L. M. & J. P. JENNINGS.

MATCH BOX.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 7, 1914.

1,110,693. Patented Sept. 15, 1914.

Fig. 1.

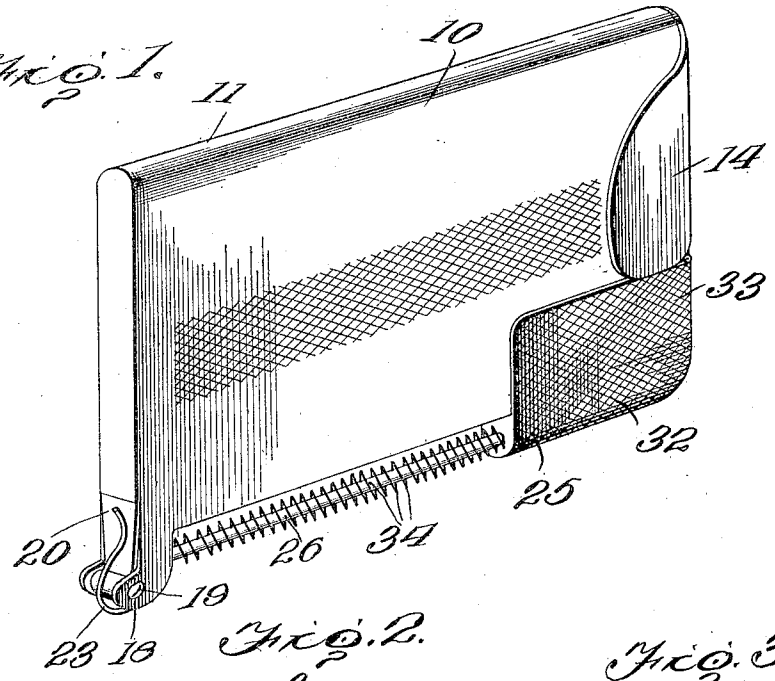


Fig. 2.

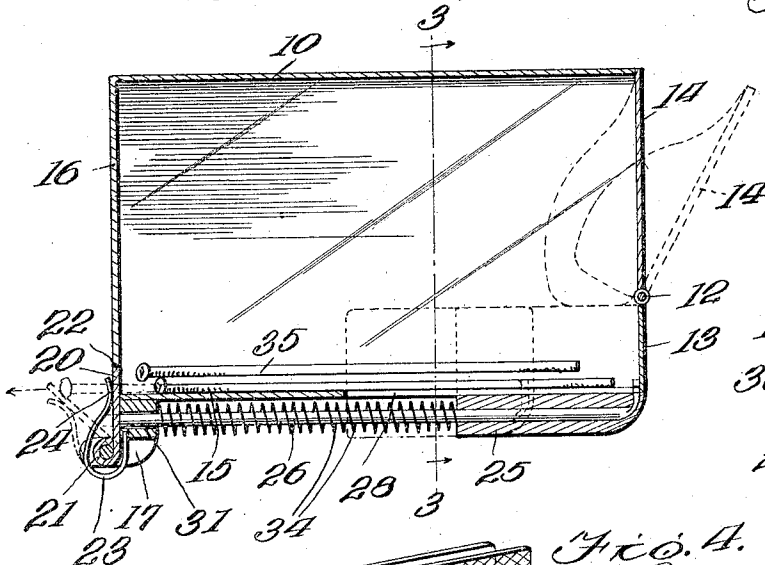


Fig. 3.

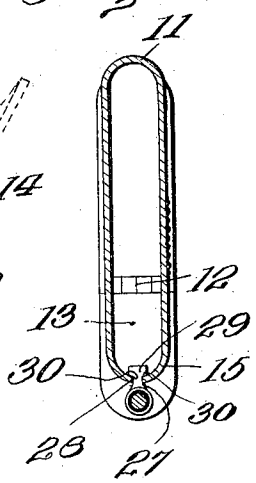
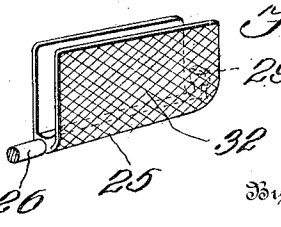


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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MATCH-BOX.

