March 23, 1926. 1,578,159

J. V. MONACO

POCKET ASH TRAY

Original Filed July 25, 1922

Fig. 1.

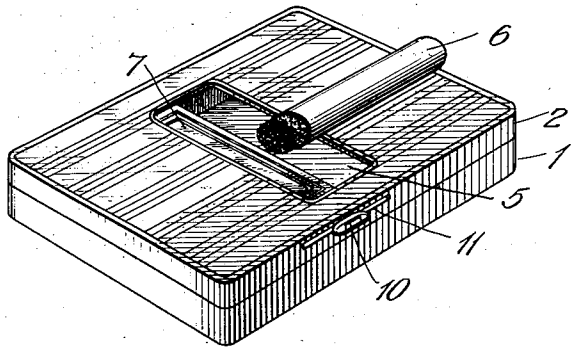
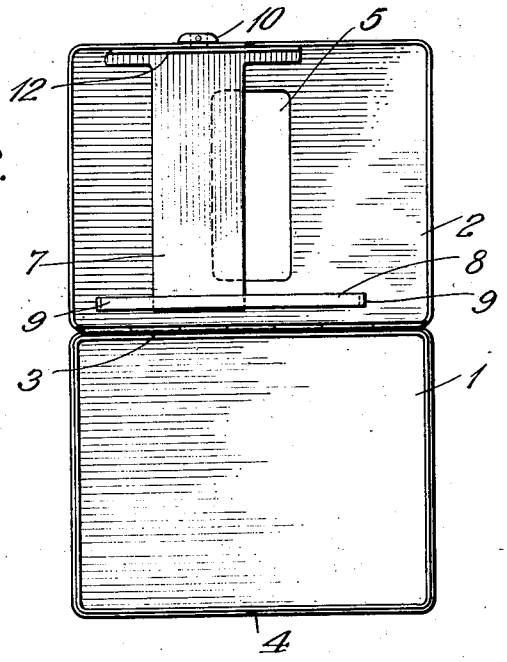


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES V. MONACO, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

POCKET ASH TRAY.

Application filed July 25, 1922, Serial No. 577,341. Renewed November 23, 1925.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES V. MONACO, a citizen of the United States, of New York, N. Y., have invented certain Improvements in Pocket Ash Trays, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings designating like parts.

This invention relates to receptacles for ashes, and has for its object the provision of a portable receptacle preferably designed to fit in the vest pocket of the user, and having an aperture in its walls to receive the ashes and butts of a cigarette or cigar, with a sliding closure, operated from the exterior, to keep the contents of the receptacle from escaping when in the pocket.

Smokers frequently find themselves in positions where no receptacle for ashes is available, and where it is undersirable to knock the ashes upon the floor, or leave the ill-smelling butts exposed.

My invention is intended primarily to meet the above need, but I contemplate the use of my improvements in any field for which they are adapted by their nature.

The various features of my invention will be illustrated and described fully in the accompanying drawings and specification and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a pocket ash-tray in the construction of which my improvements have been embodied;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same tray shown with its lid in open position, and the closure open.

In the embodiment of my invention selected for illustration and description to permit ready and complete understanding of my improvements, the parts designated by the reference numerals 1 and 2 are respectively the bottom and lid of a box or case, being hinged at 3 and provided at 4 with a suitable device to prevent accidental separation of these parts, which may be of any suitable material and contour.

In accordance with an important object of my invention, I make this box or case, which I designate a "pocket ash-tray" of suitable size and shape to be carried by the user in the pocket of a garment, such as the user's vest, and I provide the tray with a wall aperture 5, preferably in the lid 2, so that when in use a cigarette or cigar can be rested in the position shown at 6 in Fig. 1, and its ashes can fall or be knocked into the tray through the aperture 5, which preferably is large enough to receive the butts also, although the shape and size of the aperture, and its position are a matter of choice.

At 7 I have shown a closure, which may be of any suitable material and structure, one convenient form, being the slide which I have illustrated, fitting closely against the inner surface of the lid 2, and having preferably retaining and operating means which may be of any suitable character, and which, in the instance illustrated, take the form of a retaining strip 8, soldered at the points 9 to the lid, and holding the closure 7 to slide freely from the open position shown in Fig. 1, to its position for closing the aperture 5.

Suitable means are also provided to operate the closure slide 7, and for this purpose I have shown as one convenient form a projection 10 upon the slide, passing through a slot 11 in the lid so that it can readily be actuated by the thumb or finger of the user to open and close the slide 7 from the outside without opening the lid 2, and this arrangement serves the function of aiding to retain the closure slidingly within the lid 2, co-operating for that purpose with the strip 8.

The projection 10 is preferably formed on a flange 12, which projects upward from the slide 7, and works in parallelism with the lid 2.

In operation, the user can hold the tray in either hand, and by simply pressing his thumb against the projection 10, can move the slide to or from the position illustrated and open or shut the aperture 5, knocking the ashes thereinto from the cigarette or cigar, which the user's other hand is free to hold.

Having illustrated and described my invention thus fully, and suitable means by which the same may be carried into effect I wish it to be understood that I do not limit myself to the specific materials and structure selected for illustration and de-

scription, nor in general do I limit myself otherwise than as set forth in the claim, read in connection with this specification.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A pocket ash-tray, comprising a box with a flat base-portion, a lid hinged along one side of the top of said box and having an aperture to permit the introduction of ashes to said box, and a slidable closure for said aperture, said closure having operating means projecting beyond said lid at one side.

Signed at New York, in the county and State of New York this 12th day of July 1922.

JAMES V. MONACO.