July 14, 1925. 1,546,042

E. M. STORY

MATCH BOX HOLDER

Filed Sept. 11, 1923

Fig. 1.

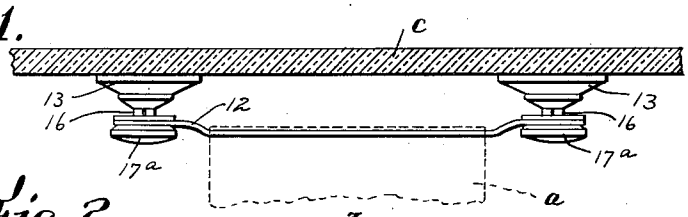


Fig. 2.

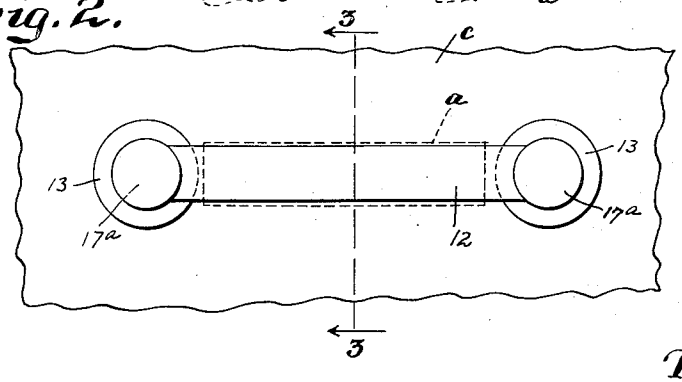


Fig. 8.

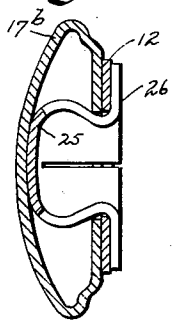


Fig. 3.

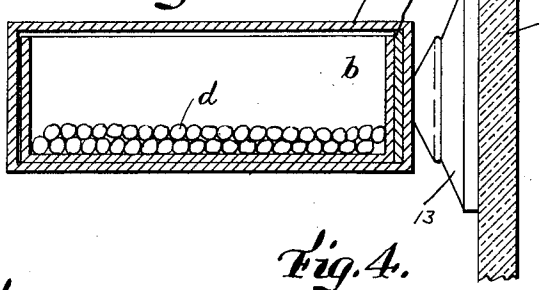


Fig. 7.

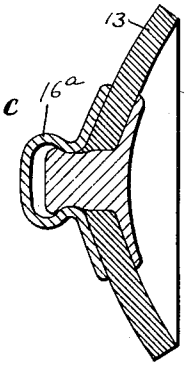


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

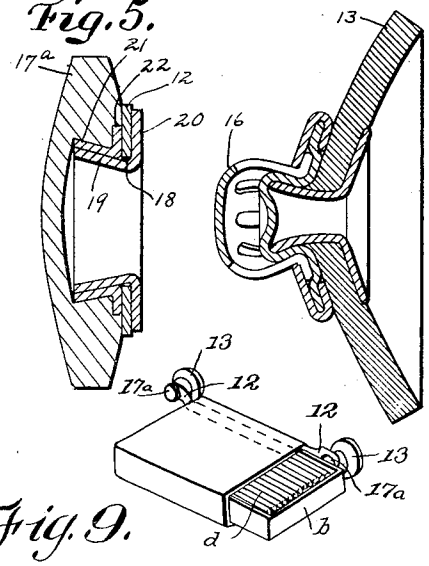


Fig. 6.

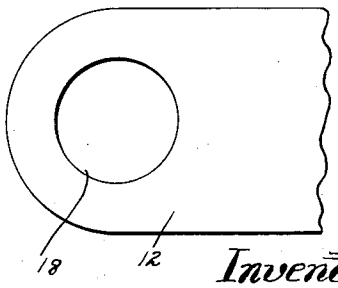


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELLIOTT M. STORY, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

MATCH-BOX HOLDER.

Application filed September 11, 1923. Serial No. 662,068.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLIOTT M. STORY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Match-Box Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The invention is embodied in the improved holder hereinafter described and claimed, adapted to be detachably engaged with a match-box of the type which includes an open-ended casing and a match-holding tray movable endwise in the casing, and to be confined by atmospheric pressure against substantially any portion of a smooth hard surface, such as the inner face of the glass of a windshield, the arrangement being such that the casing member of the match-box may be secured to a windshield and may project inwardly therefrom, in position to permit the tray to slide in the casing.

Of the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification,—

Figure 1 is an edge view of a holder embodying the invention, and shows in section a portion of a windshield.

Figure 2 is a side view.

Figure 3 is an enlarged section on line 3—3 of Figure 2, showing a match-box engaged with the holder.

