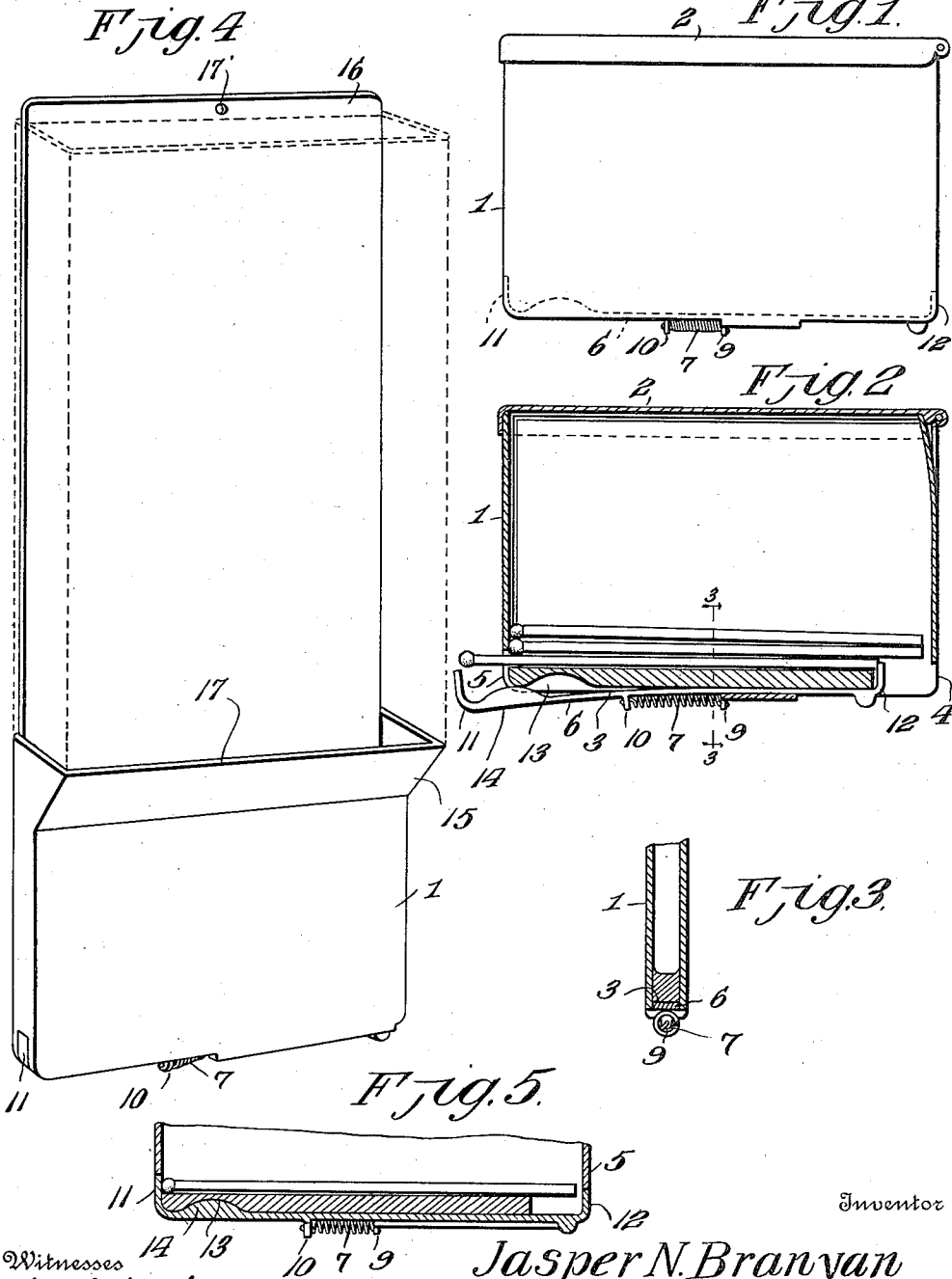


J. N. BRANYAN.
MATCH BOX.
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1,024,392.

Patented Apr. 23, 1912.



