

April 20, 1926.

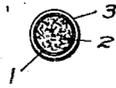
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J. F. KNAPP  
FIRE SAFE CIGARETTE  
Filed Oct. 6, 1925

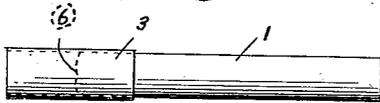
*Fig. 1.*



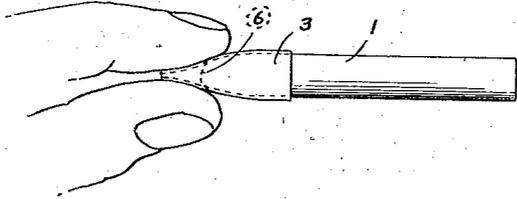
*Fig. 2.*



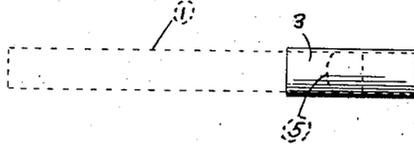
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FIRE-SAFE CIGARETTE.

Application filed October 6, 1925. Serial No. 60,828.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN F. KNAPP, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of San Jose, county of Santa Clara, and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in a Fire-Safe Cigarette, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cigarettes and has for its object a means for controlling the fire in a cigarette so as to insure its extinguishment at any predetermined point or provide for immediate extinguishment.

Briefly described—my invention comprises the combination of a common cigarette with a single tubular band slidably mounted thereon, and made of a material sufficiently resistant to the fire of a cigarette so as to extinguish the same when the band is slid to project over the burning end, or when the burning end reaches a point within the band.

In the drawings hereto illustrating my invention, Figure 1 shows a common cigarette with my fire control band in the position it would occupy when the cigarette is sold.

Figure 2 is an end view of Figure 1.

Figure 3 shows the band slid outwardly over the burning end of the cigarette so as to shut off the air circulation and thus cause speedy extinguishment of the fire.

Figure 4 shows the projecting end of the sleeve being pinched by the fingers of the smoker to cause immediate extinguishment.

Figure 5 shows the cigarette as having burned from the dotted forward extension down to the dotted line within the sleeve and there extinguished through lack of air.

In the drawings—the cigarette comprises its paper wrapper 1 and tobacco filler 2 and slidably mounted upon the cigarette is a single sleeve 3.

This sleeve is relatively long measuring in length about three times the diameter of the cigarette—and it may be of relatively strong fire resistant paper or it may be of metal or other material, tho paper is preferred as yielding more to the form of the cigarette whether the same be of round or oval section, and frictionally remaining in any position along the cigarette.

The normal position of the sleeve when furnished on cigarettes is as shown in Figure 1 somewhat closer to the mouth end exposing the name 4 of the cigarette as print-

ed upon the wrapper or which may if desired be printed upon the sleeve.

If the cigarette is shown in Figure 1 is lighted at the left hand end it will burn freely to a point within the sleeve 3 and will then go out, owing to lack of air circulation, tho if it is desired the sleeve may be slid to project beyond the right or mouth end of the cigarette as shown in Figure 5 and the fire will then continue until the cigarette has been consumed to about the dotted line before it goes out.

On the other hand if the cigarette has just been started and it is desired to lay it down upon a table or drop it into the pocket without danger of scorching the same, the sleeve may be slid forward over the burning end 6 as shown in Figure 3 thus making it safe against spreading fire to surrounding material, and insuring its going out, tho if desired to extinguish it immediately the sleeve affords a safe grip for pinching over the burning end 6 as indicated in Figure 4.

My special slidable sleeve as described will therefore be seen to provide a positive control for the fire in a cigarette with consequent elimination of the present danger of spreading fire through discarded cigarettes, for the band in providing for smothering or pinching the fire without injury or trouble to the user will insure the fire being put out upon throwing away a cigarette equipped therewith, tho if the band is not slid over the fire or pinched, the fire being usually close to the band will speedily go out automatically.

In addition to the feature of fire protection, other advantages are obtained from the use of this band, such as economy, comfort, and convenience. A lighted cigarette can be easily extinguished and left in such condition that it can be used again. The smoke from a cigarette can be instantly shut off so that the cigarette may be held in the mouth or set down without smoke arising to burn the eyes or throat, or defile the atmosphere. The band can also be used for a fingerhold, preventing stain, or as a mouth-piece.

In considering the above invention it should not be confused with cigar bands or other bands as heretofore proposed, for a cigar band will not function to put out a cigar as it may be smoked clear through one

while usually burning the same in two, nor will very short bands accomplish the desired result even if otherwise adapted to resist the fire, as it requires a combination of proper length together with physical adaptability in order to make the device practicable, and when so made constitutes a valuable improvement in effecting the advantages enumerated.

I claim:

A cigarette with a single tubular band of paper slidably fitting over and upon the paper wrapping thereof, said band being of relatively heavy paper adapted to resist burning when projected over the fire of the lighted cigarette.

JOHN F. KNAPP.