M. G. HILPERT.

POCKET HUMIDOR.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 3, 1916.

1,305,467. Patented June 3, 1919.

Fig. 1

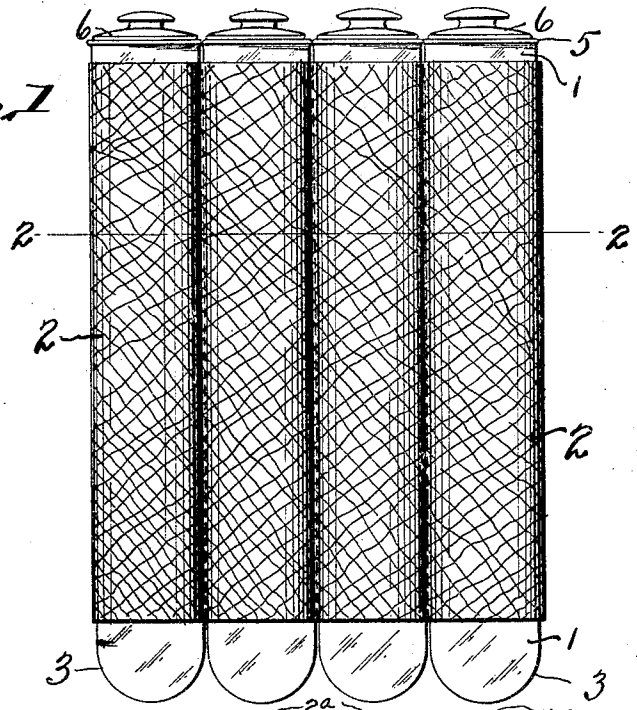


Fig. 2

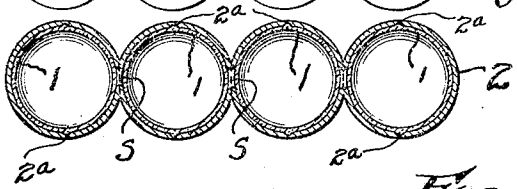


Fig. 3.

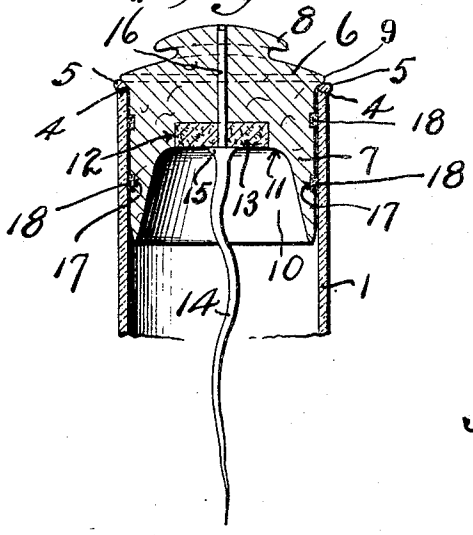
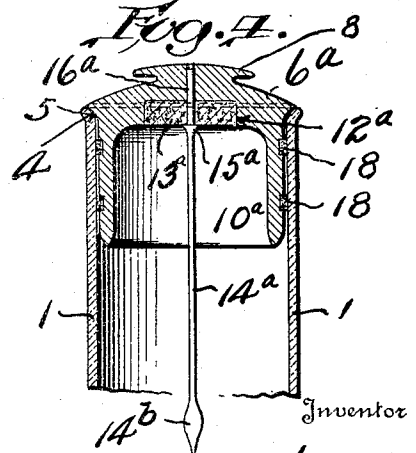


Fig. 4.



Inventor

MEIER GEO. HILPERT

By

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MEIER GEO. HILPERT, OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

POCKET-HUMIDOR.

1,305,467. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 3, 1919.

Application filed May 3, 1916. Serial No. 95,184.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MEIER GEO. HILPERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pocket-Humidors, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to containers or receptacles for holding cigars, and has special reference to a new device of this character adapted for personal use and intended to be used as a pocket humidor.

Accordingly, the invention has in view a device which not only protects the shape and integrity of the cigar, but at the same time preserves the freshness and aromatic qualities thereof, through a humidifying agency. In this connection, the invention proposes to provide an individual holder or container unit for a cigar having sealing means whereby the cigar is not exposed to the atmosphere except when withdrawn for use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel cap or seal for the container or unit which engages with the cigar to facilitate its removal therefrom, and when in place holds the same in a stationary or fixed position to prevent its shaking about and becoming broken. Furthermore, this engagement with the cigar is such that the body thereof is pierced or punctured to provide a draw hole, whereby the usual necessity of cutting off the end is eliminated, in order to obtain a free smoke passage through the cigar.

