Dec. 7, 1948. C. M. LEHMAN 2,455,685

DISPENSING CONTAINER

Filed Oct. 1, 1945

FIG. 1.

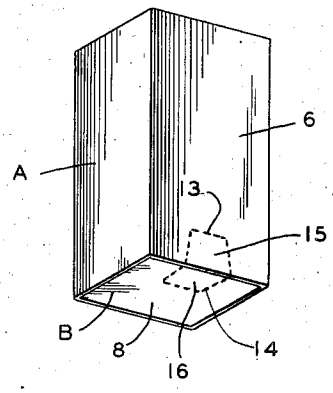


FIG. 2.

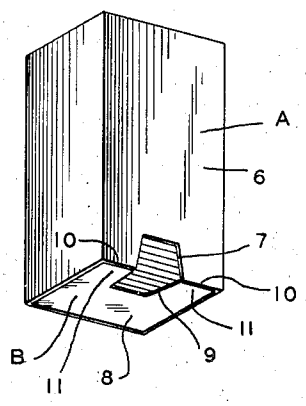


FIG. 3.

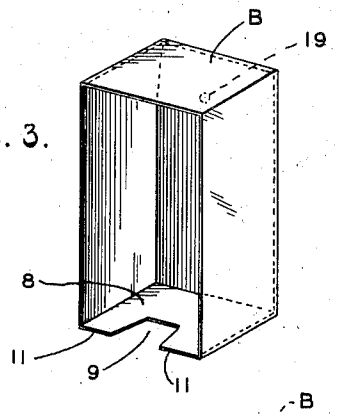


FIG. 4.

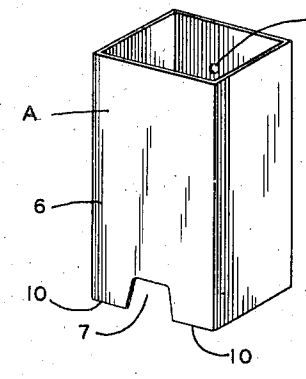
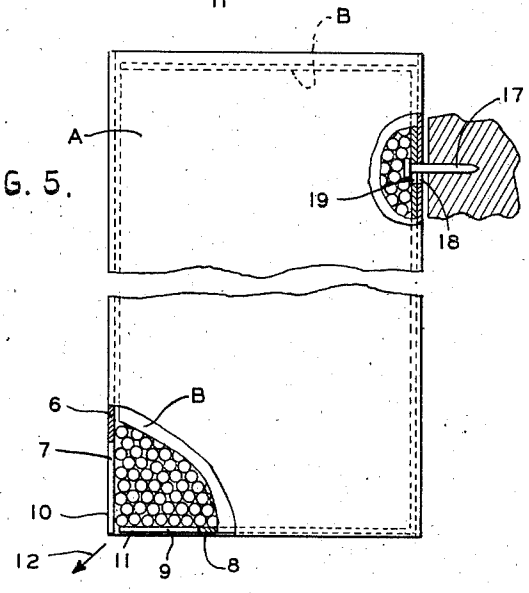


FIG. 5.



INVENTOR.
C. M. LEHMAN
BY Albert J. McCauley
ATTORNEY

Patented Dec. 7, 1948 2,455,685

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,455,685

DISPENSING CONTAINER

Chester M. Lehman, St. Louis, Mo.

Application October 1, 1945, Serial No. 619,491

3 Claims. (Cl. 229—11)

1

This invention relates to dispensing containers, and more particularly to containers of the type wherein matches, toothpicks, and other articles, are to be forcibly removed by hand from the bottom of a container.

An object is to produce a simple container having yieldable bottom edges which normally confine the contents of the container, while providing for successive, or consecutive, forcible removal of the articles in the container.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention comprises the specific combination and arrangement of details herein shown and described to set forth one form of the invention. However, the invention extends to variations and modifications described by terms of the claims hereunto appended.

Briefly stated, a highly desirable form of the invention appears in a simple match box containing long wooden matches. Without departing from the usual design of the box, and without adding any mechanical delivery devices, I have produced yieldable elements which normally confine the matches at the bottom of a box, while providing finger-receiving openings between the yieldable elements, so as permit successive forcible removal of the matches.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a match box embodying features of this invention, showing detachable sections at the front bottom corner of the box.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing conditions which appear when said detachable sections are removed.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the drawer of the box.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the outer case.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged side view, with parts broken away to more clearly show internal details.

In this specific form of the invention, the container is a simple match box comprising an elongated rectangular outer case A made of paper, and a simple rectangular paper drawer B slidable in said case. The shape and dimensions of this case and drawer may conform to any usual type of match box, adapted to be economically manufactured in large quantities. In other words, the present invention does not involve a highly expensive departure from the usual commercial procedure.

The case A has a front wall 6 provided with a finger-receiving opening 7 extending upwardly from the extremity of its lower edge. The slidable drawer B has a bottom wall 8 provided with

2

a front edge adjacent to the lower edge of the front wall 6 of the case, and a finger-receiving opening 9 extending rearwardly from the front edge of said bottom wall 8. The finger-receiving openings 7 and 9 register with each other, as shown most clearly in Fig. 2.

When the openings 7 and 9 are formed in this manner, the front wall 6 has yieldable lower margins 10 at opposite sides of its finger-receiving opening 7. It will also be observed that the bottom wall 8 has yieldable front margins 11 at opposite sides of its finger-receiving opening 9.

