J. H. SCHARLING.

POCKET CASE.

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1,184,138.

Patented May 23, 1916.

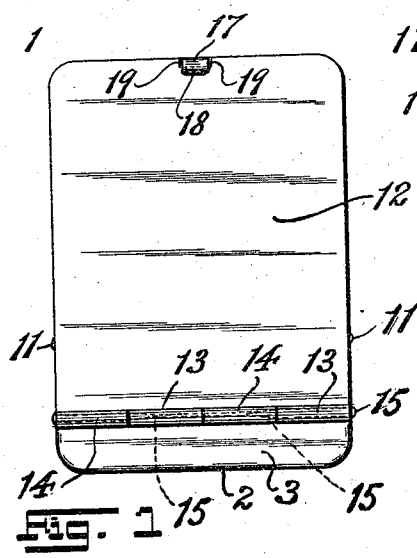


Fig. 1

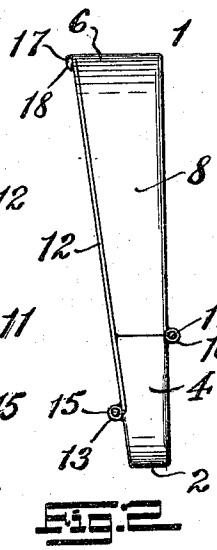


Fig. 2

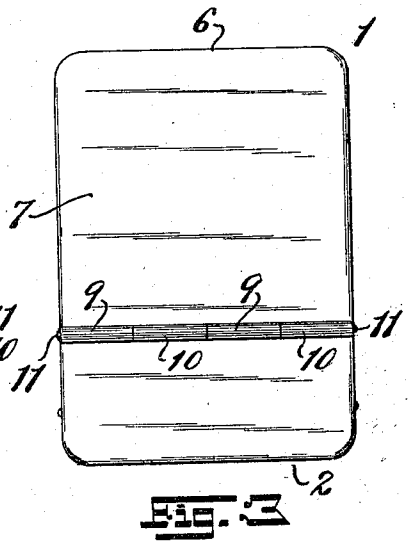


Fig. 3

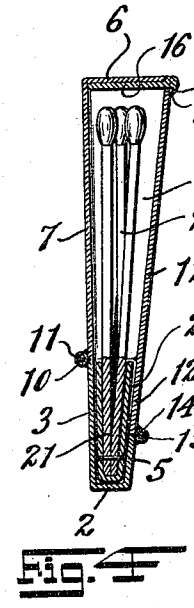


Fig. 4

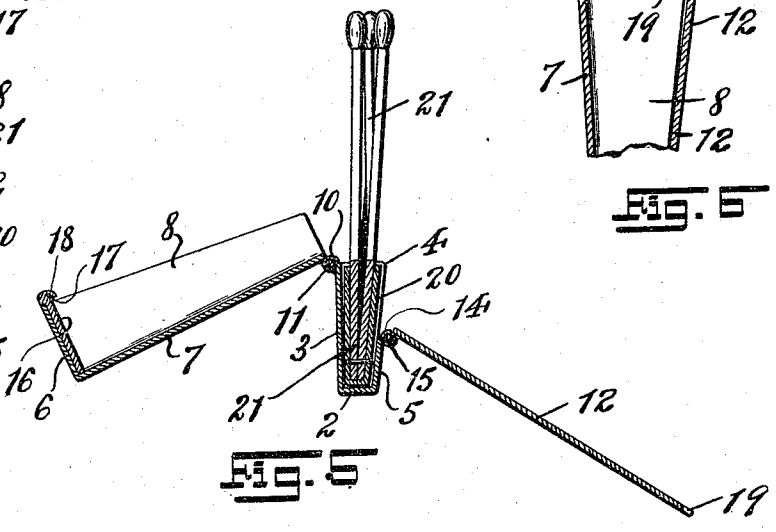


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

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POCKET-CASE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SCHARLING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pocket-Cases; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The present invention has reference, generally, to improvements in that class of pocket-cases which are adapted for the purpose of carrying therein matches, cigarettes, and the like; and the invention relates, more particularly, to a novel construction of pocket-case or box, having a holder-section in its end to which are hinged a closable section and cover-section arranged to open simultaneously and oppositely to present the upwardly extending ends of cigarettes or matches, the latter of the paper-folder safety match type, freely and unobstructedly for removal from the pocket-case or box.

