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2,539,249

BOOK MATCH HOLDER AND PIPE TAMPER

Filed April 26, 1948

Fig. 1.

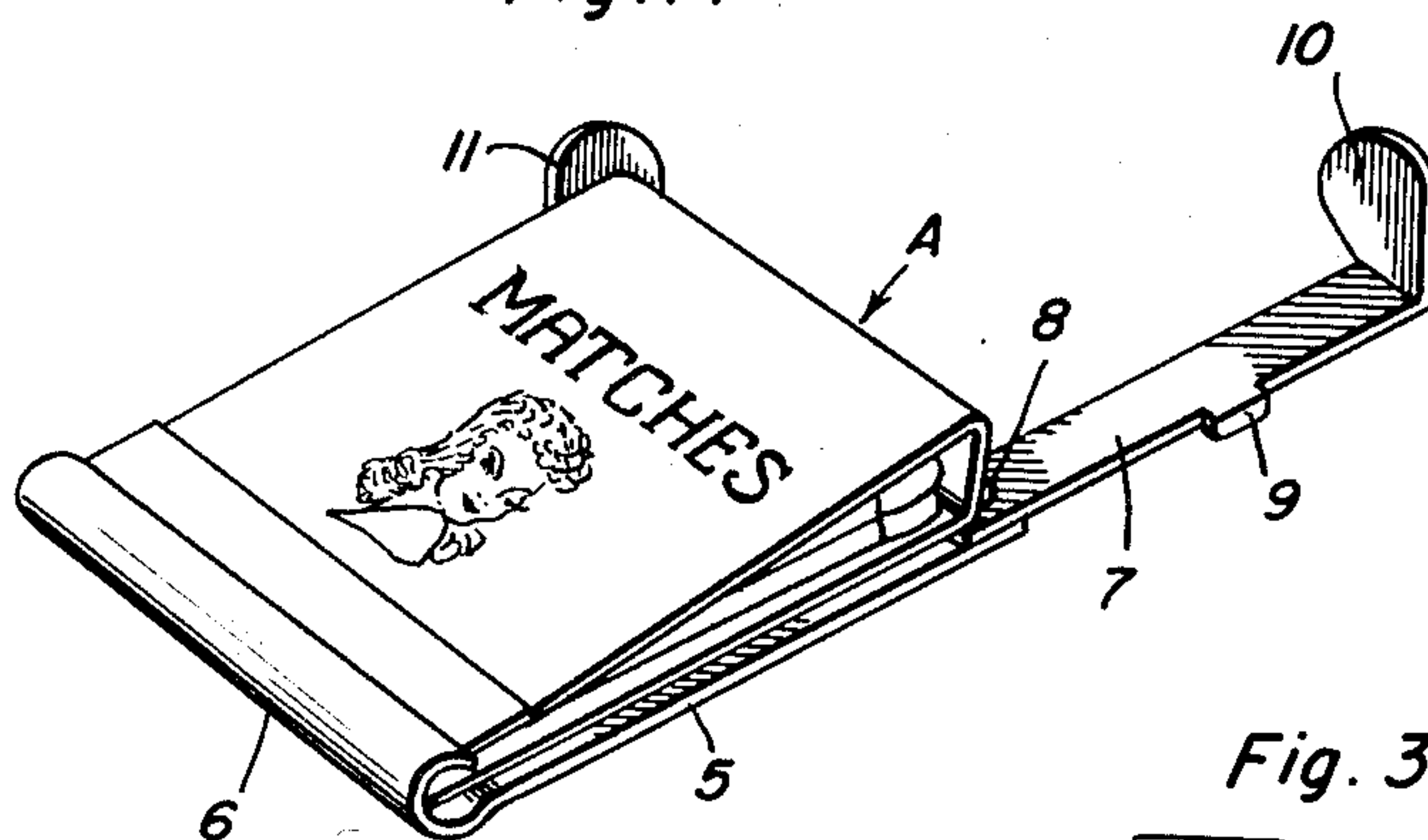


Fig. 2.