These yieldable margins at opposite sides of the finger-receiving openings 7 and 9 are located adjacent to each other, so as to normally confine the contents of the container, while providing for successive forcible removal of said contents in a direction suggested by the arrow 12 in Fig. 5.

The finger-receiving openings 7 and 9 may be formed in any desired manner. However, in the manufacture of simple paper match boxes, the case A and drawer B are preferably weakened in outlines suggested by dotted lines 13 and 14 in Fig. 1. The front wall 6 can be inexpensively weakened by indentations, scoring perforations, or the like, along the line 13, so as to provide a detachable section 15 extending upwardly from its bottom edge. This section 15 can be very readily grasped and removed from the bottom edge, so as to form the finger-receiving opening 7 which extends upwardly from the extremity of said bottom edge.

A similar condition appears at the dotted line 14 in Fig. 1, where the detachable section 16 extends rearwardly from the extreme front edge of the bottom wall 8, so as to permit free selective removal in forming the finger-receiving opening 9.

When the invention is employed under conditions wherein a drawer is slidable in an outer case, it is desirable to arrange for predetermined relative positions of the drawer and case, so as to confine the drawer in the case while providing for suitable relative positions of the yieldable elements 10 and 11 at the front lower corner of the case.

If the invention is employed in a box to be hung from a nail, or the like, the case and drawer are preferably provided with suitable hanger-receiving openings. For example, in Fig. 5 I have shown a hanger in the form of a nail 17. The rear wall of the outer case has an opening 18 which registers with an opening 19 in the rear

wall of the drawer when the case and drawer occupy the desirable dispensing positions shown in Fig. 5, where the yieldable margins 10 and 11 are adjacent to each other. The nail 17 then serves as a hanger for the device, while preventing excessive displacement of the slidable drawer, at the same time maintaining the yieldable margins 10 and 11 in relative positions adjacent to each other, so as to confine the contents of the container, while permitting forcible removal in the direction of arrow 12 in Fig. 5.

I claim:

1. A dispensing box comprising an elongated rectangular paper case, and a rectangular paper drawer slidable in said case, the front wall of said case being provided with a detachable section extending upwardly from the lower edge of said front wall, said front wall being weakened in a line between said detachable section and the upper portion of the front wall, so as to permit selective removal of said detachable section, thereby forming a finger-receiving opening which extends upwardly from the bottom edge of said front wall, said drawer having a bottom end wall provided with a front edge adjacent to the lower edge of said front wall of the case, said bottom end wall of the drawer being provided with a detachable section extending rearwardly from its front edge, and a weakened outline for removal thereof, so as to form a finger-receiving opening in the front edge of the bottom of the drawer registering with the opening which extends upwardly from the bottom edge of said front wall of the case, said bottom and front walls having yieldable edges located adjacent to each other, at opposite sides of their predetermined finger-receiving openings, and contents of the drawer being exposed at said finger-receiving openings for forcible removal between said yieldable edges.

2. A dispensing box for matches and the like comprising an elongated rectangular case made of paper, open at both ends, and having a hanger-receiving opening in the upper portion of its rear wall, and a rectangular paper drawer slidable in said case, the rear wall of said slidable drawer having a hanger-receiving opening adapted to register with the first mentioned hanger-receiving opening, the front wall of said case being provided with a finger-receiving opening extending upwardly from the lower edge of said front wall, said drawer having a bottom end wall provided with a front edge adjacent to the lower edge of said front wall of the case, said bottom end wall of the drawer being provided with a finger-receiving opening extending rearwardly from its front edge and registering with the opening which

extends upwardly from the bottom edge of said front wall of the case, said bottom and front walls having yieldable edges located adjacent to each other, at opposite sides of their finger-receiving openings when said hanger-receiving openings register with each other, and contents of the drawer being exposed at said finger-receiving openings for forcible removal between said yieldable edges.

3. A match box comprising an elongated rectangular case made of paper, open at both ends, and having a hanger-receiving opening in the upper portion of its rear wall, and a rectangular paper drawer slidable in said case, the rear wall of said slidable drawer having a hanger-receiving opening adapted to register with the first mentioned hanger-receiving opening, the front wall of said case being provided with a detachable section extending upwardly from the lower edge of said front wall, said front wall being weakened in a line between said detachable section and the upper portion of the front wall, so as to permit selective removal of said detachable section, thereby forming a finger-receiving opening which extends upwardly from the bottom edge of said front wall, said drawer having a bottom end wall provided with a front edge adjacent to the lower edge of said front wall of the case, said bottom end wall of the drawer being provided with a detachable section extending rearwardly from its front edge, and a weakened outline for removal thereof, so as to form a finger-receiving opening in the front edge of the bottom of the drawer registering with the opening which extends upwardly from the bottom edge of said front wall of the case, said bottom and front walls having yieldable edges located adjacent to each other, at opposite sides of their predetermined finger-receiving openings when said hanger-receiving openings register with each other, and contents of the drawer being exposed at said finger-receiving openings for forcible removal between said yieldable edges.

CHESTER M. LEHMAN.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
166,480	Robertson	Aug. 10, 1875
1,864,440	Josmsky	June 21, 1932
1,986,101	Bradsky	Jan. 1, 1935
2,101,522	White	Dec. 7, 1937
2,342,968	Peurrung	Feb. 29, 1944