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COMBINED MATCHBOOK AND CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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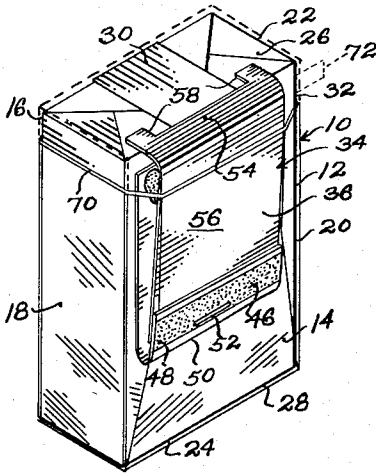


Fig-1

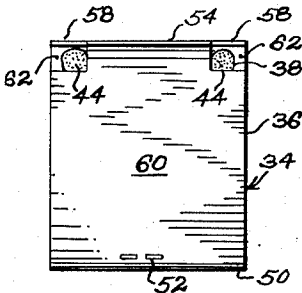
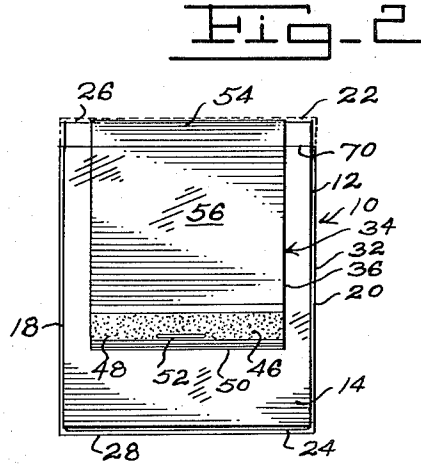


Fig-3

Fig-5

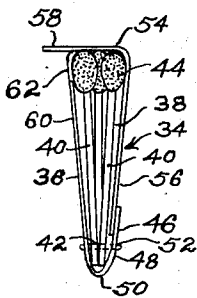


Fig-6

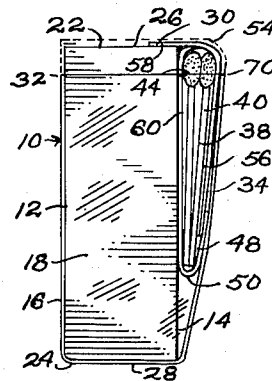


Fig-4

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COMBINED MATCHBOOK AND CIGARETTE PACKAGE

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7 Claims. (Cl. 206—48)

This invention relates to improvements in smoking articles, and the like.

An object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved cigarette package which has supported thereon, means for igniting the cigarettes contained therein, when withdrawn for use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved cigarette package, which contains a full package of cigarettes initially, and within the wrapper of which is engaged or supported, a package of matches, as in the form of a book of matches, disposed in a position ready for use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved cigarette pack, including a package of cigarettes, and a book of matches for igniting the cigarettes when in use, the matchbook and package of cigarettes being integrated within a common wrapper holding them together, yet allowing the smaller matchbook to be supported readily in position for instant use, accessible to the hand of the user.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved cigarette pack and the like, including in a composite assembly the package of cigarettes and the matches in book form, the matchbook being insertable within the wrapper of the cigarettes, and supported by projections from the matchbook which engage the package of cigarettes, blocking entry of the matchbook further than a predetermined distance inside the outer wrapper of the cigarette package, and thus making it readily accessible for use as needed, in a convenient manner.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved matchbook, which is so constructed and arranged that its insertion inside the wrapper of a cigarette package is facilitated, without dropping so far therewithin as to make it unfeasible to withdraw the same quickly and easily for igniting each and every cigarette in the pack, the matchbook having projections formed thereon which are in position to bear against the outer shoulders of the cigarette package, blocking further entry of the matchbook therein beyond the desired degree of entry.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved matchbook, which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture with existing machinery with only slight modifications, and which is insertable in a cigarette package without substantial addition to the bulk of the package, or its normal contour.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment of the invention, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, and in which,

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the combined device, with the matchbook in position inserted in engagement with the cigarette package.

