No. 751,675. PATENTED FEB. 9, 1904.

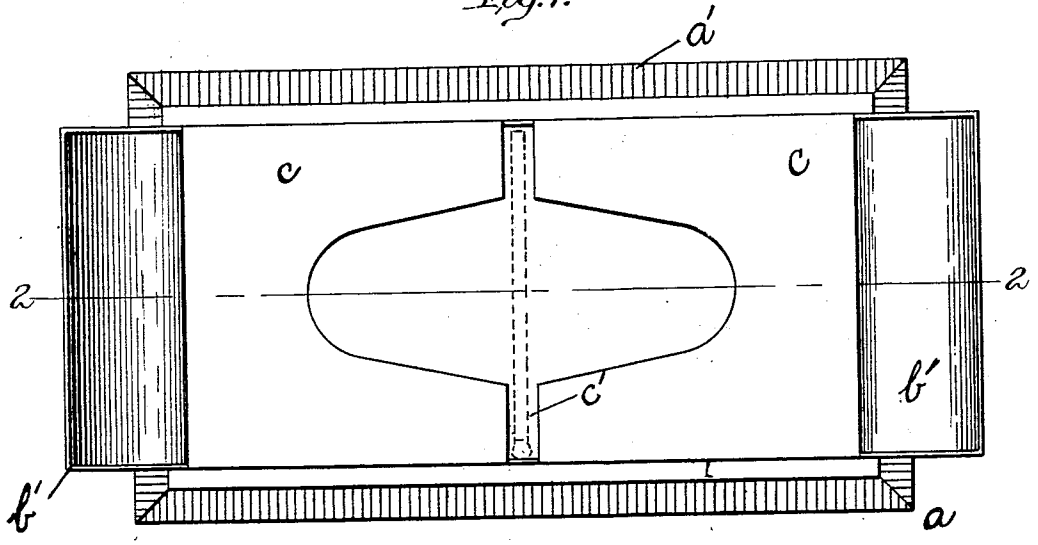
J. E. NEAHR.

RECEPTACLE FOR MATCHES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 19, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.



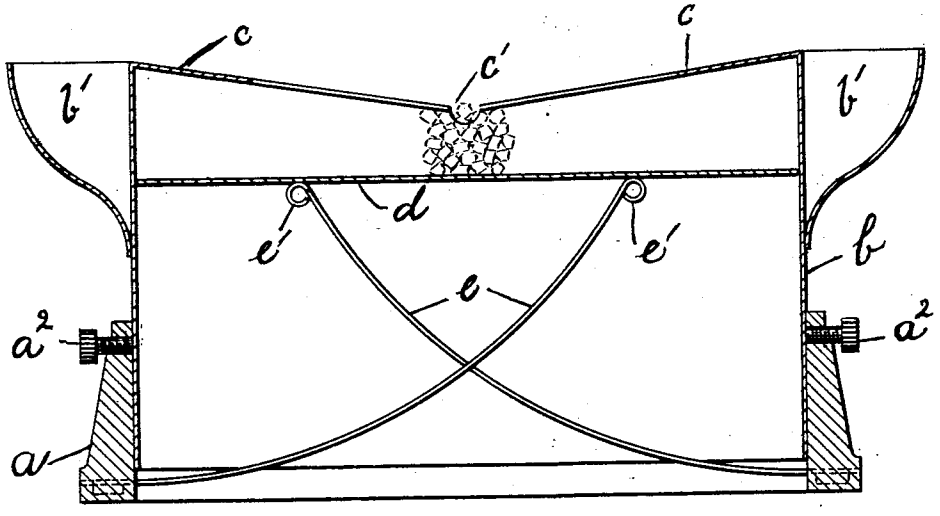


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:
Katharine A. Dugan.
Ira L. Fish

Inventor:
Jacob E. Neahr
by Geo. N. Goddard
Attorney.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 751,675. Patented February 9, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB E. NEAHR, OF MELROSE, MASSACHUSETTS.

RECEPTACLE FOR MATCHES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 751,675, dated February 9, 1904.

Application filed January 19, 1903. Serial No. 139,560. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB E. NEAHR, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Melrose, county of Middlesex, Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Receptacles for Matches and Like Articles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to match-receptacles, and is intended to provide a simple and efficient device so constructed and arranged as to permit the removal of but a single match at a time.

