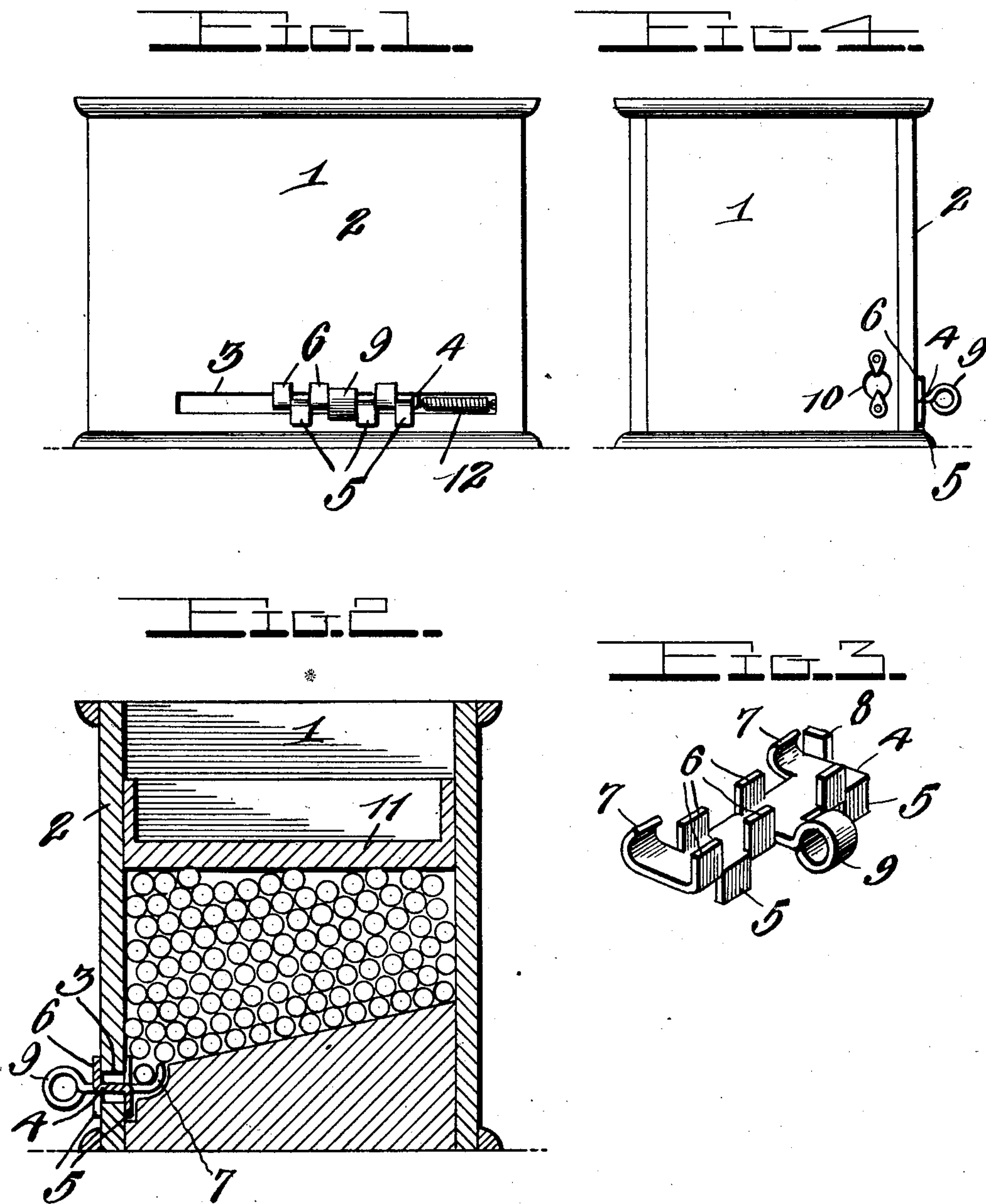


R. L. DARDEN.
MATCH RECEPTACLE.
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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT L. DARDEN, OF JULIETTE, GEORGIA.

MATCH-RECEPTACLE.

998,235.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT L. DARDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Juliette, in the county of Monroe and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Receptacles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in match dispensing receptacles, and more particularly to the class of receptacles wherein a means is provided for the single delivery of the matches, and it is my object to provide a receptacle of this class with improved means for delivering the matches singly.

A further object is to provide a guide for the matches as the same are delivered, which guide has means thereon for retaining the same to the receptacle.

A further object is to provide means whereby the match will be retained in engagement with the guide member until the same has been delivered.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter referred to, and more particularly pointed out in the specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this application, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my match dispensing receptacle; Fig. 2 is a transverse section therethrough; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the sliding guide member; and Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the delivering end of the receptacle.

