

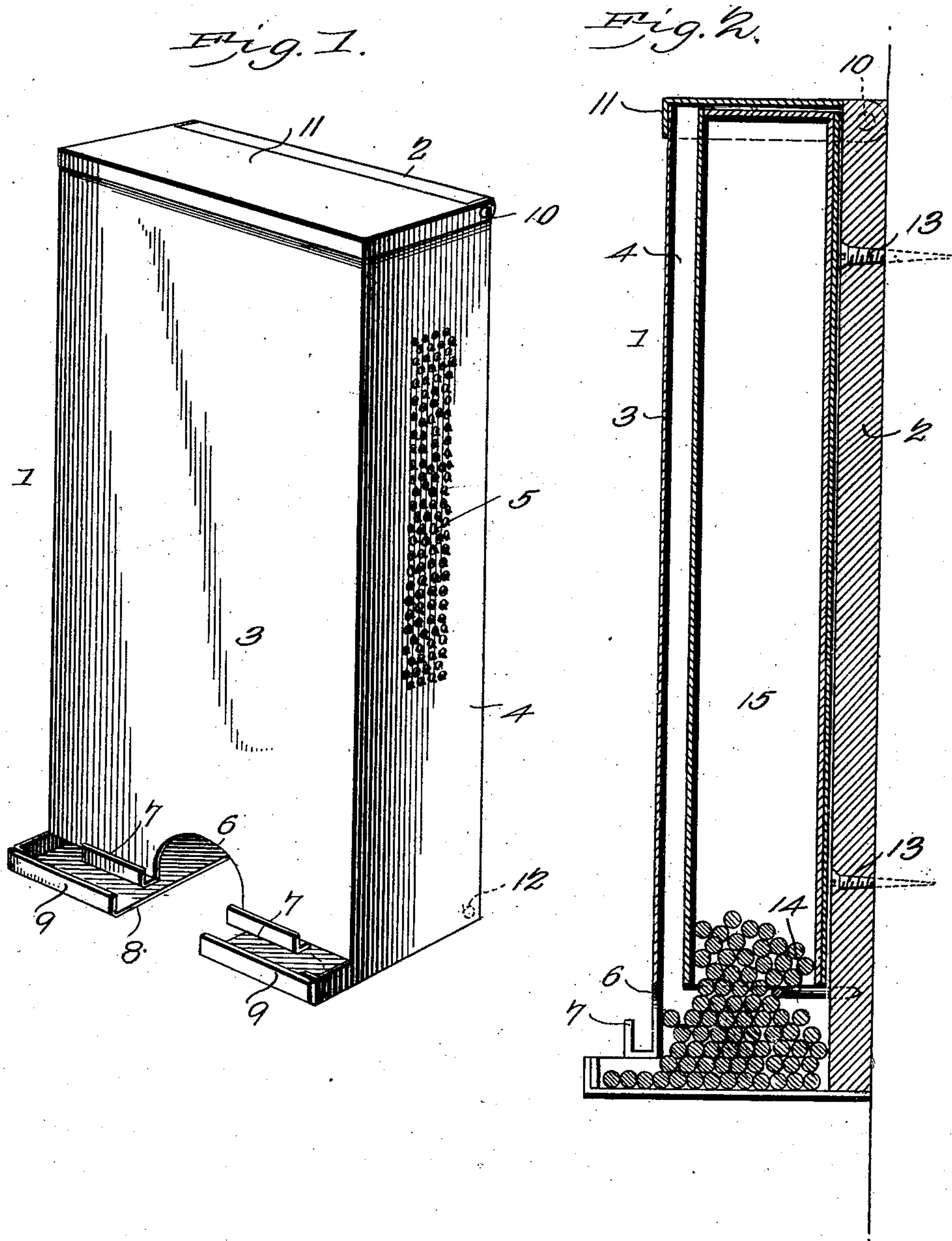
No. 713,151.

H. T. RANDLE.  
MATCH SAFE.

Patented Nov. 11, 1902.

(Application filed Feb. 8, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:  
*Ed. Stewart*  
*Roll. Elliott.*

*H.T. Randle*, Inventor.  
by *Chas. Snow & Co.*  
Attorneys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY T. RANDLE, OF CLAYTON, MISSOURI.

## MATCH-SAFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 713,151, dated November 11, 1902.

Application filed February 8, 1902. Serial No. 93,198. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY T. RANDLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clayton, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Match-Safe, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to match-safes, and particularly to that class wherein an ordinary box of matches is housed within the same.

