

L. A. SMITH.
HUMIDOR.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 14, 1914.

1,298,415.

Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

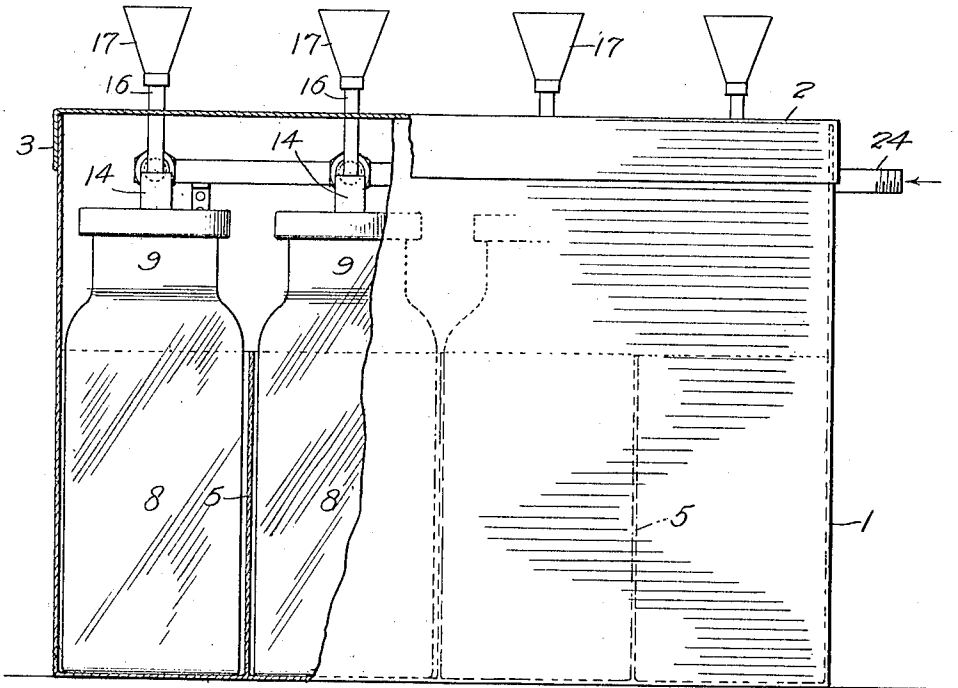
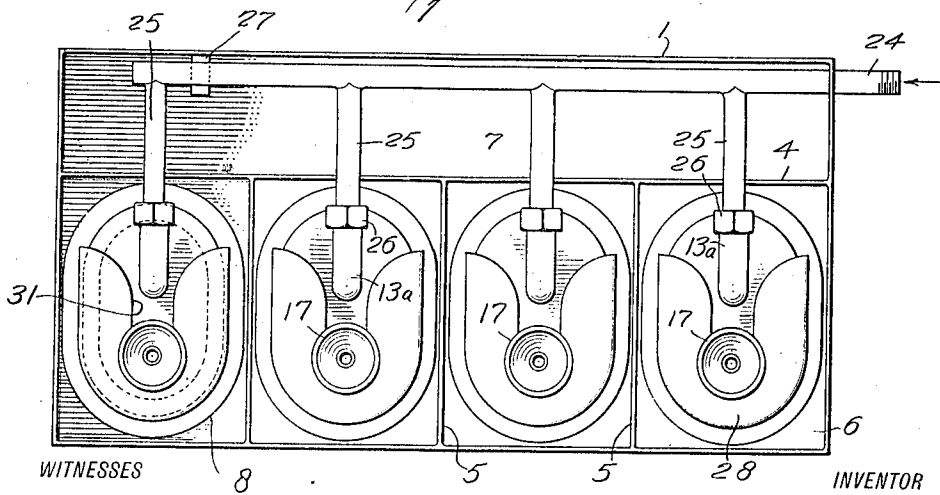


Fig. 2.



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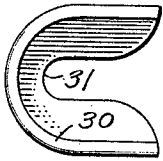


Fig. 5.