In carrying out my invention I shall refer to the drawing in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which—

1 indicates a receptacle of substantially rectangular design, which is adapted to receive a plurality of matches, and the side wall 2 thereof is provided adjacent its lower edge with an elongated slot 3 in which is slidably mounted a guide member 4, the purpose of which is to deliver the matches from the receptacle singly. This sliding guide member comprises a plate having formed on the longitudinal edges thereof the depending flanges 5 and the upwardly extending flanges 6, which flanges engage the inner and outer faces of the side wall containing the slot 3 and thereby form a retaining

means for the guide member on the receptacle. As stated, these flanges fit flatly against the faces of the side wall, but allow sufficient play for the guide to move easily therealong, and on the inner longitudinal edge of said plate, are provided the inwardly extending flanges 7, which flanges have the outer ends thereof curved upwardly and adapted to receive therein a match. These last referred to flanges 7 are provided adjacent the ends of the plate, and a rear wall 8 is formed integral with one of said flanges and one end of the plate 4. These inwardly extending flanges 7 and wall 8 are positioned on the inner side of the wall 2, and a finger piece or handle member 9 is formed on said plate 4 and extends through the slot 3, whereby said plate may be moved forwardly and rearwardly. One of the end walls of the receptacle is provided adjacent its lower edge with a circular opening 10, which opening is in alinement with the inwardly extending flanges 7, and as said plate 4 is moved toward the wall containing the opening 10 therein, it is adapted to carry therewith a match to deliver the same through the opening 10. This opening 10 is of a size a trifle larger than the heads of the matches, which are emptied in the receptacle, and as said matches are adapted to be placed therein with the heads thereof toward the wall containing the opening 10, it will be seen that the matches will be delivered singly and heads first.

In order to cause the matches within the receptacle to be positioned adjacent the wall having the slot therein and to be engaged by the sliding guide member, I provide said receptacle with an inclined bottom, the inclination of which leads toward the slotted wall 2. As the matches are adapted to move toward the wall 2, the same may be received on the inwardly extending flanges 7 and by sliding the plate 4 in the slot 3 each match received within the flanges 7 may be delivered through the opening 10 in alinement therewith. The opening 10 may be provided with any form of igniting means throughout the wall thereof so that as the head of each match is forced therethrough, the same may be ignited. I also provide a tray 11 which is adapted to be inserted within the receptacle 1 to rest upon the matches therein, which tray is of just sufficient weight to cause the matches to be forced toward the sliding guide member.

This tray, it will be seen, forms a cover for the receptacle, and at the same time forms a receptacle in itself for the ignited matches, thereby preventing all extraneous matter, and sparks from entering within.

In order to have the sliding guide member 4 continually in position to deliver a match from within the receptacle, I provide a coil spring 12, which is extremely small in size to fit within the slot 3 of the receptacle, one end of said spring being secured to a pin carried by the rear wall 8 of the plate 4 and the opposite end of said spring being securely engaged with the end wall of the slot. From this construction, it will be seen that the sliding guide member is normally in position to be moved forwardly so as to deliver a match from the receptacle and will return to its normal position after the match has been delivered, upon being released by the operator.

As shown in the drawing, this receptacle is adapted to be placed upon a table or the like, and although I have not so shown a means for securing the same to a wall, I reserve such privilege, but as such means does not form an essential part of my application, I do not deem it necessary to further describe the same.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that I have provided a sliding guide member for delivering matches singly from the receptacle, which guide member is formed of a single piece of material, and it will further be seen that the guide member is provided with a plurality of depending and upwardly extending flanges which form retaining means for the guide member on the receptacle. Furthermore, it will be seen, that by providing the inwardly extending curved flanges, one of which flanges is formed integral with a rear wall of the guide member, and by providing the receptacle with an inclined bottom, the matches will always be in position to be engaged, one at a time,

by said guide member and delivered thereby. It will still further be seen that the receptacle is one which is very simple in construction, and extremely efficient in operation.

What I claim is:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a receptacle having an elongated slot in one wall thereof, the base of said receptacle being provided with a groove contiguous with said slot and one end wall provided with an opening in alinement with said groove; of a plate slidably mounted within said slot, means to retain said plate in position in said slot, said plate being provided on its inner longitudinal edge with inwardly extending arms disposed within said groove and having the outer ends thereof curved upwardly, a wall at one end of said plate integral with one of said arms, and means to manually move said plate in said slot.

2. In a match receptacle, the combination with a housing having a slot in one of the side walls thereof, the base of said housing being inclined downwardly toward said slot and provided with a groove contiguous therewith, and one of the end walls of said housing being provided with an opening in alinement with the groove; of a slide mounted in said slot having laterally extending arms disposed in said groove, said slide being also provided with a rear wall formed integral with one of said arms, means to retain said slide in position in the wall of the housing, spring means to normally retain said slide in one end of the slot, and means for manually moving said slide to the other end thereof.

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

ROBERT L. DARDEN.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR DARDEN,
J. W. EVANS.