Jan. 14, 1941. B. R. FRANKLIN 2,228,951

CIGARETTE HOLDER

Filed March 8, 1939

Fig. 1.

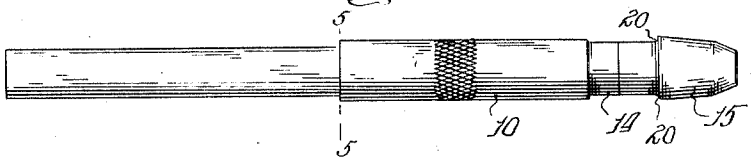


Fig. 2.

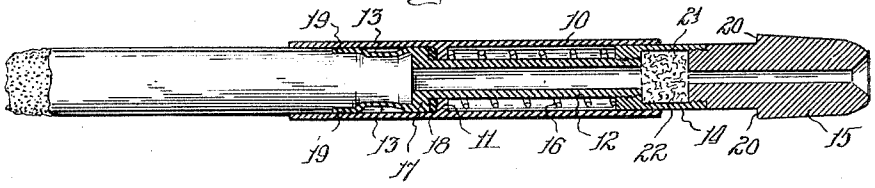


Fig. 3.

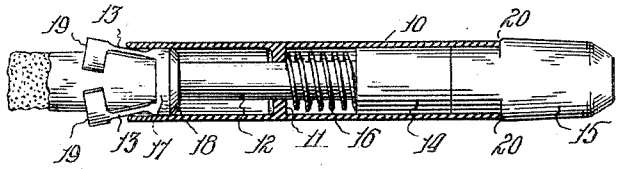


Fig. 4.

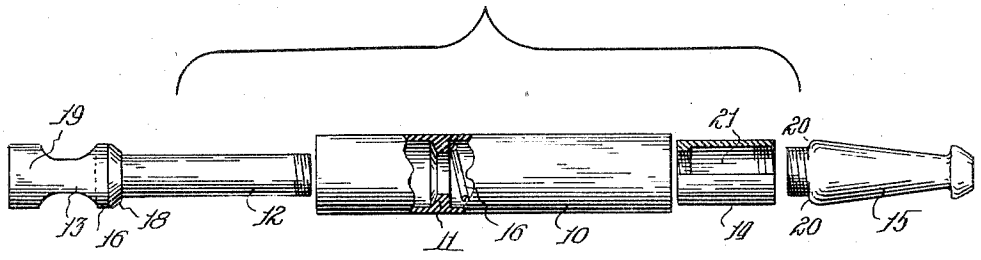


Fig. 5.



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CIGARETTE HOLDER

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Application March 8, 1939, Serial No. 260,626

2 Claims. (Cl. 131—182)

My invention is an improvement in cigarette holders of that special type having means for ejecting the butt from the tubular holder, and in which the ejector also provides for fitting a cigarette into the holder.

The principal object of my invention is to provide a tubular cigarette holder with an ejector that will not only firmly grip the inner end of the cigarette for connecting it to the holder but will also prevent air from entering between the cigarette and holder, whereby the draft will be through the cigarette alone.

A further object of my invention is to provide a spring-retracted means for projecting the cigarette butt beyond the holder which include clamping jaws of a particular construction that will tightly grip the cigarette when drawn within the tubular casing, and will release the butt for convenience in removing the same when the gripping members are projected against the action of the spring.

My invention also contemplates a construction of ejector or projecting means to include a recess to receive a wad of raw cotton or other material for filtering the cigarette smoke as it passes through the holder.

With these principal objects in view my invention consists in the particular construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and specifically set forth in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a cigarette holder constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the application of a cigarette thereto.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of Fig. 1, showing the cigarette gripped in the outer end of the holder.

Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the cigarette butt projected beyond the tubular body portion of the holder.

Fig. 4 is a view showing the several parts separated, and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

As illustrated in the drawing my improved construction of cigarette holder comprises a tubular body portion or casing, 10, with means for conveniently fitting an end of the cigarette in the outer end thereof as well as provide for projecting the butt beyond the casing when the cigarette has been consumed to this extent, and to cooperate with the cigarette holding and releasing means said casing is provided internally with an annular flange or collar 11.

In carrying out my invention the operable parts of the cigarette holder comprise a stem 12 slidable in the casing through the bearing collar with gripping members 13, 13 at the outer end of said stem and movable into and out of the casing for holding the cigarette during the operation of fitting the cigarette to the holder and ejecting it therefrom. The slidable stem is operated by a sleeve 14 threaded on the inner end thereof in connection with a mouthpiece or bit 15 threaded into the outer end of the sleeve, and for retracting the stem and parts carried thereby there is a helical spring 16 encircling the stem and interposed between the bearing collar 11 and inner end of the aforementioned sleeve. The gripping members project from a head 17 secured to or formed integrally with the outer end of the stem, and it will be noted that when the stem and gripping members are retracted to hold the cigarette in the outer end of the casing the head 17, or washer 18 at the inner side of the stem abuts against the collar 11 to limit the movement of the parts in this direction, the movement in the opposite direction—for ejecting the cigarette butt—being limited by shoulders 20, 20 formed on the mouthpiece.

