

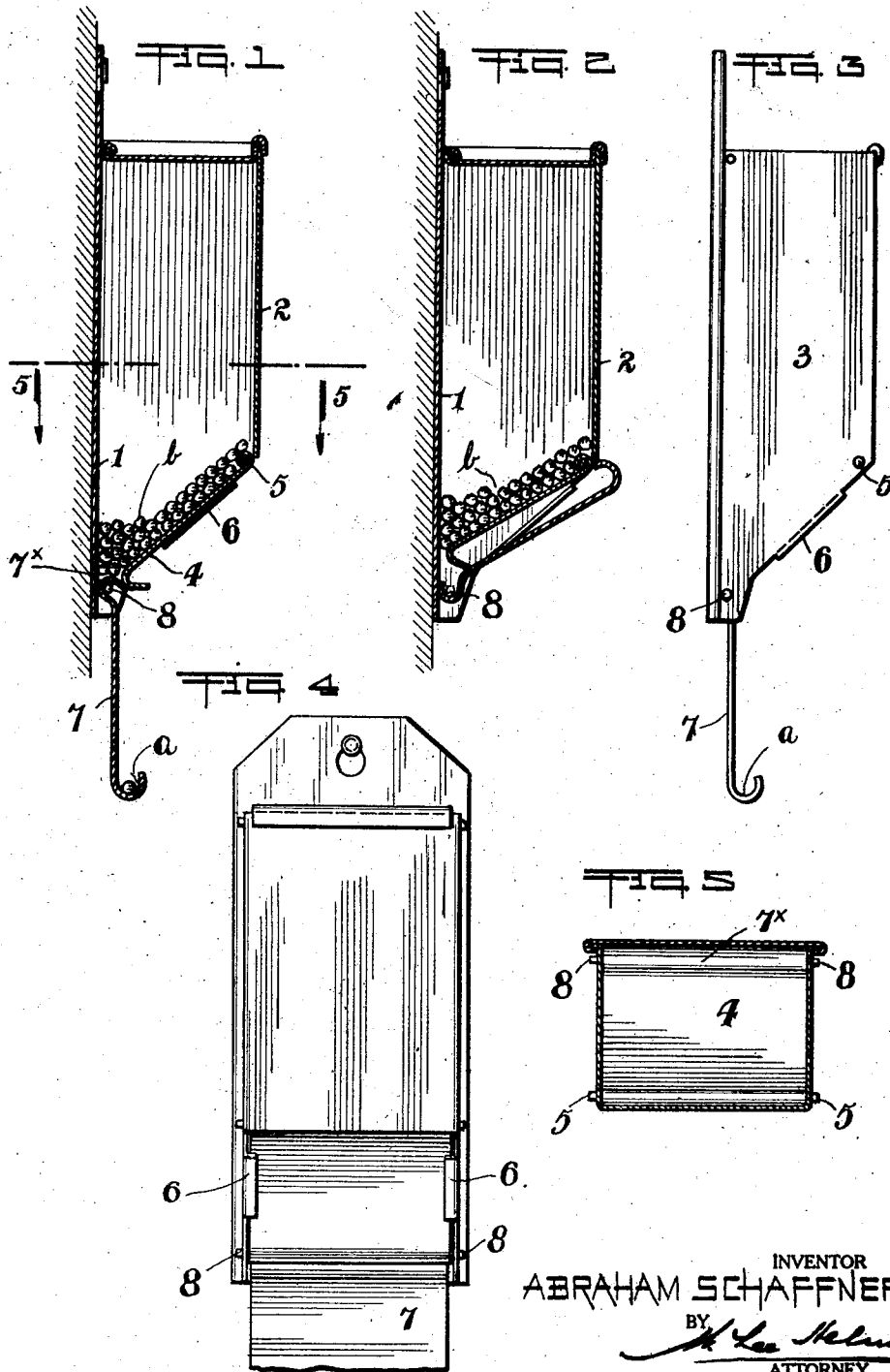
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MATCH AND TOOTHPICK DISPENSING BOX

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MATCH AND TOOTHPICK DISPENSING BOX.