The invention consists in certain improvements in the construction and arrangement of a match-receptacle of this kind, which will be explained in the specification, and defined in the claims annexed hereto and forming part of said specification.

In the drawings I have shown one of the forms under which my invention may be embodied, although it will be understood that changes may be made in the details of construction herein shown and described.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the complete match-receptacle, and Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view illustrating the interior construction.

The form of match-receptacle herein shown is of rectangular shape, although, of course, it will be understood that any desired outline or shape of box or base may be used. As herein shown, it comprises a rectangular base portion *a*, provided with a series of vertical corrugations, as shown at *a'*, which form a roughened surface against which the match may be struck to be ignited. This hollow base *a* is provided at each end with a set-screw a^2 for a purpose presently to be described. The box *b*, which constitutes the receptacle proper, is also of rectangular shape and fits inside of the hollow base member *a*. At either end the box or receptacle *b* may be provided with open pockets, as shown at *b'*. The top or cover of the box is shown at *c* and is provided with a transverse slot just wide enough to permit the easy removal of a single match at a time. Near the middle part of the cover *c* the metal or material is cut away to form an enlarged opening to permit the fingers to pass below the surface of the cover to grasp a match preparatory to removing it from the box. The box is provided with a movable or false bottom, as shown at *d*, which forms a support for the matches or other articles which the box contains. This movable bottom *d* is normally pressed upward by any suitable means; but I have herein shown a pair of long springs *e*, whose lower ends are secured by means of set-screws to the base member *a* and whose upper ends are curved or bent over, as shown at *e'*, to form a smooth contact-surface with the bottom face of the false bottom or follower *d*.

By securing the springs to the base member *a* and then supporting the receptacle *b* adjustably in said base member by means of the set-screws a^2 it is possible to accommodate the position of the receptacle *b* according to the quantity of matches in the receptacle, so that the tension exerted by the springs against the bottom shall not be subject to too wide a range of variation. For example, when the receptacle is practically filled to its capacity the plunger *d* will be near the bottom edge of the receptacle. In such position a very considerable tension would be exerted on the springs if they were so constructed and arranged as to be affected when the follower was near the top of its upward traverse. The wide range of action required by the spring in such case may be substantially diminished by securing the box or receptacle *b* in position with its lower edge only a slight distance below the set-screws a^2. As the matches are removed the follower will rise upward, and in time the tension of the springs against the bottom will be very much less than the initial tension. This loss of tension may be compensated for by slacking the set-screws a^2 and lowering the receptacle *b* toward the bottom of the base, which operation necessarily lowers the false bottom *d* in a corresponding measure, and thus causing the springs to exert substantially their initial tension.

The pockets *b'* are useful for the ends of burned matches, &c.

It will be noticed that the top or cover *c* of the receptacle is made so that it slopes from

its two ends downward toward the middle. While I do not confine myself to this construction, yet I find it advantageous, while it prevents the tendency of the plunger to force out matches that may come directly under and in line with the transverse slot c'.

Without attempting to set forth all the changes in form, construction, and arrangement that may be made in the practice of my invention and all the purposes to which it may be applied, what I claim is—

1. A match-receptacle embracing in its construction, a base member, a box-like receptacle adjustably mounted in said base member, a false bottom, and means for pressing said false bottom upward to force the contents of the box upward, and a cover constructed and arranged to permit the removal of but a single match at a time.

2. A match-receptacle embracing in its construction, a box-like receptacle for containing matches, a false bottom for supporting the matches in said box, springs for exerting a tension against said false bottom, and means for adjusting the relative position of the parts to regulate the tension of the springs against said bottom.

3. A match-receptacle embracing in its construction, a box-like receptacle provided with a slotted cover whose middle portion is inclined downward below the level of the end portions, a false bottom arranged in said box, and means for pressing the false bottom upward so as to press the contents of said box against the cover.

4. A match-receptacle embracing in its construction, a base member, a box-like receptacle adjustably secured in said base member, a slotted cover for said receptacle, a false bottom arranged therein, and spring-metal strips whose lower ends are secured to the base member and whose upper ends are arranged to press yieldingly against the false bottom.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 3d day of December, 1902.

JACOB E. NEAHR.

In presence of—
GEO. N. GODDARD,
KATHARINE A. DUGAN.