March 30, 1926. 1,578,468

J. RANKIN

COMBINED MATCH BOX AND BELT BUCKLE

Filed June 10, 1925

Fig. 1.

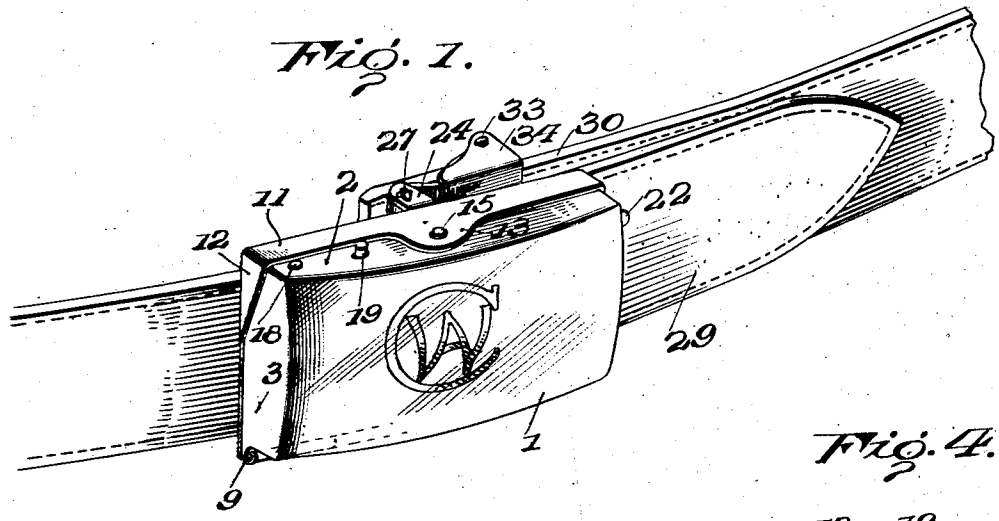


Fig. 4.

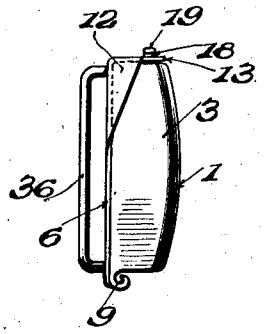


Fig. 2.

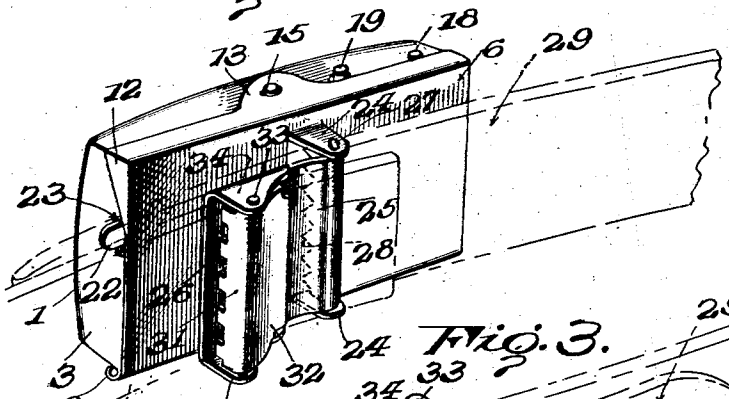
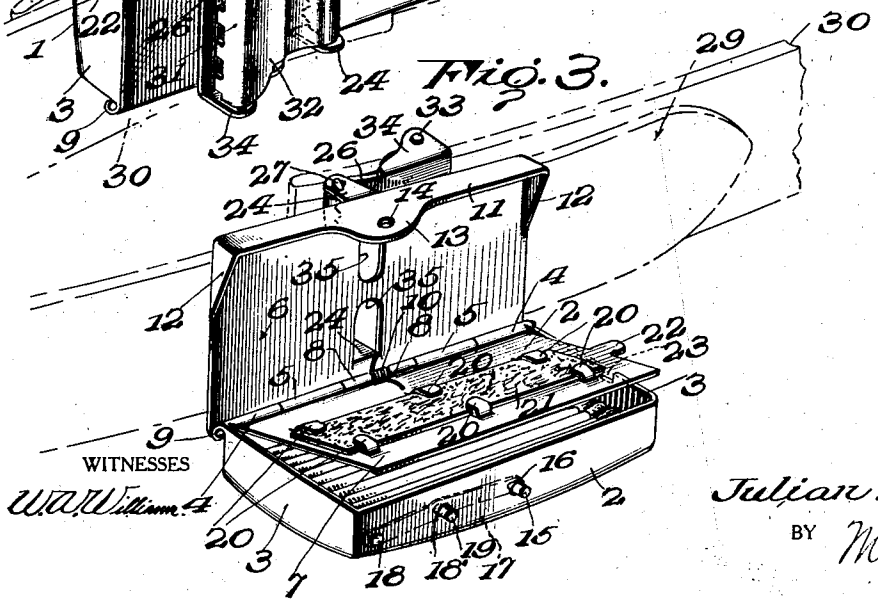


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

W. A. Williams 4

INVENTOR

Julian Rankin

BY Munn & Co

ATTORNEYS

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIAN RANKIN, OF LOUISA, KENTUCKY.