1,110,693. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 15, 1914.

Application filed February 7, 1914. Serial No. 817,303.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LUTHER M. JENNINGS and JOHN P. JENNINGS, citizens of the United States, residing at Star, in the county of Carroll and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to match boxes and more particularly to the class of such devices designed to be carried in the pocket.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a match box of the above described character such as may be operated to deliver a single match at a time and wherein the box will be automatically closed upon the extraction of each match.

The invention has as a further object to provide a single delivery match box wherein one extremity of the match may be projected exteriorly of the box and held in such position pending the complete removal of the match, thus preventing accidental loss of the match upon its delivery from the box. And still a further object of this invention is to generally improve the construction and increase the efficiency of devices of the above described character.

With these and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and then specifically pointed out in the claims which are attached to and form a part of this application.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a slightly enlarged perspective view of our improved match box especially showing the plunger for delivering the matches from the box and the spring pressed closure plate for the delivery opening. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view showing the plunger in normal position Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, showing the foot formed at one extremity of the ejector, said foot being provided with shoulders engaging against the inner face of one edge of the box, and Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of the ejector showing the operating sleeve carried thereby and the match ejecting foot formed on the ejector.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

In the drawings wherein we have illustrated the preferred embodiment of our invention, the improved match box includes a casing 10 preferably formed of suitable sheet metal. Said casing may be of any desired thickness but is preferably made relatively thin, as shown, so as not to bulge the pocket, and is formed with curved edges 11. The width of the box may be varied as desired to increase its capacity and will be of sufficient length to receive the ordinary match. Hingedly connected at 12 to one end 13 of the casing is a cover 14, said cover normally closing the match receiving opening in the casing 10.

Formed at one extremity of the edge portion 15 adjacent one end 16 of the casing 10 is a lateral extension 17, said extension terminating in longitudinally disposed spaced ears 18 designed to hingedly support upon a pintle 19, a cover plate 20. One extremity of said plate is bent about the pintle 19 as shown at 21, the free extremity thereof bearing against the end of the edge portion 15 and closing, in normal position, the delivery opening 22 formed in the end portion 16 adjacent the extension 17. A spring 23 is seated by one extremity in the extension 17, the intermediate portion of the spring being bent to extend above the pintle 19 and bearing by its free extremity 24 against the cover plate 20, normally tending to hold said plate in closed position.

Slidably mounted upon the casing 10 exteriorly of the edge portion 15 is a spring pressed ejector 25. Said ejector includes a stem 26 of a length to be received between the end portions of the casing 10, and has formed thereon at one extremity a foot 27. Said foot is slidably mounted in a longitudinally extending slot 28 formed in the edge portion 15, the free extremity 29 of the foot extending within the casing a sufficient distance to engage the end of a match and being laterally enlarged to provide shoulders 30 which bear against the inner face of the edge portion 15 thus connecting the stem to the casing 10. The opposite extremity of the stem 26 is mounted to slide freely through a longitudinally extending bore 31 formed in the extension 17 adjacent the upstanding ears 18. The extension 17 thus forms a guide for the free extremity of the stem.

Secured to the stem 26 adjacent the foot 27 and mounted to slide freely upon the casing 10 is an operating sleeve 32, said

sleeve bearing against the outer face of the edge portion 15, with its side flanges 33 contacting with the side walls of the casing 10. Mounted upon the stem 26 intermediate the extension 17 and the inner extremity of the sleeve 32 is a helical spring 34, said spring normally acting to hold the ejector 25 with its foot 27 spaced from the delivery opening 22 formed in the end portion 16 of the casing 10.

