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DISPENSER FOR BOOK MATCHES

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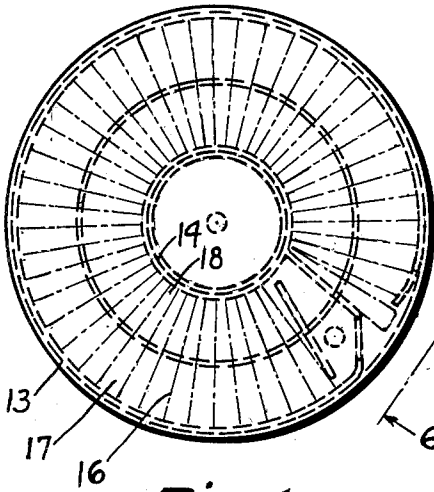


Fig. 1.

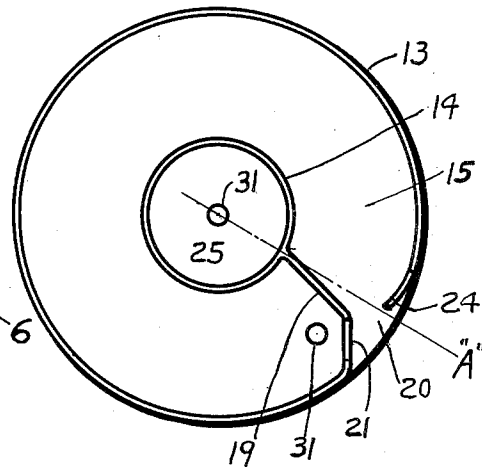


Fig. 3.

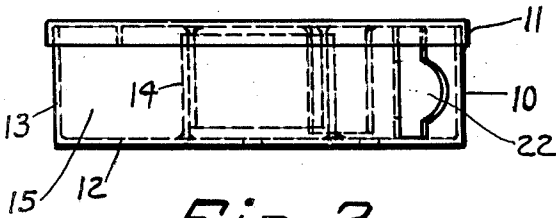


Fig. 2.

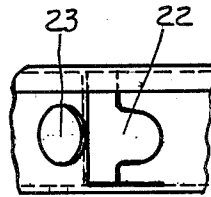


Fig. 6.

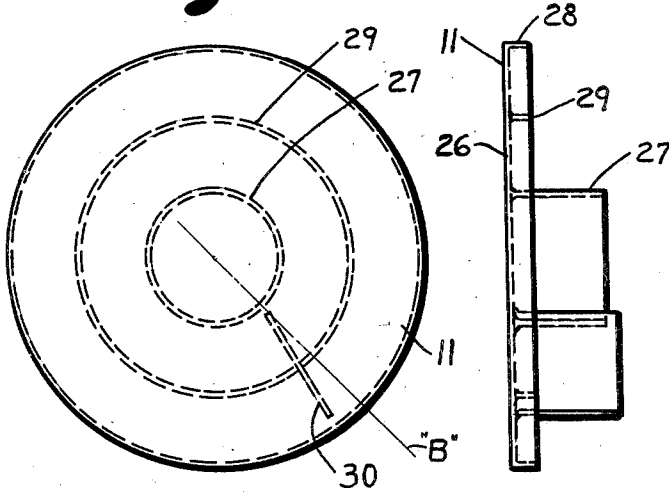


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

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DISPENSER FOR BOOK MATCHES

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4 Claims. (Cl. 312-42)

1

This invention relates to improvements in devices for housing a quantity of conventional so-called book matches and affording means to permit the books to be manually dispensed therefrom.

The main object of the invention is to provide an effective device that is simple in construction and one that has a minimum of parts each of which can be entirely molded of plastic material, glass, or like material, without any further construction or finishing requirement, and thereby afford a device that can be produced at a low cost.

Another object is to provide a device having a cavity of a form to meet the shape of the match books in a manner to receive the books on edge and all in the same related position so as to facilitate the loading of the device and to afford the dispensing of the books all in the same direction.

Another object is to provide a device having a simple means whereby the books of matches can be progressively advanced to a common position in the cavity where they may be manually dispensed therefrom one at a time.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved dispenser with books of matches shown intact by broken lines.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the dispenser.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the same with the cover removed.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the cover.

Figure 5 is a side view of the cover.

