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CIGARETTE HOLDER

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Fig. 1

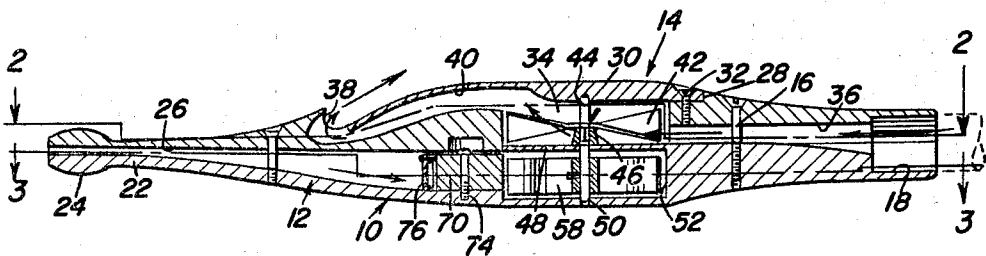


Fig. 2

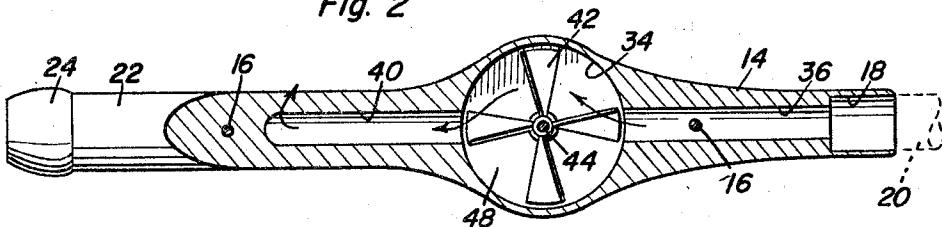


Fig. 3

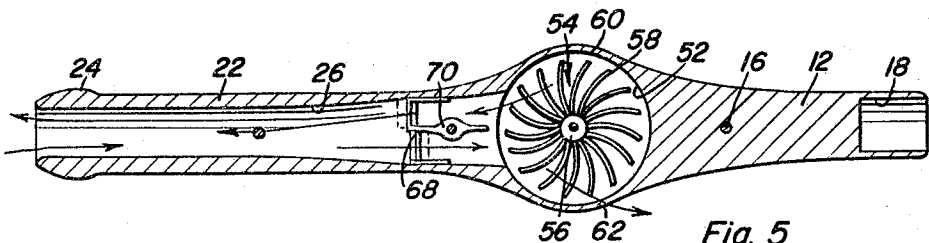


Fig. 4

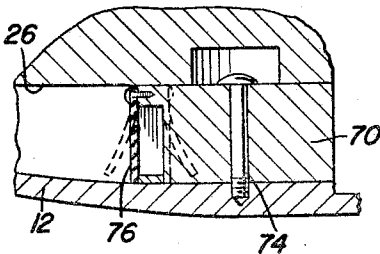
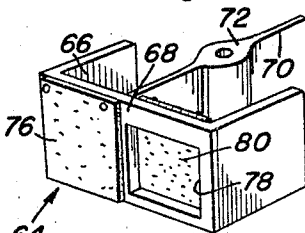


Fig. 5



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CIGARETTE HOLDER

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The present invention generally relates to a cigarette holder and more particularly to a cigarette holder which will assist the user in eliminating the intake of cigarette smoke into the mouth and other oral passageways.

The cigarette holder of the present invention is primarily constructed for habitual smokers who want to or have to quit smoking and find it rather difficult to do so. The cigarette holder is also primarily constructed for persons who wish to pretend to smoke but who do not wish any of the smoke to enter their throat, mouth, lungs or the like thereby removing any possible danger of harmful effects of such smoke. The cigarette holder may be considered psychological in nature and actually has two passages, one for the user's breath either during inhalation or exhalation and the other for the smoke from the cigarette. The two passages are completely separate and isolated from each other.

