

C. S. ROBINSON.

MATCH BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 22, 1908.

919,639.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

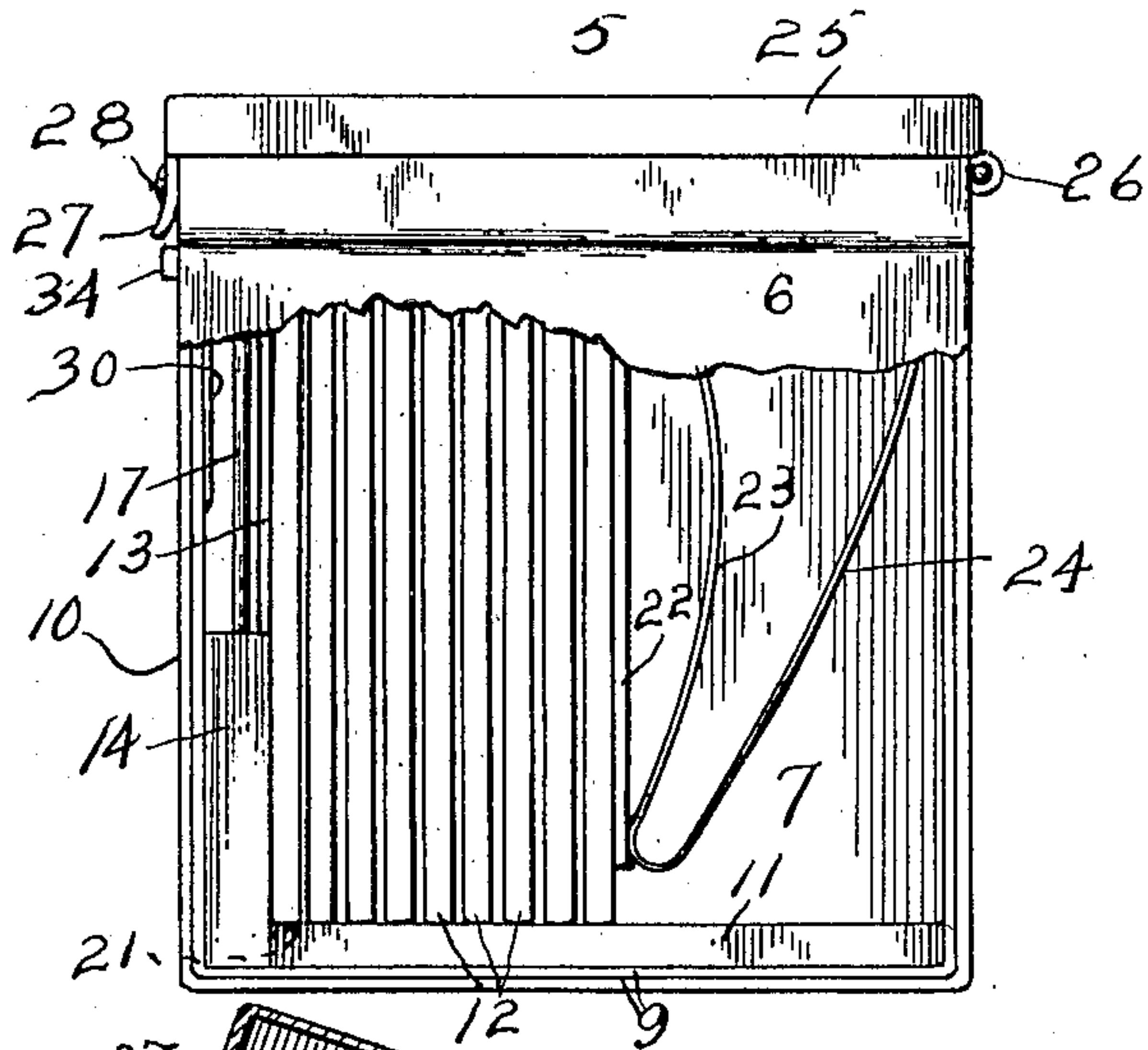
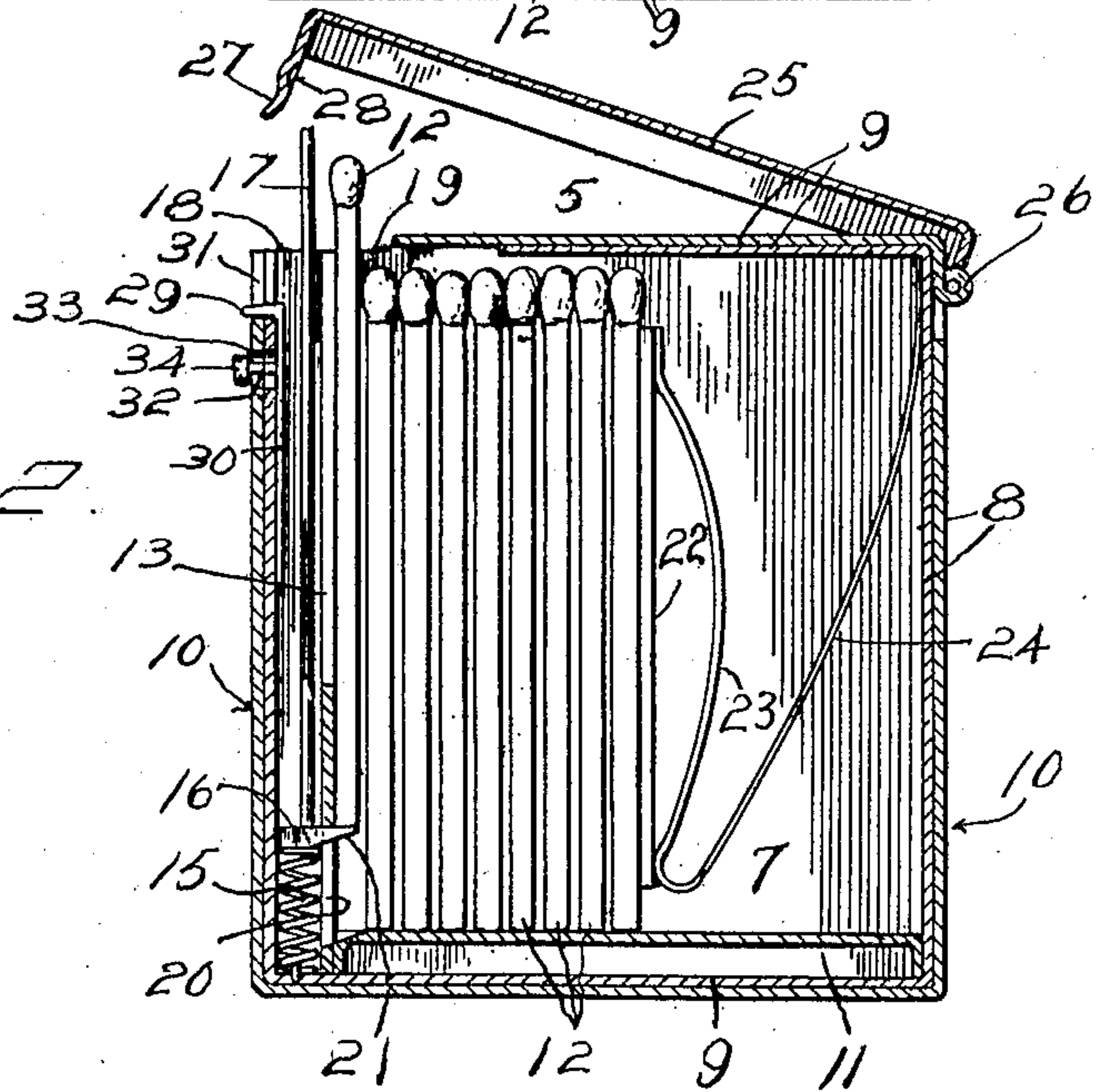


