Feb. 11, 1930. C. K. STAMAS 1,746,501

CIGARETTE DISPENSING MACHINE

Original Filed June 9, 1927

Fig. 1.

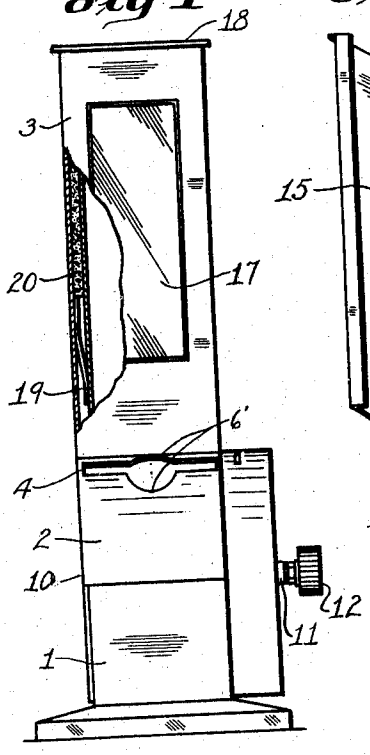


Fig. 3.

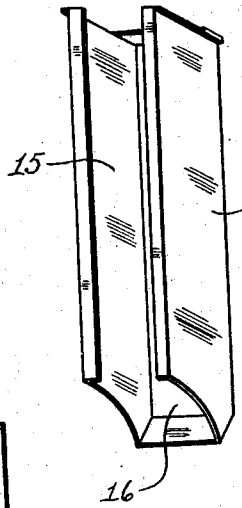
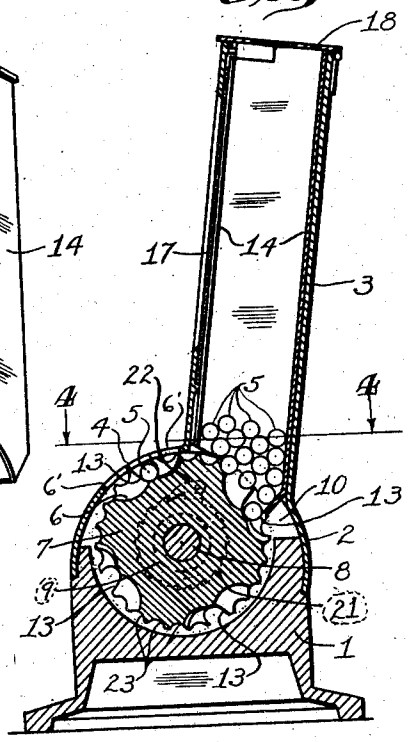


Fig. 2.



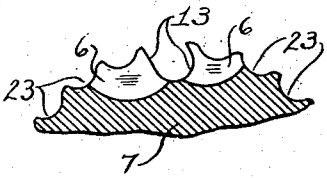
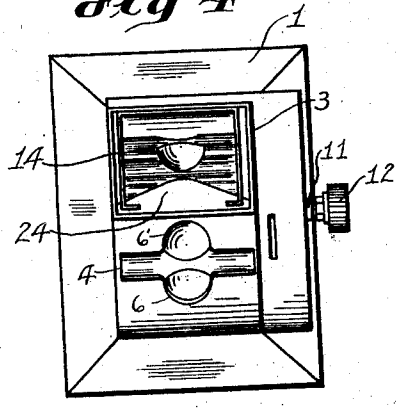


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.



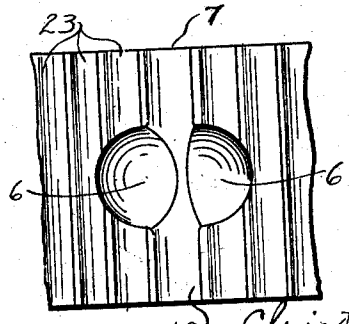


Fig. 6.

Inventor

Christ K. Stamas

By Adam C. Fisher.

Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHRIST K. STAMAS, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN

CIGARETTE-DISPENSING MACHINE

Application filed June 9, 1927, Serial No. 197,527. Renewed January 3, 1930.

The present invention relates to mechanisms for dispensing or delivering cigarettes one at a time, or one cigarette at each rotation or partial rotation of the operating shaft, as may be determined in designing the device.

It is the prime purpose of this invention to furnish in a small, compact, neat and attractive form, a cigarette dispensing device which may be placed in any desired location, and will efficiently function to deliver a cigarette at each actuation of the mechanism.

Another object is to provide a device of this character in the form of an attractive counter display, adapted to hold a considerable quantity of cigarettes, and with convenient means for reloading the device from time to time.

Another object is to provide a device of the kind described, adapted to deliver the cigarettes through the top of the housing instead of through the bottom as conventionally done.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a frontal elevation, a section being broken out at the left hand side to show the arrangement of the humidifying element and the friction spring for the filler case;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal vertical section;

Figure 3 is a detail of the filler case;

Figure 4 is a horizontal section on the line 4—4 of Figure 2;

Figures 5 and 6 are details of the fluted cigarette cylinder.

This invention comprises a suitable base 1 upon which is mounted a cylindrical cigarette wheel housing 2 having a communicating and upwardly extending and connected cigarette casing, housing or container 3, having a glass window 17 in its front face. A door 18 is hinged to the upper end of this housing 3. The housing 2 is provided at its upper and frontal portion with a transverse cigarette delivery slot 4 for withdrawing the cigarettes 5 one at a time as they are delivered by the machine, the said slot 4 being laterally widened at opposite medial points to form the finger recesses 6. Within the housing 2 is journaled the cigarette delivery or feed wheel 7, the shaft 8 of the wheel having bearings 9 in the opposite sides 10 of the housing, and one end 11 of the shaft being extended laterally through the housing and ending in the finger knob 12 for manipulating the machine.