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The object of the present invention is to provide a dispensing box for matches, toothpicks, or the like, which may be easily and cheaply made of sheet metal and which will be positive in its action.

The invention will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section through the front and rear walls of the device in its normal position;

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing the position of the parts when the dispensing plate has been raised to its maximum position;

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the device;

Figure 4 is a front elevation of the device and

Figure 5 is a horizontal section on the line 5—5, Figure 1.

The device consists of a box of any suitable form and preferably having a width approximately the length of the matches or toothpicks to be dispensed. It comprises a rear wall 1, a front wall 2 and side walls 3, all of which may be formed from a single piece of sheet metal, or the back may be made separately and united to the side and front walls by any suitable means. I prefer that the back be formed separately for convenience in assembling the parts. The front wall 2 is rigid and it preferably terminates at a substantial distance upon the bottom of the rear wall 1 to enable the use of a downwardly slanting bottom 4, which bottom is pivoted to the side walls at 5, and has its downward and outward movement limited by stops 6 which may be formed integrally with the side walls 3.

I prefer that the lower end of the bottom 4 be turned outwardly in substantially the form illustrated in the drawing to provide a contact face for the purpose now to be explained.

When the bottom member 4 is in its normal position as illustrated in Figure 1, a gap is provided between its lower end and the rear wall 1. This gap is normally closed by the curved upper end 7* of a dispensing plate 7, which is pivotally connected at 8 to the side walls 3. At its lower end dispensing plate 7 is bent upwardly to provide a channel *a* for the reception of the match or toothpick to be dispensed in the operation of the device.

When the dispensing plate is swung upwardly, the channel formed by the curving of the upper end of the dispensing plate is brought under the matches or toothpicks *b* within the box and one of them will fall into said channel which will be of such size as to hold a single toothpick or match, although if it is desired to dispense two pieces at one time, the channel can be formed accordingly.

It is intended that the dispensing plate 7 be swung upwardly to the full position as shown in Figure 2. This will cause the plate to contact with the lower end of bottom member 4 which will bodily move the units *b* upwardly, and when the dispensing plate is dropped the units *b* will be shaken and, in the repeated operation of the device, any units which are not properly aligned will be brought to their proper position.

When the dispensing plate is dropped, the match or toothpick held in its upper end will fall and be caught in the channel *a* from which it may be readily removed.

In constructing the device, the pivotal members 5 may be lugs integral with the plate 4 and projected through openings formed in the side walls 3. Likewise the pivotal members 8 may be front integral projections from the side edges of dispensing plate 7.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is as follows:—

1. In a match and tooth pick dispensing box, a casing, a pivoted downwardly slanting bottom wall for said casing, a dispensing plate pivoted to said casing, the plate having a channel in its upper end and a wall overhanging said channel, normally co-acting with the bottom wall to retain the articles to be dispensed within the casing, the plate adapted to be swung outwardly so as to bring its channel in position to receive one of said articles, and the pivoted bottom member lying in the path of movement of the dispensing plate so as to be swung by the latter to raise the body of articles within the casing.

2. A match and tooth pick dispensing box comprising a casing having a front wall terminating above the rear wall and side walls having their base portions extending at an angle from the front to the rear wall, a bottom member pivoted at its top, a stop device whereby movement of the bottom

member is limited, the lower end of the bottom member being spaced from the rear wall, a dispensing plate pivoted in said casing and having a member normally closing the space between the bottom member and the rear wall, a channel carried by the dispensing plate and adapted to be brought into position to receive a match or tooth pick when the plate is raised, the bottom wall lying within the path of the dispensing plate so as to partake of said movement, and the plate being provided with a receiving channel in its lower end. 10

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

ABRAHAM SCHAFFNER.