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

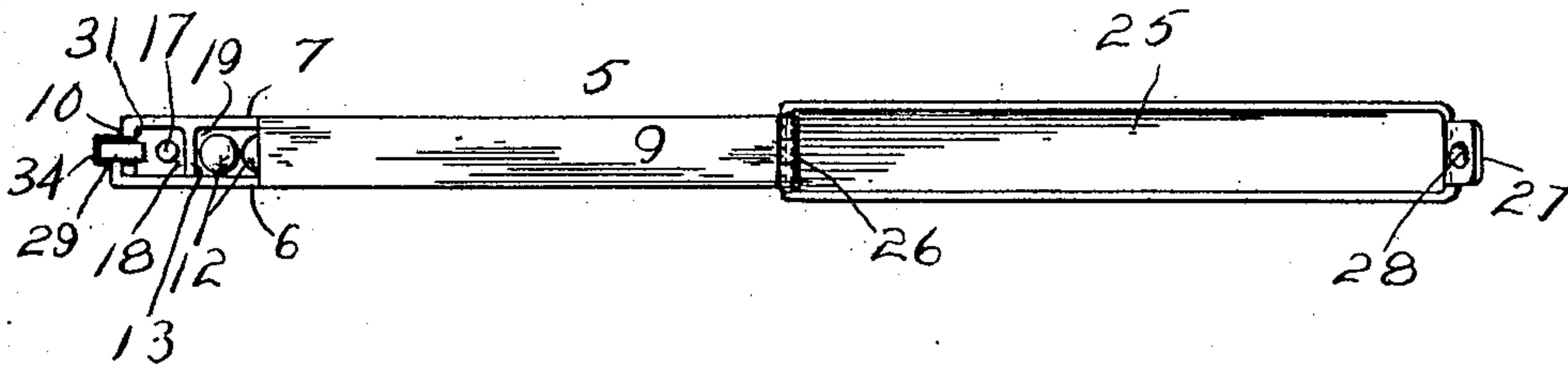
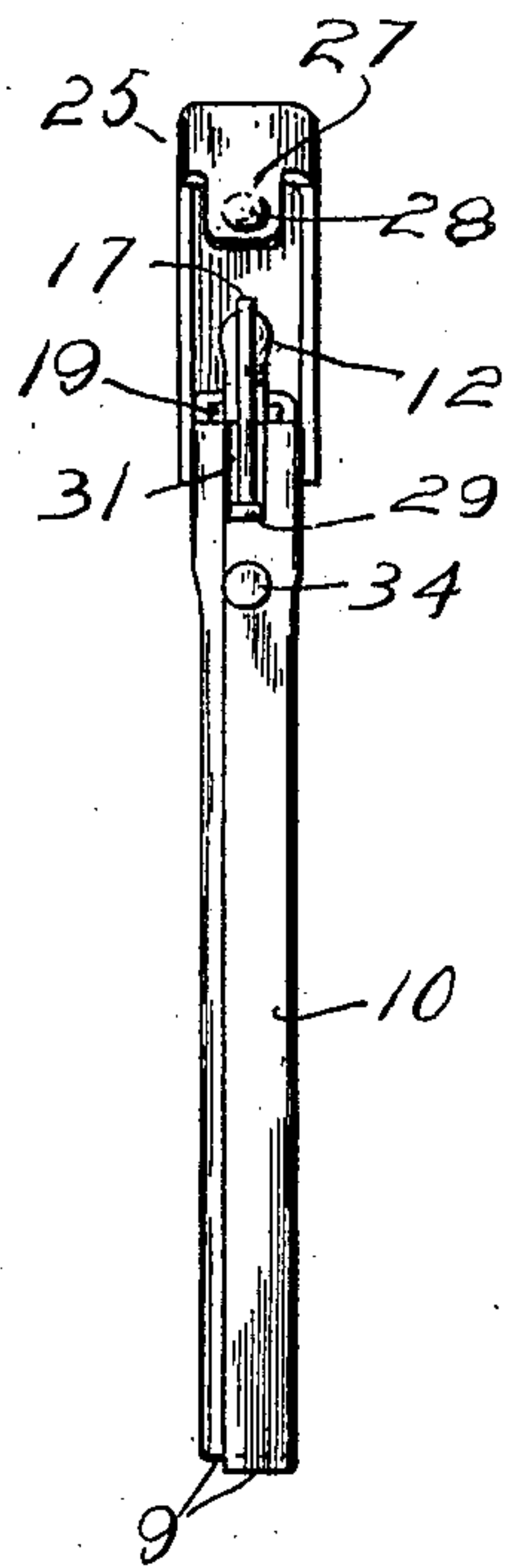


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MATCH-BOX.

