F. J. PALMER.

CIGARETTE CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 17, 1909.

946,263.

Patented Jan. 11, 1910.

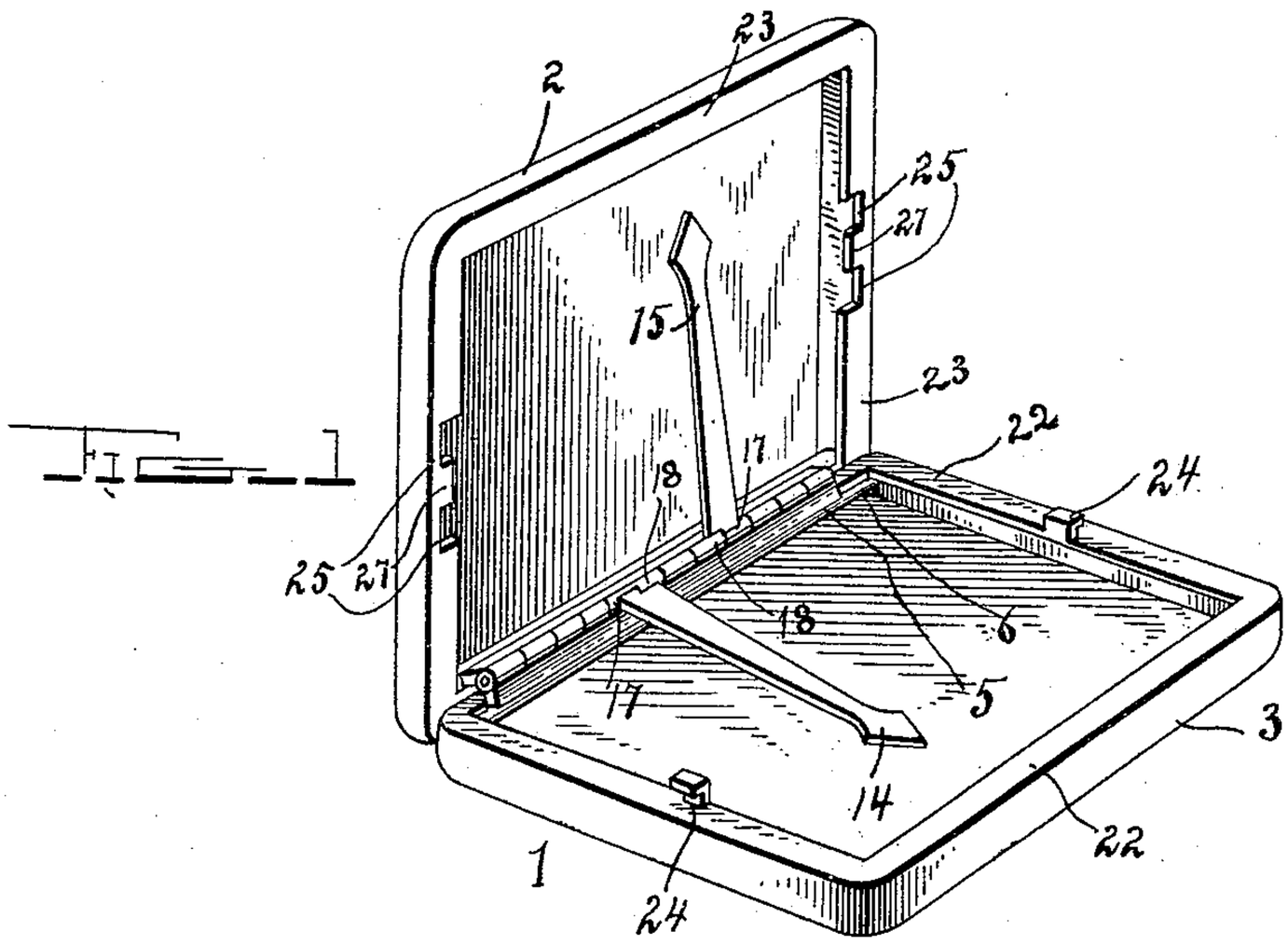

Fig. 1.

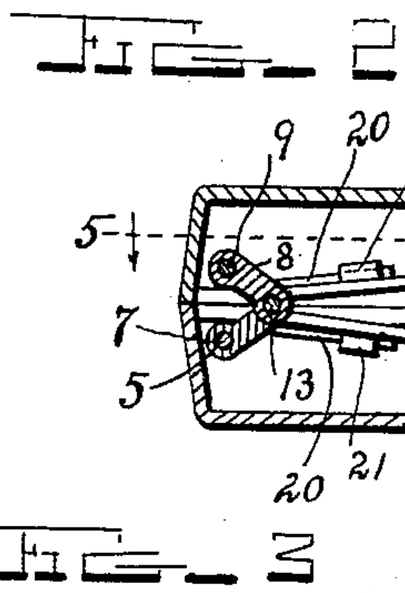

Fig. 2.

