May 15, 1928. 1,670,258

F. J. HEKRDLE

MATCH BOX

Filed March 11, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

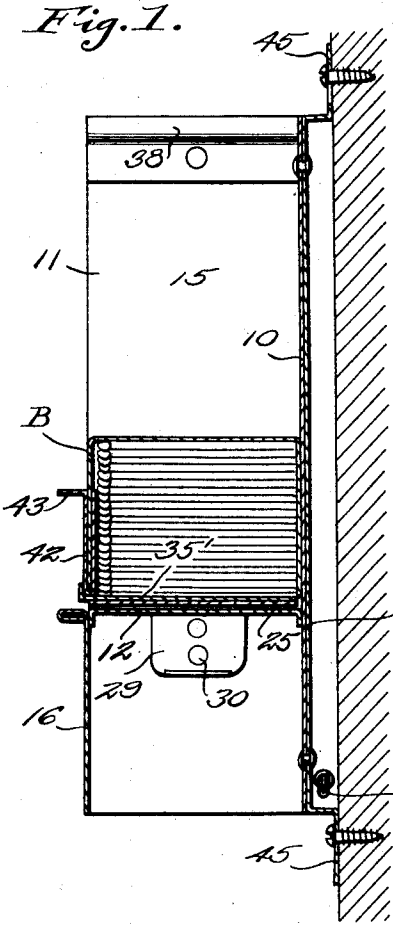



Fig. 2.

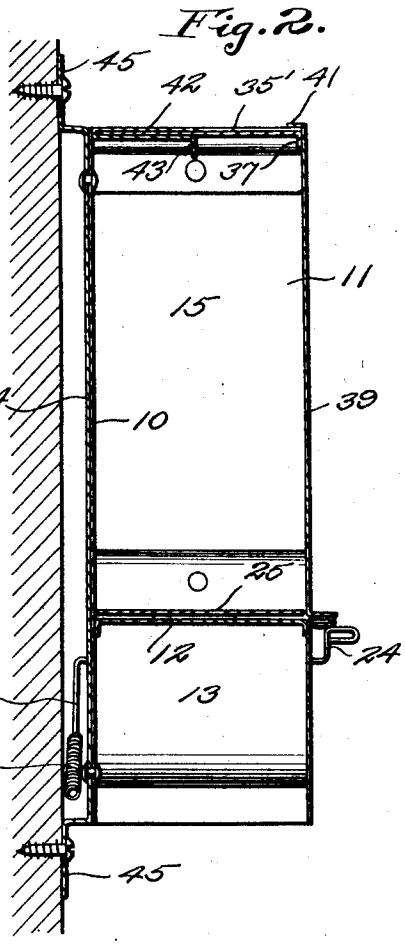
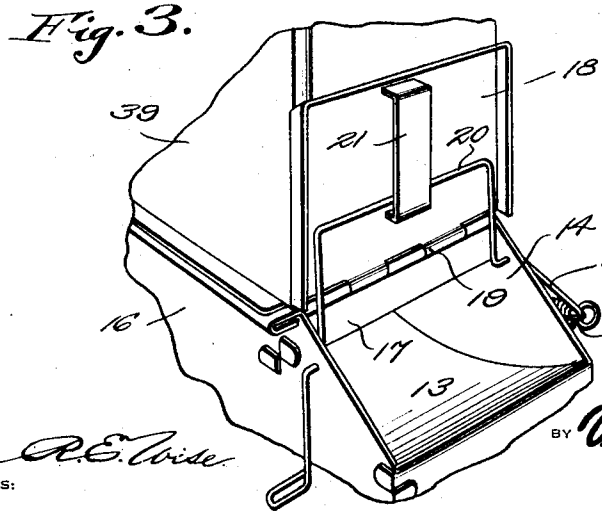



Fig. 3.




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Fig. 4.