The gripping members are of a particular construction to not only firmly grip the cigarette but also to prevent air from entering the holder between the cigarette and outer end of the casing in which it is held, and for this purpose the outer ends or jaws 19, 19 of said gripping members are semi-circular in shape so as to be brought together on entering the outer end of the casing, the diameter of the closed jaws corresponding with the internal diameter of the outer end of the casing, as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawing. The length of the spring gripping members in respect to the outer end of the body portion or tube beyond the internal collar is such that when the washer at the inner side of the head carrying said members is against the bearing collar the outer ends of the spring members, when closed on the cigarette will be located at a substantial distance from the open outer end of the body portion or tube, as shown in Fig. 2, and the movement of the stem in ejecting the cigarette butt is limited by the shoulders on the mouthpiece so that the spring members will project beyond the outer end of the tubular casing for convenience in removing the cigarette butt. Furthermore, the gripping members are bent inwardly

intermediate their ends so as to effect a better grip by slightly pinching the cigarette, and being cut away at their side edges openings are provided to facilitate pushing the butt end of the cigarette from between the jaws, in addition to providing for the required resiliency of said members.

The sleeve at the inner end of the stem and the adjoining part of the mouthpiece slide within the tubular casing when the stem is operated to eject the cigarette butt, and the employment of a collar provides a recess or chamber **21** to receive a wad, **22**, of cotton or other material for filtering the smoke as it passes through the holder.

In assembling the parts of the cigarette holder the stem is inserted into the tubular casing from the outer end thereof and after inserting the spring into the rear end of said tubular casing the connected sleeve and mouthpiece are screwed on to the inner end of the stem so as to confine the spring between the inner end of the sleeve and bearing collar. For inserting a wad of filtering material in the recess provided by the sleeve it is necessary only to unscrew the mouthpiece. From this it will be obvious that the cigarette holder in accordance with my invention provides a very inexpensive article of comparatively few parts, and one that will increase the pleasure of smoking by confining the draft of air to the cigarette.

The operation of applying a cigarette to the holder is effected in the manner usual with cigarette holders of this kind; that is, the tubular casing is gripped between the fingers, and pressure of the thumb against the outer end of the mouthpiece will project the gripping members which spring open slightly to receive the end of the cigarette, and when pressure of the thumb is released the end of the cigarette, gripped between the spring members, will be drawn into the holder. In the present instance there will be a close fit of the cigarette in the tubular casing to prevent air from entering between the cigarette and casing, and by providing the washer at the inner side of the head **17** for a close fit at this point the draft of air will be through the cigarette alone. This increases the effectiveness of the holder, and should a cigarette of larger diameter than the standard size be inserted between the jaws the inward movement of the gripping members, under the action of the spring, will tightly clamp the cigarette between the jaws and expand the paper of the cigarette into the space between the clamping jaws to provide an air-tight fit. In this latter instance the clamping jaws will enter the tubular casing to a more or less extent, but will effect a close fit to prevent air from being drawn in between the cigarette and casing. In removing the cigarette butt from the holder the stem is operated to project the gripping members beyond the tubular casing to release the butt so that it can be shaken or pushed from between the jaws.

I claim:

1. A cigarette holder comprising a body portion or tube the internal diameter of the outer end portion of which corresponds with the external diameter of a cigarette, an annular shoulder intermediate the ends of the tube, a hollow stem slidable longitudinally in the tube or body portion and guided in the center thereof by the shoulder, said stem having gripping members at its outer end terminating in semi-circular jaws adapted to close on the end of the cigarette and bring the adjacent end portion of the latter within the outer end of the tube, whereby the complete clamping action takes place a substantial distance from the open end of the tube and the unclamped portion of the cigarette—within the outer end of the tube—is brought into close fitting relation with the internal wall of the tube to seal engagement of the cigarette with the tube beyond the gripping jaws to exclude passage of air between the cigarette and tubular body portion, and a resilient washer on the stem at the inner connected ends of the gripping members to cooperate with the shoulder to provide an additional seal and limit the inward movement of the stem carrying the gripping jaws; together with a mouthpiece threaded on the inner end of the hollow stem, and a helical spring surrounding the inner portion of the stem between the shoulder and mouth-piece for retracting the stem carrying the gripping jaws to normally close the jaws on the cigarette.

2. A cigarette holder comprising a body portion or tube the internal diameter of the outer end portion of which corresponds with the external diameter of the cigarette, an annular shoulder intermediate the ends of the tube, a hollow stem slidable longitudinally in the tube or body portion and guided in the center thereof by the shoulder, said stem having gripping members at its outer end terminating in semi-circular jaws adapted to close on the end of the cigarette and bring the adjacent end portion of the latter within the outer end of the tube, whereby the complete clamping action takes place a substantial distance from the open end of the tube and the unclamped portion of the cigarette—within the outer end of the tube—is brought into close fitting relation with the internal wall of the tube to seal engagement of the cigarette with the tube beyond the gripping jaws to exclude passage of air between the cigarette and tubular body portion, and a resilient washer on the stem at the inner connected ends of the gripping members to cooperate with the shoulder to provide an additional seal and limit the inward movement of the stem carrying the gripping jaws; together with a short tube threaded on the inner end of the stem and working within the inner end of the body portion or tube to provide a chamber for smoke filtering material, a mouth-piece threaded within the outer end of said short tube and having stop shoulders to limit movement of the slidable parts, and a helical spring surrounding the stem within the body portion or tube and interposed between the shoulder and short tube for actuating the stem to normally close the clamping jaws.

BOYD R. FRANKLIN.