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MATCH-BOX.

1,024,392.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JASPER N. BRANYAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Blue Springs, in the county of Union and State of Mississippi, have invented new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to match boxes and more particularly to pocket match boxes, and the object of the invention is the provision of a simple and convenient box which will deliver one match at a time.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a device of this character which may be attached to the ordinary match boxes or carton so as to dispense a single match at a time therefrom.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the following specific description is read in connection with the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this application, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device shown connected to the ordinary match carton. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of the device showing the casing broken away, the plunger being in retracted position.

Referring more particularly to the drawing 1 represents a casing having a width slightly greater than the thickness of the ordinary match and having a length to accommodate the matches and a height to accommodate approximately one and one-half dozen matches. This construction makes a very thin case which will take up little room in the pocket and which may be constructed very cheaply. The casing is provided with a hinged top 2 which may be either spring pressed into position or held closed in any other suitable manner. The bottom of the casing is provided with an elongated slot 3 and a vertical slot 4 adjoining the same at one corner of the device, the opposite corner is provided with a slot 5 in its vertical side.

Slidably mounted on the bottom of the casing is a match ejecting plunger 6 which is normally thrown so as to eject a match by means of a spring 7 which is connected to a lug 9 projecting from the bottom of the casing. The plunger is provided with a binding thumb piece 10 which extends

through the slot 3 so that the plunger may be retracted against the tension of the spring 7 and thereby thrown to a position where it will receive a match from the casing. At the forward end of the plunger a guard 11 is formed at right angles to the longitudinal line of the plunger and said guard is adapted to close the opening 5 when the plunger is retracted, so as to prevent the loss of matches. The opposite end of the plunger is also provided with a lateral extension 12 which lies in the aperture 4 when the plunger is retracted and is adapted to engage behind the end of the match so that when the plunger is released the match will be moved with the plunger and projected through the opening 5 which is of sufficient size to permit the passage of one match at a time.

The bottom of the casing is slightly depressed so as to form a cam edge 13 arranged adjacent its forward edge and the plunger 6 is provided with a cam projection 14 adapted to ride over said cam face 13 when the plunger is projected so as to depress the guard 11, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, whereby the match may be readily removed after being partially projected without any interference on the part of the guard, the guard being thrown downwardly out of line with the line of projection of the match, the cam projection on the plunger also serves to engage the corresponding recess in the casing when the plunger is in a retracted position so as to lock the plunger in this position.

In the modification shown in Fig. 4 the casing is provided with a hopper 15 at its upper end which communicates with the interior of the casing and with the interior of the ordinary match carton. Extending up from the hopper is a plate 16 which extends up into the carton and holds the same in upright position on the hopper, the lateral flange 17 preventing the carton from dropping down over the case. A suitable hole 17' may be made through the plate 16 by which the case and carton may be suspended.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is:—

1. A match box comprising a casing having a match dispensing opening therein, a spring projected plunger adapted to force a single match through said opening at each operation, means carried by the plunger for

closing said opening when the plunger is retracted, means to flex said plunger so that the closing means carried thereby will be thrown out of alinement with the opening
5 so as to allow the projection of a match therefrom, said means serving to lock the plunger in its retracted position.

2. A match box comprising a casing having a match dispensing opening therein adjacent its lower extremity, a spring operated
10 projecting plunger adapted to force a single match through said opening at each operation, means carried by the plunger for closing said opening when the plunger is retracted, means to flex said plunger so that
15 the closing means will be thrown out of the

path of projection of the match, said means serving to lock the plunger in its retracted position, the upper end of said casing being provided with a flaring opening adapted
20 to receive the open lower end of an ordinary match carton so as to admit of the feeding of matches into the casing, and means for retaining the carton in its applied position and for supporting the device as a whole. 25

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JASPER N. BRANYAN.

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