Figure 4 is a sectional view of one of the suction cups shown by Figures 1, 2 and 3, and a stud member attached thereto.

Figure 5 is a sectional view, showing the box-engaging strip and a socket member attached thereto.

Figure 6 is a side view of a portion of the strip.

Figures 7 and 8 are views similar to Figures 4 and 5, showing different forms of stud and socket members.

Figure 9 is a perspective view on a reduced scale showing a match box engaged with the holder, the tray being partly withdrawn.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the figures.

In the drawings 12 represents a thin strip, preferably of sheet metal, formed to be interposed between the casing *a* and the tray *b* of a well known type of match-box in which the tray is slidable endwise in the casing. The end portions of the strip project from the opposite ends of the box, and to each end portion is secured a suction cup 13, which is preferably a concavo-convex disk of flexible rubber adapted, when pressed against a smooth hard surfaced supporting body, such as a windshield glass *c*, to be confined by atmospheric pressure against said body.

The strip may be engaged with the box by removing the tray from the casing, passing one of the cups 13 and a portion of the strip through the casing until both cups are outside the open ends of the casing, placing the strip against one of the edge walls of the casing, and finally inserting the tray in the casing, one of the edge walls of the tray bearing on the strip as shown by Figure 3. The box is thus secured to the holder between the suction cups, and the cups may then be pressed against the supporting body *c*, the arrangement being such that the tray is freely movable in the casing as indicated by Figure 9, to permit access to matches *d* contained in the tray. The strip 12 includes a straight central portion, corresponding in length to the length of the casing *a*, and adapted to be interposed between adjacent walls of the casing and tray, and end portions offset from the central portion, as shown by Figure 1.

The cups 13 may be attached to the offset end portion of the strip 12 by any suitable means, the cups being so proportioned that either cup may be passed through the casing when the tray is removed.

I prefer to detachably secure the cups to the strip, and to this end I provide each cup with a snap-fastener stud member, and permanently attach to each end portion of the strip a snap-fastener socket member. Any suitable type of fastener members may be employed, the types shown by Figures 4 and 5, and by Figures 7 and 8 being well known, and the members thereof being adapted to be separably connected with sufficient firmness by pressing the stud member into the socket member.

Figure 4 shows a stud member 16, which is slotted and compressible by its insertion into the cavity of the complemental socket member shown by Figure 5. The wall of said cavity is rigid and tapering, so that it compresses the stud member and has the usual separable engagement therewith.

Figure 7 shows a stud member 16^a which is incompressible and adapted to cooperate with the complemental socket member shown by Figure 8. The wall of the cavity

in this socket member is slotted and expansible, and is contracted at its mouth portion to spring into engagement with the contracted neck portion of the stud member 16^a. Said wall is formed by a slotted cup 25, having a flange 26.

The socket member includes means for permanently securing it to an end portion of the strip 12. The strip is provided at each end portion with an aperture 18 (Figure 6), and the socket member shown by Figure 5, includes an inner bushing 19, having a flange 20, and an outer bushing 21, having a flange 22.

In assembling the parts of the socket member shown by Figure 5, the bushing 19, which is originally of uniform diameter, is passed through the aperture 18, and is then expanded against the bushing 21, which is tapered and interlocked, as usual with the socket member head 17^a. The apertured portion of the strip is thus securely and inseparably attached to the socket member.

In assembling the parts of the socket member shown by Figure 8, the cup 25, which is originally of uniform diameter from end to end, is inserted in the aperture 18, and in an aperture in a hollow head 17^b, and is expanded within the head, so that it is confined in the head, its flange 26 being caused to confine the strip 12 against the inner side of the head.

The stud and socket members constitute an inexpensive and efficient means for connecting the cups with the strip, said members being standard articles of manufacture and easily applied to the cups and the strip.

The casing *a* and tray *b* of the match-box may be of paper, metal, or any other suitable material or materials.

It will be seen that the offset end portions of the strip 12, are adapted to bear on opposite end portions of the casing *a*, as shown by Figure 1, and thereby prevent endwise movement of the casing with the tray.

It will also be seen that the means securing the cups to the offset end portions of the strip, are outside the path in which the tray is slidable, so that the tray is movable endwise, without interference with the offset end portions and the securing means.

I claim:

A match-box holder comprising a thin metal strip including a straight central portion, corresponding in length to the length of the casing which receives the slidable tray of a match-box, and adapted to be interposed between adjacent walls of the casing and tray, and end portions offset from the central portion; a pair of suction cups, adapted to be engaged with a flat support; and means securing said cups to the offset end portions of the strip, the offset portions being adapted to bear on opposite end portions of the casing, and thereby prevent endwise movement of the latter with the tray, the cups and the securing means being outside the path in which the tray is slidable, so that the tray is movable endwise, without interference with the said offset end portions and securing means.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

ELLIOTT M. STORY.