Jan. 18, 1938. H. AUSLANDER 2,105,517

SECTIONAL CIGARETTE CASE

Filed July 15, 1936

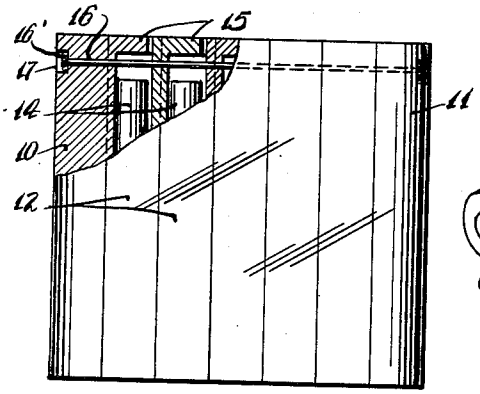


Fig. 1.

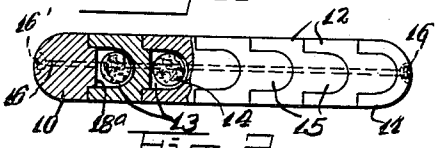


Fig. 2.

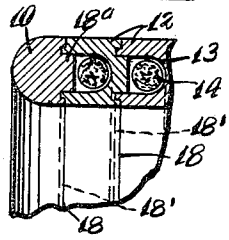


Fig. 5.

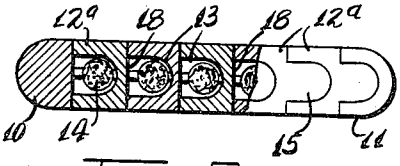


Fig. 9.

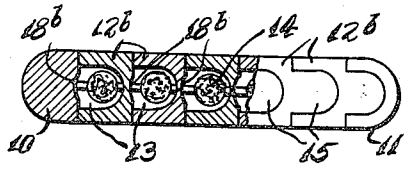


Fig. 10.

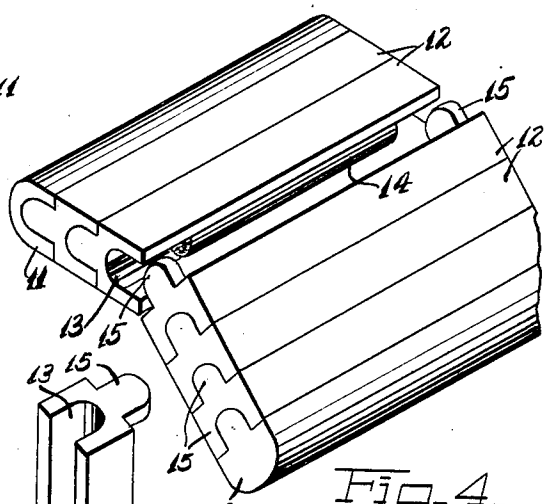


Fig. 4.

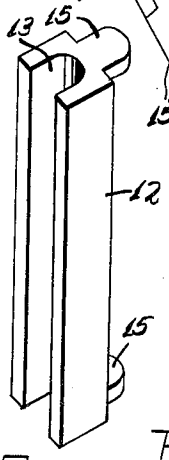


Fig. 3.

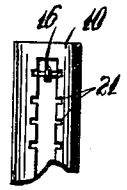


Fig. 7.

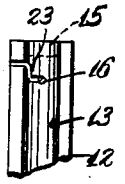


Fig. 8.

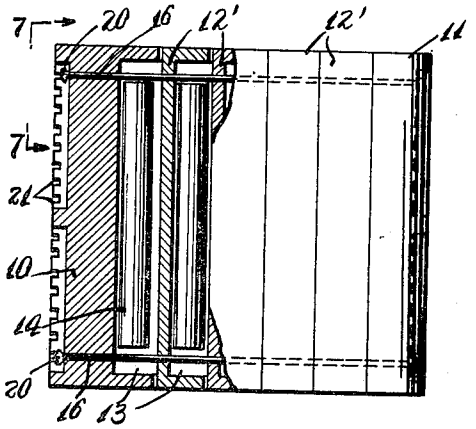


Fig. 6.

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SECTIONAL CIGARETTE CASE

Henry Auslander, New York, N. Y.

Application July 15, 1936, Serial No. 90,691

7 Claims. (Cl. 206—41)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a sectional cigarette case.

The invention has for an object the construction of a sectional case the parts of which may be formed of plastic or other materials.

A further object of the invention resides in the construction of a sectional case which is characterized by a pair of end elongated elements associated with a plurality of parallel elongated elements arranged in a common plane and side by side.

Still further it is proposed to provide each of the central elements with a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and to provide top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element.

Still further the invention proposes the provision of flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and operated to expose said grooves.

Another object of this invention resides in an arrangement whereby the parallel elements may be removed and replaced when desired. With this construction it is possible to enlarge the holding capacity of the cigarette case or to reduce it, as required.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:—

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a sectional cigarette case constructed according to this invention, illustrated with one corner broken away.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of Fig. 1 illustrated with one corner broken away.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the central elements.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the sectional cigarette case in a position in which one of the grooves is exposed.

Fig. 5 is a sectional perspective view of a cigarette case constructed according to a modification of this invention.

Fig. 6 is a front elevational view of the cigarette case embodying a modification, a portion thereof being broken away to disclose the interior construction.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary end elevational view looking in the direction of the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a side elevational view of one of the central elements.

Fig. 9 is a similar view to Fig. 2 but showing a further modified form of the invention.

Fig. 10 is another similar view to Fig. 2, but showing a still further modified form of the invention.