The invention has for its principal object to provide a neat and simply constructed pocket-case or box of the general character stated; and the same has for a further object to provide such an association of hinged closable-section and cover-section with a vertical holder-section, that when the hinged sections are opened, and the pocket-case or box is used to carry paper-folders of matches, the igniting or scratching surface of the match-folder is duly exposed for use.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a novel and simple snap-catch device for normally holding both the hinged closable-section and the hinged cover-section in normal closed relation to each other and to the holder-section of the pocket-case or box.

Other objects of the present invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the same.

With the various objects of my present invention in view, the same consists, primarily, in the novel pocket-case or box hereinafter set forth; and the invention consists, furthermore, in the various novel arrangements and combinations of the several parts, and the details of the construction of the same, all of which will be hereinafter more fully described in the following specification, and then finally embodied in the claims appended thereto.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front face view of the novel pocket-case or box, made according to and embodying the principles of the present invention; Fig. 2 is a side or edge view of the same; and Fig. 3 is an opposite or rear face view of said novel pocket-case or box. Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section of the novel pocket-case or box showing the same closed, and in use to carry a paper-folder of safety matches of the well known type; and Fig. 5 is a similar view of said novel pocket-case or box showing the same opened to present the matches so that one or more of the same may be removed and used, this view also illustrating the exposure of the striking or scratching surface of the match-folder when said pocket-case or box is opened. Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail vertical transverse section through the novel snap-catch device of the hinged closable section and the hinged cover-section, showing how the same is released from its holding position.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the hereinafter described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the several figures of the said drawings, the reference character 1 indicates a complete pocket-case or box which is made according to and which embodies the principles of the present invention, and the same comprises a vertical holder-section 2 which is vertically disposed so as to form one end of the pocket-case or box, and comprises a rear side wall 3, end walls 4, and a front side wall 5. The said front side wall 5 is cut down so that the same is of considerably less extent in height than the said rear side wall 3 and the end walls 4, for purposes subsequently to be described.

The reference character 6 indicates a closable pivoted section which comprises a rear side wall 7 and end walls 8, said section being open throughout its front side. The lower marginal edge of said rear side wall 7 of said closable section 6 is registered with the upper marginal edge of said rear side wall 3 of said holder-section 2, and said

lower marginal edge of said rear side wall 7 of said closable section 6 is provided with a pair of tubular hinge-leaves 9, which dovetail between and in alinement with a similar pair of tubular hinge-leaves 10, which are affixed to the upper marginal edge of said rear side wall 3 of the holder-section 2, so that by inserting through said alined tubular hinge-leaves 9 and 10 a hinge-pintle 11, said closable section 6 is thereby related pivotally to said holder-section 2.

