Dec. 21, 1943. E. ARENSON 2,337,305

BOOK MATCH HOLDER

Filed March 8, 1943

FIG. 1.

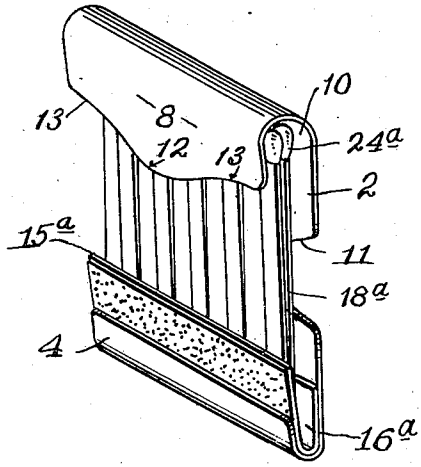


FIG. 2.

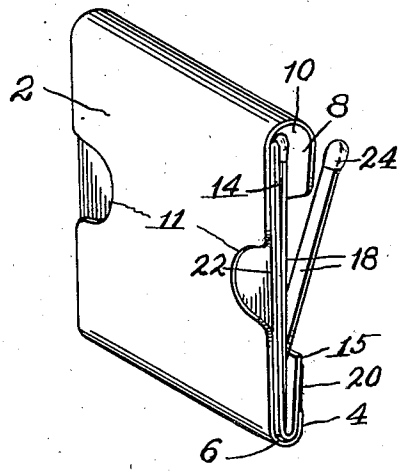


FIG. 3.

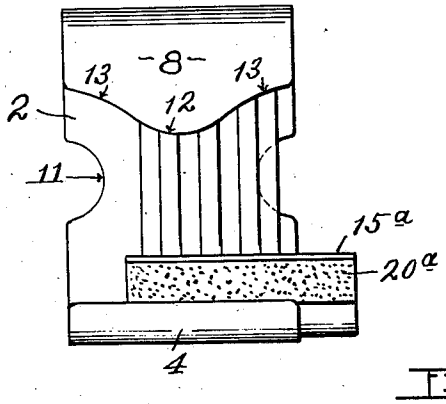


FIG. 4.

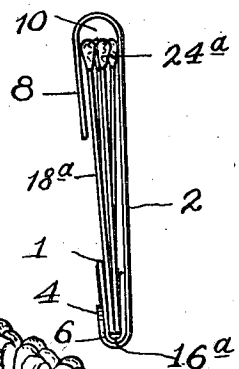


FIG. 5.

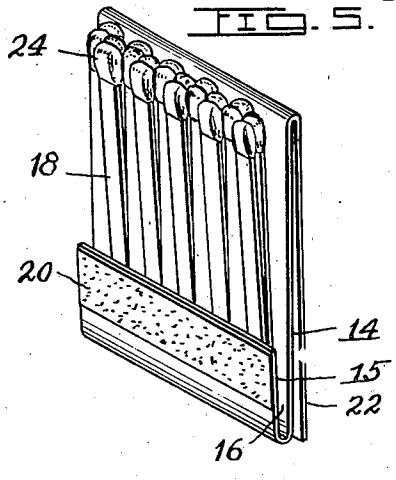
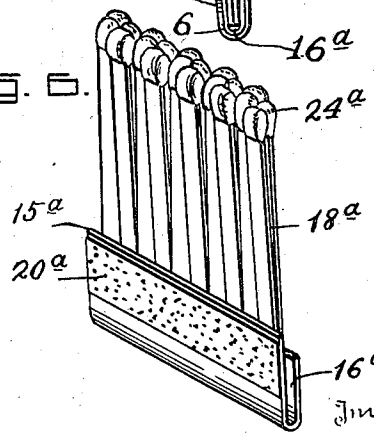


FIG. 6.



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BOOK MATCH HOLDER

Emmett Arenson, Kansas City, Mo.

Application March 8, 1943, Serial No. 478,437

1 Claim. (Cl. 206—33)

My invention relates to improvements in devices for holding book matches of either the usual type with cover, or a special type without the cover, and one object of the invention is the provision of a one-piece device of this character which can be manufactured at a minimum of cost and yet afford maximum protection against accidental ignition of the matches when one is detached from the book and ignited.

Frequently a careless user of book matches will neglect to fold the front flap of the book over the match heads, when striking a detached match on the abrasive or ignition surface of the package, with the result that a spark from the ignited match is liable to fly off and ignite the exposed heads of all the other matches and thus cause considerable damage. An object of my invention is the provision of a holder which is proof against such accidents, as the heads of the matches are fully protected and covered by my device until all of the matches in the package are used.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a novel holder adapted to receive a match package without a cover, or one with the front flap of the cover folded over the back of the book, the holder having retaining means which covers the heads and basal portions of the matches and leaves a large area of their middle portions exposed to view, so that the matches can be easily detached as needed and at the same time enables the user to note at a glance when all of the matches have been detached, so that the device may be provided with another book of matches.

