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MATCH BOOK PACKAGE

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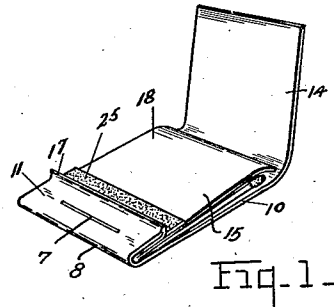
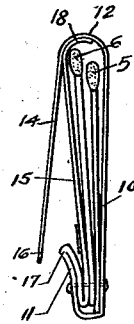


Fig. 2 -

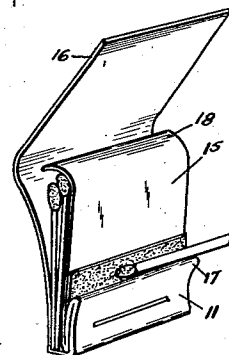


Fig. 3 -

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MATCH-BOOK PACKAGE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 206—29)

This invention relates to an improvement in a package of matches of the form generally known as vest pocket or book type matches holder which is usually constructed of paper or cardboard or other suitable material, and has for its object to provide a package which shall be so constructed that the possibility of accident by reason of the package becoming accidentally ignited is avoided.

It is known that the majority of persons using this kind of a holder where the striker surface is on the turned over end of the folder, usually open the folding holder, detach a match, and before closing the cover strike the match on said striker surface and quite often, especially where the person is inattentive, possibly attention being attracted in other directions, the lighted match travels in a mis-guided direction close to the heads of the adjacent matches and the entire package becomes ignited from the flame of the lighted match; therefore it is the purpose of the present invention to provide a positive match striking guide and avoid this type of accident.

Many schemes have been proposed for the modification of the ordinary type of book-match package so that the ignitable heads of the match pack are protected from the flame or sparks of a match which is not guided while being ignited. All such schemes with which I am familiar, are subject to one or more objections, among which are that they are complicated, difficult to manipulate, expensive to manufacture and require changes in the machines now employed in the production of the matches.

One feature of my present invention is to provide a match package with a simple flame guard or auxiliary cover for the matches which obviates the necessity of refolding the outside cover flap before the act of striking the match on the striker surface, said guard extending beneath the narrow retaining fold of the package, said guard having abrasive material applied thereon and adjacent the upper edge of said retaining fold, said fold being turned outwardly to receive the free end of the cover flap and also to provide a positive guide for the head of the detached match while being ignited by drawing the same across said striker surface.

As an important feature of the present invention is to provide a book-match package in which a flame guard or flap is provided besides the cover and which is secured adjacent the lower end portion of the match combs in said package so as to extend upward therefrom in such a manner that the free end portion of the

flap lies upon or over the ignitable heads at all times except when a match is being extracted, the flap carrying a striking surface, with a positive match striking guide adjacent thereto, all of which cannot be effectively used for match striking operations except when the flap is in a shielding position over the heads of the remaining matches.

And another feature of the present invention, the safety or protection flame guard is so formed and mounted that the striking surface on said guard is necessarily and certainly concealed and protected by the cover of the book-match package when said book is in a closed position. Thus, this surface is not damaged by moisture resulting from perspiration or other causes, and not ruined by contact with other objects within a pocket or elsewhere in which said book-match package is carried.

These and other features and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the several views, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of a form of book-match package embodying my invention, the entire folder and flame guard being formed of one piece of paper or other suitable material.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the match package shown in Figure 1, the cover in semi-open position.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the book-match package, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, now being shown in match striking position.

Referring to the drawing, a match-book comprising the usual comb or combs of paste board or cardboard individually severable or removable matches 5 and 6 are shown, two combs of which are usually superposed as specifically shown in Figure 2, as well as the other views in this application, the unslit base portion of the comb of matches being suitably attached as by a wire staple 7 to the lower folded edge portion 8 of said book. As shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, the cover is constructed of a back portion 10, a lower retaining tab 11, an upper portion 12, a front flap 14 and a flame protective flap 15. The lower edge or free end 16 of flap 14 is usually tucked behind the upper edge 17 of the retaining tab 11 when the package is in closed position. The flame guard flap 15 is usually sufficiently long to extend beyond the ends of the matches, being preferably curved at the free end thereof as indicated at 18, so as to more effectively protect

the heads when the cover flap is open and also aid the flexing or closing of the latter about the free end of the flame guard itself. The guard 15 carries at its secured end, juxtaposed the upper edge 17 of retaining flap 11, a coating or strip of abrasive material presenting an ignition striking surface 25, said surface being on the side which is facing upwardly when the flap 15 is covering the matches. When the abrasive material is on a separate strip, the latter may be secured to the flap 15 by any suitable means such as adhesive, and preferably without staples, so that said strip will present an unobstructed striking surface, as it is desired that the head of the match, while being ignited by drawing same across said striking surface, will be positively guided only by the upper edge 17 and will not encounter any other obstructions.

