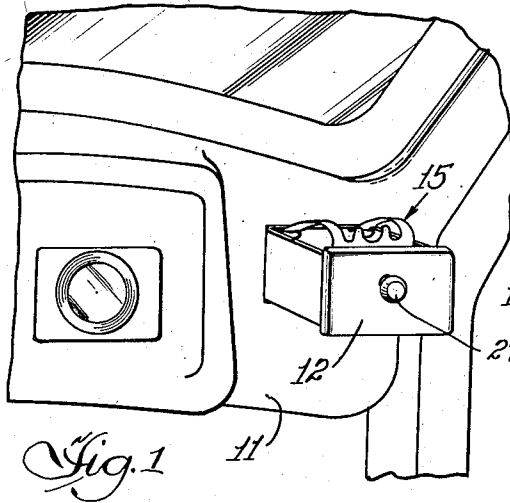
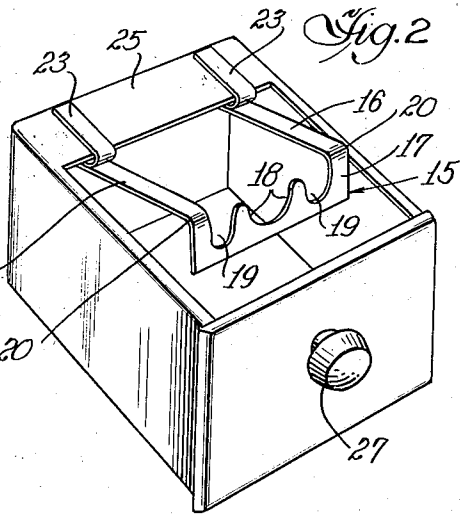
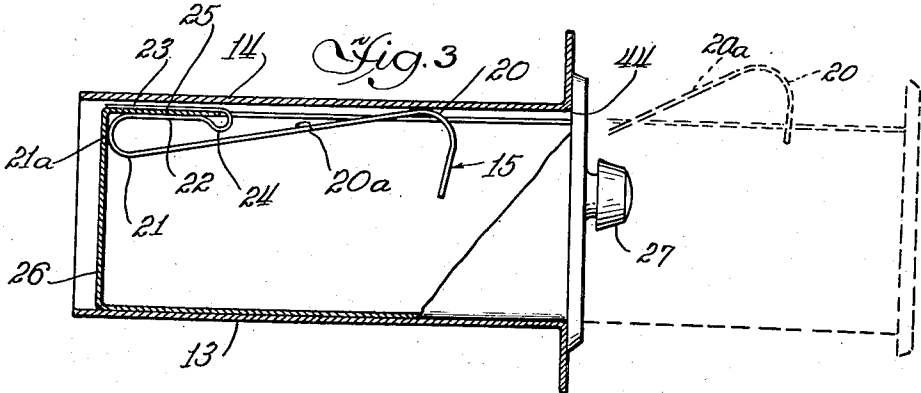
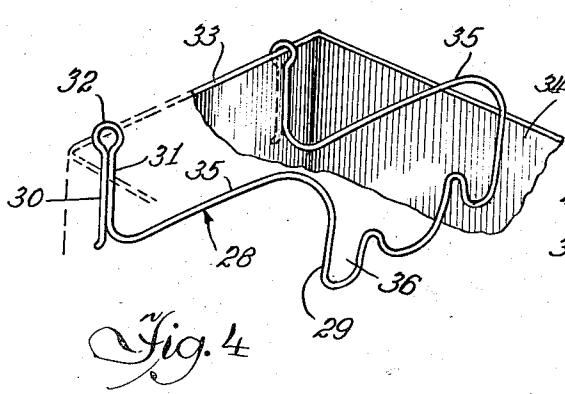
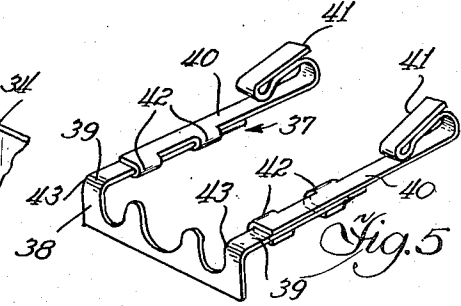


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CIGARETTE OR CIGAR REST

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CIGARETTE OR CIGAR REST

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6 Claims. (Cl. 131-241)

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This invention relates to a cigarette or cigar rest more particularly for use in automobiles.

It is well known that automobiles, for example, are commonly equipped with drawers or other receptacles for the ashes and butts of cigarettes and cigars, and the present invention provides a simple, inexpensive, and markedly efficient attachment for such drawers or receptacles which may be readily applied by the car owner and which may be automatically concealed when the drawer or receptacle is closed, while not interfering with the opening of the drawer or receptacle when an occupant of the car desires to use it while smoking, the invention including spring means projecting the rest portion of the device into position for ready accessibility to receive a cigar or cigarette temporarily thereon when the person smoking wishes to lay it down.

