Oct. 13, 1953 L. M. WEINTRAUB 2,655,157

CIGARETTE HOLDER

Filed Feb. 1, 1950

Fig. 1

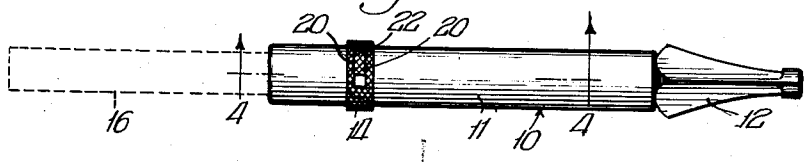


Fig. 2

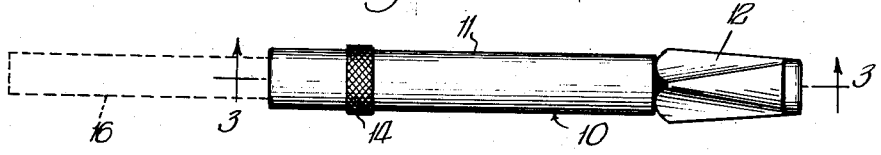


Fig. 3

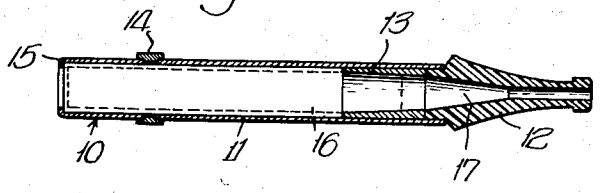


Fig. 4

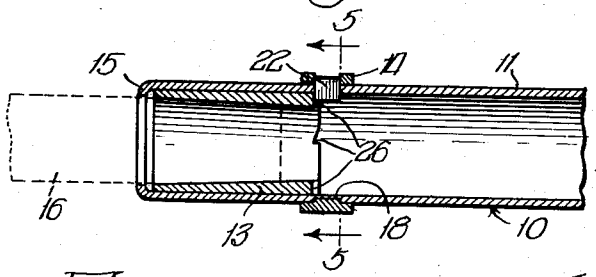


Fig. 5

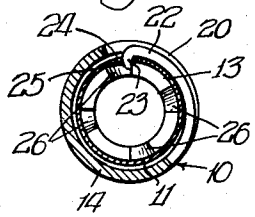
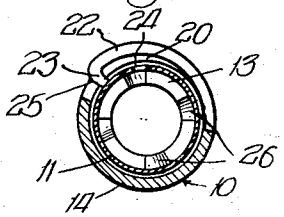


Fig. 6



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CIGARETTE HOLDER

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8 Claims. (Cl. 131—182)

1

This invention relates generally to cigarette holders and more particularly to an improved holder having a movable cigarette support which permits the cigarette to be retracted into the holder where it is safely and quickly extinguished.

Cigarette smokers are frequently faced with the situation of having just lit a cigarette only to find that for some reason or other they must stop smoking and sometimes extinguish the cigarette immediately before it has been fully smoked. This is not only wasteful of cigarettes, but often is inconvenient to accomplish if an ash tray or other receptacle is not at hand. This situation arises in many instances; for example, where city ordinances or rules prohibit smoking in elevators, department stores or street cars, and also in restaurants where a diner lights a cigarette just as the waiter arrives with his order.

Under such conditions many smokers attempt to save the remaining portion of the cigarette by carefully removing the coal or snuffing it out so that it can be relit at a later time. Relit cigarettes which have been pressed out are generally damaged and moreover do not have the same taste or aroma as a fresh cigarette. If they did, this practice, even though messy, would have more adherents.

One object of this invention is to provide a cigarette holder having provision for simultaneously smothering and cooling the cigarette at any desired time and accomplishing it quickly by a simple operation, and which will completely enclose and protect the extinguished cigarette until such time as it is either ejected or repositioned in smoking position to be relit.

Another object is to provide a cigarette holder from which a cigarette may be automatically ejected without the necessity of handling the stub and when in use will serve to cool the smoke entering the smoker's mouth.

A further object is to provide a holder which is formed from a minimum number of easily fabricated parts so as to be simple to manufacture and easy to keep in a clean, sanitary condition.

A further object is to provide a holder which may be completely disassembled for cleaning without the need of any tools.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will present themselves to those familiar with the art on reading the following specification in conjunction with the drawing and the appended claims:

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a preferred embodiment of the cigarette holder of this invention;

2

Fig. 2 is a plan view;

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2 showing the carriage in the retracted position;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged partial section taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 1 showing the carriage in the normal position;

Fig. 5 is a section taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 except that the locking ring is shown in the release position.