The reference character 12 indicates a cover-section. The lower marginal edge of this cover section 12 is registered with the upper marginal edge of said front side wall 5 of said holder-section 2, and said lower marginal edge of said cover-section 12 is provided with a pair of tubular hinge-leaves 13, which dovetail between and are in alinement with a similar pair of tubular hinge-leaves 14, which are affixed to said upper marginal edge of said front side wall 5 of the holder-section 2. A twisted spring-pintle 15 is passed through said alined tubular hinge-leaves 13 and 14, and one end of the same is securely fixed within the end tubular hinge-leaf 13 of said cover-section 12, and the other end of the same is securely fixed within the end tubular-hinge-leaf 14 of said holder-section 2, thus not only pivoting said cover-section 12 to said holder-section 2, but by virtue of the action of said spring-pintle 15, placing said cover-section 12 under the influence of the tension of said spring-pintle 15 when in closed position so that when said cover-section 12 is released from its normally closed position it will tend to spring open under the action of said spring-pintle 15. When said closable section 6 and cover-section 12 are moved together, the latter extends over and closes over the open front of the former, and also closes over the open front portion of the holder-section 2 which results from shortening or reducing in height the front side wall 5 of said holder-section 2; and at the same time, said closable section 6 is thereby placed in vertical alinement with the vertical holder-section 2, so that its rear side wall 7 and end walls 8 respectively form continuations of the rear side wall 3 and end walls 4 of said holder-section 2, and thus the pocket-case or box is closed to entirely close the upwardly projecting ends of matches, cigarettes or any other articles vertically disposed and contained in said holder-section 2. The means for retaining said closable-section 6 and said cover-section 12 in the above described closed relation, relative to each other and said holder-section 2, comprises a snap-catch device consisting of a suitable main body or tail-piece 16, which is secured by solder or any suitable mechanical fastening means to the upper end wall of said closable-section 6. The outer end of said main body or tail-piece is provided with a downwardly projecting catch-nosing 17, the outer side or extremity of which is chamfered, as at 18. The upper marginal edge of said cover-section 12 is provided with a cutaway portion or notch 19 adapted to surround the outwardly projecting end of said main body or tail-piece 16 of said snap-catch when the cover-section 12 is closed, but the depth of said notch is less than the length of the downwardly projecting catch-nosing 17, so that the latter will properly engage the marginal edge of said cover-section 12 at the bottom of said cutaway portion or notch 19, and thus retain said cover-section 12 in its closed relation.

Since the cover-section 12 is made of a single sheet or thickness of metal it possesses a degree of resiliency which allows the same to bend slightly transversely when moved against the chamfered portion 18 of the catch-nosing 17, thus allowing the upper end of the same to snap or spring by and under the said catch-nosing 17 to its closed position. This closing movement is further aided by the fact that the length of the closable section 6 is shorter than the length of the cover-section 12 so that their hinges or pivots are off-set from each other, consequently the arc described by the closable-section 6, when approaching said cover-section 12 in closing or opening the pocket-case or box, is sharper or more acute than the arc described by said cover-section 12, and since both of these parts are moving together toward each other this results in slightly raising the catch-nosing 17 above its normal plane, thus reducing to a minimum the degree of spring or bend required of the cover-section to snap the same over the catch-nosing. This is illustrated more particularly in Fig. 6 of the drawings.

To open the pocket-case or box when closed, the holder-section 2 is grasped in the fingers of one hand, and the closable section 6 is grasped in the fingers of the other hand; then, by swinging backward the latter on its hinge, the catch-nosing 17 is slightly elevated as above described, and as it still pulls against the upper edge of the cover-section 12 it causes the latter to bend transversely until the said cover-section snaps or springs over the catch-nosing 17, so that the spring-pintle 15 is free to swing said cover-section 12 to its fully opened position, as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawings. When the pocket-case or box is thus opened, so that the closable-section 6 and cover-section 12 assume the positions shown in said Fig. 5 of the drawings, it will be apparent that any matches, or cigarettes, or other articles standing upright in said holder-section 2 are fully unclosed, so that access of the fingers thereto for the easy and quick removal

thereof from the holder-section 2 is provided. When the pocket-case or box is used as a match holder for folders of paper safety matches, it will be apparent that the shortened front side wall 5 of the holder-section 2 leaves an uncovered space above said front side wall 5, exposing the striking or scratching surface 20 of a folder of matches 21, so that a match removed from the pocket-case or box may be readily applied thereto for ignition. When the said pocket-case or box is used as a match-box for folders of matches, such as 21, the front and rear sides thereof may be made divergent, as shown in the drawings, to provide sufficient room in the upper end of the closed pocket-case or box for the heads of such matches, thus eliminating any danger of crushing the heads of said matches when closing the pocket-case or box, thus rendering the same useless. Of course, I do not limit my novel construction of pocket-case or box to the possession of such divergent walls, since the latter may be made straight and parallel, which is the usual manner of construction when adapting my novel construction of pocket-case or box to perform the service of a cigarette-case.

