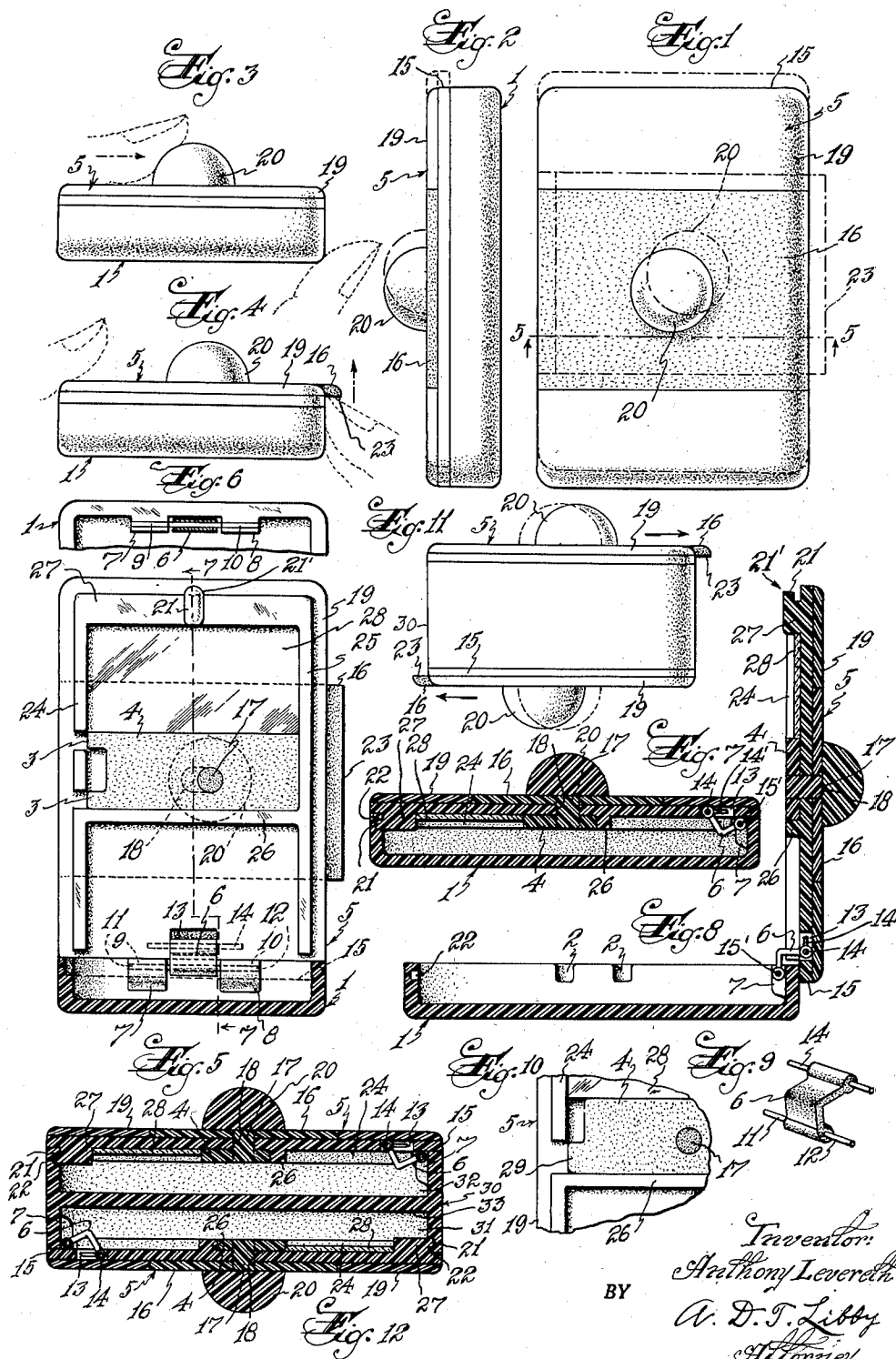


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SAFETY LOCKBOX

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SAFETY LOCKBOX

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8 Claims. (Cl. 206—1.5)

1 This invention relates to a box or receptacle especially adapted for use in ladies' compacts or they may be even utilized as cigarette boxes. The boxes are provided with a cover that is hard to open for one not familiar with its construction and method of operating the cover to move it to open position.

