A. H. METCALF.

CIGARETTE CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 2, 1919.

1,322,807. Patented Nov. 25, 1919.

FIG. 1.

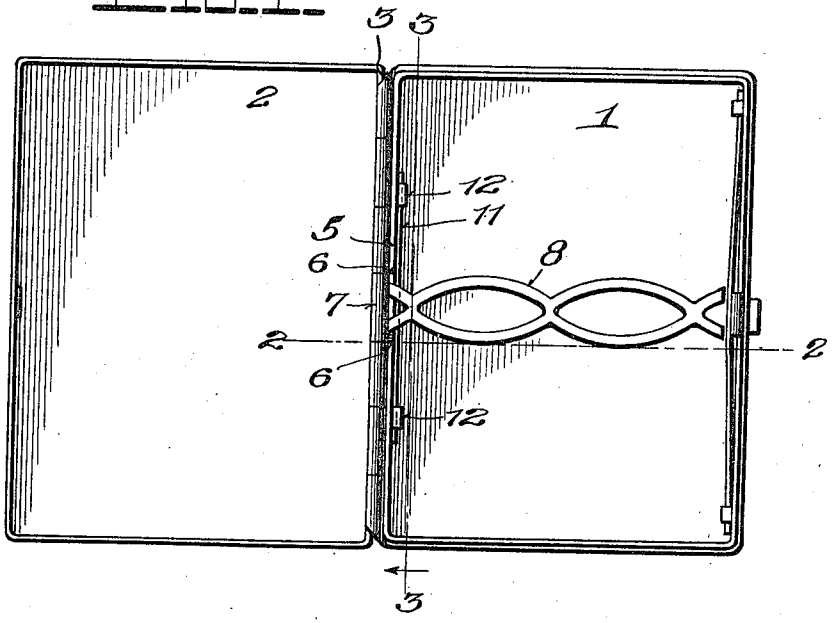


FIG. 2.

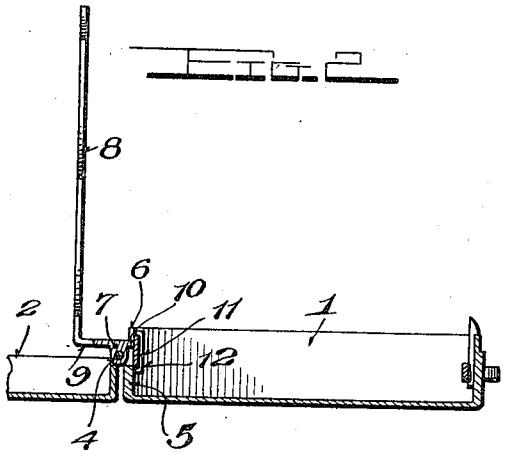
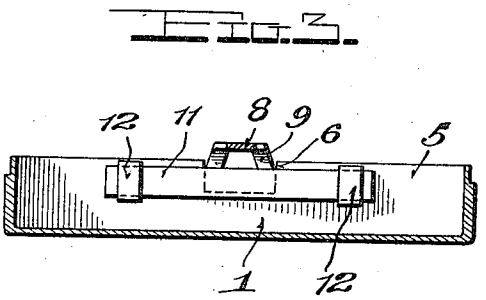


FIG. 3.



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CIGARETTE-CASE.

1,322,807. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 25, 1919.

Application filed July 2, 1919. Serial No. 308,173.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALPHA H. METCALF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Attleboro, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cigarette-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in cigarette cases, and pertains more particularly to the holding means which lies over the top of the cigarettes to retain the latter in position in the box, and particularly when the box is open.

The primary object of the invention is to provide holding means, such as an arm, which will be automatically retained in lifted or in operative position during filling of the box or removal of one or more of the cigarettes therefrom, and to also provide for the automatic movement of the holding means to operative or holding position upon closing of the box, thereby to hold the cigarettes against displacement when the box is opened.

Ordinarily it is necessary to manually hold the holding means with the fingers of one hand while the cigarettes are being either placed in or removed from the box, with the other hand, the present invention obviating this objection so that both hands are left free to manipulate the cigarettes.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 is a plan view showing the case open and the holding arm in operative position;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In proceeding in accordance with the present invention a case is employed having the usual body 1, and top 2 hinged thereto at 3, the hinge pintle 4 forming a part of the hinge as usual. The rear wall or back 5 of body 1 is cut away as indicated at 6—6 to receive in such cut away part a sleeve 7 rigidly carrying the holding arm 8, the pintle 4 being passed through the sleeve 7 so as to thereby provide a swinging support for the arm 8. The sleeve 7 is preferably formed integral with a right angular extension 9 of arm 8 and the extension 9 has a free end 10 which projects beyond the pintle 4 so as to engage a spring 11 of the leaf type which is mounted on the wall 5. This spring 11, is preferably secured by anchors 12, which are secured over the ends of the spring 11 so as to leave the center thereof free for in and out movement.

By referring to Fig. 2, it will be seen that when the arm 8 is in lifted position same will be free of the tensioning action of the spring and will therefore be capable of moving toward the cover 2, but cannot move toward the body 1 in which latter the cigarettes are placed. When the arm 8 is moved to the position of Fig. 1, it will tension the extension 9, as shown in Fig. 3 and prevent upward movement of the arm except upon exerting sufficient lifting force to raise the arm to the position of Fig. 2.

When the box is closed the cover 2 will engage the arm 8 and move the latter against the tension of spring 11 so that the end 9 will assume the position of Fig. 3 as above described.

Having thus described my invention, which I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. In a cigarette case, a body and cover, a hinge connection between the body and cover having a pintle, the back wall of the body having a cut-away portion, a leaf spring extending over the cut-away portion, means to secure the ends of the spring to said wall so as to leave the central portion of the spring free, and a holding arm having a right angular extension formed with a sleeve through which the pintle passes, said extension being received in the cut-away portion of the back of the body, and having a free edge which bears against the central portion of the spring.

2. In a cigarette case, a body and a cover hinged thereto, a holding arm hinged to the cover and body hinge, and spring means for tensioning the arm to hold same in cigarette holding position and to also permit the arm to be lifted to lie at right angles to said body and cover, and free of the tensioning action of the spring and formed to prevent the arm from returning to operative position except by forcibly moving same against the action of the spring.

3. In a cigarette case, a cover and a body hinged thereto, a swingable cigarette holding arm, and spring means to tension the arm to hold same in cigarette holding position and to allow the arm to be swung free of the spring means and formed to prevent the arm from returning to operative position except by forcibly moving same against the action of the spring.

4. In a cigarette case, a cover, and a body, hingedly connected, an arm for holding the cigarettes swingingly mounted on said hinge connection, said arm having a right angular extension, and a leaf spring which engages said extension to hold the arm parallel to the body and cover, and which upon lifting of the arm is free of tensioning action thereagainst and formed to prevent the arm from returning to operative position except by forcibly moving same against the action of the spring.

5. In a cigarette case, a cigarette holding arm, means to mount the arm for swinging movement, and means to hold the arm under tension in cigarette holding position and to allow the arm when lifted to be free of such tension so as to lie in lifted position unsupported and formed to prevent the arm from returning to operative position except by forcibly moving same against the action of the tensioning means.

6. In a cigarette case, a body and a hinged cover, a cigarette holding arm swingingly carried by the case, and means to tension the arm whereby in one position to hold the same in cigarette holding position and in a second position to allow the arm to lie free of the tensioning action of said means, said arm when in said second position being engageable with the cover so as to be moved by the latter against the action of the tensioning means when the cover is closed.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this application in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALPHA H. METCALF.

Witnesses:
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