In another aspect, the present device disposes the cigarette in position so as to guard against danger of fire to the upholstery or the clothes of the occupants, and, moreover, in such position that if it be forgotten by the smoker the ashes will drop into the ash receptacle and the cigarette will be automatically extinguished.

These and other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description taken together with the accompanying drawings showing illustrative embodiments of the invention, and in which drawings—

Figure 1 shows the application of the invention to a sliding drawer in an automobile instrument panel;

Figure 2 is a perspective view, somewhat enlarged, of the drawer shown in Fig. 1 with the present invention applied thereto;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the drawer shown in Figs. 1 and 2 with the invention applied, the latter being shown in elevation, the full lines showing the drawer when retracted into the instrument panel and the broken lines indicating the position of the parts when the drawer is pulled out for smoking purposes;

Figure 4 shows a modification of the invention in an application thereof to a drawer of the tilting rather than the sliding type; and

Figure 5 shows a further modification.

Referring in detail to the illustrative construction shown in the drawings, the numeral 11 may indicate a conventional instrument panel of an automobile having among other things a sliding drawer 12 adapted for the reception of ashes and butts of cigars or cigarettes. As is common in such panel construction, the panel 11 may have a rearward extension 13 which supports the

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drawer 12 in its sliding movements and another extension 14 parallel with the extension 13 spaced thereabove to act as a closure for the drawer 12 when it is retracted into the instrument panel, the extensions 13 and 14 thus forming a runway for the drawer.

In accordance with the present invention, the device, one form of which is indicated by the numeral 15, is adapted to be readily secured by the user within such drawer or receptacle 12, in cantilever fashion, and normally extending upwardly and outwardly therein.

As illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive, the device 15 may be formed from springy strip sheet metal and stamped out, initially in the flat, to somewhat U-shape, providing two legs 16 and a connecting and in this instance integral bight portion 17. In the interior of the bight portion are formed, as here shown, a central slot 18 and two slots 19, one on each side of the center slot 18. The center slot 18 is indicated to be of a size to receive a cigar therein, and the two smaller slots 19 of a size each to receive a cigarette. The bight portion 17, including the slotted elements thereof just referred to, which serves as a rest member, is bent downwardly from the legs 16 by a curved portion 20 of the legs which is curved as shown to form a gradually rounded formation in the legs at places commonly abreast, to provide, jointly and with the leg surfaces 20a, a cam surface for purposes presently to be pointed out.

At their other ends or terminations, the legs 16 are each similarly bent to form a spring loop 21 and then bent back upon themselves to provide the lapping reverse bent portions 22 and 23 for each leg, with desirably a hinge-like bight portion 24 between the lapped portions to permit the portion 23 to act as a spring tongue lying closely parallel with the portion 22 and constituting the free end of each leg.

As best seen in Figs. 2 and 3, the device 15 may be inserted in the drawer 12 by causing the lapped portions 22-23 of the leg 16 to receive grippingly between them the overhanging wall 25 of the drawer which is at the upper inner end thereof. Here the spring ends 23 serve as spring tongues overlying the drawer wall section 25 with the portions 22 snugly thereunder, and the legs, intermediately as at 21a, abutting the drawer rear wall 26 to steady the device.

Thus, as shown in Fig. 3, when the drawer is retracted within the instrument panel, that is, when the drawer is closed, the outer ends of the legs 16 act as cams which flex the legs down-

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wardly to cause the device to disappear, so to speak, within the drawer, or in other words to be depressed below the upper panel extension 14, the cam-like surfaces 20a of the legs riding thereunder. At the same time, the rest member portion 17 of the device is also depressed, and to a still greater extent, so as to be well within the confines of the drawer. Hence, if there is a cigarette or cigar on the rest member when the drawer is closed, the cigarette or cigar will be held within the drawer and thereby be disposed of. If such a cigarette should happen to be still lit when the drawer is closed, it will be extinguished by the cold metal of the rest member as and if it burns down thereto, thus guarding against danger of fire.

When now, as shown in Fig. 2 and in broken lines in Fig. 3, the occupant of the car desires to smoke, the drawer 12 may be drawn out from the instrument panel by means of the knob 27, and, as this is done, the spring action of the legs 16 causes their outer ends to rise to their normal unflexed position shown in Fig. 2 and in broken lines in Fig. 3, at which time the cam surface or hump 29 of the legs is elevated above the upper edge of the drawer which at the same time brings the rest member portion 17 of the device into a somewhat similarly elevated position so as to be conveniently disposed and readily accessible for the resting of a cigar thereon, say, in slot 18 of the rest member, or of one or more cigarettes in one or both of the slots 19. It will be understood that the edges of slots 19, for example, may be appropriately shaped to just snugly receive a cigarette, and that here again, if the cigarette should be left on the rest while still burning it will be automatically extinguished if and as it burns down to the metal of the device.

