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SMOKER'S KIT FOR AUTOMOBILES

Filed May 18, 1925

FIG. 1.

FIG. 7.

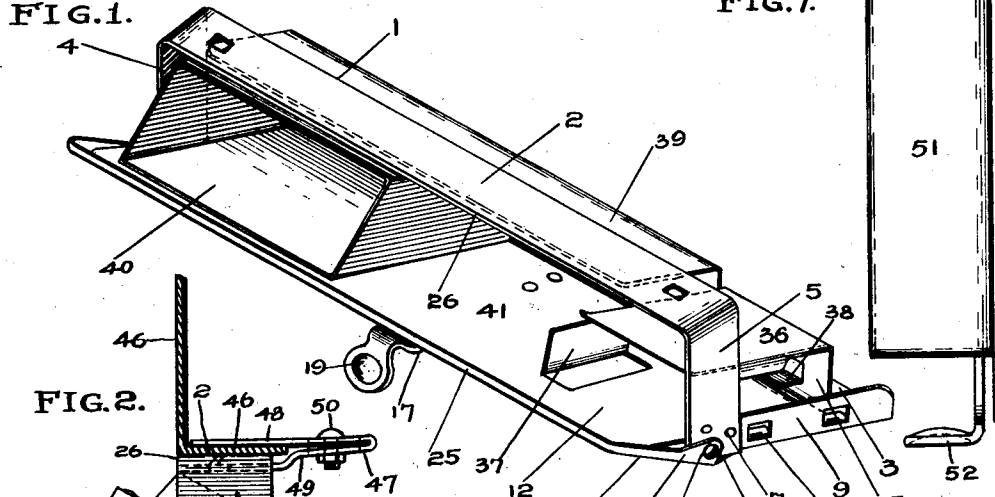


FIG. 2.

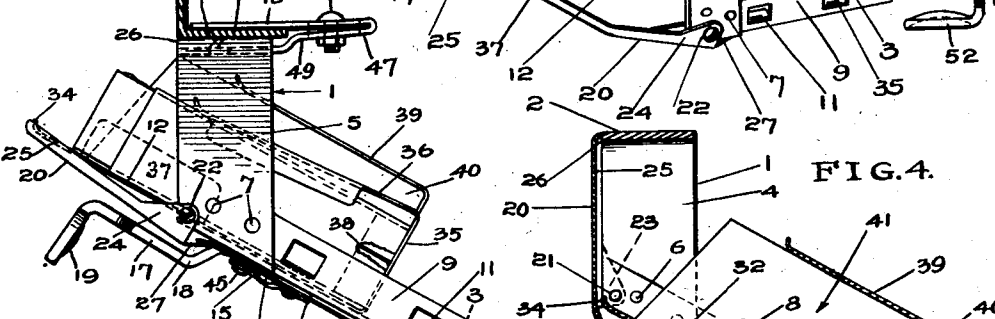


FIG. 3.

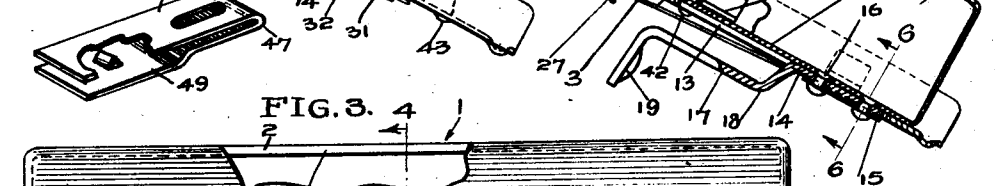


FIG. 4.