The fundamental principle of this invention is to provide a holder having a cylindrical barrel which is slightly larger in diameter and substantially the same length as a cigarette. A movable carriage in the form of a bushing is slidably mounted in this barrel and supports the stub end of the cigarette. The smoker then may move the cigarette into the barrel by sucking inwardly on the mouthpiece disposed at one end of the barrel, or may cause the cigarette and carriage to move to the opposite end of the barrel by blowing into the mouthpiece. To prevent inadvertent retraction of the cigarette from the smoking position into the barrel, a manually controlled locking mechanism is provided to releasably secure the carriage in the forward position and also to limit rotary movement thereof when pressed inwardly as when a cigarette is being inserted in place.

A preferred embodiment of the holder 10 is illustrated in the drawing. The holder 10 comprises only four elements—a tubular barrel 11, a mouthpiece 12, a movable carriage 13, and a locking ring 14. The barrel 11 is preferably formed of thin aluminum tubing which is not only light in weight but is also an excellent conductor of heat to cool the smoke passing through it. The high heat conductivity results in cooler smoking and quicker smothering of the retracted cigarette while lightness makes for a more comfortable holder which does not burden the smoker's jaw.

An inwardly projecting flange 15 is provided at the front end of the barrel 11 preferably by rolling the end inwardly during the cut-off operation as the barrels 11 are formed from long lengths of seamless tubing. This flange 15 serves as a stop to limit forward movement of the carriage 13. The width of the flange 15 is such as to leave ample clearance for a cigarette (indicated in broken lines at 16), so that it may be readily drawn or inserted into the barrel 11. Rearward motion of the carriage 13 is limited by the mouthpiece 12 which is supported in the rear end of

the barrel 11. The mouthpiece 12 is preferably formed of plastic, but may be hard rubber or ivory if desired, and the forward end of the passageway 17 through the mouthpiece 12 is preferably enlarged so as to permit the free flow of smoke or air therethrough.

The locking ring 14 serves to hold the carriage 13 in the forward position. The construction of this ring is best shown in Figs. 4 to 6. To retain the ring in the proper position on the barrel 11, an undercut or substantially annular groove 18 is provided in the outside of the barrel 11 a short distance from the forward end in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said barrel. The ring 14 which is slipped onto the barrel 11 over this groove has a pair of parallel slits 20 provided therein which extend approximately 90° around the ring. At one end the slits 20 are connected by a transverse cut to define an integral tongue-like portion 22 which is separate from the body of the ring except at one end. The free end of the tongue portion 22 is bent radially inwardly to form a detent 23. The width of the detent 23 is the same as the groove 18, and the end of the detent rides in the groove to secure the ring 14.

An opening 24 is provided through the wall of the barrel and through the groove 18, and the detent 23 projects through this opening when the ring is rotated to the position shown in Fig. 5. The tongue-like portion 22 is bent inwardly so as to normally lie in this position, but it is freely flexible and may be easily flexed radially outwardly. The face of the detent 23 is inclined as indicated at 25 to form a cam surface which serves to lift the detent when the ring 14 is rotated counterclockwise as shown in Fig. 5, the inclined portion riding over the edge of the opening 24 to raise the detent to the position shown in Fig. 6 where its end rides in the bottom of the groove 18.

When the ring 14 and detent 23 are positioned as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the detent 23 projects into the barrel 11 adjacent the end of the carriage 13 to lock it in the forward position. When the ring 14 is rotated to the position shown in Fig. 6 the detent 23 is retracted from the barrel 11, and the carriage 13 is freely movable therein.

To facilitate manual twisting of the ring 14 its outer surface is preferably knurled as shown in the drawing.

To aid in the insertion of a cigarette 16 in the carriage 13, a plurality of notches 26 are cut into the rear end of the carriage. These notches 26 are inclined on one side and provided with a square shoulder on the other side to engage the detent 23 and lock the carriage 13 against rotation as the cigarette is inserted into the end of the carriage and twisted slightly, as is natural in a clockwise direction. The detent 23 is sufficiently strong for this purpose so that it will not spring outwardly nor be cammed outwardly under the torque imposed on the carriage derived from the twisting force exerted in twisting a cigarette in place in the carriage 13. It has been found that a tighter engagement between the cigarette and carriage 13 may be obtained in this manner than if the cigarette is merely pressed inwardly.

The operation of the holder 10 will probably be apparent from the foregoing description, but the following résumé may prove helpful.

With the carriage 13 locked in the forward position as shown in Fig. 4 the smoker first inserts a cigarette 16 in the end of the holder, twisting it clockwise slightly until it is firmly seated in the carriage 13. The cigarette may then be lit if it is desired to smoke immediately, or it may be retracted into the holder to be carried in the pocket and smoked later.

Assuming that the cigarette has been lit, however, and that the smoker desires to put it out, all he has to do is twist the ring 14 counterclockwise to raise the detent and suck inwardly upon the mouthpiece 12. This causes the cigarette and carriage 13 to be drawn into the barrel 11 thereby completely enclosing the cigarette, whereupon the cigarette is cooled by the walls of the barrel 11 and extinguished due to lack of oxygen. The holder may immediately be put into the pocket with complete safety, taking care to keep it in an upright position.