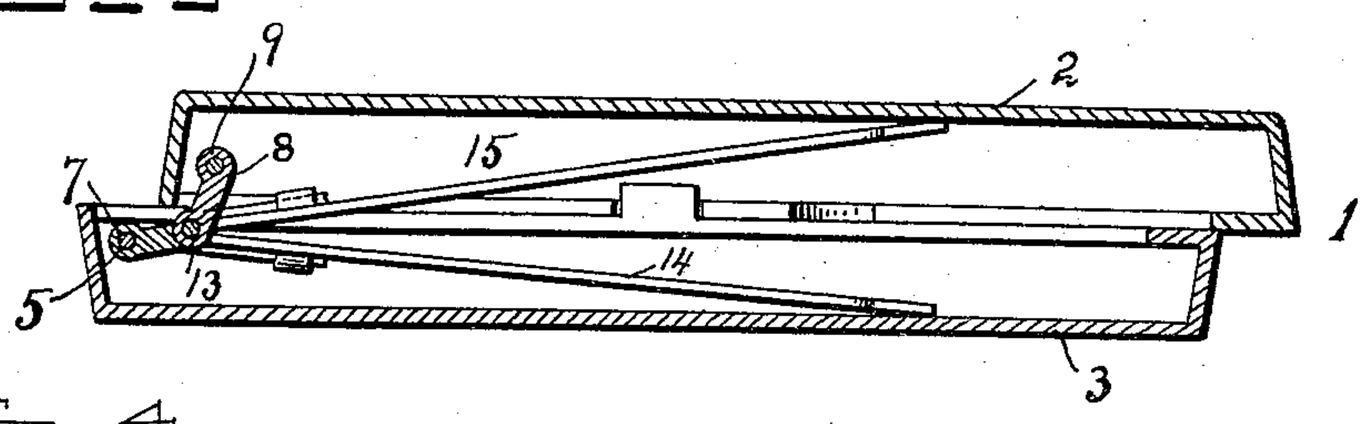

Fig. 3.