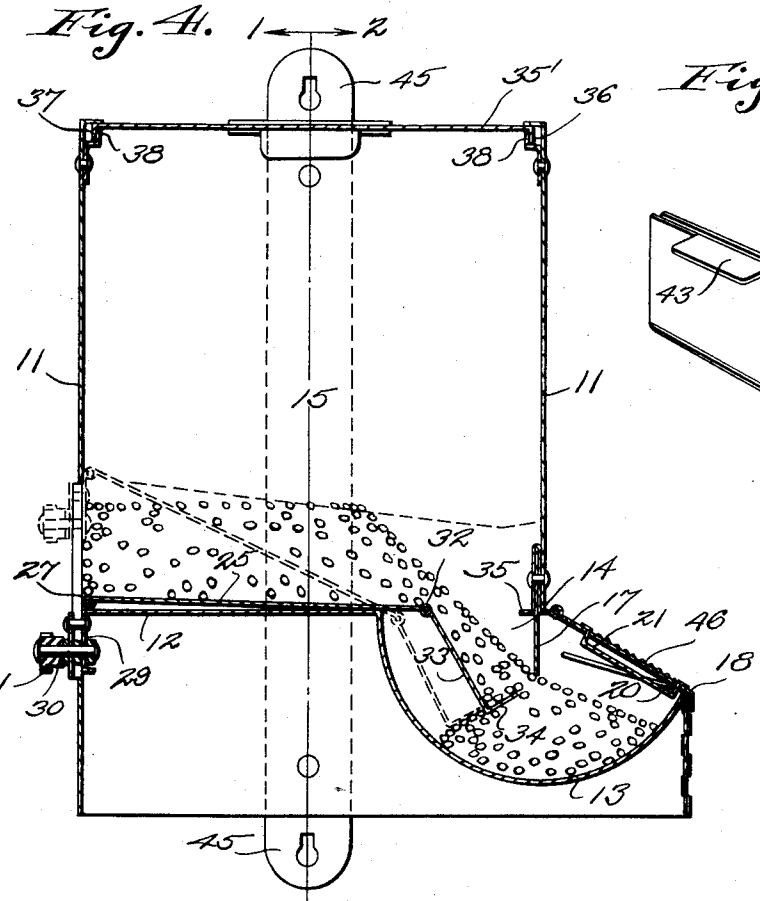



Fig. 6.

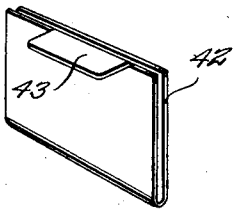
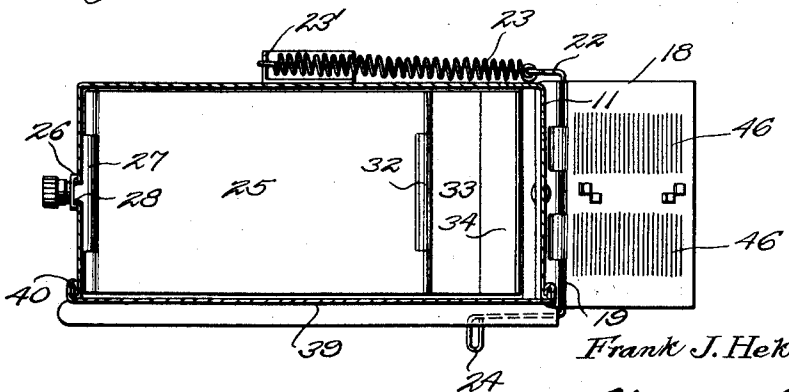



Fig. 5.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## MATCH BOX.

Application filed March 11, 1927. Serial No. 174,596.

This invention relates to match holders and is an improvement upon the holder disclosed in Patent No. 1,549,543, granted to me August 11, 1925.

An object of the present invention is to provide a holder from which matches may be delivered without danger of jamming and interfering with their convenient removal.

Another object of the invention is the provision of novel means for loading the holder, the tray employed for this operation also serving as a cover for the holder.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a metal holder which is normally closed to prevent rodents from reaching the matches and to eliminate danger of fire, novel means being provided for yieldingly maintaining the holder closed and for manually opening the same to remove matches.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further includes the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a section taken substantially on the line 1—1 of Figure 4 looking in the direction of the arrow.