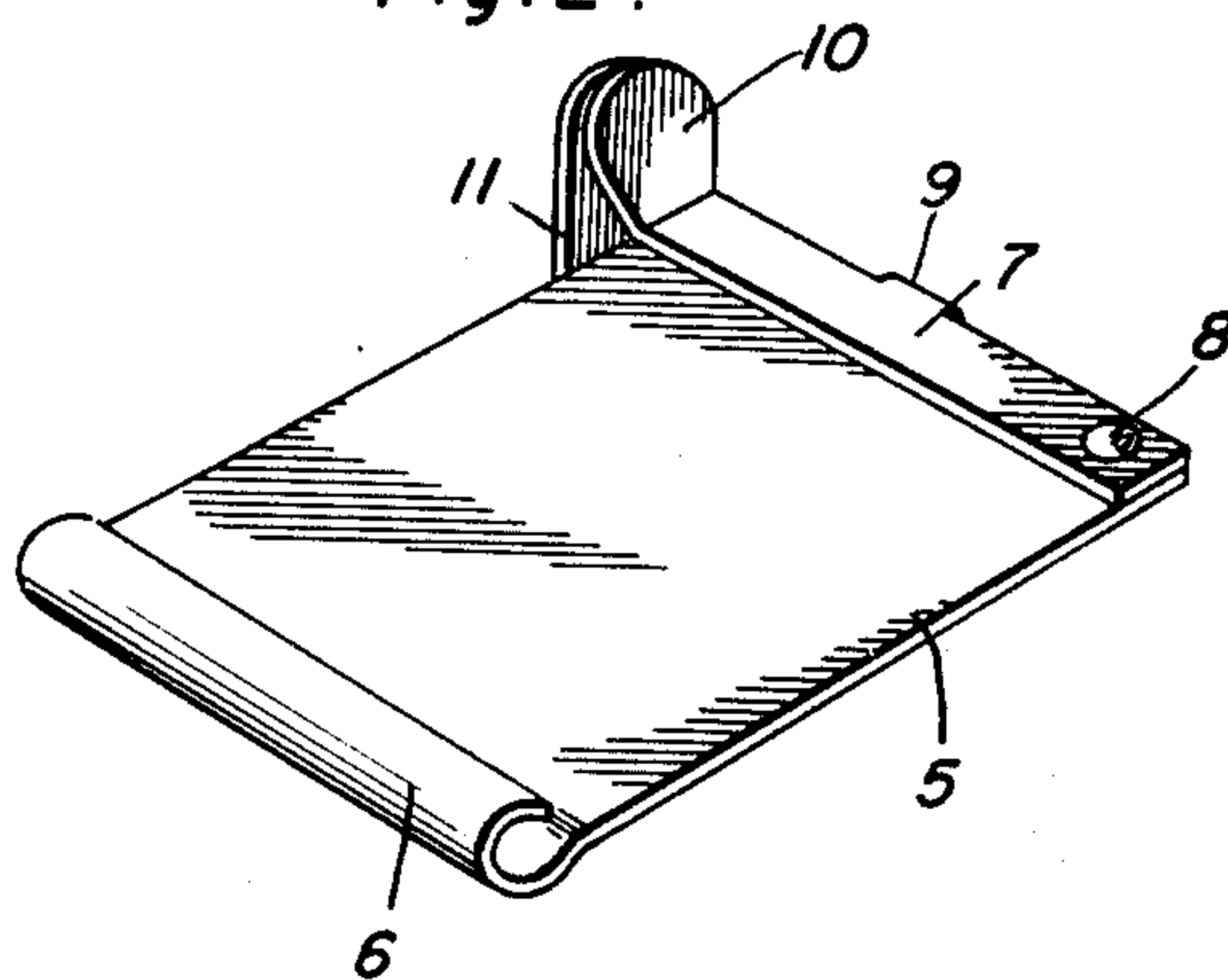
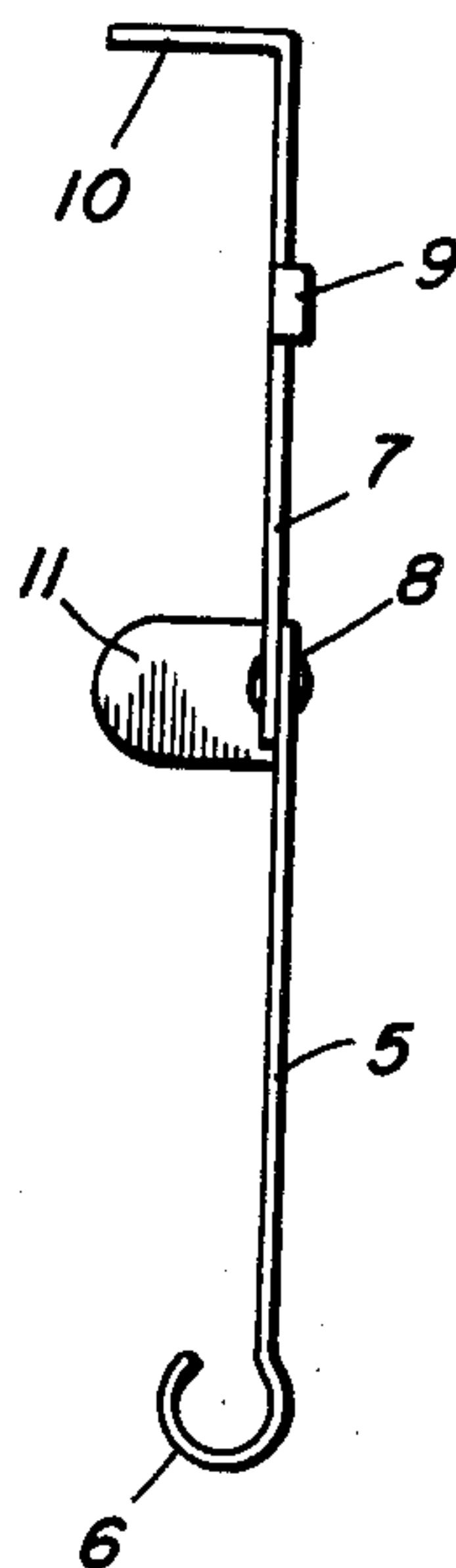