No. 919,639.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 27, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES S. ROBINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Walnut Log, in the county of Obion, State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The invention relates to match boxes and more particularly to the class of match boxes or cases for automatically ejecting a single match from the same.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of a match box or case for receiving a plurality of matches, one of which is automatically positioned in the box or case to be partially ejected therefrom, said box or case having a hinged cover or lid controlling a tension plunger member, the latter adapted to project a single match from the box upon the opening of said cover or lid.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a match box which is simple, inexpensive, compact and of a character from which matches are adapted to be delivered one at a time as desired.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings showing the preferred embodiment of the invention.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a side view of the invention having its front broken away at its bottom and with the cover or lid in a closed position. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view with the lid or cover of the casing in its opened position and showing a match projecting from said casing. Fig. 3 is a top view of the casing with the cover in an opened position. Fig. 4 is a front end view of the casing showing the cover partially closed.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views in the drawings.

In the drawings the numeral 5 designates generally, the match box or case preferably constructed of metal and of flat formation and includes spaced parallel side plates 6 and 7 each of which have marginal engaging

flanges 8 bent at right angles to the said side plates and adapted to overlap each other and secured in any desirable manner to form closed top and bottom end walls 9 and opposite side edge walls 10 of the case or box.

Within the box or case 5 a distance removed from the bottom end wall 9 is a base plate 11 which latter is secured to the side plate 7 and upon which rest the lower ends of a row of matches 12 contained within the box or case. Projecting from the said plate 7 and extending longitudinally in close proximity to one side edge wall 10 is a partition 13 having at its lower extremity a right angular extension 14 forming a housing for receiving a coiled expansion spring 15 the lower end of which has its bearing against the bottom end wall 9 and its opposite end bearing against an enlarged head 16 at the lower extremity of a plunger such as a rod or pin 17 slidably mounted in the space 18 between the side edge wall 10 and the partition 13 and its opposite free end adapted to project through an elongated slot or opening 19 formed in the corner of the top end wall 9 of the box or casing and which slot or opening produces a discharge exit for the matches contained within the box or case.

In the lower extremity of the partition 13 is a slot 20 through which projects a lug 21 extending from the head 16 of the said plunger 17, and this lug 21 is adapted to engage the lower end of one of the matches 12 positioned in the path of the slot 19 forming the discharge exit for said match whereby the same is projected a distance through said slot beyond the box or case upon the outward movement of the plunger 17 when released.

Slidably mounted in the box or case 5 between the side plates 6 and 7 respectively, is a follower plate 22, the opposite extremities of which are secured to a bowed extremity 23 of a flat spring 24 bent outwardly and upwardly on itself and having its opposite end secured against the inner face of the upper extremity of the side edge wall 10 of said box or case. It is apparent that the follower plate 22 under the action of the spring 24 will advance the row of matches 12 within the case or box so as to bring a single match in the path of the slot 19 and to have its lower end engage the lug

21 whereby upon the release of the plunger 17 said match will be partially ejected from the box or case through the exit slot in the top thereof.

5 A cover or lid 25 is hinged at 26 to the outside of the side edge wall 10 and is adapted to be brought to a closed position to depress the plunger 17 and overlie the exit slot 19 thereby closing the same. De-
10 pending from the front edge extremity of the cover or lid 25 is a tongue 27 having a depression 28 which engages with a catch 29 forming a lock which extends outwardly from a yieldable leaf spring 30 secured at
15 its lower end to the inner surface of the side edge wall 10, this catch 29 normally projects through an opening 31 in said side edge wall 10 and to release the catch 29 there is provided a stud 32 secured to the leaf spring
20 30 and projecting through an opening 33 formed in the wall 10 adjacent the opening 31 and which stud terminates in an enlarged head forming a press button 34 whereby the catch 29 can be disengaged from the tongue
25 27 to release the cover or lid 25 so that the same may be opened thereby permitting the plunger 17 to automatically eject a single

match from the box or case 5 through the exit opening or slot 19 upon the opening of the cover or lid.

30

What is claimed is—

A match box of the class described comprising interfitting flanged side sections forming a closed case containing an opening in the forward corner of its top, a hinged 35 cover normally closing said opening, a plunger adapted to project through said opening, an enlarged head formed on the lower end of the plunger, an expansion spring acting upon said head to elevate the plunger upon 40 the raising of the cover, a base plate disposed above the bottom of the case to permit a match to be engaged by said head, and spring controlled follower means within the case to advance matches into the path of 45 movement of the head for automatically projecting a single match through the opening upon the raising of said cover.

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

CHARLES S. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

VICTOR GLODE,
S. H. HAYES.