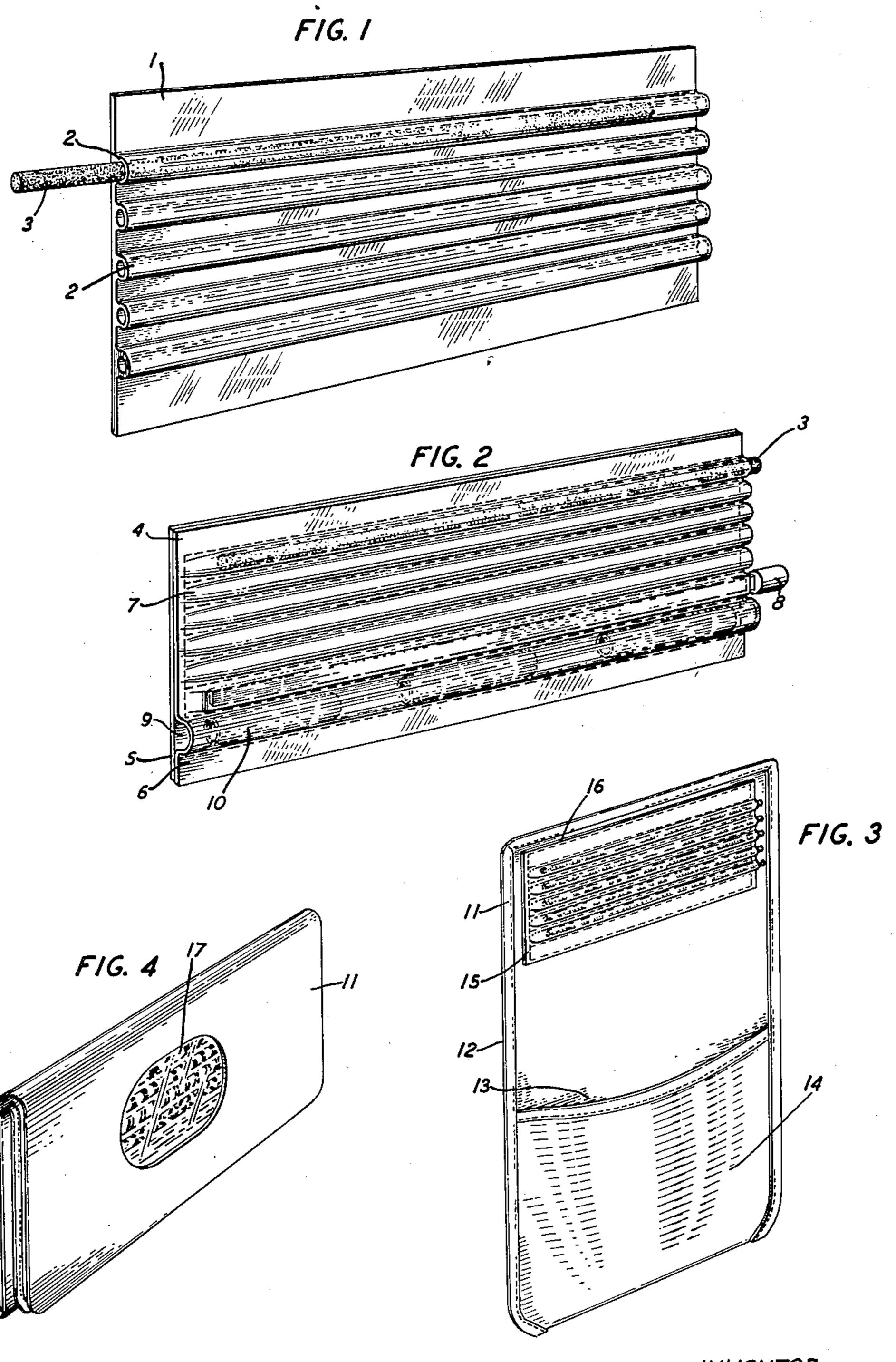
TOBACCO PACKAGE

Filed March 24, 1950



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,624,454

#### TOBACCO PACKAGE

Irving Korenman, Forest Hills, N. Y. Application March 24, 1950, Serial No. 151,559

4 Claims. (Cl. 206-38)

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This invention relates to a smoker's tobacco

An object of this invention is a tobacco pouch or package which may be carried in the smoker's pocket and which provides, in addition to the tobacco, a supply of smoker's accessories, such as pipe cleaners, so arranged as to impart a pleasing appearance to the pouch or package.

