P. LEO.

MATCH HOLDER.

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1,196,002.

Patented Aug. 29, 1916.

Fig. 1.

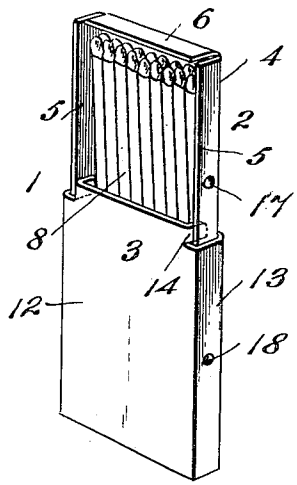


Fig. 2.

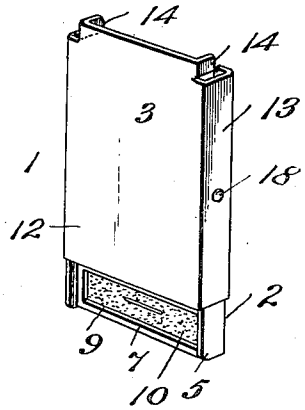


Fig. 3.

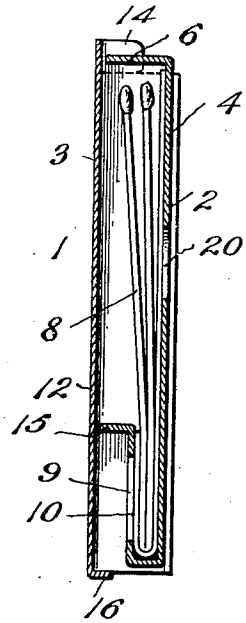
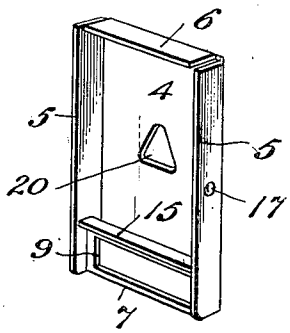


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MATCH-HOLDER.

1,196,002. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 29, 1916.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL LEO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elizabeth, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to match holders of that type designed to be carried in the pocket and consists in the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and particularly set forth in the accompanying claims.

The pocket matches now used are mainly of the safety paper kind wherein a dozen or more are semi-detached and formed as a strip that is secured within a simple folder, and a match scratching surface is formed at one edge of the folder, and, as far as I am aware, this scratching surface is usually located on the opening side of the folder *i. e.* immediately beneath the exposed row of match heads. Matches of this kind are promiscuously given away daily by tobacco merchants, and by others as a medium of advertising. The general use of these matches is frequently attended by accidents, resulting in more or less severe casualties, and it is not uncommon that serious conflagrations are directly caused by them, and all of which is directly due to the fact that sparks from the striking match accidentally ignite the row of matches just near the scratching surface as above stated. And it is a fact that many consumers refuse to accept these matches for the reasons stated. This danger is recognized and endeavored to be overcome by placing conspicuous notices upon the packages or folders by the manufacturers warning the person to close the folder before striking the match, but as with all other notices of this purport little or no attention has been paid to it and accidents such as the aforementioned have not appreciably decreased.

The present invention has for its purpose to provide a match holder of the type in question having all its desirable features and avoiding the disadvantages stated to wit—by so locating the match scratching surface on the folder or container that a guard or wall is interposed between the striking match and the row of unused matches. And it is further contemplated to provide a separate or independent receptacle to receive a folder or strip of these matches as now distributed, and wherein one side or wall thereof constitutes the guard.

The invention is shown by way of illustration in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a match holder in an open position and with a package of matches therein. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the holder showing the match scratching surface exposed for use. Fig. 3 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of the holder in the closed position. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the box portion of the holder.

