This invention relates to book-matches, and, more particularly, to a certain new and useful improvement in match-book packages and packaging.

My invention has for an object the provision of a unique match-book package comprising a tray or holder of relatively greater length than width and in which the match-books are upended and arranged for attractively exposing the covers of the books at the long sides of the package.

My invention has for another object the provision, in a match-book package of the kind described, of a tray or carrier containing match-books arranged in transverse rows, and having side walls both for concealing the striking of the books along the sides of the package and for longitudinally aligning the transverse rows of books in the package.

My invention has for still another object the provision of a match-book package having the books upstandingly arranged in side-wise adjacent transverse rows, whereby the width of the package may be made less than the width of a book, thus providing a neat and attractive package from which a book may be removed without seriously disturbing the remainder of the package.

My invention has for a further object the provision, in a match-book package of the character described, of a wrapper for enclosing the tray and its contained match-books for maintaining the same in orderly arrangement in the tray, the wrapper being preferably of transparent material for exposing the tray contents, and also of air-and-moisture-proof qualities for preserving the tray-contents in fresh and readily ignitable condition.

My invention has for a still further object the provision, in a match-book package of the character set forth, of a tray for confining the books in packed relation, the tray-bottom having finger-apertures for dislodging inside books from the tray interior.

And with the above and other objects in view, my invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a match-book package of my invention,

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view thereof;

Figure 3 is an end view; and

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view of the tray and its contained match-books, the wrapper being omitted.

Referring now more in detail and by reference characters to the drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of my invention, A designates an open-top tray or container constructed preferably of relatively light-weight cardboard or other suitable material, the tray A being of rectangular-oblong form, that is to say, having relatively greater length than width, and comprising a bottom wall 1 having a plurality or series of preferably oblong transverse apertures 2, opposed upstanding side walls 3 having their upper edges preferably attractively cut or scalloped as shown, and end walls 4 preferably rising above the general level of the side walls 3.

B designates the match-books, each of which comprises the book-matches 5 secured or stapled together and to the cover 6 at the small end or strike-flap 7 of the book, the cover 6 being folded over the larger or headed end of its enclosed matches and removably retained with its free-end inserted or tucked under the strike-flap 7 in the usual manner.

The front or tucked flap of the cover 6 is preferably ornamented or provided with suitable indicia, as at 8, and I may state that, although not specifically indicated on the present drawing, preferably the covers 6 are printed with attractive colors or the like.

The tray A has a width dimension preferably less than that of the respective books B, and the books B are arranged in a longitudinal series of side-wise adjacent tray-transverse rows, as 9, the books B being alternately upended for compactness and so as to bring the large ends of the terminal books of each row thereof disposed above the side-walls 3 for exposing the ornamental markings 8 of the front flap of the cover 6 at the
long sides of the tray A, the small ends of such terminal books B being disposed within the tray A for concealing the strikes 7 behind the tray-side-walls 3, the latter serving also most efficiently for longitudinally aligning the rows 9 in the tray A.

The arrangement of the books B in the transverse rows 9 as described enables the use of a tray, as A, having its width less than that of a book B, whereby, as will be seen, relatively few books B are in a particular row 9, and hence a book A may be readily removed from the tray A without seriously disturbing the remainder of the matches in the row or in the tray.

C designates a wrapper, preferably of transparent material, as glassine, cellophane, or the like. Preferably, also, the wrapper C is of generally air and moisture-proof character and is applied to and then preferably sealed for enclosing the tray A and its contained books B, whereby the match-books are maintained in orderly arrangement in the tray and also preserved in a fresh, dry, and readily ignitable condition. Moreover, the tray A serves most conveniently for holding the books B in proper shape for handling the same as a unit during the wrapping operation.

In the use of my new match-book package, the books B, being confined by the tray A in packed relation in the wrapper C, may hence be most conveniently removed one at a time by simply removing successive portions of the wrapper C for exposing the also successive rows 9 of the books B.

And for dislodging the inside or central books B of the rows 9 thereof, the finger-apertures 2 in the bottom wall of the tray A provide a means for pressing with the finger-tip upwardly upon a particular book B sufficiently, it may be said, even when the wrapper C envelops the tray, for shifting the suppressed book above its fellows, whereby such shifted book may be readily grasped for lifting the same from the tray.

It will thus be seen that my new package accomplishes the objects stated, and it will be also understood that changes and modifications in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of the package may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

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

1. As an article of manufacture, the match-book package herein described, the same comprising, in combination, an oblong rectangular tray comprising a bottom wall and opposed end and side walls upstanding from the bottom wall, and a plurality of match-books disposed in the tray in a series of side-wise abutting transverse rows, the books in each row being compactly alternately upended and the tray side walls engaging the outer books of the respective rows for longitudinally aligning the several rows in the package.

2. As an article of manufacture, the match-book package herein described, the same comprising, in combination, an oblong rectangular tray comprising a bottom wall and opposed end and side walls upstanding from the bottom wall, and a plurality of match-books disposed in the tray in a series of sidewise abutting transverse rows, the books in each row being compactly alternately upended and the tray side walls engaging the outer books of the respective rows for longitudinally aligning the several rows in the package, the side and end walls of the tray being of reduced height relatively to the height dimension of the books for visually exposing along the opposite long sides of the package a portion of the outer face of the covers of the outer books of the respective rows.

3. As an article of manufacture, the match-book package herein described, the same comprising, in combination, an oblong rectangular tray comprising a bottom wall and opposed end and side walls upstanding from the bottom wall, a plurality of match-books disposed in the tray in a series of sidewise abutting transverse rows, the books in each row being compactly alternately upended and the tray side walls engaging the outer books of the respective rows for longitudinally aligning the several rows in the package, the side and end walls of the tray being of reduced height relatively to the height dimension of the books for visually exposing along the opposite long sides of the package a portion of the outer face of the covers of the outer books of the respective rows, and a wrapper of transparent material tightly enveloping and engaging the tray and said series of match-books for retaining the same in their said relation.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

ADOLPH H. ROSENBERG.