No. 670,141. Patented Mar. 19, 1901.

W. O. SHEPARD.

POLICEMAN'S CLUB.

(Application filed Nov. 20, 1900.)

(No Model.)

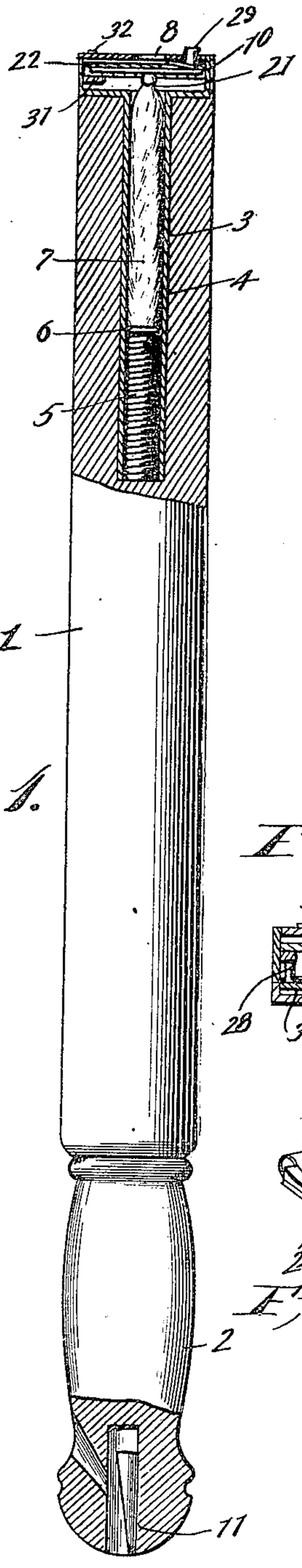

Fig. 1.

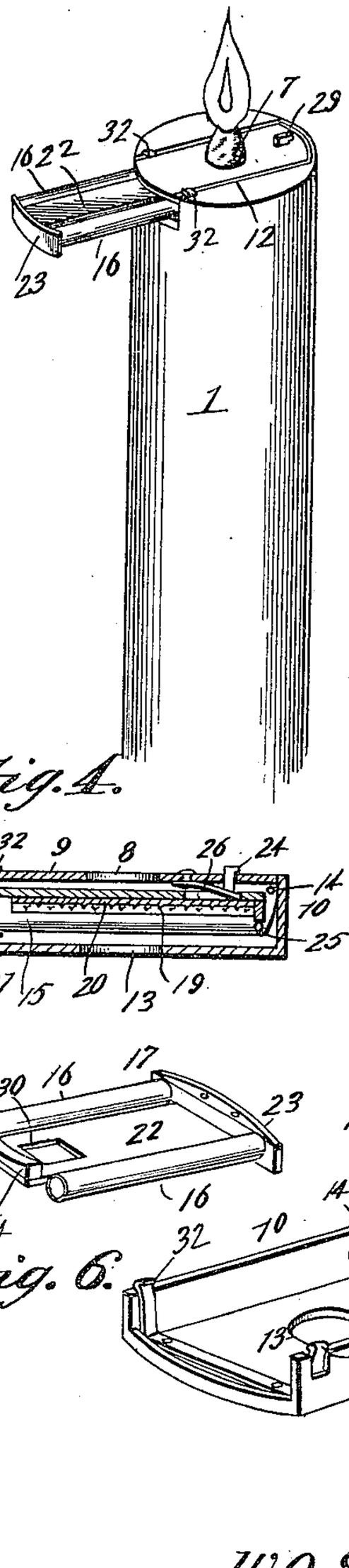

Fig. 4.

