CIGARETTE DISPENSING DEVICE AND LIGHTER

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This invention relates to a cigarette dispensing device and a lighter, the general object of the invention being to provide push button means for dispensing cigarettes from the device one at a time and each time a button is depressed, with means for heating a lighter by depressing of another button. Another object of the invention is to provide a spring-pressed follower for pushing the cigarettes to a position where they will be engaged by the dispensing device with means for locking the follower in its fully retracted position when cigarettes are to be placed in the device.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the device with parts broken away.

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a detail sectional view of the locking means for the follower.

Figure 5 is a view looking toward the right hand portion of Figure 4.

In these views the letter A indicates a casing which has an opening 2 in its top and this opening is closed by a sliding cover 3 having a pair of holes 4 therein for the passage of the cigarettes. A block 5 is fastened to the upper face of a portion of the bottom of a housing or case and vertically arranged partition plates 6 are supported in the case above the block, these partition plates forming two vertically arranged passages or holders for the cigarettes shown at C. The lower ends of the cigarettes rest upon the block 5 but the front end of the block is cut away to form a space for the ejector means. There is a pair of these ejector means one for each row of cigarettes and each of said means includes an arm 7 pivoted to an upright 8 connected with the bottom of the casing with the inner end of the arm formed with a roll 9 which will engage the bottom of the cigarette which has been pushed off the front end of the block. A vertically arranged plunger 10 is provided for each arm 7, said arm being guided by the guide member 11 depending from the top of the casing with the top of the plunger forming a button 10 above the top of the casing. A spring 12 tends to hold the arm 7 and the plunger 10 in the raised position. As will be seen by depressing the button 10 the plunger will rock the arm 7 and thus cause the member 9 to lift a cigarette through a hole 4 so that the cigarette can be seized and entirely removed from the device.

A follower 13 is provided for each row of cigarettes and each follower is provided with a stem 14 surrounded by a spring 15 which presses the follower toward the discharge end of the device and a housing 16 receives the spring and the stem and acts as guiding means for the parts. This spring should be light enough to cause the cigarettes to move forwardly each time one cigarette is taken from the device and not strong enough to injure the cigarette. A partition member 17 closes the rear ends of the passages formed by the partitions 6 and each follower is formed with an upper extension 18 for entering a space between the top of the member 17 and the cover 3 and a latch member 19 is carried by this extension for engaging a recess 17' in the top of the member 17 to hold the follower in position at the rear end of the passage so that the cigarettes can be readily put in place after the cover has been removed. Then pressure upon a knob 20 attached to the latch member will raise the lower end of the latch member out of the recess so the spring 15 will act to move the cigarettes forwardly each time a cigarette is removed from the device.

A lighter member 21 extends through a hole in the top of the casing and conductors 22 connected the lighter member to a switch part 23 on a plunger 24 which extends through the top of the casing. When this plunger is depressed against the action of the spring 25 it will connect the conductors 22 with the conductors 26 leading to a source of supply so that current will be supplied to the lighter 21 to heat the same. The upper ends of the conductors 26 are carried by a supporting member 27 and the plug 28 connects with the lower ends of the conductors 26 and is carried by the bottom of the casing so that the device can be attached to the circuit of a room or building.

Thus it will be seen that when it is desired to secure a cigarette it is simply necessary to depress one of the buttons 10 to cause an arm 7 to raise a cigarette through a hole 4 and then after the cigarette has been removed the button 24 is depressed to connect the lighter 21 with the circuit and then the end of the cigarette can be placed against the lighter 21 to ignite the same.

It is thought from the foregoing description
that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A cigarette dispenser comprising a casing having an opening in its top adjacent a side wall thereof, a block in the casing having one end spaced from said side wall to form a space which is located under the opening, passage forming members extending horizontally in the casing above the block with one end of the passage over the space, said passage being adapted to receive cigarettes, a follower for pushing the cigarettes through the passage to hold the front one over the space under the openings, a plunger passing through the top of the casing, a lever pivoted intermediate its ends in the casing and having one end engaging the lower end of the plunger and its other end extending into the space adjacent the end of the block for engaging the front cigarette in the passage to push the cigarette through the opening when the plunger is depressed.

2. A cigarette dispenser comprising a casing having an opening in its top, a door for closing said opening, said door having a hole therein, a vertical partition in the casing spaced forwardly from the rear end of the door covered opening to have its upper end exposed when the door is open, longitudinally extending partitions vertically arranged in the casing and extending from the first partition to a point adjacent the front of the casing and forming a passage for a vertically arranged row of cigarettes, a follower plate for pressing the cigarettes through the passage formed by the second-mentioned partitions, means at the front end of the casing for forcing the foremost cigarette in the passage upwardly through the hole in the door, such means including a plunger passing through the top of the casing, the first-mentioned partition having an offset portion and the follower having an offset portion for fitting in the space formed by the offset portion of this partition, a latch member carried by the offset part of the follower and the offset part of the partition having a keeper recess therein for receiving the latch member, and a knob connected with the latch member and accessible through the opening left by the door when the door is open.

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