Fig. 3.



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BOOK MATCH HOLDER AND PIPE TAMPER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 131-247)

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The present invention relates to smoker's articles and has particular reference to a unique pocket-type accessory which serves, on the one hand, as a backing plate and holder for book matches and functions, on the other hand, as a satisfactory tamp for packing tobacco in the bowl of a conventional-type pipe.

Briefly, in carrying out the principles of the invention, that is, from a purely structural point of view, the device has to do with a supporting base in the form of a flat plate, the same having a clip at one end to retain the book matches in position and having, at the opposite end, a pivoted arm with a tobacco tamping head.

In carrying out the patentable principles of my invention, I stress the fact that the structure is characterized by suitable base or plate means which, in commercial practice, serves as a support for book matches but also has the primary function of serving as a support for a pivoted tamping arm, there being a lateral ear extending from an edge portion of the plate to coact with the head of the tamping arm to not only function as a detent and to keep the arm folded, but to serve as a shield to keep accumulations on said head from dislodging and falling into the user's pocket. Visualized otherwise, the invention has to do with a base, preferably in rectangular form, but of other form if desired, an arm pivoted on the base, a lateral head on the free end of the arm serving as a tamp, and a lateral lug or ear on the base having a binding association with the head to keep the arm folded in an out-of-the-way position, when not in use.

Novelty may also be predicated, it is believed, upon a tamper for pocket use, in which the plate serves as a sort of sheath for the arm when folded and which also has the incidental function of a backing member susceptible of use, in conjunction with the clip, as a holder for book matches.

Other objects, features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved smoker's pocket accessory, showing the manner in which the book matches are held and the manner in which the arm is extended to function, if desired, as a pipe bowl tamper.

Figure 2 is a view like Figure 1, with the book matches removed and with the arm folded into an out-of-the-way partly shielded position.

Figure 3 is an edge view of the structure seen in Figure 2, with the tamping arm extended in readiness for use.

