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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH R. W. MENDER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CIGARETTE-BOX.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH R. W. MENDER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigarette-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cigarette boxes and particularly to boxes in which the cigarettes are inclosed and sold together with a plurality of matches for igniting the cigarettes.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved package in which the matches are hinged to the under side of the cover of the box and extend over the cigarettes when the box is closed by the cover portion.

A further object of my invention is to provide simple means for lifting one end of each cigarette above the top edge of the box through the instrumentality of the matches.

Referring to the drawings which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cigarette box shown in its open position. Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view through the box with the cover open and the cigarettes raised from the bottom of the box. Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of the box shown in cross section with the cover in the closed position.

A, indicates the body of the box and B a cover therefor which is hinged to the box at a point C which is about halfway between the top and bottom thereof.

D indicates a row of matches the lower ends of which are inserted between two strips of paper or thin cloth E and E', the strip E' extending over the matches nearly to the upper ends thereof and presenting a display surface on which advertising may be shown. The two strips of paper E and E' are joined together below the match ends by cementing same and extend down to the point B' and a flap portion B² contacts with the under side of the cover B and is cemented to said cover. A strip of paper F is cemented to one side of the paper sheet E' and extends over the rear edge of the box at G and under the cigarettes H to a point near the front end of the box where it is sealed at the point H' to the bottom of the box as indicated.

I, indicates a sheet of paper which is freely removable from the box and which extends under the cigarettes and the ends turned

to extend over the tops thereof as will be readily understood. The surface of the sheet indicated by I' may also be used for advertising purposes if desired.

When the box is closed as illustrated in Fig. 3, the strip F rests flat along the bottom of the box A and the cover in its closed position raises the hinged portion B' so that it rests above the edge of the box at G and permits the matches to extend over the surface of the cigarettes when the box is in its closed position. When the cover is opened, the lower portion of the paper strips E and E' fulcrum on the rear edge of the box at G and throw the matches upward from above the surface of the cigarettes therein and when the matches are forced farther back in the position illustrated in Fig. 2, the strip F is lifted carrying the ends of the cigarettes adjacent the hinge of the box upward above the top of the box, so that they may be easily removed by the user without trouble or injury, while at the same time the strip F prevents the matches from swinging back in contact with the cover but instead holds the matches in such a position that they are free from all obstructions and can be readily grasped and separated for use.

By this construction I am enabled to provide a package of cigarettes that may be used with great convenience and without danger of injuring the cigarettes in removing same from the package.

A further advantage is that a match with a comparatively short stem may be used since the lower ends of the stems extend only to the point J and therefore the cost of the matches is reduced by reason of the saving in the length of the stems.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new is:

1. A box having a cover hinged thereto at one side thereof, a strip of flexible material one end of which rests on the bottom surface of said box and extends therefrom over the rear top edge of said box adjacent its hinge, a plurality of matches hinged to said box cover and connected to said flexible strip, and means for raising said flexible strip from the bottom of said box by swinging said matches on their hinge.

2. A box having a cover hinged thereto at one side thereof, a strip of flexible material one end of which is connected to the bottom surface of said box and extends therefrom over the rear edge thereof adja-

cent to its hinge, a plurality of matches hinged to said box cover and connected to said flexible strip, said flexible strip being restricted in length so that the matches will be held at an angle to the under surface of the cover when the cover is in open position relative to the box.

3. A box having a cover hinged thereto at one side thereof, a hinged strip connected to said box cover, a flexible strip connected to said hinged strip and extending to the bottom of the box, said flexible strip being restricted in length so that the hinged strip will be held at an angle to the under surface of the cover when the cover is in open position relative to the box, and extending in a straight line from the bottom of the box over the rear top edge thereof when the cover is in its open position, for the purpose set forth.

4. A box having a cover hinged thereto at one side thereof, a hinged strip connected to said box cover, a flexible strip connected to said hinged strip and extending to the bottom of the box, said flexible strip being restricted in length so that the hinged strip will be held at an angle to the under surface of the cover when the cover is in open position relative to the box and extends in a straight line from the bottom of the box over the rear top edge thereof, and a plurality of matches carried by said hinged strip, for the purpose set forth.

Signed at New York city in the county of New York and State of New York this 1st day of April A. D. 1911.

JOSEPH R. W. MENDER.

Witnesses:

FRANK M. ASHLEY,
MINNIE S. MILLER.