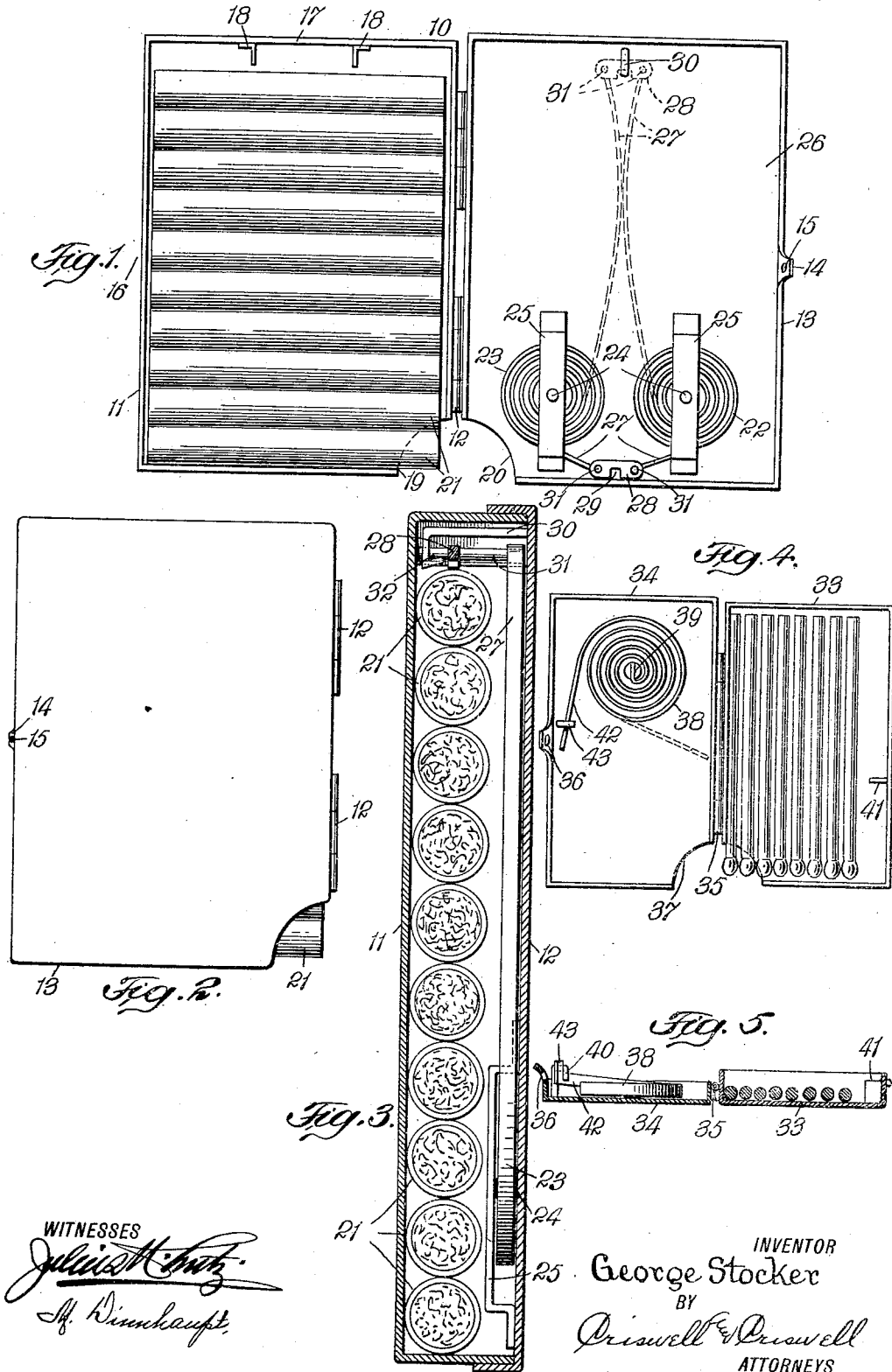


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HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 8, 1909.

940,086.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.



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940,086.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Application filed April 8, 1909. Serial No. 483,647.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE STOCKER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates more particularly to a device which is adapted to hold cigarettes, matches or other articles, and to automatically position them for removal.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient device having a casing in which the cigarettes, matches or other articles may be readily placed, and within the casing arrange simple means whereby the articles may be forced in position for removal, and as each article is removed cause another one to be forced in position to take its place without the necessity for opening the case or having access to the interior thereof, thus overcoming the objections incident to the use of the ordinary cigarette or other holder.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient device in which the means for holding and feeding the articles may be held to properly charge the device, and which will be automatically released when the casing is closed to permit the articles to be automatically forced along the body of the casing in position for removal.