COMBINED MATCH BOX AND BELT BUCKLE.

Application filed June 10, 1925. Serial No. 36,161.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIAN RANKIN, a citizen of Germany, and a resident of Louisa, in the county of Lawrence and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Match Boxes and Belt Buckles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is a combined match box and belt buckle, and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of the invention is the provision of a single unitary device which affords facilities for detachably connecting the ends of a belt and also includes a case adapted to receive and support a quantity of matches so that individual matches may be removed when desired and normally will be completely housed and protected by the case.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a device of the character described which will occupy but very little more space, if any, than an ordinary belt buckle.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a combined match box and belt buckle which is reliable in use, ornamental in appearance and thoroughly practical commercially.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description, considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the improved combined match box and belt buckle applied to a belt, looking at the device from the front.

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1, looking at the device from the rear,

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing the device in position to connect the ends of a belt and showing the match box portion of the device open,

Figure 4 is an end view of a modified form of the device.

The match box portion of the device has a body comprising a front 1, a pair of sides 2 and a pair of ends 3 all joined to one another integrally or in any other suitable known manner and made of any suitable material, such as a light gauge metal. The front 1 of the body of the case or match box portion of the device may be convexly curved longitudinally thereof.

One side wall 2 of the body of the case is provided with aligned spaced sleeve portions 4 between which aligned spaced sleeves 5 at one side edge of the lid or cover 6 of the match box portion of the device may be disposed. A secondary lid or cover plate 7 is adapted to fit flatwise within the rim portion of the body of the match box and is provided with aligned sleeves 8 at one side edge thereof, the sleeves 8 being adapted to be disposed between the sleeves 5 in alignment with the latter. A pintle 9 extends through the aligned sleeves 4, 5 and 8, whereby the primary lid or cover 6 will be hinged to the body of the match box or case and the secondary lid or cover 7 likewise will be hinged to the body of the case. A spring 10 encircles the pintle 9 between the sleeves 8 and reacts at one end against the primary lid 6 and at its other end against the secondary lid 7, thus tending to swing the primary lid to open position with respect to the body of the case and to resist swinging movement of the secondary lid from position within the rim portion of the body of the case.

The primary lid 6 is formed with a depending flange 11 at the free longitudinal edge thereof which is adapted to slide against the corresponding side 2 of the body of the case to position to overlap said side wall of the body of the case when the case is closed. The flange 11 is stayed to the primary lid 6 by triangular webs 12 which contact with the end walls of the body of the case when the case is closed. The middle portion of the flange 11 is enlarged in width as indicated at 13 and is formed with an opening 14 which is adapted to be engaged by a spring pressed latching pin 15 when the case is closed. The latching pin 15 extends slidably through an opening in the side wall 2 of the body of the case which is overlapped by the flange 11. A spring finger 17 is disposed within the body of the case and is secured at one end to said side member of the body of the case, as at 18, the latching pin 15 being attached to the free end portion of the spring finger 17 and being urged outward continuously through the opening 16 to position to engage with the opening 14 in the flange of the primary lid. A projection 19 which is carried by the middle portion of the spring finger 17 extends through an opening 18′ in the adjacent side wall 2 of the body of the

case and is adapted to be pressed inward by the finger of an operator of the device to cause the latching pin 15 to disengage the opening 14 in the flange of the primary lid of the match box or case.

The secondary lid 7 is formed with pairs of upstruck lugs 20 which can be bent to and from position to retain a strip 21 against the normally upper face of the secondary lid 7. The upper face of the strip 21 constitutes a friction surface for causing the ignition of a match. A lug extension 22 at one end of the secondary lid 27 is adapted to engage with a notch 23 in the edge of the corresponding end 3 of the body of the case when the secondary lid is closed to limit the swinging movement of the secondary lid into the body of the case and also to provide a means which can be conveniently manipulated by the finger of an operator of the device to swing the secondary lid to open position.