The sectional cigarette case comprises a pair of end elongated elements 10 and 11 respectively. A plurality of central elongated elements 12 are arranged between said end elements in a common plane therewith and in side contact with each other. Each of said central elements has a longitudinal groove 13 in one side thereof for holding a cigarette 14. These grooves extend the complete lengths of the elements. The top and bottom end portions of these grooves are closed by top and bottom flanges 15 from an immediately adjacent longitudinal element.

Flexible elastic members 16 extend through top and bottom portions of said elements for uniting the elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to expose the grooves. These flexible elastic members preferably should comprise elastic cords. The ends of these cords 16 are provided with knots 16' which are disposed within small recesses 17 formed in the outer faces of the end elements. The end element 10 is solid without a groove for a cigarette. It is provided with flanges 15, however, for extending over and closing the ends of the grooves 13 in the immediately adjacent element 12. The end element 11 is formed with a groove 13 for a cigarette which has its ends closed by flanges 15 from an immediately adjacent element 12.

In Fig. 4 the cigarette case is shown bent to expose one of the grooves so that the cigarette held by this groove may be seen.

In Fig. 5 a modified form of the invention has been disclosed which is substantially identical to the prior form except that each of the elements is formed with longitudinal edge flanges 18 engaging receiving grooves 18' in an adjacent element. These flanges and grooves hold the elements with greater rigidity in the common plane. In the prior form of the invention small projecting portions 18^a form one of the elements engaged into the groove 13 of an adjacent element for holding the elements in said common plane. In Fig. 5 this same construction is provided but this construction is supplemented with the flanges 18 and the grooves 18'.

In Figs. 6–8 inclusive a modification of the invention has been disclosed wherein there is a provision for removing or adding additional central elements. Specifically, the ends of the elastic cords 16 are provided with pins 20. These pins are capable of engaging in bayonet slots 21 formed along the longitudinal outer faces of the end elements. Each of the central elements 12' are formed with bayonet slots 23 through which the elastic member 16 pass. In other respects this form is identical to the previous forms and the same parts may be recognized by similar reference numerals.

To remove one of the elements 12' it is necessary that the adjacent elements be separated from it by a slight extension of the elastic members and the particular element 12' be moved so that the portions of the elastic members 16 which pass through the bayonet slot 23 engage out from the slot. To compensate for the slack in the elastic member 16 the pins 20 may be moved to different locations in the bayonet slots 21. It should be realized that the number of central elements which may be added or subtracted is limited merely to the possible correct tensioning of the elastic members 16.

In Fig. 9 the central elements 12^a are illustrated with flat faces 18^a adjacent the grooves 13 and in Fig. 10 the elements 12^b are illustrated with shallow grooves 18^b adjacent grooves 13.

It is to be understood that this device may be used not only for cigarettes, but also for cigars, or any other desired article. Also that the extension flange portions 15 may be of any desired ornamentation and shape.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent, is:—

1. A sectional cigarette case comprising a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and in a common plane and arranged side by side, each of said central elements having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element, and flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to exposed said grooves, said elements having longitudinal flanges extending along their sides and engaging complementary grooves in adjacent elements.

2. A sectional cigarette case comprising a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and in a common plane and arranged side by side, each of said central elements having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element, and flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to expose said grooves, one of said end elements being formed with a longitudinal groove for an additional cigarette, the end flanges of the adjacent central element serving to close the top and bottom ends of this groove.

3. A sectional cigarette case comprising a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and in a common plane and arranged side by side, each of said central elements having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element, and flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to expose said grooves, one of said end elements being formed with a longitudinal groove for an additional cigarette, the end flanges of the adjacent central element serving to close the top and bottom ends of this groove, and other of said end elements being provided with top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the longitudinal groove in the adjacent central element.

4. A sectional cigarette case comprising a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and in a common plane and arranged side by side, each of said central elements having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element, flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to expose said grooves, pins attached upon the ends of said elastic members and engageable in bayonet slots formed along the sides of said end elements for tensioning the elastic members.

5. A sectional cigarette case comprising a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and in a common plane and arranged side by side, each of said central elements having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element, flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to expose said grooves, pins attached upon the ends of said elastic members and engageable in bayonet slots formed along the sides of said end elements for tensioning the elastic members, and said central elements having bayonet slots through which the elastic members may be passed to permit the removal or the replacement of the central element upon the elastic members.

6. A sectional cigarette case comprising a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and in a common plane and arranged side by side, each of said central elements having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette and top and bottom flanges for closing the top and bottom ends of the groove in an adjacent central element, flexible elastic members extending through top and bottom portions of said elements and at their

ends connecting with said end elements for uniting said elements in a unit so that adjacent elements may be relatively bent and separated to expose said grooves, pins attached upon the ends of said elastic members and engageable in bayonet slots formed along the sides of said end elements for tensioning the elastic members, and said central elements having bayonet slots through which the elastic members may be passed to permit the removal or the replacement of the central element upon the elastic members, said latter-mentioned bayonet slots communicating with one of the faces of each central element.

7. In a sectional cigarette case, a pair of end elongated elements, a plurality of central elongated elements between said end elements and each having a longitudinal groove in one side for a cigarette, top and bottom flanges formed on said elements for closing the top and bottom ends of said grooves, resilient means extending through top and bottom portions of said central elements and connecting at their ends with said end elements for holding said elements in a flexible unit so that adjacent elements may be bent apart to open positions to expose said grooves, said resilient means, comprising elastic members extending through the top and bottom portions of said elements, pins mounted on one of the ends of said elastic members and engageable in different positions in bayonet slots formed along the outside edge of one of said end elements, whereby said pins may be selectively engaged in said slots to increase or decrease the rigidness between said elements.

HENRY AUSLANDER.