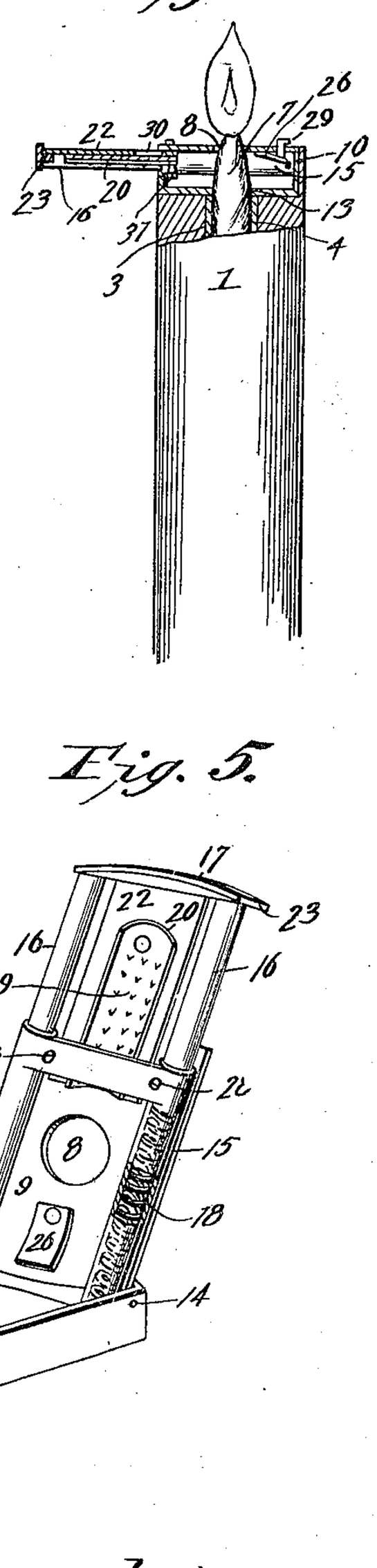

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POLICEMAN'S CLUB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 670,141, dated March 19, 1901.

Application filed November 20, 1900. Serial No. 37,156. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM OTIS SHEPARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Camden, in the county of Camden and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Policeman's Club, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in policemen's clubs.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of policemen's clubs and to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive one having a torch and provided with means for enabling the same to be automatically ignited, so that it may be instantly brought into use.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, of a policeman's club. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view illustrating the arrangement of the parts when the torch is in use. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view, the parts being arranged as shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the igniting mechanism. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the slide, the curved match-engaging piece or plate being removed.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a policeman's club provided at one end with a handle 2 and having a longitudinal bore 3 at its other end receiving a tube 4, which forms a socket for a coiled spring 5. The coiled spring 5, which has its inner end bearing against the inner end of the socket, is provided at its outer end with a suitable disk or head 6 and is adapted to force a torch or candle 7 outward to cause the same to project through an opening 8 of a plate or cover 9 of a casing 10 and to advance the said candle or torch as it is consumed. The handle 2 of the club is provided with a suitable whistle 11, which may be of any ordinary construction.

The casing 10, which is seated in a suitable recess 12 of the outer end of the club, is oblong and is provided in its bottom with a circular opening 13, which registers with the socket of the club and with the opening 8 of the hinged plate or cover. The plate or cover, which is pivoted at 14 at one end, is provided at opposite sides with parallel longitudinal tubes 15, forming guides for rods or tubes 16 of a slide 17 and receiving coiled springs 18, which are interposed between the inner ends of the rods or tubes 16 and the inner ends of the guiding-tubes 15. The coiled springs are adapted to throw the slide outward to carry a roughened surface 19 of a match-engaging piece 20, which is fixed to the slide; but any other suitable surface may be provided, if desired. The match 21 is arranged at the outer end of the torch in contact with the match-engaging plate 20, which is preferably curved in cross-section, as shown, and which is perforated at intervals to provide projecting edges for engaging the match. The slide consists of a plate 22, provided with a curved end piece 23, extending laterally beyond the plate and having the side tubes 16 secured to it. The plate is provided at its inner end with a curved lug or enlargement 24, forming a seat for the inner end of the match-engaging plate 20 and adapted to engage a pair of projections 25, extending from the inner ends of the guide-tubes 15 and adapted to support the slide and force it into engagement with a catch 26, whereby it is held retracted against the action of the coiled springs 18. The tubes are provided at their outer ends with projecting lugs 28, formed by screws, and serving as stops to engage the curved lug 24 of the slide to retain the sliding tubes or rods 16 in the guide-tubes 15. The catch 26 consists of a flat spring secured at one end to the inner face of the hinged plate or cover of the casing and provided at its other end with a stem 29, extending through the hinged plate or cover of the casing and having a head adapted to be engaged by the finger-nail of the operator, whereby the spring may be readily disengaged from the slide to allow the latter to be thrown outward by the coiled springs 18. The slide is provided at the inner end of the plate 22 with an opening 30, adapted to receive the catch 26 and forming a shoulder to abut against the same. The screws 28, which form the projections or

lugs at the outer ends of the guide-tube 15, extend through a cross bar or piece 31, arranged at the outer ends of the said guide-tube 15, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 5 of the accompanying drawings.