Other objects will be apparent from the description below.

In the accompanying drawing,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a holder for pipe cleaners which forms a part of the tobacco pouch or package of the present invention,

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a holder similar 15 to that of Fig. 1 but of alternative construction, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of an unfolded tobacco pouch of the present invention, and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a pouch, such as the pouch of Fig. 3, when folded.

The holder I shown in Fig. 1 is illustrative of one type of accessory holder which may be used in the tobacco pouch of the present invention. It is formed of a substance, such as an extruded plastic, so shaped as to have a flat face on one 25 side and to define a plurality of parallel sleeves 2. These sleeves may each be of such size and shape as to hold a pipe stem cleaner 3. Other sleeves of other sizes, not shown, may also be included to hold other accessories such as pipe filter 30 cartridges and the like. As will be explained more fully below, the flat face of the holder should be transparent so that the pipe cleaners in the holder can be seen through it. When the holder is made of a single extruded plastic unit 35 as in Fig. 1 the plastic should therefore be essentially transparent.

When reference is made to pipe cleaners in this specification and in the claims, it is to be understood that what is meant are the elongated sections of twisted wire having a fabric pile completely covering them which are commonly sold and used for insertion in pipe stems for the removal of tar and other deposits therefrom.

An alternative construction of holder is shown 45 in Fig. 2. In this figure, the holder 4 is formed primarily of two sheets 5 and 6. The sheet 5 is formed of any suitable transparent material. The sheet 6 is fastened to the sheet 5 in such manner as to form a plurality of parallel sleeves 50 7 adapted to contain pipe cleaners. These sleeves are closed at one end and open at the other end so as to permit insertion of the pipe cleaners. The sheet 6 may be formed of either transparent or opaque material. The fastening of the 55

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two sheets may be accomplished by stitching, by the use of adhesives, by heat sealing if the sheets are formed of plastic, or by any other suitable means.

5 The holder 4 may also carry additional accessories besides the pipe cleaners. Thus in one of the lower sleeves 7 may be inserted a pipe cleaning implement 8 formed of a rigid flat blade of such shape as to be easily inserted in the flat opening of the ordinary pipe mouthpiece and having a suitable handle. A sleeve 9, which is open at both ends and is of suitable size to hold the ordinary porous cylindrical pipe filter cartridge, may also be provided. A plurality of such cartridges 10 may be carried in the sleeve 9.

In place of being formed entirely of transparent material, the sheet 5 may be of opaque sheet material having a window therein so that only a portion of the array of pipe cleaners can be seen, as will be described more fully below.

A tobacco pouch illustrative of those of the present invention is shown in Fig. 3 in an unfolded position. The pouch 11 is formed of a body 12 of flexible sheet material, which may for example be a plastic sheet, a paper sheet, a leather sheet or a fabric sheet. A pocket 13 is formed at one end of the sheet as by turning up a flap 14 of the sheet and fastening it at the edges.

At the opposite end of the sheet and on the same face as the pocket is fastened a holder 15 resembling those shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Thus the holder of Fig. 1 or Fig. 2 may have its flat face fastened to the sheet 12 by stitching, by the use of an adhesive, by heat sealing or by any other suitable method. Alternatively a holder similar to that of Fig. 2 can be formed directly using the sheet 12 of the pouch in place of the sheet 5 of Fig. 2. Thus a sheet 16 may be fastened directly to the sheet 12 in such manner as to form the required parallel sleeves. Again this fastening can be accomplished by adhesives, by stitching or by heat sealing.

An important feature of the invention is the arrangement of the accessories within the pouch so as to have these accessories themselves form a dominant part of the decorative scheme of the pouch when it is in its folded position. To accomplish this purpose it is necessary that the accessories, which are designed to be contained on the inside of the pouch when it is in its folded position, be visible from the exterior of the pouch.

As indicated above, the holders I and I are designed so that their flat faces are formed, at least in part, of transparent material. When such

holders are used, or even when the holder is formed integrally with the sheet of which the pouch is formed, as described above, it is necessary that some means be provided for the accessories in the holder to be visible through the 5 sheet 12.

