A. M. CAIRNS.

MATCH SAFE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 13, 1908.

926,316. Patented June 29, 1909.

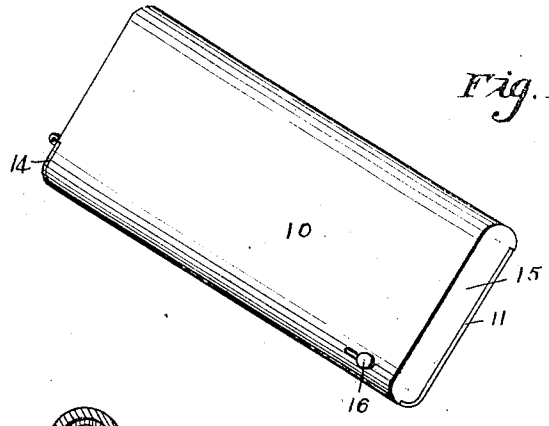



Fig. 1.

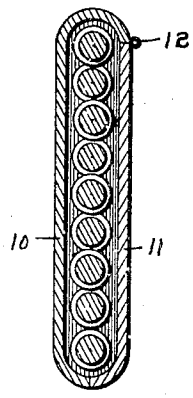
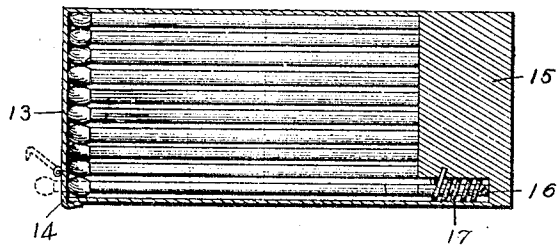



Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.




Witnesses.
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW M. CAIRNS, OF DES MOINES, IOWA.

## MATCH-SAFE.

No. 926,316. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 29, 1909.

Application filed January 13, 1908. Serial No. 410,499.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW M. CAIRNS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented a certain new and useful Match-Safe, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a match safe of simple, durable and inexpensive construction, provided with a door at one side through which the match safe may be easily and quickly filled, and also provided with a small door at one end, and with a spring actuated plunger at the opposite end in line with the door, whereby a single match may be projected from the match safe by pressure upon the plunger, and when said pressure is removed, the plunger will automatically be withdrawn, and another match permitted to drop down to position in line with the plunger.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of the various parts of the device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claim, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a match safe embodying my invention. Fig. 2 shows a central transverse sectional view of same, and Fig. 3 shows a central longitudinal sectional view of same. The dotted lines in said figure show the parts in position with a match partly projected from the safe.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, I have used the reference numeral 10 to indicate the solid side of the match safe, and 11 the hinged side, said parts being connected by the hinges 12. The lower portion of the space between the parts 10 and 11 is of such size and shape as to admit only a single match therein, as shown in Fig. 2.

At one end of the safe is a solid end portion 13 having near its lower part a hinged door 14 of a size to permit a single match to pass through the door opening, when the door is closed. At the other end of the safe is a solid body portion 15 having a plunger 16 mounted therein in line with the door 14, and extended out through a slot in the side.

A contractible coil spring 17 is attached to the plunger and to a part of the end 15, as shown in Fig. 3, so that the plunger normally assumes a position withdrawn into the end 15. The part of the plunger that projects beyond the side of the match safe is designed to be engaged by an operator's thumb or finger, and when it is pressed inwardly, the inner end of the plunger will engage the end of a match that is in line with the door 14 and force it outwardly, and as soon as the pressure is withdrawn, the spring will withdraw the plunger to its normal position to permit another match to drop to position.

In practical use, it is obvious that the match safe may be filled quickly and easily by opening the hinged side, and placing matches therein, then the hinged side may be closed and the safe may be conveniently and easily carried in the user's pocket in the ordinary way.

When it is desired to obtain a match, the operator need only press upon the plunger 16, which will result in forcing a single match out through the small opening in the end 13, covered by the door 14. In practical use, matches may be thus projected from the safe in succession, and after this has been done, the door 14 may be closed and the safe returned to the user's pocket.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, therefor, is—

An improved match safe comprising a hollow body portion having a solid block at one end, a spring actuated slide bar in said solid block, a handle connected with the slide bar and projected outwardly from the match safe, a hinged door at one side of the safe for use in filling the safe, and a hinged door at the end of the match safe opposite from the said slide bar, and in line with the slide bar, said hinged door at the end of the safe being so arranged that it will be automatically forced open to permit a match to pass through the door opening, when the slide bar is actuated.

Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 26, 1907.

ANDREW M. CAIRNS.

Witnesses:

S. F. CHRISTY,

RALPH DOWIG.