Figure 2 is a similar view on the line 2—2 of Figure 4 looking in the direction of the arrow.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary view of the outer end of the chute with the cover open.

Figure 4 is a face view with the upper front wall section removed and the lower section also removed.

Figure 5 is a top view with the top wall removed.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the lifter which forms a part of the present invention.

Referring to the drawings in detail wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the improved holder is shown as comprising a casing which includes a back wall 10 and side walls 11, together with a bottom 12. This bottom has one edge secured to one of the side walls, while its opposite edge terminates short of the other side wall. Extending from the last mentioned edge of the bottom is a curved wall 13 which provides a chute 14, the inner end of the latter communicating with the match chamber 15. The bottom 12 is spaced upward from the lower edge of the casing and a lower front wall section 16 is permanently secured in place and forms one side of the chute 14. The chute extends outwardly beyond the adjacent side wall 11 so as to provide an outer discharge opening through which matches may be removed from the chute. A baffle plate 17 extends downwardly into the chute from the wall 11 and limits the number of matches deposited within the chute.

The outer open end of the chute is normally closed by a flanged closure 18 which is hingedly mounted as shown at 19. A substantially U-shaped member 20 bears against the under face of the closure 18 and operates within a loop 21 secured to the closure. The ends of the member 20 are journaled in the side walls of the chute 14 and one end of this member is provided with an arm 22. A spring 23 has one of its ends secured to the arm 22 and its other end attached to the casing as indicated at 23'. The other end of the U-shaped member 20 is provided with an operating handle 24. The action of the spring is to yieldingly hold the closure in position to close the mouth of the chute and the said closure may be opened against the action of the spring by manipulating the handle 24.

Located within the match chamber 15 is a plate 25 which has one of its ends hingedly secured to a transversely U-shaped slide 26, as shown at 27. The slide 26 has a sliding engagement with spaced guide flanges 28. In order to connect the plate 25 with the slide 26 there is provided a relatively small plate 29 which exends downwardly and is secured to the slide 26 by means of a bolt 30. This bolt is provided with a binding nut 31 which also serves as a handle. By loosening the nut 31, the slide 26 may be moved vertically and will carry with it the adjacent end of the plate 25. The opposite end of the plate 25 has hingedly secured thereto as shown at 32, a leaf 33 whose free end is provided with a baffle flange 34. The leaf 33 is designed to extend into the chute 14, or to be supported upon a flange 35 secured to the wall 11 at the inner end of the chute.

The casing is provided with a removable top wall 35. This wall is provided with flanges 36 and 37 which are arranged along three of its sides. The flanges 36 are adapted for sliding engagement with guide flanges 38 which extend inwardly from the walls 11,

so that the top wall 35 is removably held in place. By constructing the top wall in the manner shown and described, the same may be removed and inverted to form a tray, the purpose of which will be explained.

The container is provided with a removable upper front wall section 39 whose side edges have a sliding engagement with the edges of the side walls 11 as shown at 40 and with a flange 41 which extends along its upper edge to engage over the removable top wall 35. In Figure 6 there is illustrated what may be termed a lifter. This lifter comprises a substantially U-shaped plate 42 having a finger piece 43 extending from one edge.

When it is desired to fill the holder, the plate 25 is positioned with the free edge of the leaf 33 engaged on the flange 35. The front wall 39 and the top wall 35 are previously removed. The top wall 35 is arranged upon the top of an open match box with the flanges 36 and 37 positioned around the edges of the top of the box. The parts are then inverted so that the matches will rest in the tray thus provided by the top wall. Previous to placing the tray upon the open box, the lifter 42 is engaged over the edge of the box so that one side wall of the box will be arranged within the U-shaped plate with the finger piece 43 extending outward as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings. After the parts have been inverted, the tray is inserted within the match chamber through the open front thereof and the tray is slid outward. This leaves the matches supported by the plate 25 and the leaf 33. By taking hold of the finger piece, the match box indicated at B in Figure 1 of the drawings, may be lifted upward to leave the matches upon the plate. The hinged end of the plate may then be elevated so that the leaf 33 will fall downward into the chute 14, whereupon some of the matches will be deposited within the chute. The space betwen the lower edge of the baffle plate 17 and the flange 34 will restrict the passage of matches into the chute.

