FIG. 1

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

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BOOK MATCHES AND COVER THEREFOR

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The present invention relates to safety match packets, generally speaking, and has more particular reference to tearable so-called book matches and novelly constructed cardboard containing and cover means for said book matches.

As the preceding general statement of the invention clearly implies, the art to which the invention relates is well developed. There are countless prior patents covering especially constructed folders and cover means for book matches wherein the abrasive media for igniting the match heads are arranged in one place or another. These prior art constructions shade almost imperceptibly from one type to another. All are, generally construed, intended to promote convenience in handling and use and, above all, to promote safety. The object of the instant invention is to structurally, functionally and otherwise improve on similarly constructed and performing prior art book match covers and folders and in doing so to provide a more complete and finished article of manufacture in which manufacturers and users will find their ordinarily expected needs and requirements satisfactorily met.

In keeping with the particular concept hereinafter considered the over-all object is to more effectively sheath or encase the matches so that even though they may be exposed more or less to dampness and perhaps even moisture, there will nevertheless be little likelihood that the matches themselves will be sufficiently affected or damaged to interfere with effective striking and ignition thereof.

A preferred embodiment of the invention has to do with a cardboard or equivalent cover for tearable selectively usable book matches wherein said cover is characterized by a foundation or back panel, an openable and closable cover panel which is hingedly attached to one end of the back panel, and a second cover panel which is stapled to the back panel, which has a keeper slot into which the free end of the cover panel is releasably fitted and is provided on a normally inferior surface with abrasive means which when swung outwardly and downwardly renders the otherwise protected abrasive medium ready for handy use.

Then, too, novelty is predicated on the structural details mentioned in conjunction with a pair of side flaps which are hingedly joined to the longitudinal or side edges of the back panel, said flaps being folded inwardly over and covering the matches and therefore functioning as safety striking shields so that by holding the thumb against these normally inturned flaps the heads of the matches will be safeguarded against accidental ignition as often happens with the normally unprotected match heads.

Other objects, features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying sheet of drawings.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views:

Figure 1 is an elevational view showing a book of matches and cover means therefor constructed in accordance with the invention and illustrating all of the parts swung to and occupying what may be broadly referred to as "open" positions;

Figure 2 is a perspective view with all of the parts in their "closed" positions;

Figure 3 is a slightly enlarged view taken on the vertical central section line 3—3 of Figure 2 looking in the direction of the arrows; and,

Figure 4 is a section on the horizontal line 4—4 of Figure 3 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the drawings by numerals and accompanying lead lines the component which is the essential part of the construction is referred to as a book of matches 8. The matches are conventional and include cardboard stems 8 and suitable safety ignitable heads 10. Therefore, the means 6 may be said to be conventional.

Hence, the principal improvements under consideration here may be said to be formed from a single blank or sheet of properly constructed cardboard. That which is commonly employed in match folders and covers will do. As is more or less customary in sheathing the matches, there are primary front and back members.

The back member is herein referred to as a back rectangular panel 12 and the main openable and closable front or cover panel is denoted at 14. This is joined by a web 18 to the upper end of the back panel and a fold line 18 permits the truncated free end portion 20 to be swung down and to be engaged in a keeper 22 formed by a complementary slot 24. The slot and keeper are struck out from the bottom cover panel 26 which latter is joined by a fold or bend 28 to the lower end of the back panel. The upper end portion of this cover panel 25 is cut straight across and is blunt, said end portion being denoted at 30. The panel under consideration is secured in place by a staple 32 which also secures the book matches between the back and cover panels 12.
and 26. It will be noted that the inner surface of the end portion 30 is provided with suitable abrasive media 34 which is exposed and properly based for use when it is folded down on the fold line 36 in the manner shown in Figure 1. The longitudinal edge portions of the back or foundation panel are provided with a pair of duplicate relatively small rectangular inwardly and outwardly folding protector flaps 38—38. These are foldable by way of bends so that they come together in end to end and aligned abutting relationship as shown in Figure 4 where they obviously overlap the stem and head portions of the matches and safely guard the matches.

In practice it is desirable to swing the two shield forming or guard flaps 38—38 out and to then break off a match. Then the flaps are swung again in so that they cover the matches and they are held in this position by one of the fingers or perhaps, as is usually the case, by the thumb. The folder being held in one hand with the top or cover flap 14 open, the upper end foldable portion 30 of the bottom cover panel is now swung down on the fold line to bring the abrasive media into position for use.

The downwardly and upwardly disposed cover panels 14 and 26 enclose the shield flaps 38 or, to state the matter otherwise, these flaps 38—38 are folded in and held in place when the cover panels 14 and 26 are joined together in interlocked relationship by way of the keeper tongue 28 and keeper complement 22.

All of the elements or components have been carefully selected and function with requisite nicety in providing what, in an overall structural sense, appears to be a more satisfactory and practical pocket-type match packet.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A match packet comprising, in combination, a folding type cover embodying a back panel, an upper cover panel hingedly connected at one end to the upper end of said back panel and foldable downwardly over the back panel, a lower cover panel joined by a bend to the lower end of said back panel and occupying a position over the face of the back panel, book matches fastened between said last named cover panel and back panel, said lower cover panel having a slot defining a keeper pocket, said top cover panel having a tongue at the free end of the tongue being releasably fitted into said pocket, the interior surface of the upper end portion of said lower cover panel having abrasive media and said upper end portion being swingable outwardly and downwardly and against the then underlying lower end portion of said lower cover panel to expose the abrasive media.

2. A match packet comprising, in combination, a folding type cover embodying a back panel, a lower cover panel joined by a bend to the lower end of said back panel and normally occupying a position over the front face of the back panel, book matches fastened between said last named cover panel and back panel, said lower cover panel being provided between its respective ends with a slot defining a keeper pocket, said slot assisting in defining a fold line and dividing the lower cover panel into a relatively fixed lower end portion and a relatively movable upper end portion, the interior surface of the upper end portion having abrasive media which is normally facing the matches but is capable of being swung outwardly and downwardly with the upper end portion against the lower end portion for stability in use, inwardly folding flaps hinged to the longitudinal edge portions of the back panel and swingable into coplanar relationship over the matches and back panel, and an upper cover panel hingedly connected at its upper end to the upper end of said back panel and foldable downwardly over the lower cover panel and having a tongue, the free end of the tongue being releasably fitted into said keeper pocket by way of said slot.

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