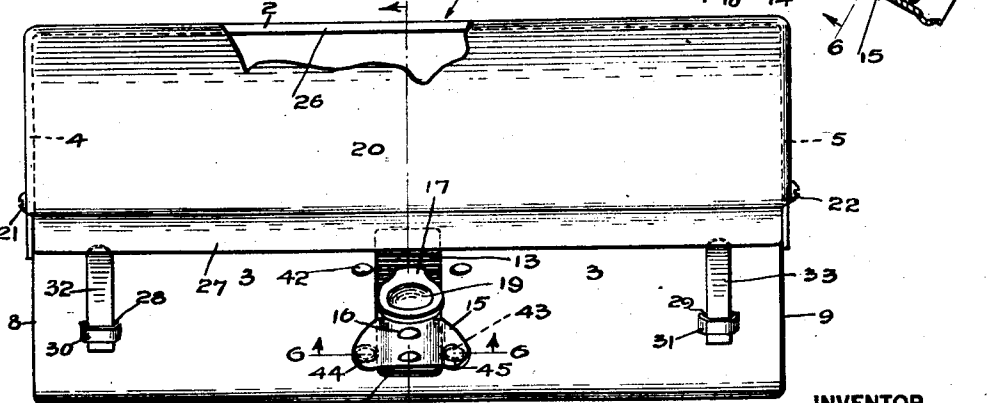
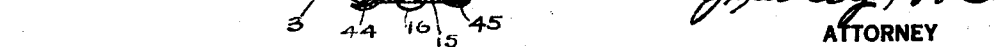


FIG. 5.



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SMOKER'S KIT FOR AUTOMOBILES.

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This invention relates to smokers' kits and in particular to those of a character most suitable for attachment to an automobile instrument board or other convenient place within easy reach of those seated within the car. This device consists of a suitable frame constructed to house an ash receptacle, a package of cigarettes and a box of matches and is mounted upon a slidable plate adapted by the actuation of a small lever to be brought to position for use at the front end of the frame, and upon release of the lever to disappear into the frame out of sight, the forward movement opening a spring pressed door attached to the frame and the disappearing movement thereof closing the door, thereby closing the framed opening formed by the attaching strap of the device and concealing the contents of the kit when out of use. The device is not only intended for use as a handy container for smokers' articles, but also serves in a great measure,—to lessen the danger of fires caused by the careless throwing of lighted matches and cigarettes along the roadway by the occupants of automobiles.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described, which is simple in construction, convenient and that may be readily mounted upon the dash or other parts of an automobile without any changes whatever in the construction, as drilling of holes in these parts.

Another object is to construct a device of this character which is not only convenient for the occupants of the car, but is an article of utility and safety and adds to the appearance of the interior rather than detracting therefrom. Other objects will appear with reference to the subjoined specification and accompanying one sheet of drawings.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the device as it appears in position for use, with the door pressed open, as brought to position by the upward movement of the operating lever, showing the ash receptacle, space for a package of cigarettes and the match box holder.

Fig. 2 is an edge view of the device with the parts thrust forward and the door open, as in Fig. 1, it being shown attached in place to a fragment of the instrument board by a special clamping bracket.

Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the device with the door closed and the parts in their normal positions, as seen looking from the left of Fig. 4.

Fig. 4 is a transverse mid-section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3, showing the device in normal position with the door closed.

Fig. 5 is a perspective detail of one of the attaching clips.

Fig. 6 is a sectional detail taken on the lines 6—6 of Figs. 3 and 4, and is illustrative of the retaining means for frictionally holding the device in either open or closed position.

Fig. 7 is a modification showing the device of rectangular shape with the operating lever reversed and adapted to be reciprocated below the casing, this form being designed for use in places other than the instrument board of the vehicle.

Referring with more particularity to the drawings, the device consists of a supporting frame, bent substantially in the form of an inverted U the upper flat face 2 thereof being adapted to snugly fit against the underside of the flanged portion of the instrument board, as shown in Fig. 2.

A flanged guide plate 3 is fitted between the extensions 4 and 5 of the frame, and is riveted thereto by sets of rivets 6 and 7. This plate 3 extending at an approximate angle of 45° with respect to the frame when said frame is attached in place to the instrument board.

The guide plate 3 is provided with upturned side flanges 8 and 9 having punched in sections 10 and 11 adapted to form guides between which a second movable plate 12 is slidably held. Said guide plate 3 is centrally slotted as indicated at 13 to form a guideway for the reception of a guide member 14 and resilient retaining member 15 rigidly riveted to the movable plate 12 by rivets 16. The operating handle 17 is a continuation of the guide member 14, offset as indicated at 18 and bent at right angles at its upper end to form a finger rest 19.