From the foregoing description, the operation of our improved match box will be obvious. By raising the cover 14, matches may be introduced into the casing 10. To extract a match from the box, the casing is held so that the matches will lie against the edge portion 15 as best shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, matches being conventionally shown at 35. The ejector 25 is then operated against the tension of the spring 34 by grasping the operating sleeve 32, causing the foot 27 to engage against one extremity of the match forcing the opposite extremity thereof through the delivery opening 22. It is to be noted that as the ejector 25 is moved, the free extremity of the stem 26 sliding through the bore 31 formed in the extension 17 will engage the cover plate 20 to force said plate outwardly against the tension of the spring 23, thus permitting the match to slide freely through the delivery opening 22. It is to be further noted, however, that upon releasing the ejector 25 the free extremity of the cover plate 20 will be forced by the spring 23 into engagement with the extremity of the match thus partly ejected from the casing 10. This is an especial feature of advantage in our invention in that it firmly holds each match, after being partly ejected from the casing 10 to prevent the accidental loss of the matches.

Owing to the length of the foot 27 and the size of the delivery opening 22 only one match will be projected from the casing 10 upon a single operation of the ejector 25. To facilitate the operation of the ejector, the flanges 33 of the sleeve 32 may be knurled, as shown.

It will therefore be seen that we provide a very simple and efficient structure for the purpose set forth, and such as may be readily manufactured.

What is claimed as new is:

1. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, a shiftable ejector mounted upon the casing and adapted to engage one at a time matches contained within the casing to project said matches through the delivery opening, said ejector including a stem arranged exteriorly of the casing, and a closure for the delivery opening, said closure being disconnected from the stem and shiftable to open position thereby as the ejector is actuated.

2. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, a lateral extension formed on the casing adjacent the delivery opening, said extension terminating in spaced upstanding ears, a cover plate mounted on the extension and pivotally supported intermediate said ears, a spring carried by the extension and engaging said cover plate, said plate being normally adapted to close the delivery opening and a shiftable ejector mounted upon the casing, said ejector including a stem shiftable to engage the cover plate and adapted to move the cover plate to open position as the ejector is actuated.

3. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, an extension formed on the casing adjacent the delivery opening, a cover plate pivotally mounted upon the extension and normally adapted to close the delivery opening, and an ejector slidably mounted upon the casing, with its free extremity extending through the extension and arranged to move the cover plate to open position as the ejector is actuated, the extension forming a guide for the adjacent extremity of the ejector.

4. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening and slotted to receive an ejector, a spring pressed closure for the delivery opening and an ejector slidably mounted upon the casing and adapted to move the closure to open position as the ejector is actuated, said ejector including a stem formed with a foot extending through the slot within the casing, said foot having shoulders formed thereon adapted to engage against the inner face of the casing and an operating sleeve mounted upon the stem.

5. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, an extension formed on the casing adjacent said opening, a spring pressed cover plate pivotally mounted on the extension and normally adapted to close the delivery opening, an ejector slidably mounted upon the casing, said ejector including a stem adapted to move the cover plate to open position upon the actuation of the ejector and an operating sleeve, and a spring mounted upon the stem intermediate the extension and the sleeve, said spring acting to hold the ejector in normal position.

6. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, a resiliently actuated closure for said opening, a shiftable ejector mounted upon the casing, said ejector including a stem disconnected from the closure and arranged exteriorly of the casing, said stem being shiftable to move the closure to open position as the ejector is actuated and resilient means for maintaining the ejector in normal position.

7. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, a spring-pressed closure for said opening, a spring- pressed ejector slidably mounted upon the casing, said ejector including a stem arranged exteriorly of the casing and adapted to move the closure to open position as the ejector is actuated, and an operating sleeve mounted upon said stem and arranged to embrace the adjacent edge of the casing.

8. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, an extension formed on said casing and providing a guide, a closure for the delivery opening mounted upon said extension, and a shiftable ejector mounted upon the casing, said ejector including a stem arranged for movement in said guide and adapted to move the closure to open position as the ejector is actuated.

9. A device of the character described including a casing formed with a delivery opening, a closure for said opening, and a shiftable ejector mounted upon the casing and adapted to move said closure to open position as the ejector is actuated, said ejector including a foot extending within the casing, and a stem arranged exteriorly of the casing.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

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JOHN P. JENNINGS.

Witnesses:
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J. DALTON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."