When it is again desired to smoke, the smoker has only to blow into the mouthpiece 12 to restore the carriage 13 and cigarette to the smoking position. The locking ring 14 is then rotated to align the detent 23 with the opening 24 to relock the carriage 13. The cigarette 16 may then be relit and smoked to completion. It has been found that the cigarette on relighting after being extinguished in this manner by smothering and cooling tastes no differently than a fresh cigarette.

When the smoker desires to eject the stub, he merely twists the ring 14 to release the carriage and draws the cigarette stub into the barrel 11 as though he were going to extinguish it. Thereafter he blows into the mouthpiece relatively hard to catapult the stub out of the holder as the carriage accelerates forwardly and slams against the flange 15 to jar the cigarette loose. In the event the stub is too firmly seated to release it on the first movement, the operation may be repeated a few times, each jar loosening the engagement until the stub flies out. If it is desired to extinguish the cigarette before ejection, it can be left a few seconds in retracted position before ejection. The ring 14 is then twisted to reset the holder for insertion of another cigarette.

When it is desired to clean the holder, the ring 14 is twisted to release the carriage 13, and the mouthpiece 12 is removed by pulling outwardly thereon. The carriage may then be shaken out and all the parts may be completely cleaned with a cloth, tissue, or a pipe cleaner, and in water if desired. The locking ring may be removed by lifting the detent 23 out of the groove and slipping the ring off the adjacent end of the barrel 11.

Various changes or modifications such as will present themselves to those familiar with the art may be made without departing from the spirit of this invention whose scope is commensurate with the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A cigarette holder comprising an elongated hollow body open at one end for the insertion of a cigarette and having a mouthpiece at the opposite end, a cigarette supporting carriage axially slidable in said body, the walls of said carriage fitting the walls of said hollow body in substantially airtight engagement, said carriage being substantially shorter than said body, and a locking ring for retaining said carriage at the open end of said body, said ring having a detent which normally projects through an opening in the wall of said body to obstruct sliding movement of the carriage.

2. A cigarette holder comprising an elongated hollow body having but one opening located at one end for the insertion of a cigarette and having a mouthpiece closing the opposite end, and a movable cigarette supporting carriage within

said body adapted to receive an end of a cigarette and also adapted to be slid axially in said body, the walls of said carriage fitting the walls of said hollow body in substantially airtight engagement whereby said carriage may be reciprocated axially in said body either by air pressure or suction applied at said mouthpiece, said carriage being substantially shorter than said body.

3. A cigarette holder comprising an elongated hollow body having but one opening located at one end for the insertion of a cigarette and having a mouthpiece at the opposite end, a movable cigarette supporting carriage into which the end of a cigarette is received in supported relationship and adapted to be slid axially within said barrel, the wall of said carriage fitting the walls of the barrel, and means adapted to retain and to release said carriage at the open end of said barrel, said carriage being substantially shorter than said barrel so that said cigarette may be wholly received in said barrel to extinguish same when the carriage is moved to the mouthpiece end of the barrel.

4. A cigarette holder comprising a mouthpiece, a cylindrical barrel open only at one end and slightly larger in diameter than a cigarette, a cylindrical carriage slidably supported within said barrel adapted to receive the end of a cigarette in supported relationship, means for retaining said carriage in said barrel, and means adapted to lock and release said carriage at the end of said barrel remote from the mouthpiece.

5. A cigarette holder comprising a mouthpiece, a barrel open only at one end and being slightly larger in diameter than a cigarette and formed of a material having a high rate of heat conductivity, a cigarette carriage having an annular section substantially shorter than said barrel and slidably supported within said barrel whereby a cigarette supported in said ring may be drawn into said barrel to extinguish the same, and means for retaining said carriage in said barrel.

6. In a cigarette holder the combination including a barrel, a slidable carriage within said barrel, said barrel having an undercut portion near one end thereof and an opening through the wall of said barrel in the bottom of said undercut portion, and a locking ring surrounding said barrel, said ring having a detent adapted to project through said opening to lock the carriage against sliding movement in said barrel when the ring is twisted to a position with the detent in said opening.

7. In a cigarette holder the combination including a barrel, a slidable and rotatable carriage within said barrel, said barrel having an undercut portion near one end thereof and an opening through the wall of said barrel in the bottom of said undercut portion, and a locking ring surrounding said barrel, said ring having a detent adapted to project through said opening to lock the carriage against sliding movement in said barrel when the ring is twisted to a position with the detent in said opening, and said carriage having a notch at one end for engaging said detent to prevent rotation of said carriage in one direction in the barrel.

8. In a cigarette holder the combination including a barrel, a slidable carriage within said barrel, said barrel having an opening through the wall, and a locking ring surrounding said barrel, said ring having a detent adapted to project through said opening to seal the opening and to lock the carriage when the ring is twisted to a position with the detent in said opening.

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