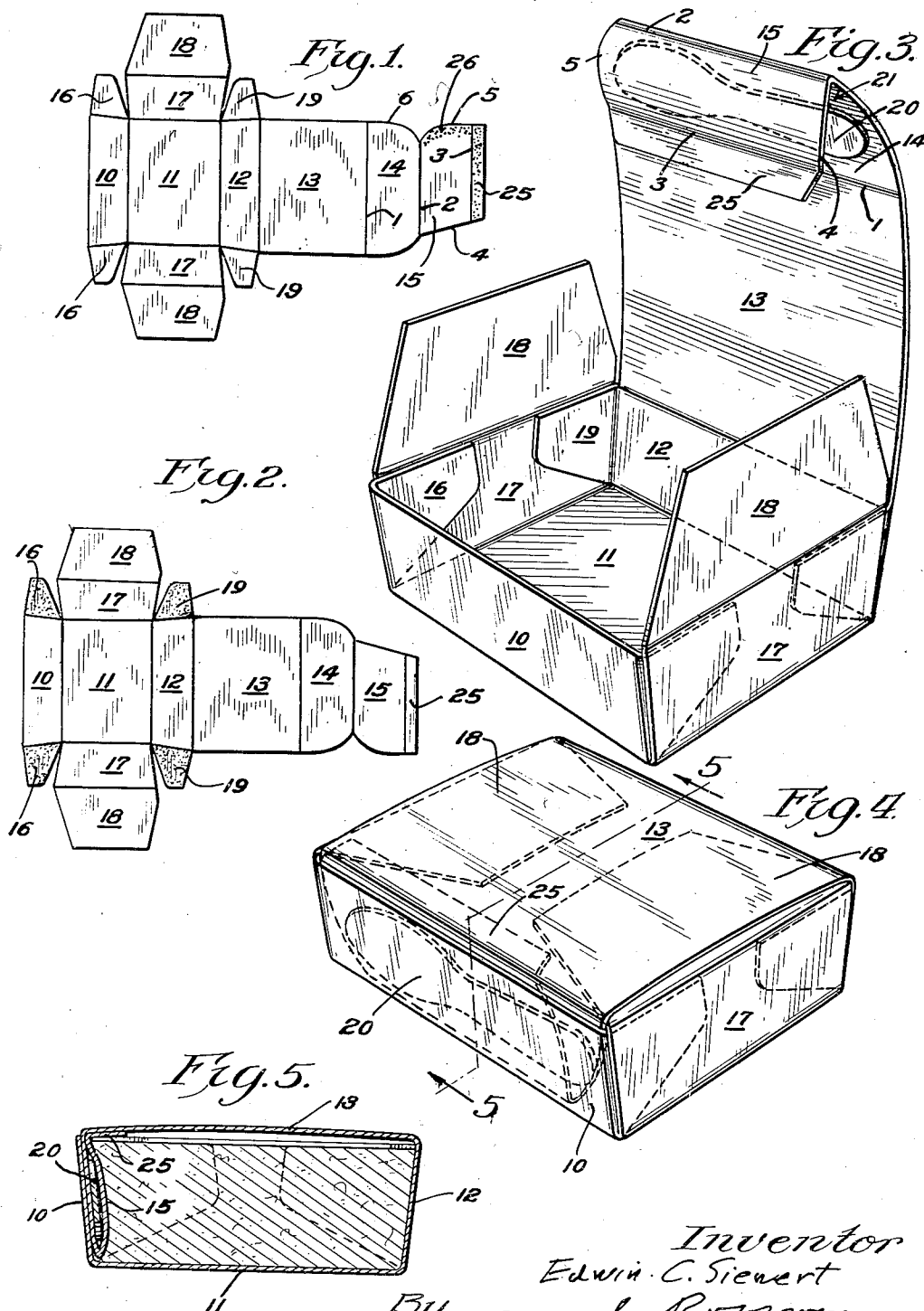
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SPOON PACKAGE

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SPOON PACKAGE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 229—1.5)

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This invention relates to a package or carton provided with means for retaining a spoon within the package.

Large quantities of single slices or helpings of ice cream, sherbet, frozen spices and desserts and the like are being sold in paper cartons or packages which are usually provided with a hinged cover that is opened so that the consumer may eat the food directly from the container by means of a wooden spoon or other implement that may be provided. Such packages are sold on trains, amusement places, parks, refreshment places and in outdoor stands. It has been customary to give the consumer a spoon with each purchase or to place a spoon loosely inside the package which the consumer can use for eating the food products. When spoons are inserted within the package they are often lost or misplaced.