Figure 6 is a fragmental view taken from position 6-6, of Figure 1.

My improved dispenser comprises two parts, a receptacle 10, and a slip-on cover 11 therefor. Each part can be completely molded of plastic material, or glass, or the like, and there would be no further finishing required. Therefore, the dispenser would be relatively inexpensive to produce, once the molds are made, which is one objective of the invention.

The receptacle 10 comprises a generally circular base 12 having an outer and inner upstanding wall 13 and 14, respectively, forming an annular cavity 15 suitable to receive a quantity of conventional books of matches 16 on edge and with the thick end 17, thereof, positioned adjacent to the outer wall 13 and the thin end 18, where the striker is normally attached, adjacent to the inner wall 14.

The books of matches being tapered lend themselves to be housed in an annular cavity, such as 15, and to completely fill the cavity

2

around the inner wall 14, as well as around the outer wall 13, if the cavity is constructed of proper size. For example, the conventional match book is normally $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick at the striker end and $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick at the end that covers the tips of the matches, when filled, and the book is 2" long. Therefore, if the inside of the outer wall 13 is substantially 6" in diameter and the outside of the inner wall 14 is substantially 2" in diameter, the books would substantially fill the cavity 15 with the books taking segmental positions in the cavity.

If such dimensions could not be held, it would appear best from an operating standpoint that the cavity be constructed larger in diameter rather than smaller so that the books of matches will abut each other adjacent the outside wall rather than at the inside wall for reason that the pack of books can be moved more easily around the cavity by pressure exerted against them at the outside thereof because pressure applied at a greater distance from the center would be more effective. Furthermore, if pressure was applied against the pack at the inside wall the pressure would tend to force the books outwardly against the outer wall and effect undue friction with the wall.

There is a baffle 19 bridging cavity 15 and an opening 20 in the outer wall 13, adjacent to the said baffle, through which the books of matches may be dispensed. Baffle 19 is generally inclined ahead of a line A drawn radial to the constructive center of cavity 15 so that the advancing books of matches will tend to slide out through opening 20 for easy grasping when pressure is applied back of the pack of books. The outer end portion 21 of baffle 19 is inclined considerably more than the main portion to afford space for a person's finger or thumb when dispensing the books of matches from the opening 20. Furthermore, additional openings 22 and 23 are generally provided in wall 13 on each side of baffle 19, respectively, to afford further space for a person's finger or thumb when grasping a book of matches.

The free end 24 of wall 13, adjacent to opening 20, is generally curved slightly inwardly to require the books of matches to be sprung past the same in order to become positioned opposite the dispensing opening 20. This insures against the forward book of matches from inadvertently dropping from the cavity when the dispenser is mounted onto a wall.

A bore 25 is provided in receptacle 10 at the constructive center of cavity 15 to slidably re-

3

ceive a sleeve portion 27 of cover 11. Sleeve portion 27 is constructed long, relative to the depth of cover 11, so as to provide substantial support for said cover on receptacle 10.

Cover 11 comprises a plate 26 with the relatively long described sleeve portion 27 positioned at the center thereof and a relatively narrow outer rim 28 to slidably fit down over the outside of receptacle 10 and thereby retain the outer wall 13 intact. An intermediate ring portion 29 is provided on cover 11, generally in central relation to cavity 15, for the purpose of retaining the books of matches within the cavity 15 and prevent the same from moving up inside of the cover, as they are progressed around the cavity 15, which would bring them out of position for dispensing through the opening 20.

A blade, or baffle, 30 is provided on cover 11 and is disposed to extend down into cavity 15. The cover 11 is normally positioned onto the receptacle to position the said baffle at the opposite end of the pack of book matches from that of the baffle 19 to secure the pack between the baffles. Then when cover 11 is rotated in the proper direction on receptacle 10, which is clockwise in Figure 1, pressure will be applied behind the pack by baffle 30 which will cause the pack to move around in the cavity to abut baffle 19 which will position the forward book in position to be dispensed through the opening 20.

After a book of matches has been dispensed through opening 20 and another book is desired, the cover 11 can be rotated sufficiently to cause the pack of books to advance in the cavity to bring the next book in position for dispensement. The baffles will confine the books and hold them in an upright position in the cavity at all times and thereby prevent them from toppling over as the pack is reduced in volume.