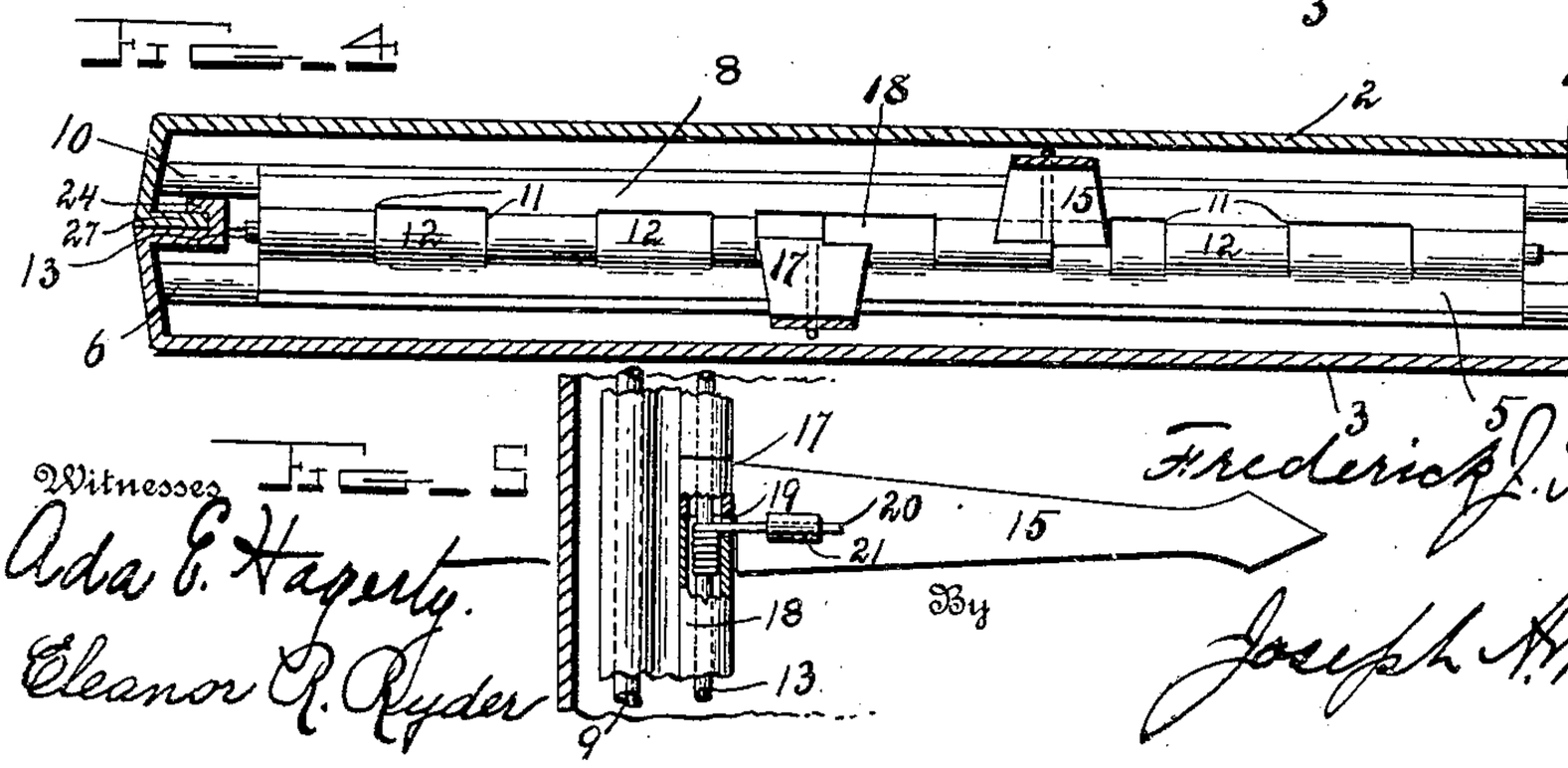

Fig. 4.

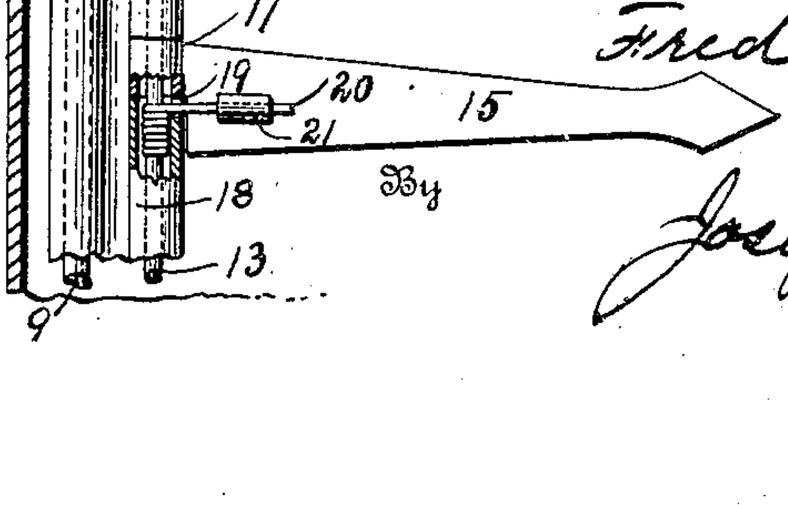

Fig. 5.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CIGARETTE-CASE.

946,263. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Jan. 11, 1910.**

Application filed June 17, 1909. Serial No. 502,719.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK J. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Taunton, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cigarette-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in cigarette cases, and relates more particularly to an improved and novel type of locking means for securing the cover and bed portion of the case in locked position.

The object of this invention is to produce a simple and inexpensive case of the type set forth, and one wherein the two members constituting the top or lid and the body or box may be effectually secured in locked position, and wherein the two members may be moved to open and locked position by the use of but one hand.

Further and other objects will later appear and be set forth.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cigarette case constructed in accordance with this invention showing the two members in open position, Fig. 2 is a transverse section showing the members in closed position, Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but showing the members in position to be opened, Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section taken on line 4 4 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2.

Reference numeral 1 designates the complete case which is composed of a body part 3 and a lid 2 having a hinge connection therebetween, the hinge connection being constituted of member 5 which is rotatably mounted on a rod 7 extending throughout the length thereof, the rod 7 being supported at its ends in bearings 6 secured to the rear side of the body 3, as more clearly shown in Fig. 4. Likewise the lid 2 is provided with a hinge member 8 which is mounted on a rod 9 the latter having its ends received in the bearings 10 rigidly secured at the rear side of the lid member 2. The members 5 and 8 are, formed with the usual cut-out portions and extensions 11 and 12 respectively, which interfit in a manner shown in Fig. 4, the hinge pintle 13 being passed through the two members as illustrated. Inasmuch as the rods 7 and 9 are rotatably mounted with respect to the body 3 and lid 2 respectively, it will be obvious that the hinge members are movable from the position indicated in Fig. 2, to that depicted in Fig. 3, whereby the lid is possessed of a sliding movement with respect to the body.