Since the flexible legs 16, when unflexed, will assume the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, when the drawer is open, the legs bear against the bights 24, thus minimizing vibratory motion of the device. Similarly, when the drawer is closed, the legs are braced against vibration.

Figure 4 shows a modification 28 of the device made entirely of spring wire and adapted to a receptacle or drawer which tilts forwardly from the instrument panel on a hinge adjacent its lower forward corner as is well known in the art and which need not be here shown. Here the device has the rest member portion 29 and the lapping gripping portions 30, 31 at the rear end of each leg with a hinge-like bight 32 therebetween, and the end portion 30 serving as a spring tongue. In this case, the lapped spring portions 30-31 are arranged vertically to be slid over the vertical rear wall 33 of the tilting receptacle 34. Here also, the intermediate portion of each of the spring legs of the member curve upwardly and outwardly to provide a cam 35 which causes the outer ends of the legs and the rest portion 29 to be depressed within the drawer as when the latter is closed, and either with or without a cigarette in one of the rest slots 36.

Turning to another modification, as shown in Fig. 5, the device 37 corresponding to the device 15, may be made extensible to adapt itself to drawers of different lengths. For this purpose, the rest member portion 38 may be formed separately, having leg extensions 39 which telescope into the legs 40 that are integral with spring grip portions 41 at the rear ends of the legs 40. Such telescoping may be effected by providing

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the legs 40 with lugs 42 bent from the legs 40 to underlie the leg portions 39, so that the latter may slide between the legs 40 and lugs 42 while being held thereby.

For purposes of extensibility, the leg sections 39 may be slid forwardly of the legs 40, to lengthen the device, and, to shorten the overall of the device, they can be similarly slid rearwardly, while a unitary structure is provided in either case. Here, in the unflexed position of the device the point 43 where the legs 39 turn down to form the rest member 38 would be the highest point of the device and above the level of the drawer in the open position of the drawer. Similarly to the other forms, when the drawer is retracted, the legs 39 or 40 as the case may be would ride under and in sliding engagement with the panel corner 44 to act as a cam and the device depressed as the drawer is slid rearwardly into the panel opening, the legs being flexed downwardly with respect to the gripping members 41 for that purpose.

As seen, in each instance, the cam surface providing for depression of the device when the drawer is pushed in, is desirably well toward the free end of the device so as to enhance the leverage and offer a minimum of resistance to the depression of the device and closing of the drawer.

In each case also the rest member portion is suspended below cam surfaces provided by the legs so that as the drawer is moved to a close position, the cigarette will not be displaced from the rest but will remain held thereby within the drawer.

So constructed and arranged, the device is simple to manufacture and easily applied by the car owner while serving, when applied, as a safe, convenient and efficient cigarette or cigar rest.

The invention is not intended to be limited to details of construction shown for purposes of exemplification, and various adaptations and modifications, such as for purposes of manufacture or convenience, may occur to those skilled in the art having the benefit of the present disclosure.

Such changes may be made as fall within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the invention.

The invention having been described, what is here claimed is:

1. A cigar or cigarette rest device comprising, a pair of parallel relatively widely laterally spaced elongated spring arms, said arms having rear ends and forwardly and upwardly inclined portions and portions gradually bowed downwardly at their forward ends, said forwardly and upwardly inclined portions being relatively straight to the rear of said downwardly bowed portions for a distance greater than the said downwardly bowed portions, a dependent rest element at the lower ends of said downwardly bowed portions, said rest element extending between the arms, an upstanding formation on said element terminating at its upper end below the forward ends of said upwardly inclined portions, and means at the rear ends of the arms for securing the arms adjacent the rear end of a drawer structure and within the drawer, the arms being adapted to extend above the drawer at their forward ends when the drawer is open.

2. The structure of claim 1 wherein the rest element is integral with the arms.

3. The structure of claim 1 wherein the rest element is adapted to be adjustably positioned longitudinally of the device.

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4. The structure of claim 1 wherein the rest element is integral with a pair of arm sections which slide on the arms to lengthen or shorten the device.

5. The structure of claim 1 wherein the device is formed of wire.

6. In a cigar or cigarette rest, in combination with a drawer and a panel providing a runway for opening and closing the drawer and a closure for the drawer when closed, means for mounting said rest upon a rear portion of said drawer, a relatively straight spring leg element normally extending forwardly and upwardly for a relatively great distance from said mounting means in cantilever fashion within and projecting above the drawer, and a rest member located at the free end of the spring member, said rest member being offset below the highest point of the spring member whereby when the drawer is closed the spring member acts as a cam in cooperation with

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said closure panel to depress the leg element and rest member within the drawer.

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