According to the present invention, means are provided as an integral part of the carton so as to form a pocket portion within which a wooden spoon or other implement may be inserted and in which it will be securely retained while being shipped or stored until it is used by the consumer. The pocket portion occupies relatively little space and is constructed in such manner that it can be readily inserted within the package so as not to bulk or bulge the package or deform it in any way. Upon opening the cover of the carton or container it is possible to readily remove the spoon or other implement by merely slipping it out of the pocket portion for convenient use.

Other advantages and objects of this invention will be apparent from the following specification and drawings wherein,

Figure 1 is a plan view of the inside face of the blank from which my carton is formed,

Figure 2 is a plan view of the reverse outside face of the carton blank shown in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the carton made from the blank shown in Figure 1,

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the completed and closed carton, and

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on lines 5—5 of Figure 4.

Referring to the drawings, an illustrative embodiment of my invention is shown in Figures 1 to 5 wherein a single integral blank of cardboard or other suitable material is suitably cut and scored to provide a front panel 10, a bottom panel 11, a rear panel 12, a top cover panel 13, cover extension panels 14 and 15 and a glue panel 25. These panels are hingedly connected

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to each other along parallel fold lines so that they may be folded in suitable relation to each other when the carton is made as illustrated in Figure 3. The front panel 10 is provided with end flaps 16. The bottom panel 11 is provided with integrally hinged end walls 17 having hinged closure flaps 18. Rear panel 12 is provided with integrally hinged end flaps 19. In forming a carton from the blank described, extension panel 15 is folded back on itself over along score line 2 on panel 14 and glue panel 25 is adhered to the overlapping portion of the cover panel 13 to assume the relation shown in Figure 3, whereby a pocket portion 21 is provided for frictionally receiving and retaining a spoon or other implement 20. The spoon 20 can be readily slipped within the pocket portion 21 and engaged therein merely by frictional engagement of the faces thereof. One side of the extension panel 15 is provided with a cut curved portion 5 which has a contour congruent with the curved cut portion 6 of extension panel 14 so that when the two panels 14 and 15 are in folded relation to each other the cut edges thereof will have the same contour as illustrated in Figure 3. The opposite edges 4 of extension panel 15 and glue panel 25 are preferably cut along a diagonal line 4, so that when panels 14 and 15 are in superimposed relation a cutaway portion will be provided in the pocket 21 in order to facilitate grasping the end of the spoon or other implement 20 which can be removed from the pocket. Panels 14 and 15 are preferably of the same width so that score line 3 will coincide with score line 2 and the combined folded panels 14 and 15 can be folded in relation to the top panel 13 and function as a tuck-in flap in the manner illustrated in Figure 4.

If desired, adhesive may be applied at the marginal portion 26 of panel 15 as shown in Figure 1 so that when panel 15 is folded over on panel 14 a closed end will be provided for the pocket 21 so that the spoon 20 will not slip out at this end. Adhesive is applied to the flaps 16 and 19, as indicated in Figure 2, and the front, bottom, rear and end panels are folded up in right angular relation to each other. The end flaps 16 and 19 are adhered to the overlapped corresponding portions of the end walls 17 so that the carton assumes the position illustrated in Figure 3. The combined panels 14 and 15 can then be inserted in overlapped relation to the inner face of the front panel 20 while retaining the spoon within the pocket portion without bulging or distorting the contour of the carton.

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Combined panels 14 and 15 can be readily slipped out of the carton by merely pulling of same upwardly so as to open the cover in the position shown in Figure 3 whereupon the spoon or other implement 20 can be withdrawn from the pocket portion 21 for use in consuming the contents packaged within the carton.

It is obvious that the same principle of the pocket portion construction may be applied to any other part or parts of a carton or to the closure flaps in any type of other carton construction by providing an additional folded back extension panel whereby a suitable pocket portion is formed within which an implement can be frictionally retained. For example, panels 18 can be readily provided with extension panels that could be folded back and adhered thereto to form a pocket portion for retaining a spoon.

Numerous modifications and changes can obviously be made within the scope of the invention herein disclosed which are intended to be broadly included within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A carton comprising a tray portion and a hinged cover portion, said tray portion comprising front, rear, and end walls for retaining a product to be consumed, a cover portion hinged to the rear wall of said tray portion of suitable dimension for closing the open end of said tray portion, an extension panel hinged to said cover portion forming a tuck flap, a second extension

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panel hingedly connected to said first extension panel having the same width as said first extension panel and cut away at one end thereof so as to be shorter in length than said first extension panel, a glue panel hingedly connected to said second extension panel along a line parallel to said last named hinge connection and adhered to the inner face of said cover portion adjacent said first named hinge connection to bring said first and last named hinge connections into coinciding relation to provide a pocket portion for slidably receiving and retaining an implement for dispensing food packaged within said pended claims.

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