It is preferable, although not absolutely essential, that baffle 30 be inclined ahead of a line B drawn radial with the constructive center of the cavity 15 so that the bulk of the pressure exerted by baffle 30 will be applied, on the pack of matches, adjacent the outside wall 13 of cavity 30, for reasons set forth hereinbefore.

Generally a plurality of holes 31 are provided in base 12 to receive mounting screws in instances wherein it is desired to mount the dispenser onto a wall, or like position.

Inasmuch as the books of matches are all positioned in the cavity in the same related position, the loading of the cavity could be accomplished more readily than if the books were required to be loaded alternately end to end as would be required in a straight line container assembly. Also, the books will all be dispensed with the large end first to afford easy grasping of each book as it is dispensed.

I do not wish to be confined to the exact details of construction or materials set forth as the same are susceptible of modification within the spirit and scope of the claims to follow. For example, either the sleeve portion 27 or the rim portion 28, of cover 11, could be omitted, also the dispenser could be constructed of metallic material.

I claim:

1. A dispenser for book matches comprising a receptacle and a slip-on cover therefor, said receptacle comprising a base plate having an outer and inner wall disposed substantially perpendicular thereto and forming an annular cavity therebetween, said cavity being suitable to receive a plurality of books of matches on edge, a baffle

4

connecting the said outer and inner walls and bridging the said cavity, a relatively narrow vertical opening in the said outer wall adjacent to the said baffle to permit manual dispensing of the books of matches therethrough one at a time, a finger clearance opening through the outer wall of the receptacle connecting to the first said opening and on the opposite side thereof to the said baffle, a finger clearance opening in the said baffle, said finger clearance openings being disposed in cooperative relationship to facilitate manual dispensing of books of matches through the first said opening, said cover comprising a plate having an outer wall disposed to cooperate with the said outer wall of the said receptacle and thereby effect positioning of the cover on the said receptacle, a baffle on said cover and disposed to extend down into the cavity of said receptacle to contact any books of matches that may be housed therein and move the same around in the said cavity upon a rotatable movement of the said cover on the said receptacle.

2. A dispenser for book matches comprising a receptacle and a slip-on cover therefor, the receptacle being such as to house a quantity of books of matches on edge and in an annular form, a vertically disposed baffle in said receptacle and on said cover, the baffle in said receptacle being disposed to contact one end of any said housed quantity of books of matches and the baffle on said cover being disposed to contact the other end of the same, both said baffles cooperating to effect control of the movement of said matches around the receptacle to cooperate with the dispensing thereof upon a manual rotatable movement of the cover on the receptacle, a slot in the side of said receptacle adjacent the baffle therein and intermediate the both said baffles to permit dispensing of the books of matches therefrom, the baffle on said cover being vertical and angularly disposed so that the outer end of said baffle is forward of the inner end thereof with respect to a line radial with the constructive center of any said housed books of matches in the receptacle relative to the movement of the books of matches around the receptacle upon a rotative movement of the cover.

3. A dispenser for book matches comprising a receptacle and a slip-on cover therefor, said receptacle comprising a base plate having an outer and inner wall disposed substantially perpendicular thereto to form an annular cavity therebetween, said cavity being suitable to receive a plurality of books of matches on edge with the normal thick end thereof adjacent to the outer wall, a baffle connecting the said outer and inner walls and bridging the said cavity, and opening in the said outer wall adjacent said baffle, the end of the outer wall on the opposite side of said opening to said baffle being curved inwardly, a finger clearance opening through the outer wall of the receptacle connecting the first said opening and being disposed on the opposite side thereof to the said baffle, a finger clearance opening in the said baffle, said finger clearance openings cooperating to facilitate manual dispensing of books of matches through the first said opening, said cover comprising a plate having an outer wall disposed to extend partially down over the outside of said receptacle, a baffle on said plate disposed to extend down into the cavity of said receptacle to contact the books of matches and move the same therearound upon a rotatable movement of the said cover on the receptacle, projections on the said cover extending down

5

into the receptacle sufficiently to prevent the books of matches from entering the area bounded by the outer wall of the cover.

4. A dispenser for book matches as described in claim 3, with both the said baffles being vertical and angularly disposed with respect to a line radial with the constructive center of the said cavity.

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