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Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the combined device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a left side elevational view of the combined device shown in Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a rear elevational view showing the matchbook apart from the combination, with its positioning lugs in outward disposition.

Figure 6 is a right side elevational view of the matchbook shown in Figure 6, apart from the combination.

In connection with the manufacture, sale and use of smoking articles, such as cigarettes and matches, the convenience of the user is very important, so that it has become customary to sell him a package of cigarettes and accompany them with a separate package or book of matches, with which to light the cigarettes. If the smoker loses or misplaces his matchbook, he is completely at a loss, since without the necessary matches, he cannot smoke the cigarettes, and they thus become of no value whatever, especially when he is greatly in need of a smoke to calm his nerves, or other well known and good reasons. The present invention shows a construction in which there is a package of cigarettes, and a package or book of matches, novel means being provided for cooperation therebetween in a useful combination, so that the smoker always has his cigarettes and matches together and right at hand, and further they are easily accessible for immediate use.

In order to understand clearly the nature of the invention, and the best means for carrying it out, reference may now be had to the drawings, in which like numerals denote similar parts throughout the several views.

As shown, there is a package 10 formed with a main wrapper 12 of folded paper or the like, having front and rear walls 14 and 16 intersecting at their edges with the left and right end walls 18 and 20, and folded at upper and lower marginal edges 22 and 24 to form top and bottom walls 26 and 28. A revenue stamp 30 may be glued or adhesively secured over the upper portion of the main package to form a closure seal, and adhesive means may also be employed at the bottom, to seal the folded over portions of the bottom wall 28, as desired.

An outer wrapper or casing generally indicated at 32, and preferably formed of transparent flexible sheet material such as cellophane, rubber hydrochloride or Pliofilm, or other suitable thin walled wrapper material, is formed in the general contour and size of the main cigarette package 10, with folded walls corresponding to and overlying the enumerated walls of the package 10, so as to enclose substantially the package of cigarettes. Inside of the transparent outer wrapper 32, I prefer to dispose a book of matches 34, in the manner described below.

It is apparent that the book of matches 34 may be formed of a single sheet of paperboard or the like 36 or plastic composition sheet material, or paperboard having a stiffening coating or impregnation of stiffening material, so that it has a substantial degree of inherent resilience and stiffness. The sheet 36 forms the housing for the matches 38, which are commonly in a preferred form to be formed of paperboard or wooden sticks 40 tongued out of the lower marginal base 42, and carrying on their upper ends the match heads 44. As is well known, the match heads 44 are formed of a suitable composition, so that when a match is pulled out of the book, and its head struck or drawn across the abrasive coating 46 on the front panel lower margin 48, the interaction of the head with the composition 46 ignites the match.

The main sheet 36 is folded at 50 to receive the composite base 42 of the matches, and a staple or other fastener 52 penetrates the sheet 36 and its upturned front

marginal portion 48, together with the underlying base 42 of the matches, holding them all together in a unit. The sheet 36 is also folded over at the top web 54, and thus downwardly to form the front upper panel 56, which bulges somewhat to enclose the match heads, and is tucked inside the lower panel or cuff 48 in the manner shown.