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Referring now to the drawings by distinguishing reference numerals, the supporting base or plate means is preferably in the form of a rigid rectangular plate 5, of appropriate material. One transverse end of the plate is bent upon itself to provide a return bend or curl 6, which provides a satisfactory resilient clip for taking over and fastening an adjacent end portion of the packet or book matches A in place. Incidentally, the plate 5 is about the proper size to handle conventional book matches. The same plate serves as a base or support for a relatively narrow arm 7, which is hingedly pinned, as at 8, to one corner portion of the plate. The arm is normally adapted to extend crosswise of the plate and has a stop lug, as at 9, to engage the adjacent edge of the plate. The free end of the arm terminates in a suitably shaped head 10 which serves as a tobacco tamping element. The left-hand longitudinal edge portion of the plate 5 is provided opposite the hinge connection 8 with a lateral or upstanding ear 11, and this serves as a detent for the tamping head 10 and also as a protective shield. The head swings into alignment with the shield and the shield is sufficiently large to spread across the tamping surface of the head. Obviously, when the tamper is used, a certain amount of ashes, tobacco particles and incrustations will accumulate thereon. However, by utilizing the ear 11 as an appropriate shield, the user's garments will not become soiled. I might point out, too, that the head 10 is slightly resilient and is intended to come into resilient retentive contact with said ear. Consequently, the ear also functions as a sort of a retaining catch for the tamping head.

It is obvious that I am aware that book match holders are old, and that many of them include base plates with retaining means such as a clip or the like for holding the book matches in place. It follows, therefore, that from the standpoint of the patent I seek, I am aware that from a commercial point of view, the device is primarily a book match holder with tamping means thereon. However, I prefer to visualize the invention as a pocket accessory having incidental book match retaining facilities and concerned primarily with tamping means. Therefore, novelty is predicated upon a plate or equivalent base 5, which serves as a support for book matches, if desired, but is primarily a support for the swingable arm held by the detent-forming ear 11, said arm having a lateral head and functioning as a tamper for tobacco in the bowl of a smoking pipe. Thus, the novelty is directed primarily to the

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right-hand end portion of Figure 2, as is obvious, and the claims are presented accordingly.

A careful consideration of the foregoing description in conjunction with the invention as illustrated in the drawings will enable the reader to obtain a clear understanding and impression of the alleged features of merit and novelty sufficient to clarify the construction of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

Minor changes in shape, size, materials and rearrangement of parts may be resorted to in actual practice so long as no departure is made from the invention as claimed.

Having described the invention what is claimed as new is:

1. A smoker's pocket-type accessory of the class described comprising a flat plate having a lateral ear on one edge portion, a flat arm adapted to extend transversely of said plate and overlapping the plate and having one end hingedly attached to the plate opposite to said ear, the free end of said arm being adapted to swing toward and from the plate and having a lateral tamping head adapted to be positioned in alignment with the inner surface of said ear, the head and ear combining their collective facilities in providing a snap-catch for said head.

2. A smoker's pocket type accessory of the class shown and described comprising a flat rectangular plate having an ear on one marginal edge projecting laterally beyond one surface of said plate, said ear being located adjacent to one corner portion of said plate, a flat arm adapted to extend transversely across said one surface in a manner to overlap said surface, one end of said arm being hingedly attached to a corner portion of said plate opposite to said first-named corner portion, the other end of said arm being free and being adapted to swing toward and from the plate and being provided at its free end with a lateral tamping head, said head being adapted to be positioned in alignment with the complementary inner surface of said ear, said head and ear combining their collective facilities in

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providing friction-held retaining means for said head, an intermediate portion of an edge, the outward edge, of said arm being provided with a lateral lug, said lug constituting a stop and the latter being engageable with an adjacent edge portion of said plate to insure proper retentive alignment of the head with said ear, and the end of said plate opposite to that end provided with said ear having a return bend, said return bend being open at its opposite ends and adapted to serve as a holder for book matches.

3. A smoker's pocket type accessory of the type herein shown and described comprising a flat surfaced base plate having an ear projecting laterally beyond a coacting surface of the plate, said ear constituting a shield and serving, in addition, as a detent, a substantially rectangular arm of a length corresponding to the width of said plate, means hingedly attaching one end of the arm to said plate, said arm being adapted to overlap the plate and having a free end, said free end being provided with a head, said head being adapted to line up with said ear in a manner to permit the ear to serve as the stated shield and also as a detent for the head and arm, and a lateral lug provided on one longitudinal edge portion of the arm, said lug constituting a stop and being adapted to engage a coacting edge portion of the plate when the arm is in a position overlying the plate and said lug serving, in addition, as a finger piece to facilitate the steps of swinging said arm in relation to said plate.

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