A door 20 is hinged at its opposite edges to the lower ends of the extensions 4 and 5 and is hingedly held in place by screws 21 and 22 extending through ears 23 and 24 formed at the lower edges of the side flanges of the door. This door is provided with narrow upper and side flanged edges 25 adapted, when closed, to fit snugly against

the edge 26 of the supporting frame 1, and has an extension or lip 27 at its lower edge for the purpose of engaging spring tensioning means hereinafter described.

5 The guide plate 3 is slit as indicated at 28 and 29 and the strips between slits punched outwardly to form retaining members 30 and 31 for the reception of flat tensioning springs 32 and 33, the upper ends of which bear
10 against the underside of the lip 27 of the door 20 to normally hold the door in closed position, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The plate 12 is slidable upon the guide plate 3 and is provided with a curved upper
15 edge 34, Fig. 4, so that upon upward movement of said plate 12, through manipulation of the operating handle 17 the door 20 is pressed outwardly and swung to the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

20 A portion of the lower edge of the plate 12 is stamped to form a right angle section 35 and parallel spring guard section 36 adapted to yieldingly hold a box of matches, the punched up lip section 37 forming a
25 spacing partition and the punched in section 38 of the right angle section 35 forming a projector to force the match container out of the carton when inserted.

The remaining lower edge is stamped to
30 form a rectangular guard 39 adapted to yieldingly retain the ash receptacle 40 in place and to provide a space 41 for the retention of a package of cigarettes.

Sets of retaining elements 42 and 43 are
35 punched in the guide plate as shown in Fig. 3, and positioned in the path of the retaining member 15, which member is provided with corresponding depressions 44 and 45 adapted to engage either of the sets of elements 42
40 and 43 to hold the plate and cover in either of their extreme open or closed positions.

The device may be attached to the lower flanged edge 46 of the instrument board by a pair of clamp brackets 47 having gripping
45 members 48 and 49 and adjustable clamping bolts 50 adapted to clamp the upper face 2 of the frame tightly against the flange 46 of the said plate or instrument board.

In Fig. 7, I have shown a modified form of
50 casing having the operating handle 52 reversed and the door fitting over the top edge, this form being preferably applicable to the rear of the front seat or any other convenient part of the interior of the body.

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

1. In a device of the character described, a supporting-frame, a guide-plate secured to said supporting frame and bearing guide-
60 members, a slidable plate mounted upon said guide-plate and adapted for slidable move-

ment between said guide-members; a hinged door covering the opening formed by the supporting-frame and guide-plate, said
65 slidable plate being provided with a door-engaging member adapted to engage and open said door when said slidable plate is moved outwardly, spring means mounted upon said guide-plate and adapted to normally urge
70 said door closed, and an operating handle for said slidable plate provided with means for normally retaining said plate in position at the limit of its movement in either direction.

2. In a device of the character described, a supporting-frame, a guide-plate secured to and forming an integral part of said supporting-frame and having flanged edges bearing guide-members, a slidable plate
80 mounted upon said guide-plate and adapted for sliding movement between said guide-members, said slidable plate having resilient article-retaining guards extending from the lower edge thereof and a door-engaging
85 member at its upper edge, a door hinged to said supporting frame and covering the opening formed by said supporting-frame and guide-plate and adapted to be engaged by said door engaging-member, an operating
90 handle secured to said slidable plate, resilient retaining means secured to said handle and adapted to limit the movement in either direction of said plate, and spring
95 means mounted upon said guide-plate in position to engage the lower edge of said door to normally urge said door to closed position.

3. A smoker's kit comprising a supporting-frame adapted for attachment to an automobile's instrument board, a guide-plate secured to said supporting-frame and having a guide-slot therein, a slidable plate adapted to slide upon said guide-plate and bearing
100 resilient article-retaining guards at its lower edge and door-engaging means at its upper edge, an operating handle secured to said movable plate and extending through the guide-slot in said guide-plate, resilient retaining means secured to said handle and
105 adapted to limit the movement in either direction of said slidable plate, a door hinged to said supporting-frame and adapted for engagement with the upper edge of said slidable plate, and spring means mounted upon
110 said guide-plate in position to engage the lower under edge of said door and adapted to normally close said door when released by rearward movement of said slidable plate.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my
signature.

GAETANO MACCHIAVELLO.