A further object of my invention is the provision of novel means for holding the match book in such manner as to leave the ignition surface thereof constantly exposed its entire length so that a match, when being struck can be drawn across the full length of the abrasive surface without liability of being broken by contacting the end of a slot through which only a limited portion of the abrasive surface of some holders is exposed.

A further object is the provision of a holder having guide means for the thumb nail which enables the user to readily locate one of the end matches of the package near the head of the match so that it may be detached at its basal portion from the book without danger of breakage or accidental ignition of the match.

Other objects will hereinafter appear and in order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my device holding a special match package in which the usual cover of the package is dispensed with.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device containing a match package with the usual cover folded back to give access to the matches, one of which is shown partly detached from the package.

Fig. 3 is a front view of the holder with a special match package being inserted in the holder, some of the matches having been removed.

Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the holder containing the special match package.

Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of a match package provided with the usual paper cover.

Fig. 6 is a detail of the special match package.

As shown by the drawing my book match holder comprises a device which may be stamped from one piece of some stiff material such as sheet metal, or it may comprise cast metal, plastic material, or some kind of flexible material, such, for example, as soft rubber.

In the present instance the holder is shown in the form of a strip of material having a rectangular back plate 2 bent forward and upward at its lower portion to provide a slotless flange 4 and an upwardly facing transverse channel 6. The upper part of the back plate 2 extends forward and downward to provide a guard 8 and a downwardly facing transverse channel 10. The vertical edges of the back plate 2 have recesses 11, for a purpose hereinafter set forth.

As shown by Fig. 3, the edge of the middle portion 12 of the guard 8 curves downward a substantial distance and then curves upward at each side 13 closer to the heads of the matches. Thus the edge provides a guide for the thumb nail of the user and forms an important feature of the invention as it enables the user to locate one of the end matches near its head so that the match can be readily detached from the book.

Fig. 5 discloses a perspective view of one of the usual type of match-books adapted to be held in my improved holder and provided with a paper cover having a back 14, the lower end of which is folded forward and upward to form an upturned retaining strip 15, which cooperates with the back 14 in providing a transverse groove 16 in which are secured the basal portions of the matches 18, the front side of the retaining strip 15 having the usual transverse abrasive surface 20 on which the matches are struck as needed. The upper end portion of the back 14 is folded

forward and downward to form a flap 22 adapted to cover the remaining portions of the matches so that the heads 24 of the matches are not liable to become ignited when a match is detached and struck on the ignition surface 20.

The match book above described is adapted to be inserted in the holder edgewise through either open end of the respective channels 6 and 10, with the match heads 24 disposed in the upper channel 10, behind the guard 8 which cooperates with the flange 4 in snugly holding the match book in place.

In operating the holder with a match book having a paper cover, the flap 22 is either detached or folded over the rear side of the back 14 of the match book, as shown by Figs. 2 and 5. The match book is then inserted edgewise into either end of the respective channels 6 and 10, with the headed portion of the matches in the upper channel 10 where they are protected by the guard 8.

A match at the side edge of the front row of matches is then swung laterally at its headed end, as shown by Fig. 2, and detached from the package, so that the head can be struck on the abrasive surface 20 to ignite the match in the usual manner.

The matches are successively detached from the book as needed until all have been removed. By having an open space between the flange 4 and the guard 8, the matches are easily accessible for detachment by the thumb nail and the user can see at a glance when the last match has been detached. When this has been accomplished the book cover is removed so that another book can be substituted in the manner above described. The recesses 11 in the vertical sides of the holder permit the empty cover of the matches to be conveniently grasped and withdrawn from either side of the holder. The guard 8 affords ample protection for the match heads against accidental ignition from any sparks that may fly from a match being struck on the abrasive surface 20, and the lower curved edge of the guard constitutes a guide for the thumb nail so that an end match of the package may be located in the dark and grasped near the head preparatory to detaching the match from the package.

As my holder provides ample protection for the matches the paper cover can be dispensed with and a special match package like that shown by Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 6, can be used, thereby saving the expense of providing the packages with covers. In other respects the special match package is similar to the one above described, as is evident by corresponding reference numerals with exponents *a*.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawing, it is apparent that I have produced a simple, inexpensive match holder possessing the advantages above pointed out and while I have shown the preferred form of my invention I reserve all rights to such changes and modifications thereof as properly fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A one-piece match package holder comprising a back plate having an upturned slotless flange at its lower end and a downturned guard at its upper end providing lower and upper channels for reception of the basal and head portions respectively, of a match package which may be slid into either of the open ends of the channels and is provided at its lower portion with a transverse abrasive surface projecting above the upper margin of the lower flange to permit the head of a match to be drawn across the entire length of the abrasive surface without hindrance from said lower flange, said flange and guard being spaced apart to permit access to the matches and said guard being proportioned to fully cover the match heads, the lower margin of the guard curving downward at its middle portion and then upwardly at each side to constitute a guide for directing the thumb-nail of the user to the upper portion of a match at either side of the package preparatory to extracting the match, the back plate of the holder having a marginal recess at each side to enable the cover of an empty package to be grasped and removed from either side of the holder.

EMMETT ARENSON.