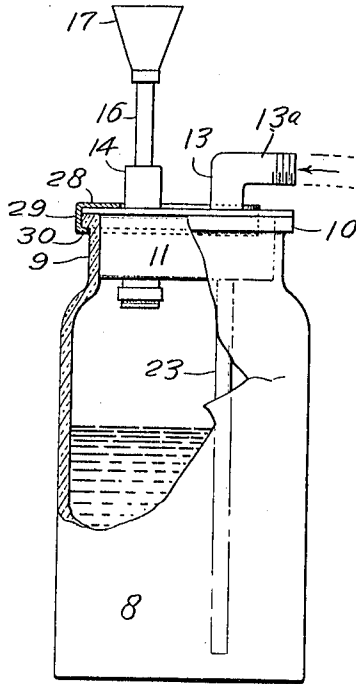
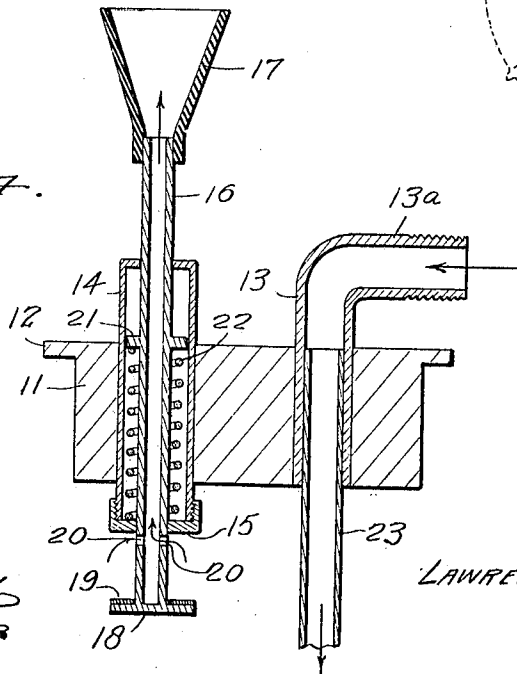


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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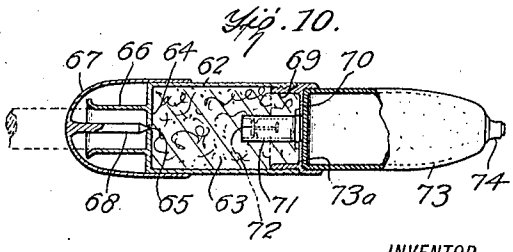
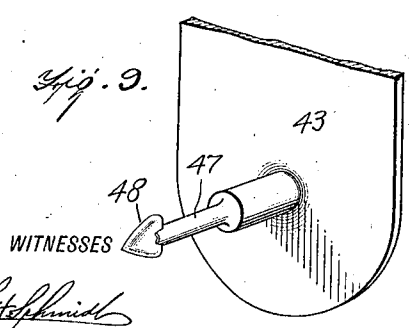
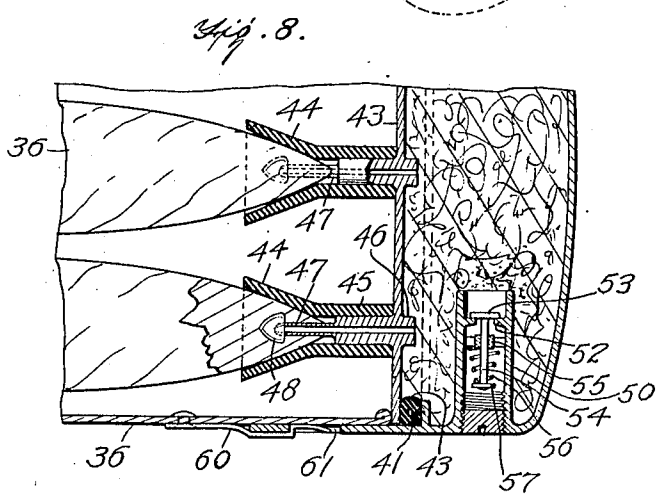
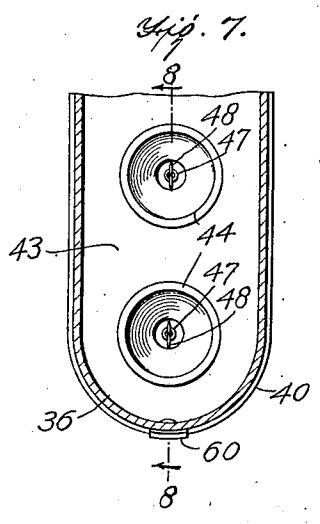
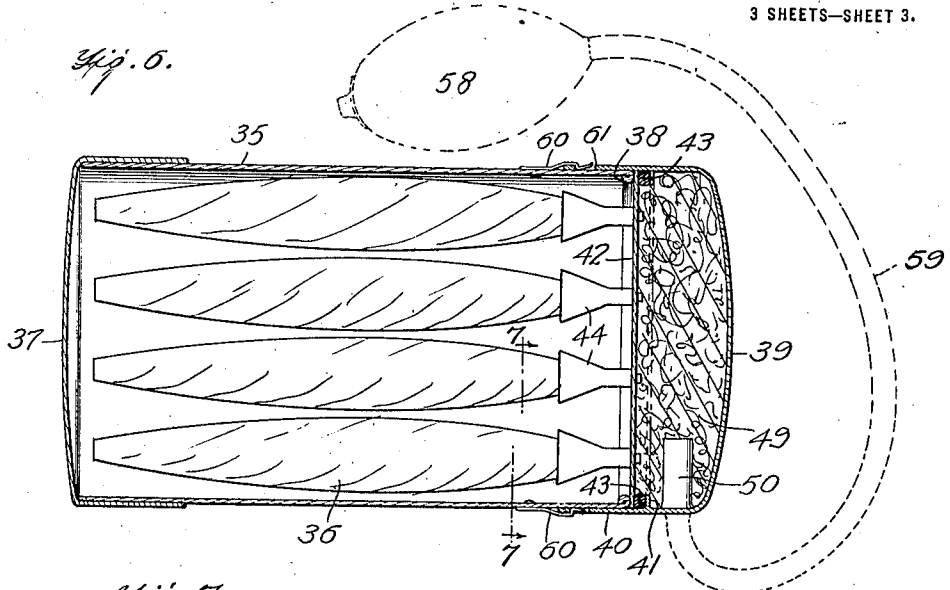
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAWRENCE A. SMITH, OF PORT GIBSON, MISSISSIPPI.