Referring to the drawings in detail, 1 indicates a match holder preferably made of a light sheet metal and comprising a box portion 2 and a cover portion 3. The box portion is stamped from a single blank and bent into the shape shown and comprises a bottom portion 4 turned up side and end portions 5 and 6 and a pocket portion 7. The pocket portion is formed on one end of the box and is provided for the purpose of retaining a strip of the ordinary safety matches 8, said strip comprising the usual folded portion to which the several matches are secured, and a wall for inclosing the strip at the sides and heads thereof. By means of an elongated aperture 9 formed in the face of the pocket, the match scratching surface 10, provided on the base portion of the strip of matches, may be exposed for use. The cover 3, which is slidably mounted on the box is also stamped from a single blank of metal and comprises a top portion 12 and the side or guide portions 13 which embrace the sides of the box. The cover is arranged to slide in one direction to open the box to expose the matches for removal and to slide in the opposite direction to close the box and to expose the match scratching surface for use. To limit the sliding movement of the cover when the box is opened the cover is provided at the corners of one end thereof with inturned portions 14, forming stops, which engage with one side of an upturned lip 15 formed on the box at the inner end of the pocket,

see Fig. 3 and to limit the sliding movement of the cover when moved in the opposite direction to expose the match scratching surface, the cover is further provided on its opposite end with an inturned portion 16, forming a stop, which also engages with the upturned lip 15.

By the arrangement of the stops for limiting the sliding movement of the cover it is obvious that the box or boxing may be opened for a considerable portion of its length so that a match may be conveniently torn from the strip and that the box must be closed before the match scratching surface is exposed to permit the match to be ignited, thus the cover constitutes a safety guard for preventing sparks from the striking match from accidentally igniting the strip of matches located within the box.

To prevent the relative movement of the cover and box, until operated by a user, it will be observed that both the box and cover are provided, at one side thereof, with struck-in portions forming detents 17 and 18 which engage with each other and normally hold the cover in its closed position.

To provide a means for permitting the convenient removal from the box of that portion of the match folder that remains after all of the matches have been torn therefrom, the back of the box is provided with an opening 20 through which the end of a finger may be inserted for assisting in removing the remains of the folder from the box.

From the foregoing it will be obvious that the invention provides a substantially safety match holder whereby the liability of the matches becoming ignited from a striking match is substantially eliminated.

It is obvious that those skilled in the art may vary the details of construction and arrangements of parts without departing from the spirit of my invention and therefore I do not wish to be limited to such features except as may be required by the claims.

I claim—

1. In a pocket match holder the combination of a box adapted to hold a strip of matches having a match scratching surface; and a cover on said box slidable in one direction to expose the matches for removal, and slidable in the opposite direction to expose the match scratching surface, and said cover constituting a guard for the purpose set forth.

2. In a pocket match holder the combination of a box adapted to hold a strip of matches having a match scratching surface; and a cover on said box slidable in one direction to expose the matches for removal, and slidable in the opposite direction to expose the match scratching surface, and stops limiting the sliding movements of the cover on said box.

3. In a pocket match holder the combination of a box adapted to hold a strip of matches having a match scratching surface; and a cover on said box slidable in one direction to expose the matches for removal, and slidable in the opposite direction to expose the match scratching surface, stops limiting the sliding movements of the cover on said box, and detents for normally holding said cover and box against relative movement.

4. In a pocket match holder the combination of a box adapted to hold a strip of matches having a match scratching surface, and a cover on said box slidable in one direction to expose the matches for removal, and slidable in the opposite direction to expose the match scratching surface, said cover provided with inturned portions forming stops for limiting the sliding movements of the cover on the box, and having struck-in portions forming detents for normally holding said cover and box against relative movement.

5. In a match holder the combination of a box having a pocket for retaining a strip of matches, and said pocket having an aperture therein; a strip of matches in said box fitting in the pocket, and having a scratching surface exposed through said aperture; a cover on said box, slidable in one direction to expose the matches for removal, and slidable in the opposite direction to expose the scratching surface, and said cover constituting a guard, for the purpose set forth.

6. In a match holder the combination of a box having a pocket for retaining a strip of matches, and said pocket having an aperture therein; a strip of matches in said box fitting in the pocket, and having a scratching surface exposed through said aperture; a cover on said box, slidable in one direction to expose the matches for removal, and slidable in the opposite direction to expose the scratching surface, and said cover constituting a guard, stops limiting the sliding movements of the cover on said box and detents for normally holding said cover and box against relative movement.

In testimony whereof, I, PAUL LEO, have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this thirty-first day of December, 1914.

PAUL LEO.

Witnesses:
W. MILLERD MORGAN,
CHAS. E. WOLFF.