

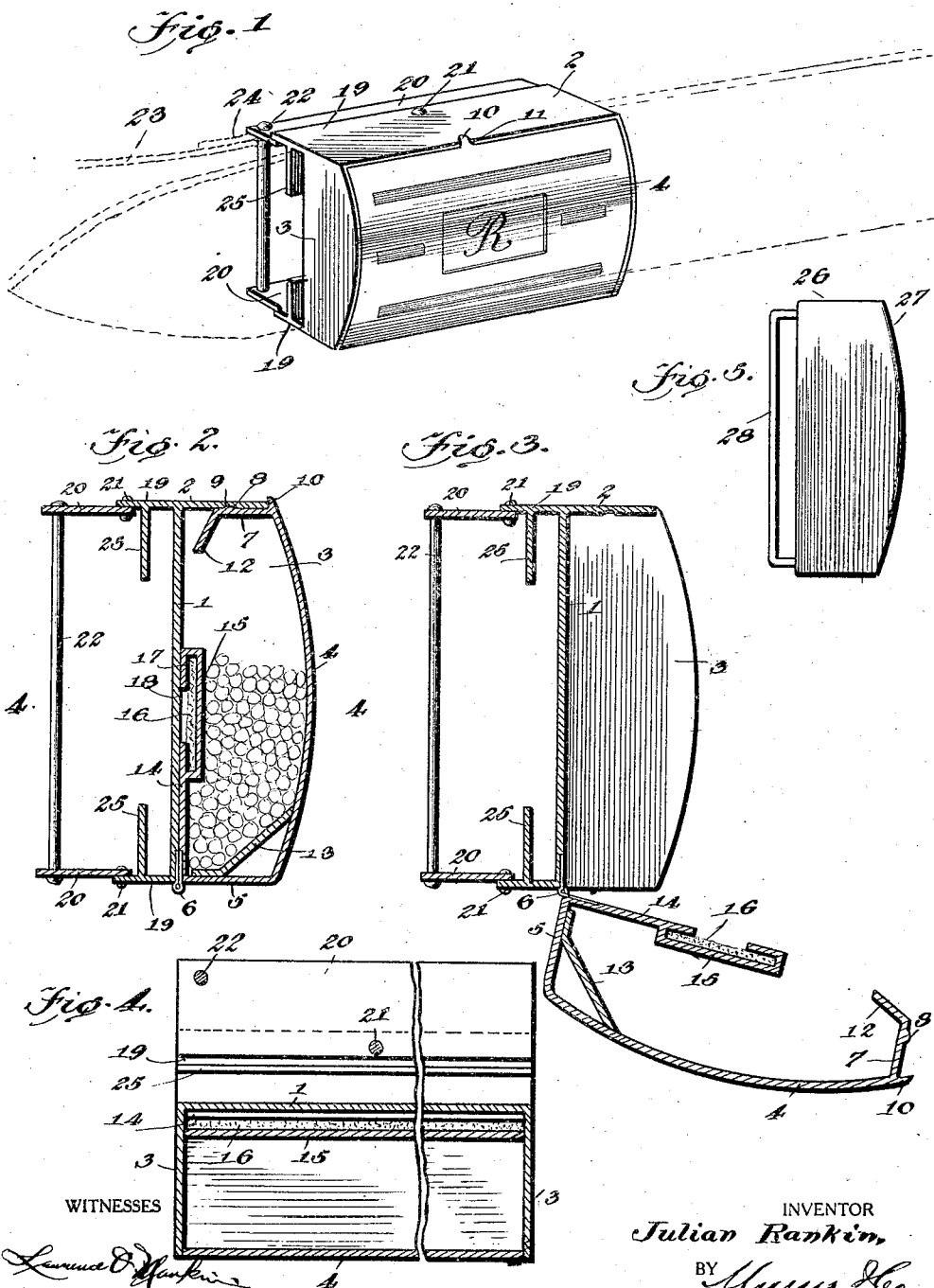
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MATCH BOX

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MATCH BOX.

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

5 An object of the invention is the provision in a single unitary article of means for securing together the ends of a belt and also for supporting in a conveniently accessible position a supply of matches or other small
10 articles.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a device of the character described which affords facilities for supporting a supply of matches so that matches can
15 be removed quickly and easily as required for use without spilling of the remaining matches from the device.

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

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a combined match box and belt buckle embodying the invention applied to the ends of a
25 belt, the latter being shown in dash lines,

Figure 2 is a transverse vertical section through the device,

Figure 3 is an end view of the device with the cover section of the match box open,

30 Figure 4 is a section on the line 4-4 of Figure 2,

Figure 5 is an end view of a modification.

The match box portion of the device comprises a back plate 1 which preferably is integral with an outwardly extending upper
35 end wall 2 and a pair of side walls 3. The cover section of the match box portion of the device comprising a head 4 having an inwardly extending lower end wall 5 attached at its edge by a hinge 6 to the lower
40 edge portion of the back plate 1 so that the head 4 of the cover section may be swung from open position, in which it is inclined slightly downward toward its free end, to
45 closed position, in which it is substantially vertical and is disposed between the outer edge portion of the side walls 3 of the body section of the match box portion of the device.