The object of the invention is to present a cheap, thoroughly-efficient, and durable form of match-safe of the character specified, in the use of which waste or loss of matches will be avoided and the certain feeding of the matches to the point of discharge will be effected in a ready and positive manner.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of a match-safe, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts, there is illustrated one form of embodiment of the invention capable of carrying the same into practical operation, it being understood that the elements therein exhibited may be varied or changed as to shape, proportion, and exact manner of assemblage without departing from the scope of the invention, and in these drawings—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a match-safe characterizing this invention. Fig. 2 is a view in vertical longitudinal section there-through, showing more particularly the manner of supporting a match-box therein.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the body of the match-safe, and 2 the back thereof. The body may be constructed of any suitable material, preferably of metal, and may be stamped, cast, or otherwise fashioned to the shape desired, and may or may not be ornamented, as desired. As here shown, the front 3 of the safe is a solid structure; but, if preferred, a panel of glass may be let into it, thus to expose to view the name of the manufacturer of the box of matches contained

in the safe, and as this will be obvious detailed illustration thereof is deemed unnecessary. Each side 4 of the safe is provided with a suitable striking-surface 5, (one only being shown herein,) which may be produced by securing a piece of abrasive material to the sides or by striking up the metal to present a roughened field. The bottom portion of the front is provided with a semicircular recess 6, through which the fingers of the person removing the matches from the safe will be inserted, and on each side of the opening there is provided an L-shaped ledge 7, adapted to receive a surplus match, should more than one be removed from the safe, the carrier thus provided being disposed close to the bottom of the box and operating to control the escape of matches to the front of the safe and to hold them in parallelism. The bottom 8 of the box is in two sections, spaced apart a sufficient distance to permit insertion of the fingers in removing the matches, and extends out some distance beyond the front of the safe, and has its sides and corners upturned, preferably at right angles to the front, as at 9, to present a pan, in which the matches will fall, the flanges at the front of the bottom operating to prevent matches from falling to the floor.

The safe-body may be secured in any suitable manner to the back 2, which latter may be made of metal, wood, or fibrous material, in this instance by being pivoted thereto at the upper rear corners by nails or tacks 10, which latter also serve to hold a cover or lid 11 in position; but it is to be understood that, if preferred, the body of the safe may be pivoted to the back at its rear bottom portion, as indicated by dotted lines, as at 12, in which case the flanges of the cover 11 will serve to hold the body in vertical position and against dropping forward. In use the back will be secured by nails or screws 13 to a suitable support, such as a wall, and being thus rigidly held a match may readily be struck upon the surfaces 5 without catching hold of the body in the act. The attaching means for securing the box in position will in use be entirely hidden from view, thus adding to the neat and finished appearance of the device. Further, the body will be se-



curely held in place against being dislodged if it be roughly grasped, as in the night-time, or be struck, as by a duster.

For table or other uses two of the bodies 5 may be secured to a single back, in which event the structure will be self-supporting, or, if preferred, when two safes are thus assembled they may be mounted upon a suitable pedestal, about which they will revolve.

10 As herein shown, the bottom 8 occupies a plane at right angles to the front 3; but it will be obvious that, if preferred, this may slant downwardly from the back in order to effect proper feeding of the matches toward 15 the front of the body.

Secured to the back is a stop 14, consisting in this instance of a piece of wire bent into rectangular form and having its ends inserted in the back, the said stop operating to limit 20 the downward movement of the match-box 15 and to hold it the proper distance above the bottom of the safe to insure discharge of all of the contained matches.

While the device is herein shown as combined with a match-box, it is to be understood 25 that the latter may be omitted and the matches be supplied in bulk to the safe proper.

In placing a box of matches in the safe the 30 closure at one end of the box is removed and the box is placed within the safe with its open end resting upon the stop 14, it being understood, of course, that during this operation the body will be swung outward to permit placing of the box of matches therein, 35 and as soon as the box is positioned within the safe the matches will by gravity be fed to the bottom thereof, whence they may readily be removed. The placing of a full box of 40 matches within the safe not only assures that they will be fed as desired and be held in parallelism, but also obviates the necessity of removing the matches from the box and feeding them to the safe, in which procedure, 45 unless great care be exercised, some of the matches will not be properly placed within the holder, and will thus tend to prevent proper operation of the device.

An advantage accruing from having the feed from the bottom of the safe is that it may 50 be placed higher above the floor of the room, and thus more out of reach of small children. If desired, the body of the safe may be of a size to receive extra large boxes of matches 55 or two or three of the ordinary sized boxes, in which case only the box at the front of the safe would be opened, the others remaining closed until the first is exhausted, after which it would be thrust back of the rear box, thus 60 to force the second box to the front, and so on.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A match-safe comprising a back, and a body secured thereto and provided at its lower 65 end with a match-escape opening and with surplus-match-receiving means disposed above the opening.

2. A match-safe comprising a back, and a body secured thereto and provided at its lower 70 end with a match-escape opening having match-retaining means adjacent thereto, and surplus-match-receiving means disposed above the opening.

3. A match-safe comprising a back, a body 75 hinged thereto and provided with a cover, a match-engaging stop carried by the back, a bottom provided with a match-escape opening, and with match-retaining means, and surplus-match-receiving means disposed 80 above the opening.

4. A match-safe comprising a back, a body hinged thereto at its upper end and provided with a cover, a match-engaging stop carried by the back, a bottom provided with a match- 85 escape opening and with match-retaining means, and surplus-match-receiving means disposed above the opening.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in 90 the presence of two witnesses.

HARRY T. RANDLE.

Witnesses:

THEO. BAYER,  
HENRY STERKER.