The periphery of the cigarette wheel 7 is provided with a number of transverse cigarette grooves 13 which are adapted to successively pass under and in alignment with the cigarette slot 4 of the housing, as the wheel 7 is rotated. These grooves are also provided with lateral cut-outs to form finger recesses 6′ which register with the finger recesses 6 of the slot 4 of the housing 2. The wheel 7 is here shown with four grooves 13 located ninety degrees apart, and the feature of this arrangement is that at the exact time one of the grooves 13 is turned out directly underneath the cigarette slot 4, and stands stationary, in position to deliver the cigarette it may be carrying, another of the cigarette grooves is held in a similar stationary position at the lower open end of the cigarette housing 3, so that another of the cigarettes 5 may be more readily engaged by and become lodged in the said groove. A cigarette filler case 14 is slidingly mounted within the container or housing 3, the said case being rectangular in cross section, being open at its frontal side as shown at 15 so as not to obstruct the view through the window 17, and being also open at its lower end as shown at 16 so as to permit cigarettes to fall directly therethrough upon the wheel 7.

In operation the filler case 14 is withdrawn and is nicely filled with cigarettes 5 arranged in even order transversely of the case. The machine is then turned to a horizontal position and the filler case is then slid into the housing 3 and so that the cigarettes can be seen through the window 17. The machine is then turned upright upon its base, allowing the cigarettes 5 to roll down upon the wheel 7, one of them falling into one of the accessible grooves 13. Upon then rotating the wheel 7 anti-clockwise by means of the knob 12, the cigarette referred to as

within the groove 13 will be carried out beneath the slot 4 of the housing 2, where it may be easily picked up by the fingers. At the same time another cigarette is being engaged by another cigarette groove of the wheel 7 within the machine. Thus the process may be repeated indefinitely.

A spring 19 may be set within the container or housing 3 and adapted to bear upon the side of the filler case 14 in order to frictionally hold the case in position. A strip of sponge 20 may be fastened to the side of the housing or container 3 as a humidifying element.

Inasmuch as the wheel 7 in the present design of machine should be rotated only anticlockwise for the delivery of cigarettes one at a time, any conventional means may be employed for preventing the turning of the wheel 7 in the reverse or clockwise direction, as by a gear 21 upon the shaft 8 and a pawl 22 mounted upon the housing 2 and engaging said gear. Likewise any conventional form of coin control mechanism may be incorporated in connection with this machine for controlling the rotation of the shaft 8. No such mechanism is here shown but may be made the basis of a separate application.

The wheel 7 may be fluted between the cigarette grooves 13, as shown at 23, as means for gently agitating the cigarettes 5 and causing them to more readily fall into the grooves 13. A lip or apron 24 may be extended inwardly from the lower end of the front face of the housing 3, directly over the wheel 7, as means for preventing the cigarettes becoming jammed between the wheel 7 and the lower end of the housing 3.

Any desired minor changes may be made within the scope of the appended claims, and while the device is here described and claimed as peculiarly applicable to the sale and dispensing of cigarettes, it is obvious that the principle of the invention may be readily applied to the handling of other articles of merchandise, such as lead pencils, stick candy and other confections, cigars, and many other articles.

I claim:

1. A cigarette dispensing machine, comprising a wheel housing having a transverse cigarette delivery slot formed through its upper frontal portion, a cigarette wheel journaled within the said wheel housing, a cigarette container communicating with the said wheel housing, a cigarette filler case removably positioned in the container, the lower end of the filler case being formed complementary to the cigarette wheel, a delivery lip on the lower end of the filler case, and a plurality of transverse cigarette grooves adapted to successively aline with the delivery lip and the cigarette delivery slot.

2. A cigarette dispensing machine, comprising a wheel housing having a transverse cigarette delivery slot formed through its upper frontal portion, a cigarette wheel journaled within the said wheel housing, a cigarette container communicating with the said wheel housing, a cigarette filler case removably positioned in the container, the lower end of the filler case being formed complementary to the cigarette wheel, a delivery lip on the lower end of the filler case, a plurality of transverse cigarette grooves in the said wheel, the sides of the grooves being inclined in the direction of rotation of the wheel, and the grooves being positioned in the periphery of the wheel so that when one of the grooves is alined with the delivery lip, another groove will be alined with the delivery slot.

3. A cigarette dispensing machine, comprising a wheel housing having a transverse cigarette delivery slot formed through its upper frontal portion, a cigarette wheel journaled within the said wheel housing, a cigarette container communicating with the said wheel housing, a cigarette filler case removably positioned in the container, the lower end of the filler case being formed complementary to the cigarette wheel, the sides of the filler case being spaced from the walls of the cigarette container, and a humidifying element positioned therebetween.

4. A cigarette dispensing machine comprising a wheel housing having a transverse cigarette delivery slot formed through its upper frontal portion, a cigarette wheel journaled within the said wheel housing, a cigarette container communicating with the said wheel housing, a cigarette filler case removably positioned in the container, the lower end of the filler case being formed complementary to the cigarette wheel, the filler case being also open at its frontal side and having its side walls spaced from the walls of the cigarette container, a humidifying element positioned between the container and the case, an apron extending inwardly from the lower front face of the container and supporting the filler case, a delivery lip extending inwardly from the lower back face of the filler case, and the said wheel having a plurality of cigarette engaging grooves so spaced upon its periphery that as one of said grooves alines itself with the said cigarette delivery slot of the wheel housing another of the grooves will simultaneously stand positioned in alinement with the delivery lip on the filler case.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHRIST K. STAMAS.