B. LIBERMAN.

CIGAR WRAPPER MOISTENER AND CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 15, 1910.

1,082,277. Patented Dec. 23, 1913.

Fig. 1.

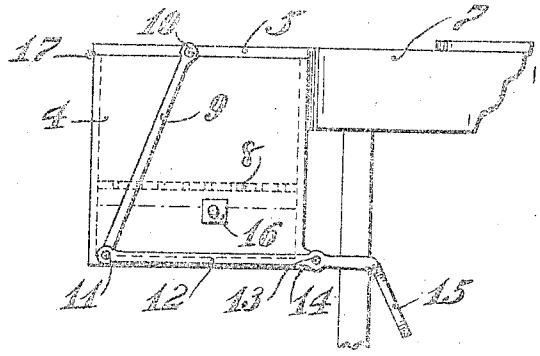



Fig. 2.

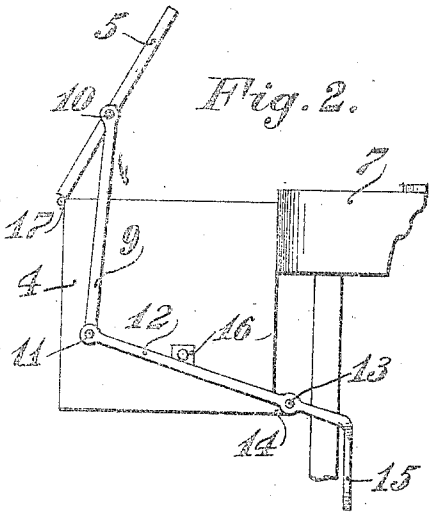
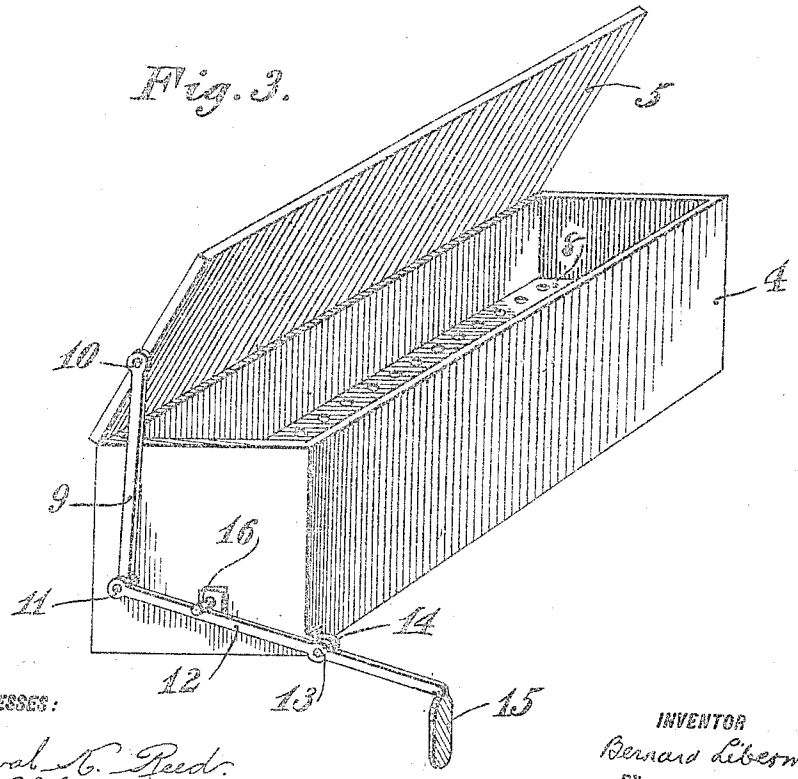



Fig. 3.




WITNESSES:

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BERNARD LIBERMAN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## CIGAR-WRAPPER MOISTENER AND CONTAINER.

1,082,277. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 23, 1913.

Application filed September 15, 1910. Serial No. 582,165.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BERNARD LIBERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Cigar-Wrapper Moistener and Container, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in cigar wrapper moistener and container.

My object is to provide improved means whereby the strips of tobacco, used for cigar wrappers, may be stored and kept moist, in a normally closed receptacle, and means whereby the receptacle may be readily opened to give the operator access thereto, from time to time, in connection with the operation of rolling and wrapping cigars.

My invention comprises a receptacle conveniently located at the side of the rolling and wrapping table, or at the side of the operator. The receptacle has a compartment or space for a moistening medium, such for example as water, or a substance containing water, a compartment or space for receiving the wrappers, and a closure such as a lid, and convenient means for operating the lid to give access to the operator, and automatic means for closing the lid.