50 The head 4 of the cover section of the match box is provided at its upper end with an inwardly extending spring latching flange 7 adapted to slide in contact with the under face of the upper end wall 2 of the
55 body section of the match box when the

cover section is moved from closed position until a projection 8 on the upper side of the flange 7 enters and engages a depression or recess 9 in the lower face of the upper end
60 wall 2. At this time, a projection 10 at the upper end of the lid 4 engages with a notch 11 in the outer edge of the upper end member 2 and extends above the latter so that the projection 10 not only serves as a stop
65 for limiting the inward movement of the head 4 of the cover section toward the back plate 1 of the body section but also provides a finger hold which can be conveniently actuated to release the latching flange 7
70 from the upper end wall 2. The spring latching flange 7 has a guard extension 12 at its inner end, this guard extension being inclined inwardly and downwardly when the cover section is in upwardly swung
75 closed position as shown in Figure 2 and preventing matches or like small articles from being spilled from the cover section of the match box at the free end of the latter when this cover section is in downwardly
80 swung open position as shown in Figure 3.

The lid 4 of the cover section may be arcuately curved from its lower to its upper end, the convex surface thereof being outermost and the outer edges of the side walls 3
85 of course are convexly curved to correspond to the curvature of the outer surface of the lid 4. A combined deflector and bracing plate 13 extends obliquely between the inner edge portion of the lower end wall 5 and the
90 head 4 of the cover section of the match box and not only stays the head 4 to the lower end 5 of the cover section but tends to deflect matches from the lower part of the space within the match box toward the free end of the cover section of the match box when said
95 cover section is open, as shown in Fig. 3.

An integral extension 14 at the inner edge of the lower end 5 of the cover section is upright when the cover section is closed and is housed within the match box against the
100 back plate 1. This extension 14 carries a holder 15 in which a strip 16 of friction material on which matches may be ignited is removably held. The holder is shown as being a strip of metal or like material bent
105 to provide a horizontal guideway 17 in which the strip of friction material may be inserted when said friction strip is disposed vertically edgewise, the inner wall of the guideway having a cut away portion at 18
110

to expose the friction surface of the strip 16. When the cover section is swung to open position as shown in Figure 3, the holder 15 is swung with the cover section to the position shown in Figure 3 so that the friction surface of the member 16 will be uppermost and in position for use.

The belt buckle portion of the device comprises lower and upper end members, each of which includes an outer section 19 which is integral with the back plate 1 and an inner section 20 which is attached to the outer section 19 by means of a vertical pivot element 21. The inner sections 20 are connected and stayed to each other by a vertical attaching rod 22 to which one end portion of a belt 23 may be secured, as at 24 in Figure 1.

The outer sections 19 are provided with aligned spaced vertical clamping and retaining flanges 25 which are spaced from the back plate 1 and between which and the back plate 1 the free end portion of the belt may be inserted. The clamping flanges 25 then tend to clamp the portion of the belt that is inserted between such flanges and the back plate 1, against the latter, whereby the end portion of the belt will be secured to each other and the device will be supported on the belt.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. The contents of the match box portion of the device are carried by the lid section, particularly when the latter has been swung to open position. The matches or like articles within the cover section of the device may be conveniently removed for use when the cover section is open but are held against accidental displacement from the cover section of the match box portion of the device. The back plate 1 is common to both the match box portion and the belt buckle portion of the device. Since the upper and lower walls of the belt buckle portion of the device are made of pivotally connected sections, it is apparent that the belt can be tightened as desired and adjusted around the body of a wearer without any interference with such adjustment being caused by the supporting of the device on the end portions of the belt since the portion of the belt buckle to which one end of the belt is attached and the portion of the belt buckle with which the other end portion of the belt buckle is engaged can swing relatively to each other about a vertical axis within limits.

The modified form of the device exhibited in Fig. 5 has a match box portion which comprises a body section 26 to which is hinged a cover section 27. The body section

and the cover section of the modification may be identical so far as the construction and operation thereof are concerned with the hereinbefore described match box portion of the preferred form of the device. However, the modification does not include a belt buckle portion such as hereinbefore described but in lieu thereof, the back plate of the body section 26 carries a loop 28 through which a belt may be passed, the loop 28 thus constituting an attaching member for supporting the match box 26—27 on a belt.

I claim:—

1. An article of the character described comprising a case, said case including a body section having a back plate formed with outwardly extending vertical side walls and with an upper end wall, a cover section comprising a head having an inwardly extending wall at its lower end hinged to the lower end of said back plate, the head of said cover section also having an inwardly extending latching member at its upper end adapted to engage with the upwardly extending upper end wall of the body section when the cover section is closed, a guard extension at the inner end of said locking member, said guard extension being inwardly and downwardly inclined when the cover section is closed and adapted to retain articles in the cover section when the cover section is open.

2. An article of the character described comprising a case, said case including a body section having a back plate formed with outwardly extending vertical side walls and with an upper end wall, a cover section comprising a head having an inwardly extending wall at its lower end hinged to the lower end of said back plate, the head of said cover section also having an inwardly extending latching member at its upper end adapted to engage with the upwardly extending upper end wall of the body section when the cover section is closed, a guard extension at the inner end of said locking member, said guard extension being inwardly and downwardly inclined when the cover section is closed, said latching member of the cover section and the upper end member of the body section having cooperative elements for engaging each other to releasably hold said cover section closed, and a projection at the upper end of the head of said cover section for engaging with the outer end of the upper end member of the body section to limit the swinging movement of the cover section toward said back plate and for providing a finger hold which is adapted to be actuated to release said latching member from the upper end of the body section.

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