From the drawing illustrating my invention and from the above objects and description, it is thought that the operation and advantages of my invention will be apparent without undue description. Briefly the cover 14 is opened in the usual manner as shown in Fig. 1, and in doing so the flap 15 will remain to protect the matches there enclosed, said flap can be easily swung outwardly to the position shown in Fig. 3, when desired. For instance, the package may be gripped between the thumb and fingers of one hand, said guard 15 held outwardly by one of said fingers and in this manner will not interfere with the withdrawal of a match from said match comb by the thumb and index finger of the other hand. Due to the inherent resiliency of said guard, it will snap back into normal position guarding said matches when allowed to do the same. In order to strike a match on the abrasive strip 25 said withdrawn match can be drawn or pushed across the strip 25, and by exerting a slight pressure downwardly with said match against the upper edge 17 of strip 11, said edge acts as a positive guide, thereby minimizing the possibility of accidentally drawing said ignited match close to the heads of the matches remaining in said package, thus preventing accidentally igniting said match heads. Thus, by providing a match guide, for example the edge as indicated by numeral 17, and also providing the striking surface 25 where it cannot be used until the remaining matches are shielded by a flap or the like, protection against accidental ignition of the heads of the remaining matches is assured.

After the withdrawn match is ignited by one of the methods as shown in Fig. 3 the cover may be closed by tucking the free end 16 thereof behind the upper edge 17 and upper portion of retainer flap 11. In this closed position, the abrasive surface 25 will be enclosed within the package, thereby being protected from atmospheric moisture, or moisture resulting from any other cause such as body perspiration which would damage said surface. Said cover will also protect said abrasive surface from damage by it coming in contact with other articles as found in the ordinary pocket or car compartment.

Furthermore, when said folder and flame guard are desired to be formed from a single piece of material as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, the lower end of said back portion 10 is folded around the lower edge portion 8 of said package and upwardly forming retainer flap 11 and a match guide 17, it is then folded downwardly forming a reinforcing member for said member 11, and then folded upwardly forming the flame guard flap 15.

By using the above types of construction, these match-book packages may contain a maximum amount of advertising or other forms of printed publicity matter, and in addition, the package will embody an element of novelty and mechanical appeal which will stimulate the curiosity of the user and advertiser, and also compel the safety leagues or departments of all States in the United States to suggest the use of the same.

By means of my invention I have also provided a device whereby such matches as are usually carried in paper or cardboard packages and are usually of such frail stem construction as to be easily destroyed by breaking the stem when the package is within a pocket or the like, this construction provides suitable reinforcing members and suitable protection.

Various changes may be made in the construction of my device without departing from the spirit of my invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

What I claim is:

1. A book match package having in combination, combs of matches; a cover comprising a single strip of material with an intermediate portion passing in back of the matches; a short stub section of said cover folded over upon itself in front of the supporting ends of the matches and secured thereto to form a retaining tab; an end portion adjacent said stub section extending upwardly and over the match heads to form an inner cover to protect the ignitable heads from sparks and from coming in contact with movable sections, said portion also having an abrasive section formed on its outer surface adjacent its fixed end thereof; the other free end of said strip of material extending upwardly behind said matches and over the match heads and down in front thereof to form a front flap and arranged to have its lower end inserted behind said tab when in closed position; said retaining tab having its folded edge portion arranged to form with said abrasive striking section a guide shoulder lengthwise of said striking section secured adjacent thereto when outer cover is in open position.

2. A book match package having in combination, a comb of matches; a cover comprising a single strip of material with an intermediate portion passing in back of the matches; a short tab section of said cover folded over upon itself in front of the supporting ends of the matches and secured thereto to form a retaining tab; an end portion adjacent said tab section extending upwardly and over the match heads to form an inner protective cover and having a striking section formed on its outer surface adjacent the fixed end thereof; the other free end of said strip of material extending upwardly behind said matches and over the match heads and down in front thereof to form a front flap and arranged to have its lower end inserted behind said tab when in closed position; said retaining tab having its folded edge portion arranged to form with said striking section a guide shoulder lengthwise of said striking section and secured adjacent thereto by a metallic member having a plurality of means arranged to prevent vertical displacement of said inner cover when used in conjunction with said guide when said outer cover is in open position, said folded edge or guide shoulder being at a higher level than the lower edge of said striking section but not in contact with each other.

3. A folding book-match package with combs of matches secured with their heads at different

levels having a match enclosing wrapper made of a single piece of material and composed in series of a flame protective member portion, retaining flap portion, a lower end portion, a back portion, a top end portion and a hinged front cover portion, combs of matches consisting of a plurality of severable matches having ignitable heads and unseverable butt ends secured between the base of said protective member and said back portion, said flame-protective member having its upper end extending freely upwards and curving

over said match heads arranged in rows to protect the higher level row from contacting the front cover portion, the lower portion of said flame member provided with abrasive match striking material, the upper end of the retainer flap portion being rolled and flared outwardly forming a match striking guide when a match is scratched on the abrasive material on said protective member when the cover is in open position.

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