The bore or socket of the club may be of a length to receive several candles or torches, which may be successively fed outward, so that after one has been consumed or partially consumed it may be thrown away and another will be in position for ignition, and these candles or torches may be constructed in any suitable manner and of any desired material. When the parts are arranged as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4, the device is ready for use, and the candle or torch may be instantly ignited by disengaging the catch from the inner end of the slide. As soon as the catch is released the coiled springs, which are housed within the tubular guides 15, throw the slide outward and draw the roughened match-engaging surface across the match, striking the latter and igniting the candle or torch. The match, which is designed to have a comparatively short stick or shank, will be entirely consumed by the candle. This operation may be instantly performed, and it will be apparent that the construction is exceedingly simple and inexpensive and may be readily applied to a policeman's club and that it obviates the necessity of carrying matches and a lamp. The casing, which is disposed transversely of the socket, is provided at its front end with catches 32, arranged to engage the hinged plate or cover, near the free end thereof, and consisting of a strip of resilient material arranged at the inner faces of the sides and bottom of the casing, as clearly shown in Fig. 5.

What I claim is—

1. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club or analogous object provided with a socket, a candle or torch arranged in the socket and provided at its outer end with a match, a slide mounted on the club or body and arranged to engage the match for lighting the candle or torch, a spring for actuating the slide, and means for locking and releasing the latter, substantially as described.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club having a socket, a spring arranged within the socket and adapted to feed a candle or torch outward, a spring-actuated slide mounted on the club for engaging a match for lighting the torch or candle, and means for locking and for releasing the slide, substantially as described.

3. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club having a socket extending longitudinally of it, a candle or torch arranged within the socket and provided at its outer end with a match, a transversely-movable spring-actuated slide mounted on the club and engaging the match and means for forcing the candle or torch outward, substantially as described.

4. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club having a socket for the reception of a candle or torch, a casing mounted on the club and having an opening through which the candle or torch may project, and a spring-actuated slide arranged to cover the opening and provided with means for striking a match, substantially as described.

5. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club having a socket for the reception of a candle or torch, a casing mounted on the club and provided with a hinged plate or cover, and a spring-actuated slide mounted on the plate or cover and provided with means for engaging a match to ignite the torch, substantially as described.

6. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club having a socket for the reception of the candle or torch, a casing disposed transversely of the socket at the outer end thereof and having a hinged plate or cover and provided with an opening through which the candle or torch may project, and a spring-actuated slide mounted on the hinged section or plate and arranged to normally cover the said opening to retain the candle or torch entirely within the socket and provided with means for engaging a match, substantially as described.

7. In a device of the class described, the combination of a club having a socket for the reception of a candle or torch, a transversely-disposed casing provided at its bottom with an opening and having a hinged cover or plate with a corresponding opening, a catch arranged to hold the plate or cover in its closed position, a spring-actuated slide guided on the hinged plate or cover and provided with means for engaging a match, and a catch arranged to hold the slide in its retracted position and adapted to be disengaged from the same to permit the slide to be thrown outward, substantially as described.

8. In a device of the class described, the combination of a plate provided with guide-tubes, a slide having tubes or rods telescoping into the guide-tubes, springs housed within the guide-tubes for actuating the slide, and a catch mounted on the plate and arranged to engage the slide, substantially as and for the purpose described.

9. In a device of the class described, the combination of a plate provided at opposite sides with guide-tubes, a slide having tubes or rods telescoping into the guide-tubes, springs housed within the guide-tubes for actuating the slide, a catch mounted on the plate and arranged to engage the slide to hold the same in its retracted position, lugs located adjacent to the catch to hold the slide against the same, and means for limiting the outward movement of the slide, substantially as described.

10. In a device of the class described, the combination of a casing having a hinged plate or cover, guide-tubes arranged at opposite sides of the hinged plate or cover, lugs

located at the inner and outer ends of the guide-tubes, a slide having tubes or rods telescoping into the guide-tubes, said slide being provided with a lug or flange to engage the said lugs, and a match-engaging piece carried by the slide, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM OTIS SHEPARD.

Witnesses:
ELWIN D. STEEN,
THOS. J. WOOD.