For the purpose of exerting tension on the hinge members when in the closed position shown in Fig. 2, to retain the members in such position, and for the further purpose of causing the members to assume open position when said members are moved so as to bring the locking means to position capable of being opened, there is provided a pair of spring arms 14 and 15. Each of these arms is formed integral with a rearwardly extending enlargement 17 which is perforated to receive pintle 13 on which it is loosely mounted. A sleeve 18 is mounted on pintle 13 so as to lie adjacent the enlargement 17 of the arm 15, the sleeve being provided with an opening 19 through which projects the free end of a coil spring 20 which latter is wound about the pintle 13 and has its said free end extending through a perforated portion 21 rigidly secured to the under or rear face of the arm 15. The spring 20 is coiled about pintle 13 so as to have a rigid relation thereto, whereby it will be observed that the arm 15 will at all times have a tendency to move the lid 2 outwardly to the limit of its outward movement. Similarly the arm 14 is equipped with the spring means just described in connection with arm 15, whereby the arm 14 will at all times exert pressure on the body 3 in a manner identical with that just described in connection with the arm 15 and lid 2.

The means to retain the lid and body in closed position will now be described.

The body 3 is provided with an inwardly-extending flange 22, which is disposed along its front side and its two ends. Similarly lid 2 is provided with a flange 23 which extends along its front side and its two ends, the two flanges being adapted to be seated one on the other when the parts are in closed position. Extending upwardly from the flange 22 at each end of the box is an L-shape catch member 24 located at the inner side of the flange at the ends of the body 3. The flange 23 at each end of the lid 2 is provided with a pair of spaced cut-out portions 25 which form an inwardly projecting catch engaging ledge 27, the function of which is to engage the catch members 24 and hold the parts in locked position as shown in Fig. 2.

It will be understood that the right angular top end of the catches 24 extends sufficient distance above the top face of the flange 22 to allow of the ledge 27 sliding freely therebeneath. It will be further obvious that when the catch members 24 aline with the pair of cut-out portions located to the front of ledges 27 or the pair of cut-out portions to the rear of ledges 27 the catches 24 being in alinement with either of said pairs of cut-out portions and free of engagement with the ledges 27 will permit of the parts being moved to the open position shown in Fig. 1. Thus by merely placing the box in one hand and imparting a sliding movement to the parts 2 and 3 in either a rearward or forward direction, the catches 24 will be moved to a position where they are disengaged from the ledges 27, at which time the spring means above described, will enter into action and move the lid 2 and body 3 in opposite directions in obvious manner.

The arms 15 if desired may be employed to retain the cigarettes in position with respect to the body and the lid, as will be apparent.

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

1. A containing case composed of a body and a lid, a hinge member composed of two leaves one pivotally connected to the body and the other pivotally connected to the lid, a pintle passing through the free ends of said leaves, a pair of spring arms rotatably mounted on said pintle, one of said arms engaging the body and the other arm the lid, a pair of L-shaped catch members carried by the body and arranged one at each end thereof, and an inwardly extending flange carried by the lid and formed at each end of the lid with a pair of spaced cut-out portions each of a size to receive the catch members, said catch members being designed to engage the ledge arranged in the space between the pairs of cut-out portions.

2. A containing case composed of a body and a lid each having inwardly extending side flanges spaced from the bottom of the body and the top of the lid respectively, each of the flanges of the body having an L-shaped catch member thereon, each of said flanges of the top being formed with a pair of spaced cut-out portions which form an inwardly projecting catch engaging ledge, the catch member being receivable in either of the two cut-out portions of each of said pairs of cut-out portions whereby the lid may be moved to open position by either forward or backward sliding movement with respect to the body.

3. A containing case composed of a body and a lid having a hinged relation thereto, and means whereby the body and lid may be locked, and means whereby the lid may be opened by sliding same either forward or backward with respect to the body.

4. A containing case composed of a body and a lid, each formed with inwardly extending flanges at their sides, each of the flanges of the lid having a pair of spaced cut-out portions forming a ledge therebetween, and means carried by the body and receivable in each of the cut-out portions of each pair of cut-out portions to engage the ledges.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FREDERICK J. PALMER.

Witnesses:
ADA E. HAGERTY,
J. A. MILLER.