A pair of ears 24 are struck from the middle portion of the primary lid 6 rearwardly thereof, the ears 24 being spaced transversely of the primary lid and being provided with aligned openings. A substantially right angular fastening plate which is comprised in the buckle portion of the device consists of a jaw or clamping portion 25 and an operating or handle portion 26. The portion 26 extends substantially at right angles to the portion 25 of the fastening member and said fastening member has outwardly extending aligned journal projections or trunnions 27 which are journaled in the openings in the ears 24. The portion 25 of the fastening member 25—26 has teeth as indicated at 28 in the free end thereof and the operating portion 26 can be manipulated to swing the portion 25 about the axis of the trunnions 27 to and from position to extend at right angles to the primary lid 6, the toothed free end of the portion 25 of the fastening member being proximate to the primary lid 6 and being adapted to clamp an end portion 29 of a belt against the primary lid 6. A right angular fastening member for clamping the opposite end, indicated at 30, of the belt against the operating or handle portion 26 of the fastening member 25—26 comprises a toothed jaw member 31 and a handle portion 32. The member 31—32 has oppositely extending aligned trunnions, as at 33, at the juncture of the portions 31 and 32 thereof and these trunnions are journaled in openings in rearwardly turned marginal edge portions or flanges 34 on the handle portion 26 of the first named fastening member. The lid 6 has openings, as at 35 which are defined when the ears 24 are struck outwardly therefrom. The openings are in line with the toothed jaw of the fastening member 25—26 and tend to receive portions of the belt that is clamped between the jaw 25 and the primary lid 6, whereby the end portion 29 of the belt will be effectively held against slipping longitudinally between the jaw 25 and the match box or case of the device.

The operation of the device may be readily understood from the foregoing description. The fastening member 31—32 is manipulated to secure one end portion of the belt to the handle portion 26 of the fastening member 26—25. The free end portion of the belt then is inserted between the jaw 25 and the primary lid 6 of the match box or case portion of the device and the handle 26 and the match box are swung relatively to each other to cause the jaw 25 to clamp the free end portion of the belt against the primary lid 6 of the match box or case portion of the device, whereby the match box will be supported at the front of the belt. When desired, the body of the case of the device can be swung downwardly from the position shown in Figure 1 to the position shown in Figure 3, the secondary lid 7 then can be raised and matches can be taken from the body of the case.

In the modified form of the device shown in Figure 4, the primary lid 6 of the match box or case portion of the device carries a loop 36. A belt, not shown, may be extended between the loop 36 and the primary lid 6 and the device thus supported on the belt.

I claim:—

1. A device of the character described comprising a hollow body adapted to receive matches, a lid hinged to said body, means carried by said lid for supporting said lid and body on a belt, a secondary lid hinged to said body and adapted to be received within the rim portion of said body to prevent spilling of the contents of said body when said first named lid is open, said secondary lid having pairs of lugs struck upwardly therefrom, and a strip of material held against said secondary lid by said lugs, said strip having a rough upper surface.

2. In a device of the character described, a case comprising a body having a front, a pair of end walls and a pair of side walls, a lid hinged at its lower edge to the edge of the lower side wall of the body, cooperative fastening elements on said lid and body respectively for engaging each other to hold the lid closed, a secondary lid hinged to the edge of the lower side wall of the body and adapted to swing to position in the rim portion of said body, said secondary lid having an extended lug at one end thereof adapted to extend through a notch in an end wall of the body when the secondary lid is closed, and means on said first named lid for engaging with a belt.

3. In a device of the character described, a case consisting of a hollow body, a lid hinged to the body, an angular fastening

member pivotally supported on said lid, said fastening member comprising a jaw portion and a handle portion and being operable to clamp the end portion of a belt between said jaw portions and said lid, and a second fastening member comprising angularly related jaw and handle portions, said second fastening member being pivotally supported on the handle of the first named fastening member and being operable to clamp the second end of the belt between the jaw portion of the second named fastening member and the handle of the first named fastening member.

4. In a device of the character described, a case consisting of a hollow body, a lid hinged to the body, an angular fastening member pivotally supported on said lid, said fastening member comprising a jaw portion and a handle portion and being operable to clamp the end portion of a belt between said jaw portions and said lid, a second fastening member comprising angularly related jaw and handle portions, said second fastening member being pivotally supported on the handle of the first named fastening member and being operable to clamp the second end of the belt between the jaw portion of the second named fastening member and the handle of the first named fastening member, said jaw portions of the fastening members being serrated at their contact edges, said lid having openings directly in front of the jaw portion of said first named fastening member and adapted to partially receive the portion of the belt which is clamped against said lid by said first named fastening member.

JULIAN RANKIN.