HUMIDOR.

1,298,415.

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Application filed July 14, 1914. Serial No. 850,939.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAWRENCE A. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Port Gibson, in the county of Claiborne and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Humidors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in humidors, and has for its object to provide a humidor for simultaneously moistening and flavoring cigars and like articles, wherein one or more holders for flavoring extracts are provided, each having a valve normally closed and provided with a receiver for engagement by the end of the cigar to open the valve, and having means for driving a blast of air through the flask and through the flavoring extract and through the valve into the cigar.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a front view of the improved humidor, partly in section,

Fig. 2 is a top plan view with the cover removed,

Fig. 3 is a side view of one of the containers, with parts broken away,

Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical section of the stopper of one of the containers,

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of a cover plate,

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section of a modified construction,

Fig. 7 is an enlarged section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6,

Fig. 8 is a section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7,

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a portion of the supporting plate for the cutters, and

Fig. 10 is a sectional view of a modified construction.

In the present embodiment of the invention, a box-like container 1 is provided, of suitable size and capacity, and provided with a cover plate comprising a body 2, having a depending continuous flange 3, which engages outside of the top of the container 1 to close the same. The interior of the casing is divided by a longitudinal partition 4 and a series of transverse partitions 5, into a series of rectangular compartments 6 at one side of the casing, and a compartment 7 at the other side extending the full length of the casing.

The partitions 4 and 5 do not extend to the top of the casing, but merely a little more than half way from the top to the bot-

tom. In each of the compartments 6 a flask or bottle 8 is placed, each of the said flasks being of elliptical cross section as shown more particularly in Fig. 2, and having a reduced neck 9, provided with the usual annular external rib 10 at its upper end.

The bottles or flasks 8 are of such size that they approximately fill the compartments, and the compartments are so arranged that the bottles are held with their long axes approximately parallel. A stopper 11 is provided for closing each flask or bottle, and each stopper is provided with a plurality of transverse openings and with an extended marginal rib 12, at its upper end. In one of the openings one of the arms 13 of an elbow is inserted, the lower end of the arm being flush with the under face of the stopper, and the other arm 13^a of the elbow is externally threaded as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

A substantially cylindrical casing 14 is arranged in the other opening, and the lower end of the casing is externally threaded and is closed by a cap 15. The upper end of the casing 14 and the cap 15 are provided with registering openings through which extends a tube 16, and a funnel 17 of rubber or like material is engaged with the upper end of the tube. The lower end of the tube 16 is closed by a head 18, the head extending beyond the periphery of the tube, and a packing ring or gasket 19 is arranged on that portion of the upper face of the head outside of the tube 16.