In using the cigarette holder, it operates generally in the nature of a conventional holder in that the cigarette is placed in one end of the holder and the other end of the holder is placed in the mouth of the user. The cigarette is then lighted and by the person using the device alternately inhaling and exhaling the breath or air passage, a fan or wheel will be turned which is in communication with the smoke passage wherein the blades which are somewhat similar to an electric fan will cause air to be drawn through the cigarette and smoke drawn into the device and discharge from the cigarette holder adjacent the user's lips thus simulating the conditions which exist when the person is actually smoking.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a cigarette holder wherein the inhalation and exhalation of air serves to operate a fan means for drawing smoke from the cigarette and discharging it adjacent the user's lips for actually simulating the user smoking the cigarette.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a longitudinal, vertical sectional view taken substantially upon a longitudinal center line illustrating the construction of the invention;

FIGURE 2 is a longitudinal, plan sectional view taken substantially upon the plane passing along section line 2-2 of FIGURE 1 illustrating the construction of the fan means and the relationship thereof to the smoke inlet and discharge passages;

FIGURE 3 is a sectional plan view taken substantially upon the plane passing along section line 3-3 of FIGURE 1 illustrating the structural details of the power means for propelling the smoke fan;

FIGURE 4 is a detail sectional view of one of the flap valves employed in the present invention; and

FIGURE 5 is a detail perspective view illustrating the flap valve assembly.

Referring now specifically to the drawings, the numeral 10 generally designates the cigarette holder of the present invention which includes a bottom portion generally designated by numeral 12 and a top portion generally designated by numeral 14 which portions are secured together in assembled relation and are retained in this position by screw-threaded fasteners 16 or the like. When assembled,

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the cigarette holder is generally elongated and one end thereof is provided with a recess or socket 18 for receiving a cigarette 20 in the usual manner of a cigarette holder. The other end is flattened out and rounded in the form of a mouthpiece 22 for insertion into the mouth. The mouthpiece 22 is provided with an enlargement 24 on the tip end thereof for ease of retaining the device in the mouth. The mouthpiece 22 is provided with a longitudinal air passageway 26 therein.

The top portion 14 is provided with a recess 28 having a removable cover 30 thereon which is held in place by screw-threaded fasteners 32. The cover forms a closure for an enlarged centrally disposed recess 34 which communicates with the socket 18 by virtue of a longitudinal smoke inlet passageway 36. The central recess 34 is communicated with a smoke outlet opening 38 adjacent the mouthpiece 22 by virtue of a smoke discharge passageway 40 which communicates with the recess 34 at the upper end thereof while the smoke inlet passage 36 communicates with the recess 34 adjacent the bottom thereof. Disposed rotatably in the recess 34 is an axial flow fan or bladed assembly 42 which includes a central hub mounted on a shaft 44 having one end removably journaled in a socket in the interior surface of the cover 30. The other end of the shaft 44 is polygonal and received in a rotatable member 46 which engages a partition or bottom plate 48 generally in sealed relation. Extending through the partition 48 is a drive shaft 50 which drives the member 46 wherein the cover 30 may be easily removed along with the fan 42 and the entire interior of the recess and the fan may be thus easily cleaned to prevent any accumulation of tars, nicotine or the like in the smoke passageways.

Underlying the recess 34 and disposed below the partition plate or bottom plate 48, the bottom member 12 is provided with a recess 52 for rotatably receiving an impeller assembly generally designated by numeral 54 and which includes a central hub 56 secured to the shaft 50 and a plurality of radially extending and curved blades 58 received in the recess 52 but having the ends thereof spaced from the interior surface of the recess 52. The side wall of the recess 52 is provided with an inlet opening 60 and an outlet opening 62 on opposite sides thereof and the recess 52 is also communicated with the longitudinal bore 26 in the mouthpiece through a valve assembly generally designated by reference numeral 64 and illustrated specifically in FIGURE 5.

The valve assembly 64 is generally in the form of a U-shaped member 66 having a transverse bight portion 68 extending laterally of and forming a closure for the passageway 26. Centrally of the bight portion 68, there is provided a fixed vertical vane or flange 70 having an enlarged central area 72 receiving a fastener 74 which attaches the valve assembly to the bottom of the passageway 26.

The side of the bight portion 68 nearest the side of the recess having the inlet opening 60 therein is provided with a flap check valve 76 for closing an inlet opening in the bight portion 68. The flap valve 76 is on the far side of the bight portion 68 in relation to the inlet opening 60 whereby reduction in pressure in the passageway 26 will cause the flap valve 76 to be moved away from the periphery of the opening thereby enabling air to be drawn in through the inlet opening 60 and into the longitudinal passageway 26. The partition 70 terminates adjacent the periphery of the wheel 54 so that the air coming in through the inlet opening will impinge upon the radial blades 58 and will cause the bladed assembly 54 to rotate about the axis of the shaft 50 and cause rotation of the shaft 50 and the fan.

