J. M. MERRILL.

MATCH BOX HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 31, 1908.

919,448. Patented Apr. 27, 1909.

Fig. 1.

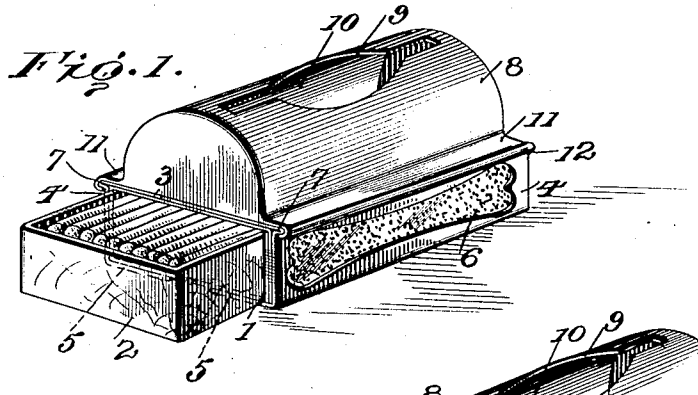


Fig. 2.

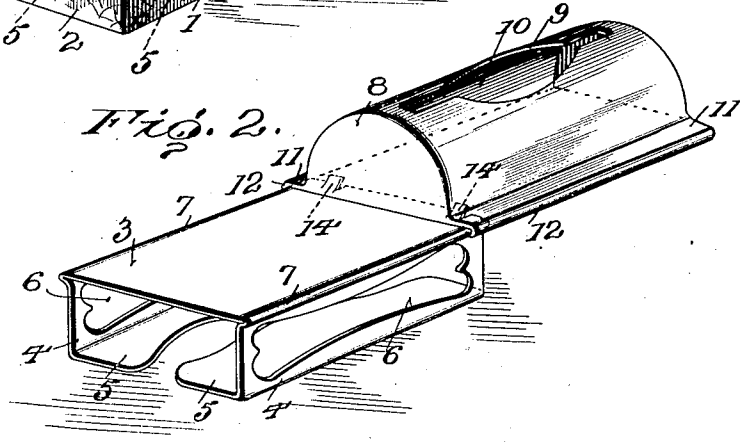


Fig. 3.

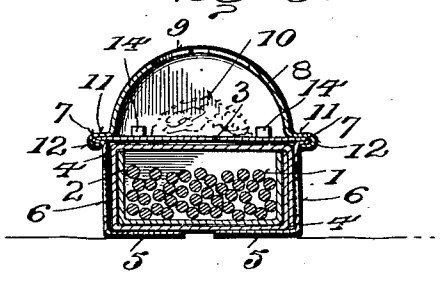
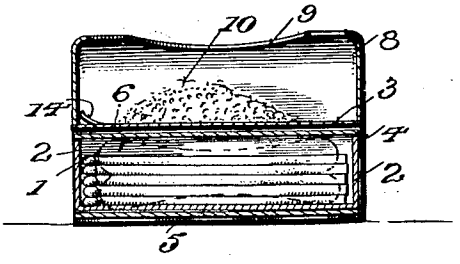


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MATCH-BOX HOLDER.

No. 919,448. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 27, 1909.

Application filed January 31, 1908. Serial No. 413,579.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH M. MERRILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Montclair, Essex county, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Box Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain improvements in match box holders, and relates more particularly to an improved match box holder and ash or match stub receiver; and the objects and nature of my invention will be readily understood by those skilled in the art in the light of the following explanation of the structure shown in the accompanying drawing as my preferred embodiment from among other formations within the spirit and scope of my invention.

The invention consists in certain novel features in construction and in combinations or arrangements of parts as more fully and particularly set forth hereinafter.

Referring to the accompanying drawings: Figure 1, is a perspective view of the device, the match box being shown therein with the match box slide partially withdrawn. Fig. 2, is a perspective view, the match box being removed and the sliding top in position opening the ash and match stub receptacle. Fig. 3, is a cross section. Fig. 4, is a longitudinal section.

The article shown in the accompanying drawing comprises a match box holder or compartment having a closed main wall, usually the top wall; and a hood, cover or open-bottom casing movably joined to or connected with said holder and in connection with said closed wall thereof forming an ash or match stub receiver or chamber which can be opened for cleaning by moving said hood from operative or normal position with respect to said wall.

In the specific example illustrated, the match box holder is open at both ends for the reception of the match box 1, and to permit withdrawal of the box slide 2, through either end of the box and holder. The holder is generally rectangular in form to conform to and snugly receive and hold the box and can be bent from one piece of suitable sheet metal or other proper material to form the closed flat top wall 3, the edge walls 4, and the bottom wall usually composed of the free ends 5, of the metal sheet folded inwardly and horizontally and usually spaced apart at their inner edges. As the holder is usually formed of sheet metal having a certain amount or degree of elasticity, the holder can expand and contract to receive and hold boxes differing in size, by reason of the formation of the longitudinally divided bottom and the spring or elasticity of the metal. One or both of the side or edge walls 4, can be formed with slots or openings 6, therethrough to expose the match igniting material on the edges of the match box.