With these and other objects in view, the invention will be hereinafter more particularly described with reference to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and will then be pointed out in the claims at the end of the description.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of one form of device embodying my invention, showing the casing open and charged, and the feeding means in dotted lines held in position to be released to force the articles within the body of the casing in position for removal when the lid is closed. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the casing in a closed position. Fig. 3 is an enlarged section through the casing showing how the articles are forced to removal position. Fig. 4 shows a somewhat different form of casing which is adapted particularly for holding matches, the casing being open to show the interior

thereof; and Fig. 5 is a transverse section of the device shown in Fig. 4.

The casing 10 may be of any desired form and may have a body portion 11 which is substantially rectangular, and hinged to the body portion, as at 12, is a lid or cover 13, one part of which may be provided with a clasp, as 14, which may have an aperture 15 which is adapted to be forced or sprung over a pin 16 located on one of the sides of the body of the casing.

The body portion 11 has side marginal walls to form a proper container for the cigarettes or other articles, and the end marginal wall 17 is provided with two projecting parts or angle plates 18 to prevent the cigarettes from passing too close to the marginal walls 17, and to provide a space for a purpose to be presently described. The body 11 is cut away at 19 and the cover 13 is cut away at 20 so that when the cover or lid is folded over onto the body 11, it will provide an opening through which the ends of the cigarettes 21 may project to adapt the same to be readily removed without opening the casing.

To automatically force the cigarettes or other articles to removal position, I provide a plurality of spring members 22 and 23 forming a spring feed device. The spring members may have one end held to a post or pin 24 extending from a bracket 25 between which and the top 26 of the cover or lid the spring members are confined. Each spring member has an end 27, and this end is secured to a follower or device 28, and this follower is provided with a notched portion 29 which is adapted to engage a hook or part 30 projecting inward from the lid member when the device is not in use. The follower 28 is held to the rods or pins 31, and these rods project on opposite sides of the follower 28, and to said rods the ends 27 of the spring members are secured.

In charging the device with cigarettes or other articles, the follower is moved from the position shown in full lines in Fig. 1, to that shown in dotted lines so that the notched part 29 of the follower 28 will be engaged by the hook or device 30. The cigarettes being in the position shown and the lid folded over, the ends 32 of the rods 31 carrying the follower 28 will project a sufficient distance to engage the bottom of the top 10 and will release the follower from the hook or de-

vice 30, so that the spring members 22 and 23 will cause the follower to engage the end cigarette and move toward the spring members and in doing so will force the cigarettes along the body toward the spring formed by the cut-away parts 19 and 20. As each cigarette is removed, the follower will force another in position to take its place, the space formed by the projections or parts 18 serving to permit the hook member 30 and the follower 38 to enter the space in order that the follower may be automatically released when the casing is closed.

Figs. 4 and 5 show a casing having a body 33 and a lid member 34 hinged together as at 35, and provided with a clasp 36 in substantially the same manner as already described and the casing is also cut away as at 37, to provide an opening for the removal of the matches. In this form, the spring device comprises a single member 38 which may be held to a post 39, and the free end of said device is adapted to be engaged by a hooked part or device 40 for charging purposes, there being one or more projections, as 41, to space the matches away from the wall and to permit the hooked member and end of the spring engaged thereby to enter said space. The free end 42 of the spring device has an angular formed end 43 for engagement with the hooked end of the device 40, and when said end 43 engages the bottom of the body 33 it will be released from the hooked end of the device 40 so that the said end 43 which serves as a follower will force the matches to a removal position, the free end of the spring being adapted to be moved from the position shown in full lines to that shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4. As each match is removed another will be forced by the follower end of the spring device to take its place, so that all the matches may be removed without opening the casing.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that a simple and efficient device is provided which is adapted to hold matches, cigarettes or other articles and which will automatically force the articles to a removal position so that the same may be quickly and successfully removed without opening the casing and a new article automatically forced to take the place of the one removed; that sim-

ple means is provided whereby the casing may be quickly and easily charged with the articles, and that simple spring means is provided for forcing the articles within the casing to a removal position.

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

1. A device of the character described, comprising a casing having a body member, and a lid member hinged thereto, means extending from the body member to space the articles from one wall thereof, a hook device carried by the lid member, a spring device formed by two coil spring members held to the lid member at one of their ends, a follower having a notched portion adapted to engage the hooked device, said follower being carried by rods extending on opposite sides thereof and adapted to automatically release the follower from the hook member when the lid is forced to a closed position to permit the follower to force the articles along the body of the casing to be removed therefrom.

2. A device of the character described, comprising a casing having a body member, and a lid member hinged thereto, a hook device carried by the lid member, a spring device held to the lid member, a follower having a portion adapted to engage said hook device and be held thereby, and means to automatically release the follower from said device when the lid is forced to a closed position to permit the follower to force the articles along the body of the casing in position to be removed therefrom.

3. A device of the character described, comprising a casing having a body member, and a lid member, a hook device carried by the lid member, a spring device held to the lid member and adapted to engage said hook member and be held thereby, and means whereby the spring device may be automatically released.

This specification signed and witnessed this 7th day of April A. D. 1909.

GEORGE STOCKER.

Witnesses:

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