The tube is provided with radial ports 20, near its lower end, and with an annular rib 21, intermediate its ends and within the casing 14. A coil spring 22 is arranged between the cap 15 and the rib 21, the spring acting normally to lift the tube to cause the ring 19 to contact with the outer face of the cap 15. When the tube 16 is in normal position the openings 20 are within the casing 14, so that the tube is in effect a valve, the valve casing being constituted by the casing 14.

A glass tube 23 is inserted in the arm 13 of the elbow, and the said tube 23 extends from the upper face of the stopper 11 to near the bottom of the flask as shown in Fig. 3. The threaded ends 13^a of the elbow are connected to a pipe 24, extending longitudinally of the casing above the compartment 7, by means of branch pipes 25, the pipe 24 having a branch for each flask, and

unions 26 are provided for connecting the branches with the elbows.

The pipe 24 has its inner end closed; the other end extends through the end of the casing, and is externally threaded as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The pipe 24 is supported by the end wall through which it extends, and by an angle bracket 27 at the other end, the said bracket being secured to one of the side walls of the casing. The threaded end of the pipe 24 is adapted for engagement to an air pump as for instance, the usual rubber bulb, having a short section of pipe connected therewith, and the flasks are adapted to contain flavoring extracts of different characters.

Any desired flavoring extracts may be used, and when it is desired to flavor a cigar and to moisten the same, the closed end of the cigar is clipped in the usual manner after which the said end is inserted in the funnel 17 of the flask containing the desired flavor, and downward pressure is exerted on the cigar to move the tube 16 longitudinally a sufficient distance to bring the ports 20 below the cap 15.

The bulb of the air pump is then compressed, and it will be evident that the blast of air will be blown through the pipe 24 and through that branch 25 of the pipe which communicates with the flask whose valve is open. The blast will enter the flask beneath the level of the flavoring extract, and the air will escape upwardly through the flavoring extract, becoming impregnated with moisture laden with the desired flavor. The air will be drawn out through the ports 20 and through the tube 16 into and through the cigar, thus thoroughly moistening, and flavoring the same.

Each stopper 11 is preferably secured to the flask to prevent it being blown out by the blast of air by means of the holder shown in Fig. 5. This holder comprises a plate 28, having one end rounded and the other recessed, and at the side edges and the rounded end the plate is provided with a laterally extending rib 29, and the free edge of the rib is bent laterally inward as shown to form a flange 30, underlying the face of the plate in spaced relation.

The rib is of such height that the flange 30 will engage beneath the rib 10 of the bottle neck at the sides and at one end of the said neck. The opposite end of the plate is as before stated, recessed as shown at 31, to fit around the casing 14. The holders thus bind the stoppers firmly to the neck of the bottle, so that the blast of air will not force the stopper out of the bottle. If desired, a single flask may be used as shown in Fig. 3, wherein the arm 13^a of the elbow is engaged directly by the pump. The construction is precisely the same as the flasks shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Preferably the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is connected to a compressed air receiver, the connection being made with the outer end of the pipe 24 so that the only operation required by the user is to depress the valve of the container having the preferred character of flavoring extract.

It will be noted from an inspection of Fig. 1, that the tube 16 extends through the body 2 of the cover, the said body having an opening for each tube. The cover thus not only closes the container or casing 1, but in addition has the function of a stop for limiting the downward movement of the receiver 17 for the cigars.

In Fig. 6 a case 35 is shown for holding several cigars indicated at 36. The case is provided with the usual cover 37, fitting over one end of the same, and the opposite end is open and beaded as shown at 38. An auxiliary chamber in the form of a cap or head 39 is connected with the case at the end adjacent to the rib 38, the said head or cap having a flange 40, fitting over the end of the case outside of the same.

The head is provided with an internal annular rib 41, for limiting the movement of the said head toward the case 35, and a supporting plate 42 is arranged between the bead 38 of the case and the rib 41 of the head or cap, a gasket or packing ring 43 being placed between the rib and the supporting plate.

The supporting plate 43 is provided with a series of funnel-shaped supports 44, each of which has a cylindrical portion 45, which fits around a nipple 46, extending through the supporting plate 43. Each of the nipples 46 is tubular, and each nipple is provided with a tubular extension 47, extending longitudinally of the adjacent support 44 at the axis thereof and to near the upper end of the said support.

