

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNE AUKE VAN DER MEULEN, OF AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS.

PROCESS OF FORMING HYGIENIC METALLIC ENDS ON CIGARS AND THE LIKE.

No. 882,770.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 24, 1908.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNE AUKE VAN DER MEULEN, manufacturer, a subject of the Dutch Queen, and residing at Amsterdam, 4 Vondel Kerkstraat, Netherlands, have invented a new and useful Improved Process of Forming Hygienic Metallic Ends on Cigars and the Like; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My present invention has for its object to provide a process of forming at the tapering end of cigars a metallic deposit, which will perfectly adhere to and form one with the cover sheet of the cigars and cannot be detached therefrom without removing the cover sheet itself. This metallic coating serves the purpose of avoiding direct contact between the tobacco and the lips of the smoker, and therefore complies with a very important hygienic requirement.

In order to carry the process into practical effect, the ends of the cigars are singly dipped into a suitably composed liquid, prepared as follows: 75 grams of purified para rubber or other rubber are dissolved in about 3 liters benzin. 175 grams of this solution are then placed into a suitable recipient, preferably made of stone, earthenware or the like, and 50 grams of talc powder, 40 grams of benzin and 20 grams of aluminium powder are added to said solution. After thoroughly stirring, the mass is ready for use. A bunch of cigars is dipped with the tapering ends into said liquid mass, held therein during a relatively short time (say 15 seconds), and then withdrawn vertically, to permit the excess of liquid of falling from the cigars. The latter are then placed with the coated ends upon a support of stone or metal, wherein the last drops flow off very easily. The bunch of cigars is now placed with the tapering and coated ends turned upwards and dried in this position during half an hour. Before dipping cigars into the above described liquid, the latter must be well agitated. The cigars may be dipped into the same either in a dry or still moistened state. Instead of preparing the said bath or liquid by means of aluminium, I may use gold or gold-like, and

silver or silver-like metals mixed together in any proportions to obtain the desired effect.

When the cigars are to be packed into boxes, when still in a moistened state, they are preferably placed with their tapering metallic ends alternating with their opposite ends.

The metallic coating obtained by my improved process adheres perfectly to the tobacco of the cigars and is completely inoffensive.

There are two particularly characteristic features of my invention, first, that para rubber is exclusively employed as the binding or adhesive medium, and second that an absolutely opaque insoluble metallic powder is made use of as the solid base of the compound. It is by virtue of these two features that the advantages of the present invention are attained. The para is originally made soluble by a solvent which absolutely evaporates. This is unlike previous processes, in which, wherever rubber was used, it has been in a solution of substances which did not wholly evaporate, but themselves formed a coating or deposit of certain thickness. It is on account of this fact, that exclusively para rubber in a solution which entirely evaporates is used, that the deposited coating is of microscopic thinness on the tobacco. But with such a coating of microscopic thinness, it is evident that an absolutely protecting opaque non-porous base must be used, and for this purpose, I have found metallic aluminium powder to be very effective.

Though I have described my invention as being for a composition containing aluminium and the like, it is manifest that I am free to use any desired metal or any other suitable material as a substitute for aluminium. On the other hand, for the above described dissolving and adhering materials may be substituted any other equivalent substances without departing from the scope of the invention.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A process of treating cigars which consists in dissolving pure para rubber in benzin in the proportion of 75 grams rubber to 3 liters

benzin, adding talc powder, benzin and aluminium powder in proportion of 50, 40 and 20 grams respectively, stirring the mixture, dipping the cigars point downward therein, and finally drying the same, where-
5 by a coating of microscopic thinness is produced having substantially the ornamental and hygienic qualities of aluminium foil.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of 10 two subscribing witnesses.

ANNE AUKE VAN DER MEULEN.

Witnesses:

ANNA STAPELVELD,
JAN VON DER VEIETS.