One means of accomplishing this is to form the sheet 12 of a transparent material. Another structure which can be employed is that shown in Fig. 4. In this figure, a pouch of the type 10 shown in Fig. 3 is shown in its normal folded position. The pouch shown in this figure is one in which the sheet 12 of Fig. 3 is formed of an essentially opaque material. In order that the accessories may contribute to the decorative scheme 15 of the pouch, a window 17 is provided in such position as to provide an attractive view of at least a portion of the accessory array in the holder.

This window is formed of transparent sheet 20 material and may be fastened to the sheet 12 in any suitable manner. When holders of the types shown in Figs. 1 and 2 are used, the transparent flat face of the holder itself may, if desired, be used as the transparent sheet material of which 25 the window is formed. As indicated above, if desired, the flat face of the holder need be transparent only to the extent necessary to coincide with the window. Obviously, if desired, the transparent sheet may be omitted from the window and it can be left completely open.

Whether the pouch is completely transparent or contains a transparent window, the eye appeal of the pouch is dependent upon the partial or complete visibility of the accessories, and these 35 accessories form the dominant feature of the decorative scheme of the folded pouch. Pipe cleaners are available in a variety of decorative colors and the parallel array of cleaners can be chosen with any combination of colors which will be at-40 tractive. The use of such a multi-colored array to provide useful accessories as well as a unique decorative scheme contributes greatly to the salability and enjoyment of the tobacco pouch, and it is an outstanding advantage of the pouch of 45 the present invention that it lends itself to such an adaptation.

The invention has been described above in terms of an essentially permanent type pouch to be carried and refilled by the smoker. The invention is also obviously adaptable to expendable tobacco packages in which tobacco, or a combination of tobacco and accessories, such as pipe cleaners, is sold. In expendable packages, the opaque portions will most conveniently be formed of paper, or paper and foil combinations, and the transparent portions will most conveniently be formed of cellophane or the like.

The invention has been described above in terms of its specific embodiments and, since cer- 60 tain modifications and equivalents may be apparent to those skilled in the art, the description above is intended to be illustrative of, but not necessarily to constitute a limitation upon, the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A tobacco pouch comprising an essentially rectangular, flexible first sheet of transparent, heat-sealable plastic material having a length from top edge to bottom edge which is greater 70 than its width from side edge to side edge, said sheet having an open pocket for tobacco formed across the width of the bottom of said sheet, the open edge of said pocket facing the top edge of said sheet, said sheet having a plurality of sleeves 75.

adjacent its top, defined by a second flexible sheet of transparent, heat-sealable plastic material positioned in face-to-face relationship with said first sheet and heat-sealed to said first sheet along a plurality of lines parallel to one another and to the top edge of said first sheet, said sleeves having pipe cleaners therein, whereby a decorative array of said pipe cleaners is formed which is visible through said transparent sheets.

2. A tobacco pouch comprising an essentially rectangular, flexible first sheet of heat-sealable plastic material having a length from top edge to bottom edge which is greater than its width from side edge to side edge, said sheet having an open pocket for tobacco formed across the width of the bottom of said sheet, the open edge of said pocket facing the top edge of said sheet, said sheet having a plurality of sleeves adjacent its top edge, one side of each sleeve being defined by said first sheet, the other side of each sleeve being defined by a second flexible sheet of heatsealable plastic material positioned in face-toface relationship with said first sheet and heatsealed to said first sheet along a plurality of lines parallel to one another and to the top edge of said first sheet, said sleeves having pipe cleaners therein.

3. A tobacco pouch as described in claim 2 wherein the sheet, defining the side of the sleeves on the opposite side of the pouch from that on which the pocket is situated, is transparent, whereby the array of pipe cleaners in the sleeves will be visible from the exterior of the pouch when it is folded with the pocket for tobacco on the inside.

4. A tobacco pouch comprising an essentially rectangular first sheet of flexible material having an open pocket for tobacco formed across the width of one end of said sheet, the open edge of said pocket facing the other end of said sheet, and a second sheet of flexible material positioned in face-to-face relationship with the same face of said first sheet as that facing said pocket, said second sheet being fastened to said first sheet along a plurality of lines adjacent said other end of said first sheet, said lines being parallel to each other and to the edge defining said other end of said first sheet so as to form a plurality of parallel sleeves for holding pipe cleaners, said first sheet being transparent over at least a sufficient portion of that part of its area which forms said sleeves to permit the interior of a plurality of said sleeves to be visible, whereby a decorative array of pipe cleaners within said sleeves will be visible from the exterior of the pouch when it is folded with the pocket for tobacco on the inside.

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