In my application Serial No. 50,980, filed September 24, 1948, I have shown and described certain types of puzzle boxes and my present invention is directed to an improved form for use in storing powders of different kinds such as talcum, jewelry, money and other articles. It is therefore the principal object of my invention to provide an improved type of box for the purposes described which will be easier and therefore cheaper to manufacture than the boxes shown in my prior application.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 is a top view of the box showing in dotted lines the position of the locking slide and the cover ready to open.

Figure 2 is a side view of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an end view of the box with a thumb and finger of a user (shown in dotted lines) in position to open the box.

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 with the locking slide moved to opening position.

Figure 5 is a section about on the line 5—5 of Figure 1 but with the cover in open position.

Figure 6 is a plan view of the hinge end of the box without the cover, the hinge being in section but not the pivot pin.

Figure 7 is a sectional view about on the line 7—7 of Figure 5 but with the cover in closed and locked position.

Figure 8 is a view similar to Figure 7 but with the cover in open position.

Figure 9 is a perspective view of the cover hinge including the pivot pins.

Figure 10 is a fragmentary view showing a modified form of locking slide used with the operating member.

Figure 11 is an end view of a modified form of box having two compartments and showing the operating member, in unlocking cover position, the dotted lines showing the locking position of the knobs on the operating member.

Figure 12 is a longitudinal view through the form shown in Figure 11 but showing the hinge in elevation as in Figure 7.

In the various views wherein like numbers refer to corresponding parts, 1 is a box or receptacle which can be made of any suitable material either of metal or plastic such as Lucite

2 and when made of plastic the cover and operating member therefor, with its knob, if one is used, can be made of different colors. It is to be noted that the surface 21' at the end of lug 21 is rounded to make it easier to lock and unlock the cover. The receptacle 1 has at least one notch 2 therein (there being two of these notches) as shown in Figure 8 to receive the ends 3 of a slide 4 carried by the cover 5 which is pivoted at one end of the receptacle 1 by means of a hinge 6 (see Figure 9). The hinge end of the receptacle 1 has bosses 7 and 8 with slots 9 and 10 therein to receive the ends 11 and 12 of a pivot pin carried by the hinge 6. After the ends 11 and 12 of the receptacle pivot pin are dropped into place in the slots 9 and 10 the pin ends are held in place by filling the upper portions of the slots 9 and 10 with a suitable cement or by other means if the receptacle 1 is made of metal. The cover 5 has a recess 13 therein to receive one end of the hinge 6 and further recesses 141 therein to receive the ends of the pin 14. The recesses 141 for the pin 14 should be such as to allow some motion of the pin therein so that when the cover 5 is moved to open position (as shown in Figure 8) the lower end 15 of the cover can pass down over the end of the receptacle 1.

The slide 4 (as shown in Figure 5) is attached to the operating member 16 by means of a stud 17 which passes through a slot 18 located in the inner plate of the cover 5. If the entire box is made of plastic material I prefer to use some corrugations or what might be termed threads on the stud 17 so that it may be cemented securely to the operating member 16 which is slidably positioned in what may be termed the top plate 19 of the cover. I prefer to provide the operating member 16 with a knob or equivalent 20 so when the locking slide 4 is moved to the position shown in Figure 5 or in the dotted position as shown in Figure 1, the ends 3 are withdrawn from the notches 2. Then the cover may be pushed longitudinally of the receptacle 1 to the right looking at Fig. 7, since the end of the hinge 6 carrying the pin 14, will be moved upwardly around the axis 15', thereby raising this end of the cover on the pin ends 11 and 12, then lug 21 is withdrawn from the recess 22 in the receptacle 1 and the cover can then be moved to open position by lifting on the protruding edge 23 in the direction of the arrow in Figure 4 to move the cover to open position.