After the lifter 42 has been removed from the box and the holder has been filled, the said lifter may be engaged over the inner edge of the top wall 35 with the finger piece extending downwardly into the match chamber as shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. The lifter will thus always be convenient for use.

Secured along the back wall of the holder is a strap 44 whose opposite ends are provided with offset apertured ears 34, to provide convenient means for attaching the holder in position for use. This is clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings.

Having described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. A match holder comprising a casing, a bottom wall included in the casing and having one edge spaced from one wall of the casing, a chute extending from one edge of the bottom wall and having its inner end opening into the casing and its opposite outer end normally closed by a hinged cover, a plate movable vertically within the casing, a leaf hingedly secured to one edge of the plate and capable of being extended to close the inner end of the chute when the holder is being filled, a flange extending from the casing for engagement by the free end of the leaf to support the latter and means engaging the opposite edge of the plate to permit of the latter being adjusted vertically to arrange the plate at an incline with the leaf extending into the chute and direct the matches into said chute.

2. A match holder comprising a casing, a bottom wall included in the casing and having one edge spaced from one wall of the casing, a chute extending from one edge of the bottom wall and having its inner end opening into the casing and its opposite outer end normally closed by a hinged cover, a plate movable vertically within the casing, a leaf hingedly secured to one edge of the plate and capable of being extended to close the inner end of the chute when the holder is being filled, a flange extending from the casing for engagement by the free end of the leaf to support the latter, means engaging the opposite edge of the plate to permit of the latter being adjusted vertically to arrange the plate at an incline with the leaf extending into the chute and direct the matches into said chute and a baffle flange at the free edge of the leaf.

3. A match holder comprising a casing, a bottom wall included in the casing and having one edge spaced from one wall of the casing, a chute extending from one edge of the bottom wall and having its inner end opening into the casing and its opposite outer end normally closed by a hinged cover, a plate movable vertically within the casing, a leaf hingedly secured to one edge of the plate and capable of being extended to close the inner end of the chute when the holder is being filled, a flange extending from the casing for engagement by the free end of the leaf to support the latter, means engaging the opposite edge of the plate to permit of the latter being adjusted vertically to arrange the plate at an incline with the leaf extending into the chute and direct the matches into said chute, a removable top wall for the casing and means including flanges carried by the top wall for sliding engagement with the casing to removably hold the top wall in place and to provide a tray.

4. A match holder comprising a casing, a bottom wall included in the casing and having one edge spaced from one wall of the casing, a chute extending from one edge of

the bottom wall and having its inner end opening into the casing and its opposite outer end normally closed by a hinged cover, a plate movable vertically within the casing, a leaf hingedly secured to one edge of the plate and capable of being extended to close the inner end of the chute when the holder is being filled, a flange extending from the casing for engagement by the free end of the leaf to support the latter, means engaging the opposite edge of the plate to permit of the latter being adjusted vertically to arrange the plate at an incline with the leaf extending into the chute and direct the matches into said chute, a removable top wall for the casing, means including flanges carried by the top wall for sliding engagement with the casing to removably hold the top wall in place and to provide a tray and means normally engaged with the top wall for engagement with a match box to assist in removing the box from the container.

5. A match box holder having a discharge opening, a hingedly mounted closure therefor, a U-shaped member slidingly engaging the under face of the closure and having its opposite ends journaled upon opposite sides of the opening, a loop extending from the under face of the casing to receive the U-shaped member and provide a connection between said U-shaped member and closure, an arm extending from one end of the U-shaped member upon the outside of the casing, a spring connected to said arm to yieldingly hold the closure in position to close the discharge opening and an actuating handle extending from the other end of the U-shaped member.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK J. HEKRDLE.