A triangular cutting blade 48 is secured to the end of each of the extensions, the said blade being in position to puncture the mouth piece end of the cigar 36, which is inserted in the said support. The cap or head 39 is designed to contain absorbent material as indicated at 49, and the said material is saturated with the flavoring extract desired for flavoring the cigar.

Each nipple 46 and its extension is open at all times, so that the air laden with the flavoring extract may pass from the interior of the head or cap 39, through the nipple and the extension into the interior of the cigar, to flavor the same. When the cigars 36 are inserted in the supports 44, each cigar is punctured by the blade 48, and the said blade and the extension 47 extends into the cigar in such manner that the flavoring extract may pass from the head or cap 39 into the cigar to thoroughly flavor the same.

The above type of humidior is designed

for pocket use for holding several cigars and the head is provided with an inlet valve casing 50, for admitting air to the head. The casing 50 is internally threaded at its 5 outer end for receiving a plug 51, for closing the casing, and the plug has a transverse kerf for receiving a screw driver or the like to remove and replace the plug.

The casing is also provided with a diaphragm 52, having an opening forming a valve seat against which seats a disk valve 53. The valve is provided with a stem 54, which is guided by a spider 55 in the valve casing, and a coil spring 56 normally holds 15 the valve closed, the spring encircling the stem between the spider and a head 57 on the stem.

If desired, the valve may be omitted, and a pump may be used for forcing air through 20 the head and the nipples into the cigars. The said pump is shown in Fig. 6, comprising a bulb 58, provided with a valve controlled inlet and having a tubular extension 59, which may be engaged with the threaded 25 portion of the casing 50. The extension 59 may be arranged to open the valve, or the valve may be opened by the current of air under pressure forced through the flexible tube 59 into the head or cap 39.

With this arrangement, the cigars are at 30 all times in such position that they may receive a portion of the flavoring extract, and the pump 58 may be used if desired, to more thoroughly flavor the cigars. The cap or 35 head 39 is held in place on the casing by means of resilient catches 60, the said catches engaging openings 61 in the flange 40 of the head or cap.

In Fig. 10 mechanism is shown for flavoring 40 cigarettes. The said mechanism comprises a casing 62, designed to contain absorbent material 63, for holding the flavoring extract, and the outer end of the casing is closed as indicated at 64, but is provided 45 with a central port 65. A guide 66 for the cigarette encircles the port, being coaxial therewith, and a cap 67 is provided for closing the end of the casing having the guide and the port, the said cap being threaded on 50 to the casing.

The cap is also provided with an internal extension 68, having a conical head for closing 55 the port 65 when the cap is in place. The cap also covers the guide 66. At the opposite end a supporting sleeve 69 is threaded into the casing 62, the said sleeve having

a diaphragm 70, provided with a central opening into which is threaded a valve casing 71. A valve 72 within the casing cooperates with the seat, and the valve has a 60 stem which is guided in the casing and is encircled by a spring which acts to hold the valve closed.

A pump in the form of a bulb 73 of flexible material is designed to be connected to 65 the sleeve 69. The bulb has a vulcanized portion 73^a, which is threaded into the sleeve, and at the opposite end the bulb is provided with a valve controlled inlet 74.

In the use of the improved construction, 70 when it is desired to flavor a cigarette, the cap 67 is removed, and the cigarette is placed in the guide 66 with one end in contact with the closed end 64 of the casing. The bulb 73 is then squeezed, and it will be evident that 75 a current of air laden with flavoring extract will be driven into the cigarette, thus thoroughly flavoring the same.

I claim:—

1. A device of the character specified, comprising a receptacle for flavoring extract, 80 means for introducing gas under pressure into the extract in the receptacle to cause the gas to become impregnated with the extract, a cigar receiving element provided 85 with means for establishing communication with the interior of the receptacle to guide the impregnated gas into and through the interior of the cigar, said cigar receiving element being spring supported and movable 90 under the pressure of the cigar, and valve mechanism normally closing the communication between the receptacle and the said element and controlled by the movement of the said element. 95

2. A device of the character specified, comprising a receptacle for flavoring extract, means for introducing air under pressure 100 into the extract in the receptacle to cause the air to become impregnated with the extract, and a cigar receiving element having communication with the interior of the receptacle and provided with means to introduce the impregnated air into the cigar adjacent to the tip, whereby said flavored gas 105 is caused by the air pressure to flow through the entire length of the cigar from the tip to the open or tuck end.

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Witnesses:

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C. M. FORREST.