I am aware that some changes may be made in the general arrangements and combinations of the various parts, without departing from the scope of the present invention, as defined in the claims appended hereto. Hence, I do not limit my invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of the said parts as described in the foregoing specification, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I claim:—

1. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section forming one end of the same, a closable-section hinged to the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section hinged to the front side wall of said holder-section, the arc of swing of said closable-section being more acute than the arc of the swing of said cover-section, and a catch-nosing connected with the free end of said closable-section into engagement with which the upper edge of said cover-section moves when said closable-section and said cover-section are swung together to their closed positions.

2. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section forming one end of the same, a closable section open at its front side and hinged to the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section comprising a single thickness or sheet of the material of which the pocket-case or box is made, said cover-section being hinged to the front side wall of said holder-section, said cover-section possessing resiliency permitting the same to bend transversely, and a catch-nosing connected with the free end of said closable-section into engagement with which the upper edge of said cover-section may be sprung when said closable-section and said cover-section are swung together to their closed positions.

3. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section forming one end of the same, a closable section open at its front side and hinged to the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section comprising a single thickness or sheet of the material of which the pocket-case or box is made, said cover-section being hinged to the front side wall of said holder-section, said cover-section possessing resiliency permitting the same to bend transversely, a catch-nosing connected with the free end of said closable-section into engagement with which the upper edge of said cover-section may be sprung when said closable-section and said cover-section are swung together to their closed positions, and spring-means associated with said cover-section for actuating its opening movement when released from said catch-nosing.

4. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section having a rear side wall, end walls, and a front side wall, the said front side wall being reduced in height relative to the height of the rear side wall, a closable-section having a rear side wall and end walls but open at its front side, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of the rear side wall of said closable-section and the upper marginal edge of the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section comprising a single thickness or sheet of the material of which the pocket-case or box is made, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of said cover-section and the upper marginal edge of the front side wall of said holder-section, said closable-section and said cover-section being adapted to be swung together in closed relation to each other and to said holder-section, and means for retaining said closable section and cover-section in such closed relation.

5. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section having a rear side wall, end walls, and a front side wall, the said front side wall being reduced in height relative to the height of the rear side wall, a closable-section having a rear side wall and end walls but open at its front side, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of the rear side wall of said closable-section and the upper marginal edge of the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section comprising a single thickness or sheet of the material of which the pocket-case or box is made, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of said cover-section and the upper marginal edge of the front side wall of said holder-

section, said closable-section and said cover-section being adapted to be swung together in closed relation to each other and to said holder-section, means for retaining said closable-section and cover-section in such closed relation, and spring means associated with said cover-section for actuating its opening movement when released from said catch-nosing.

6. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section having a rear side wall, end walls, and a front side wall, the said front side wall being reduced in height relative to the height of the rear side wall, a closable-section having a rear side wall and end walls but open at its front side, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of the rear side wall of said closable-section and the upper marginal edge of the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section comprising a single thickness or sheet of the material of which the pocket-case or box is made, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of said cover-section and the upper marginal edge of the front side wall of said holder-section, said closable-section and said cover-section being adapted to be swung together in closed relation to each other and to said holder-section, and a catch-nosing connected with the free end of said closable-section into engagement with which the upper edge of said cover-section moves when said closable-section and said cover-section are swung together to their closed positions.

7. A pocket-case or box comprising a vertically disposed holder-section having a rear side wall, end walls, and a front side wall, the said front side-wall being reduced in height relative to the height of the rear side wall, a closable-section having a rear side wall and end walls but open at its front side, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of the rear side wall of said closable-section and the upper marginal edge of the rear side wall of said holder-section, a cover-section comprising a single thickness or sheet of the material of which the pocket-case or box is made, a hinge-connection between the lower marginal edge of said cover-section and the upper marginal edge of the front side wall of said holder-section, said closable-section and said cover-section being adapted to be swung together in closed relation to each other, and a catch-nosing connected with the free end of said closable-section into engagement with which the upper edge of said cover-section moves when said closable-section and said cover-section are swung together to their closed positions, and spring-means associated with said cover-section for actuating its opening movement when released from said catch-nosing.

In testimony, that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 16th day of April, 1915.

JOHN H. SCHARLING.

Witnesses:
FRED'K C. FRAENTZEL,
FRED'K H. W. FRAENTZEL.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."