With the above and other objects in view, which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter more fully described, illustrated and claimed.

A preferred and practical embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the improved humidor and cigar case.

Fig. 2 is a cross-section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view of one form of cap or sealing plug.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 showing a modified form of sealing plug.

Similar references designate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the invention it should be understood that the essential features thereof are necessarily applicable to a single cigar container, or any number of such containers as shown in the drawings, but for convenience in disclosing the invention in a practical and commercial form there is shown in the drawings, a plurality of tubular container members 1 which may be held together to form a single case or unit by means of a suitable covering or casing member 2. The said tubular container members 1 are preferably of glass, though it may be found advantageous, under certain conditions, to construct the same of celluloid or aluminum. However, it is preferred that the tubes, each constituting a separate and independent cigar holding unit, be made of a transparent material whereby the lower closed end portions 3 thereof may project below the lower edge of the casing 2, thereby forming windows at this point so that it may be readily determined whether or not the unit is filled or empty. The upper and open end of each tube is formed with an outwardly flaring mouth portion 4 which terminates in a marginal head 5 to provide a neat and finished edge for the mouth of the containers. In this connection, it may also be noted that the outward flaring of the mouth 4 of the tube is of importance in facilitating the insertion of cigars into the tube. That is to say, in case a cigar is not perfectly round, as is usually the case with cigars that are packed in a somewhat moist condition, it may be pushed into the container without the slightly squared corners thereof being ruptured or torn by the mouth o fthe tube.

Referring further to the casing member 2, which holds the units 1 in assembled formation it may be noted that the same is preferably of leather or equivalent material which will more or less protect the tubes 1, and at the same time, because of its yielding and flexible nature, more firmly hold the units together. As shown in Fig. 2, this casing is preferably made to conform to the outline or circumference of the units 1, the opposite walls thereof being connected by means of suitable stitching, as indicated at S. Thus, since the casing is initially constructed to receive the tubular members 1,

the interior of each compartment, formed as stated, may be provided with a coating of suitable adhesive so that when the tubes 1 are inserted in the opening, they will be firmly united with the casing, and if desired their fastening connection may be supplemented by any suitable fastenings.

The upper or open end of each tube is closed by means of a sealing plug or cap designated generally as 6, and comprising the body portion 7, having at one end a finger gripping means or knob 8 and a sealing flange 9 for resting against the bead 5 at the upper end of the tube 1 to seal the tube at this point and at the same time prevent the entrance of the plug too far into the tube. The end of the plug opposite the finger gripping knob 8 is formed with a cigar receiving recess 10, which opens into the hollow tube 1 when the plug 6 is in position to receive the mouth end of a cigar placed therein. The bottom 11 of the recess 10 is provided with a suitable cavity or recess 12 for receiving a humidifying member or wad 13, which latter may be of asbestos or equivalent material, capable of holding a sufficient quantity of moisture to preserve the free aromatic smoking qualities of the cigar.

A novel and distinctive feature of the invention is the provision of a cigar engaging and piercing member 14 which is carried by the plug 6 and extends down into the interior of the tube to engage with the cigar placed therein. This spear not only facilitates the removal of the cigar from the tube and holds the same in place in case it is slightly smaller than the tube, but at the same time pierces the mouth end of the cigar to provide a draw hole, and is preferably provided with a holding flange 15 for the humidifying pad 13, and a holding shank 16, the latter entering a suitable hole drilled in the plug body concentric with the axis thereof. That is to say, this member 14 is preferably emplaced in the plug in such a manner that the enlargement or flange 15 thereof holds the absorbent member 13 in the cavity 12, while at the same time, the shank, 16 thereof, is firmly embedded in the body of the plug so that it is firmly carried thereby.

With further reference to the plug 6, it may be noted that the same may be formed of any suitable material. Fig. 3 shows this cap formed of wood, and the outer side thereof provided with annular recesses 17 for receiving sealing rings or washers 18. The said washers 18 are preferably of rubber, and are so arranged that an airtight fit is provided between the body of the plug and the inner wall of the tube, to exclude all atmosphere and fully preserve the aromatic qualities of the cigar contained within the tube. In the type of plug 6, shown in Fig. 3, the member 14 may be of spiral formation, and may be made of any suitable metal not apt to corrode or rust on account of the moisture in the tube.