The other side of the bight portion 68, that is, the side adjacent the outlet 62, is provided with an enlarged open-

ing 78 and a flap valve 80 which operates in the same manner as the flap valve 76 but this flap valve enables flow of air out through the opening 78 and against the blades 58 and then out through the outlet opening 62. Thus inhalation and exhalation of air or breath by the person using the device by alternately sucking in or drawing in air through the inlet 60 and blowing out air through the outlet 62, the fan 42 will be caused to operate rotationally thus enabling the fan to create suction on the cigarette and discharge the cigarette smoke through the passageway 40 and opening 38 adjacent the lips so that others may actually think the person using the device of the present invention is smoking the cigarette.

In using the present invention, a cigarette 20 is disposed in the socket 18 in the usual manner and ignited in the usual manner. The mouthpiece 22 is disposed in the mouth and held therein in the usual manner. When the breath is drawn in, such as during inhalation, air is drawn in through the inlet opening 60 where it will engage the blades 58 and cause rotation of the assembly 54 thus rotating the shaft 50. The air will pass in through the flap valve 76 and into the mouthpiece passageway 26 into the mouth. During this intake of air, the fan 42 rotates and draws air from the cigarette through the inlet smoke passage 36, into the recess 34 and out through the passageway 40 and discharge opening 38. Then, when the breath is exhaled, air will pass out through the opening 78 and engage the blades 58 on the opposite side of the shaft 50 and then be discharged out through the opening 62 thereby further causing rotation of the bladed assembly 54 for further discharge of smoke from the opening 38 which is adjacent the lips of the user thereby enabling the smoking operation to be closely simulated.

The device may be constructed of readily available materials, such as are employed in conventional cigarette holders, such as plastics or the like and the device is readily disassembled for cleaning or repair and the device enables a person to actually simulate the smoking of a cigarette when a cigarette is desired thereby enabling psychologically for the person using the device to more readily overcome the smoking habit.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A cigarette holder comprising an elongated body having a mouthpiece at one end and a cigarette receiving socket at the other end, said body including an upper recess and a lower recess separated from each other by a horizontal partition wall, a smoke inlet passageway communicating the cigarette socket with the upper recess, a smoke discharge passageway communicating the upper recess with a discharge opening in the top surface of the body adjacent the lips of a user when the lips are engaged

with the mouthpiece, a passageway communicating the lower recess with the mouthpiece end of the body, air inlet means for said bottom recess for admitting air into the bottom recess and into the passageway into the mouth of the user, a radial bladed impeller mounted in the bottom recess for engagement by air passing into the recess and into the longitudinal passage thereby causing rotation of the impeller, and a fan mounted in the upper recess and connected with the impeller for rotation thereby causing reduction in pressure in the smoke inlet passage for drawing smoke from the cigarette into the upper recess for discharge through the longitudinal passageway and discharge opening.

2. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein said bottom recess is provided with an air outlet opening remote from the air inlet opening, and a check valve assembly enabling air to pass in from the air inlet opening over the impeller and air to pass outwardly through the air outlet over the impeller thereby causing rotation of the impeller during both inhalation and exhalation.

3. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein said fan in the upper recess is of the axial flow type and is detachably and removably connected with the impeller in sealed relation to the partition.

4. The structure as defined in claim 3 wherein said body is provided with a removable cover for the upper recess thereby enabling the components to be removed for cleaning.

5. The structure as defined in claim 4 wherein said impeller includes a central hub and a plurality of radially extending curved blades disposed in a vertical plane parallel with the center of rotation thereof.

6. The structure as defined in claim 5 wherein said body is constructed of two separable halves enabling separation of the components for easy cleaning.

7. The structure as defined in claim 2 wherein said check value means includes a pair of openings communicated with the bottom recess, a flap valve for closing each opening, said flap valves being disposed on opposite ends of the openings for permitting passage of air during inhalation and exhalation.

8. A cigarette holder comprising an elongated body having a cigarette socket in one end and a mouthpiece at the other end, smoke fan means disposed in said body and having an inlet communicated with the exterior of the body adjacent the mouthpiece, and means in said body connected with said fan means for actuating said fan means, said fan actuating means including a rotatable member driven by inhalation and exhalation of air through the mouthpiece.

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