In stamping or bending up the sheet metal to form the holder the material is folded to form the straight ribs or flanges 7, extending longitudinally throughout the length of the holder at the opposite edges of the closed top and projecting laterally beyond the side walls and forming the junction between the same and the top wall. These ribs, folds or flanges to a certain extent increase the flexibility or elasticity of the side walls and inturned ends 5, in receiving and holding match boxes varying in size. The main object, however, of these flanges or of thereby forming the closed top wall with projecting overhanging edges, is to provide means for movably attaching the top hood or casing to the holder.

In the specific example illustrated, the hood or top casing 8, is shown as pressed or otherwise formed from a single piece of sheet material, and is in length and width substantially equal to the length and width of the top wall of the holder and is formed with closed ends and open at the bottom. The hood is hollow, if so desired can be dome-shaped in cross section, and is closed above its open bottom, except for the longitudinal top match stub receiving slot 9, which can be laterally bulged or increased in width at the central portion to form the ash receiving top opening 10. The hood is formed with the opposite longitudinal horizontal edge flanges 11, resting on the flat top face of the holder top wall and the outer edges of the flanges are turned down and under, see 12, to lap under the top side flanges or ribs of the holder and slide on the holder. The hood is thereby formed with grooves or slideways interlocking with portions of the holder to hold the two members together in operative position and to permit relative longitudinal sliding movement thereof to uncover the open bottom of the hood. When the hood is

in normal operative position on the holder, the lower edges of the hood engage the longitudinal edge portions of the holder and extend across the end edge portions thereof and form a match stub and ash compartment closed except for the top opening 9, 10. The hood can slide longitudinally on the holder to remove the holder from position closing the bottom thereof so that the ash and match stub compartment can be readily emptied and cleansed. In fact, as the hood slides longitudinally across the top of the holder one of the end walls of the hood will sweep across the top wall of the holder and push the match stubs and ashes therefrom and out through the open bottom of the hood.

If so desired, various means can be provided to prevent complete detachment of the hood from the holder, and to limit the movement of the hood to only one direction in opening. For instance, I show tongues 14, bent up from one end of the top wall of the holder, to engage the adjacent end wall of the hood and prevent movement of said end wall across the holder and hence prevent opening movement of the hood in one direction. Said tongues will also engage the inner face of the opposite end wall of the hood when the hood has been moved to opened position and hence prevent complete detachment of the hood from the holder.

I do not wish to limit all features of my invention to the specific stop mechanism provided, as other means can be employed to limit the movement of the hood, nor do I wish to limit all features of my invention to the sliding connection between the hood and holder whereby they are held together and opening of the hood is permitted.

It is evident that various modifications might be resorted to in the forms, and arrangements described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact construction described.

What I claim is:—

1. A match box holder formed of one piece of sheet metal bent to form a closed wall, side walls and bottom free ends, whereby the holder is rendered expansible, said holder being open at the ends to receive the box and having a side wall opening to expose the match igniting material, in combination with an open hood having an inlet opening and movably confined to said hood and when in operative position thereon having its open bottom covered by said closed wall.

2. A match box holder, in combination with an open side hood movably joined thereto and having its open side closed by a wall thereof when the hood is in operative position, said hood at its top having a longitudinal match stub slot enlarged at the central portion to form an ash receiving opening.

3. A match box holder having a wall thereof longitudinally divided to render the holder expansible, said holder having a closed top wall, and being open at the ends to receive the match box, in combination with an open-bottom hood having a top inlet opening and being movably confined to said holder whereby the open bottom of the hood can be closed and opened, said open bottom being closed by said top wall of the holder when the hood is in operative position thereon.

4. A match box holder open at an end to receive the match box and having a closed top wall, edge walls and bottom free ends, said holder having an opening to expose match igniting material on the box, in combination with an open-bottom hood confined to said holder in longitudinal sliding adjustment and having its open bottom covered by said top wall when the hood is in normal position on the holder.

5. A match box holder having a closed top wall and an open end to receive the match box, in combination with an open-bottom hood having a top inlet opening, said open bottom being closed by said top wall of the holder when said hood is in normal position thereon, said hood having longitudinal edge flanges doubled under the side edges of said holder to confine the hood to the holder in longitudinal sliding adjustment.

6. An open-end match box holder having longitudinal side projecting ribs beyond its top wall, in combination with an open-bottom hood having a top inlet opening and longitudinal edge flanges bent under said ribs and confining the hood to said top wall in longitudinal sliding adjustment.

7. An open-end match box holder having a closed top wall formed with an end stop, in combination with an open-bottom hood having a match-stub-inlet opening and longitudinal edge flanges doubled under side edges of the holder and confining the holder and hood together in longitudinal sliding adjustment, said stop limiting the relative movement of said parts.

8. An open-end match box holder having a wall formed with an out-turned stop, in combination with an open-bottom hood having a match stub opening and confined to said holder in longitudinal sliding adjustment limited by said stop.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH M. MERRILL.

Witnesses:
HUGH B. REED,
IRENE MINNERLY.