In order that the significance of the present invention may be understood, attention is called to the universal practice at the present time, in connection with rolling and wrapping cigars whether by hand or machine. The strip of tobacco leaf used as a wrapper must be kept moist until the same is wrapped upon the cigar. The practice now is for each operator to have a pile of these wrappers inclosed between layers of damp fabric, such as a wet cloth, burlap or an old piece of bagging. This practice has several objections. For example, the wrappers which come in direct contact with the wet fabric are made too wet; the wrappers at the bottom of the pile are usually spoiled; from being constantly kept in a moist or wet state, the fabric frequently becomes moldy; particles of the fabric are liable to cling to the wrapper and become incorporated in the cigar; other foreign substances, such as dirt and insects, contaminate the wet fabric and thereby the wrappers. This method of keeping the wrappers moist, unless very carefully watched, is distinctly unsanitary. Moreover, the uncovering and covering of the pile of wrappers each time a wrapper is removed therefrom, is inconvenient and consumes much unnecessary time. The edge of the fabric, covering the pile, must be taken in both hands and carefully lifted from the pile to prevent injuring the wrappers, the wrapper is then lifted from the pile and placed on the table ready for use and the fabric covering must then be again lifted carefully to cover the pile of wrappers. Thus three operations, requiring both hands of the operator, are required to place each wrapper in position for use. The purpose of my invention is to overcome all of these objections.

Referring to the drawings, which illustrate for example a preferred embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a view in elevation of the receptacle with a portion of the wrapping table to which it is shown attached, the lid of the receptacle shown in the closed position. Fig. 2 is a similar view except that the lid is shown in the open position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the receptacle.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The drawings are intended to represent the receptacle or box 4 attached in any convenient manner to the wrapping and rolling table 7. It will of course be obvious that the receptacle may be supported in any other way, provided it is located in a position convenient to the operator, both for controlling the movement of the lid and for taking the wrappers from the receptacle as needed. The box or receptacle 4 is of size ample to accommodate a pile of strips of tobacco leaf used as wrappers. A perforated platen 8 is provided to support the pile of wrappers out of contact with the water which may fill a portion of the space in the receptacle below the platen. A lid 5 is secured by hinges 17 to the top of the box. For actuating the lid or closure 5, I provide a compound lever having the lever element 9 pivotally connected as at 10 to the lid. This lever element 9 has pivotal connection at its other end, at 11, with one end of lever element 12. Lever element 12 is supported on pivot 13 connected with lug 14, on box 4. The other or free end of lever element 12 is provided with the plate 15 for the purpose hereinafter to be described.

Operation: The box or receptacle being supplied with water to a level somewhat

beneath the platen 8, the pile of wrappers is placed upon the platen and the lid closed. The entire atmosphere within the box is moistened to keep the wrappers evenly and sufficiently moist. The box is located conveniently at one side of the operator, the lever plate 15 within the range of operation of the operator's knee or leg. By pressing the plate 15 the lid 5 is lifted to give access to the box. The operator removes a wrapper from the pile contained therein and withdraws the pressure from plate 15 whereupon the lid 5 falls by gravity to close the box. By means of this device the wrappers may remain in the box indefinitely; all are kept uniformly moist. They are effectually protected from dust and other foreign substances since the box is always closed when a wrapper is not being removed. The operator's hands are never required to open the box and thus much time is saved.

It will be noted that the raising and lowering of lid 5 is controlled by the pressure exerted upon plate 15 by the operator, and that a very short movement of said plate in either direction is sufficient to permit the opening or closing of the box. It is thus possible for the operator, by keeping his knee in contact with plate 15, to at all times control the elevation or descent of the lid. The elevation of the lid beyond a certain point is prevented by the engagement of lever 12, which has a fixed fulcrum at pivot 13 and a movable connection with lever 9 at pivot 11, with stop 16.

What I claim is:—

A receptacle and moistener for cigar wrappers, having a hinged cover, a lever pivoted at the edge of the receptacle diagonally opposite the edge to which the cover is hinged, said lever having a broadened free end adapted to be engaged and operated by a sidewise movement of the knee of the cigar maker or operator, a link connecting the other end of the lever with the cover and a stop to limit the cover opening movement of the lever, said receptacle arranged for attachment to a cigar maker's table with the upper surface of its cover substantially flush with the surface of the table.

BERNARD LIBERMAN.

Witnesses:

HOWARD S. OKIE,

MAE HOFMANN.