It will be noted that the inner surface of the cover has side ribs 24 and 25 and a transverse rib 26 on which the slide 4 moves when it is

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operated as has been described. Located in the upper part of the cover against the transverse rib 27 is a mirror 28 which can be cemented in position.

In place of the fingers 3 on the slide 4 a single finger 29 can be used (as shown in Figure 10) and when this construction is used only one corresponding recess 2 will be required for preventing longitudinal movement of the cover in its closed position. While I prefer to make the hinge 6 of metal such as aluminum, it can be made of plastic material but I prefer to use the all-metal construction for the hinge.

In the forms shown in Figures 11 and 12 the entire box is made up of two compartments 31 and 32 with a common bottom 33 as illustrated in Figures 7 and 8. I have shown in Figure 11 that the operating member 16 for the compartment 32 is slidable in one direction while the other operating member is slidable in the opposite direction. It is also true that they may be arranged to slide in the same direction.

While I have shown the hinge 6 as having two arms substantially at right angles to each other, this angle may be changed considerably depending on various factors, such as the clearances in the bosses 7 and 8 and recess 13, consequently from what has been said, it will be readily appreciated that many of the details may be varied without departing from the principles of the invention and the scope of the appended claims, for example while I have shown the cover as being hinged at the end, it may be hinged at the side, in which case the lock slides 4 or 29 or a modification of them and the co-operating member 16 may be positioned to move lengthwise of the box and when so arranged the member 16 would be preferably much narrower than that shown in Figure 1. This type of construction may be preferred where the box is used for holding cigarettes.

I claim:

1. A safety lock box including a receptacle portion having a bottom, front, rear and side walls and a cover therefor, a hinge joining the cover to the rear wall of the receptacle, a slide carried by the cover and located on its inner surface, an operating member slidably mounted on the outer surface of the cover and having a stud passing through the cover and anchored to the slide, the cover having a slot therein for lateral movement of said stud, interengaging parts carried on the free portion of the cover opposite the hinge and on the inner front wall of the receptacle for latching said receptacle and cover when in closed position, means located on a side wall of the receptacle to receive the end of said slide to prevent the cover from longitudinal shifting motion when in closed position, said hinge being generally angular in shape with pins extending laterally from both edges of its opposite ends, while the box and cover each has a recess therein to receive their respective hinge ends and pins to allow a small rearward and upward movement of the cover to free said interengaging parts whereby the cover may be moved on the hinge to open position.

2. A safety lock box as set forth in claim 1 further defined in that the cover has a recess on

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its outer surface and extending the length of a dimension of the cover while the operating member is seated in said recess so when it is moved to unlocking position one edge extends beyond an edge of the cover to provide engaging means for moving the cover to open position.

3. A safety lock box as set forth in claim 1 further defined in that the cover has at least side ribs positioned so as to fit within the side walls of the receptacle, when the cover is in closed position and another rib for assisting said slide in its movement, while the space adjacent the slide when the cover is in open position serves as a mounting place for a mirror.

4. A safety lock box as set forth in claim 1 further defined in that the cover is composed of at least two laterally positioned plates of suitable material, one pivot end of the hinge being located in a recess in the inner plate and this inner plate has a slot therein to allow the body of the hinge to pass therethrough, the receptacle having bosses therein to receive the other pivot end of the hinge.

5. A safety lock box as set forth in claim 1 further defined in that the cover has at least side ribs positioned so as to fit within the side walls of the receptacle, when the cover is in closed position, the rib on one side acting as a stop for the slide when it is moved to open position.

6. A safety lock box as set forth in claim 1 further defined in that the hinge is a single unit and concealed within the interior of the box and has two arms formed from a single piece of suitable metal, the arms extending substantially at right angles to each other and having pivot pins at their ends.

7. A safety lock box structure including a receptacle having two chambers separated by a common bottom, a pair of covers one for each chamber, each cover having a hinge, a slide, an operating member and interengaging parts all as defined in claim 1.

8. A safety lock box structure as set forth in claim 7 further characterized in that the slide and operating member for the cover of one chamber may move in an opposite direction to those parts for the other chamber.

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