Another type of end closure plug or sealing cap is shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings. In this instance, the plug is made of metal, hence the sealing rings, though it is intended to cover flexible plug materials, such for instance as rubber, in which case, by making the depending cylindrical walls of the plug slightly larger in diameter, the contraction of the walls when the plug is forced into the cylinder or tube, will provide the necessary and desired seal. In each instance, however, all of the essential characteristics of the plug shown in Fig. 3 are observed, the only noticeable difference being that the cigar receiving recess 10^a is somewhat larger than the corresponding recess 10 in the plug 6. The cigar engaging member 14^a employed in connection with this type of cap is preferably straight with the enlarged cigar engaging head 14^b at the end thereof, the opposite end being provided with an annular shoulder or flange 15^a for holding the absorbent wad 13^a in the recess 12^a in the body of the plug. As in the other form, the shank 16^a of the spear 14^a is frictionally held in a hole formed concentric with the longitudinal axis of the body of the plug, and in all other respects the features of the two plugs are identical. Thus, it will be apparent that either a metal or a wooden plug may be used to advantage wherever desired.

In view of the foregoing, it will be apparent that the present invention aims to provide a pocket humidor or cigar case for conveniently carrying cigars on the person, and at the same time preserving their integrity and aroma under all conditions. Furthermore, the invention provides for handling each cigar separately and independently of the other, and in a convenient and quick manner, through the provision of a sealing plug having cigar engaging means which pierces the body of the cigar and provides a draw hole, thus eliminating the necessity of cutting off the end in order to obtain a free draft of smoke.

Without further description, it is thought that the many features and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent, and it will, of course, be understood that changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction can be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A pocket humidor including a cigar holding receptacle, a closure plug, a humidifying member carried by the plug,

and a cigar piercing member carried by the plug and arranged to form a retainer for the humidifying member.

2. A pocket humidor including a cigar holding receptacle, and a closure plug having external finger gripping means and carrying upon its inner side cigar engaging and withdrawing means.

3. A pocket humidor including a cigar holding receptacle, and a closure plug having cigar engaging and piercing means.

4. A pocket humidor including a cigar holder and a closure plug therefor having finger gripping means on one end, and cigar engaging and piercing means on the other end.

5. A pocket humidor including a cigar holding receptacle, and a closure plug therefor, said plug having finger gripping means at one end, a recessed cigar receiving cavity at the other end, and cigar engaging and piercing means carried by said plug and projecting from the said cigar receiving cavity.

6. A pocket humidor including a cigar holding receptacle, and a closure plug therefor, said closure plug having finger gripping means on one end, a cigar receiving cavity in the other end, an absorbent wad arranged at the bottom of said cigar receiving cavity, a cigar engaging and piercing member having one end piercing said absorbent wad and embedded in the body of the plug and the other end extending down into said receptacle beyond the mouth of said cigar receiving cavity.

7. A pocket humidor including a cigar holding receptacle, and a closure plug therefor, said closure plug including a body having finger gripping means at one end, a cigar receiving cavity at the other, a wad receiving recess at the bottom of said cigar receiving cavity, an absorbent wad arranged in said recess, a cigar engaging and piercing member having a flange and reduced shank portion at one end, said shank portion being embedded in the body of the plug and said flange holding the absorbent wad in the recess, an annular supporting flange formed at the upper edge of said body, and the lower portion of the latter having external grooves and packing rings arranged in said grooves.

8. A pocket humidor comprising a casing, a plurality of individual cigar container units adapted to be secured in said casing, each unit being permanently closed at one end and temporarily closed at its open end by a closure plug carrying cigar engaging and piercing means.

9. A pocket humidor comprising a casing having a plurality of individual cigar container units adapted to be placed within the container, each unit including a closure plug comprising a body having a circumferential groove, a sealing washer in said groove, an exterior finger gripping member, and a cigar engaging spear having one end embedded in the body of the plug and the other end projecting into the container.

10. A pocket humidor comprising a casing, having a plurality of individual cigar container units arranged therein, each unit including a closure plug comprising a body having a relatively deep cigar receiving cavity in its underside, and a cigar engaging and piercing spear carried by the plug and projecting from the central part of the cavity down into the container.

11. A pocket humidor comprising a casing having a plurality of individual cigar container units arranged therein, each unit including a closure plug comprising a body having a circumferential groove, a sealing washer in said groove, an exterior finger gripping member, a relatively deep cigar receiving cavity on the side opposite said knob, and a cigar engaging spear carried by the body of the plug at the center of the said cavity and projecting downwardly into the container.

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

MEIER GEO. HILPERT.

Witnesses:
JACOB T. SNYDER,
GEORGE BERGNER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."