I provide a pair of positioning lugs or tongues 58, which in the preferred form shown, are tongued out of the upper portion of the rearward sheet panel 60, as shown in elevation in Figures 5 and 6, leaving openings 62 in the remaining portion of the panel 60. Since the material of which the main enclosing sheet 36 is formed, has inherent resiliency and stiffness, it is apparent that the positioning ears or lugs 58 may be allowed to assume an outstanding position, as seen in Figure 6, or may be bent slightly into such outstanding position if desired. It is clear that when the ears 58 are in such outstanding or extended positions, they constitute supporting members, so that when the matchbook is inserted into the space between the front panel 14 of the cigarette case 10, and its encasing cellophane or similar outer wrapper 32, in the manner shown in Figures 1 to 4, the cellophane wrapper will yield somewhat, as will the underlying cigarette package 10, to accommodate the inserted matchbook, and the supporting ears or lugs 58 will extend over the upper portion of the cigarette package 10, in the manner of Figures 1, 3 and 4. As a result, the matchbook will be supported against falling too far inside the cellophane wrapper, and thus will remain accessible in the position shown in Figures 1, 2 and 4, so as to be easily pulled out by the smoker, and a cigarette lighted by means of a match extracted from the matchbook, whereupon the matchbook is slid back into its position shown in Figures 1 and 4. In this way, the matchbook is held closed securely by the cellophane wrapper, and yet is right there at hand as needed. Since the upper end of the cellophane wrapper must be opened anyway to allow the cigarette housing 10 to be opened at the top for removal of a cigarette, it is only necessary to remove the upper end portion of the cellophane wrapper, such as above the line 70, and this is easily accomplished at the present date, either by tearing the cellophane wrapper, or cutting it with a knife or scissors, or by pulling on an opening pull tab such as 72, which is carried at the break line 70, and, when pulled in a direction around the line 70, will tear the cellophane wrapper along such line 70, neatly severing that part of the cellophane wrapper which is above line 70.

It is thus apparent that the device may be a composite cigarette package and matchbook all originally in the one wrapper. According to a modified form of the invention, the matchbook, with its extensible ears 58, may be sold separately, and, when the ears 58 are moved to extended positions, having been formed by slits to define the ears, then the user, having opened his cellophane wrapper, may insert the matchbook inside the cigarette wrapper as in Figure 1, ready for use as described.

Although I have described my invention in specific terms, it will be understood that various changes may be made in size, shape, materials and arrangement without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

I claim:

1. A smoking article and accessory comprising a cigarette package means comprising a package housing defining a cigarette chamber to receive a plurality of cigarettes, and floor and roof means closing the bottom and top of said package housing chamber, matchbook means comprising an outer book wall folded to form a book with a plurality of matches disposed in said matchbook, at

least one matchbook projection lug carried by and extending out of said matchbook outer wall at an upper location thereof, so that, said matchbook means being disposed in contiguity with said cigarette package housing said lug is extensive over the roof of said package housing, for maintaining the support of said matchbook extending thereover, relative to said package housing, to maintain the upper portion of said matchbook at an elevation corresponding to said package housing roof wall, and outer enclosing casing means extending around said package housing and said matchbook means, so as to confine the same into a unitary assemblage and combination, wherein said matchbook is positively positioned relative to the roof of said cigarette package housing, and readily releasable therefrom.

2. The construction according to claim 1, characterized further in that said device comprises a plurality of matchbook projection lugs.

3. The construction according to claim 1, characterized further in that said device comprises a plurality of matchbook projection lugs tongued out of said outer matchbook wall, which are mutually interspaced for engaging spaced areas of the roof of said cigarette package housing.

4. The construction according to claim 1, characterized further in that said device comprises a plurality of matchbook projection lugs tongued out of a wall of said matchbook wall, and of a sufficient resiliency to provide matchbook support against displacement from initial disposition or sliding further inside said interspace intermediate said outer enclosing casing means and said package housing, so that said top portion of said matchbook means remains co-extensive with the top wall of said package housing, substantially, and so that, when said outer enclosing casing means has its upper portion removed, exposing the upper portion of said matchbook means, said portion thereof is readily accessible to the fingers of the smoker for removing or displacing the matchbook means as desired, or for re-inserting the same.

5. The construction according to claim 1, wherein said matchbook is held firmly by the outer enclosing casing means and wherein said casing means is formed of "Cellophane" sheet material.

6. The construction according to claim 1, wherein said outer enclosing casing means is formed of rubber hydrochloride sheet material.

7. The construction according to claim 1, wherein said outer casing means is formed of transparent sheet material which is sufficiently resilient to be stretchable upon the insertion of said matchbook means therein, to accommodate the same without tearing, and wherein a lateral tab is provided, with a line of weakness formed in the sheet material of the outer casing means, so that pulling of the tab will tear the outer casing means along said line of weakness, to remove the upper end portion of said outer casing means contiguous to said roof of said cigarette housing.

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