July 21, 1925. 1,546,604

F. B. NIMS ET AL

SAFETY ASH TRAY

Filed Dec. 31 , 1923

Fig. 2

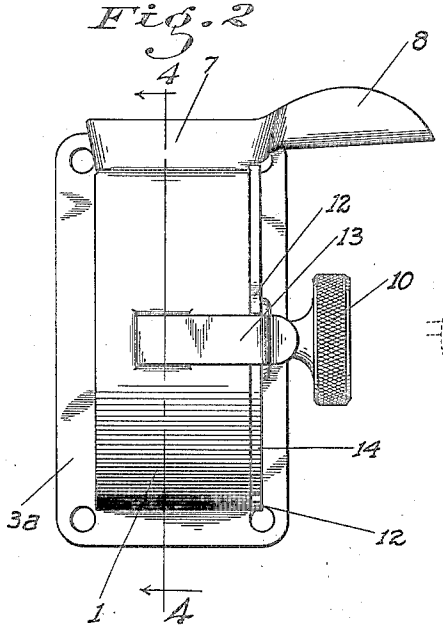



Fig. 1

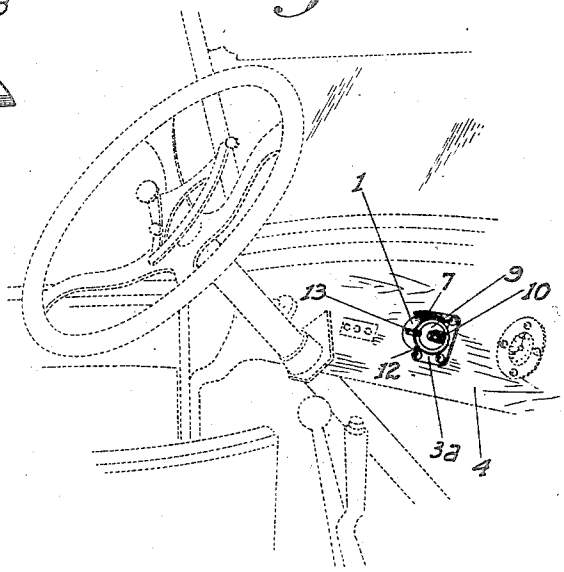



Fig. 3

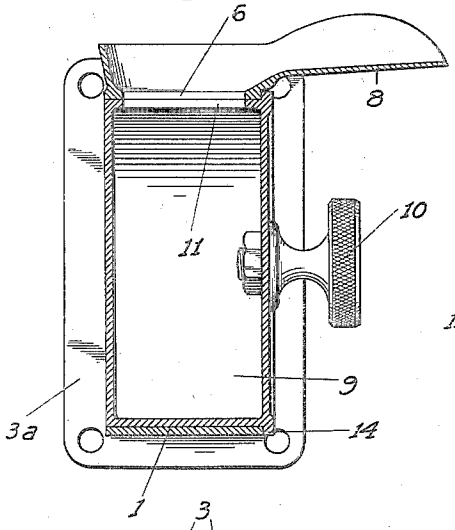



Fig. 4

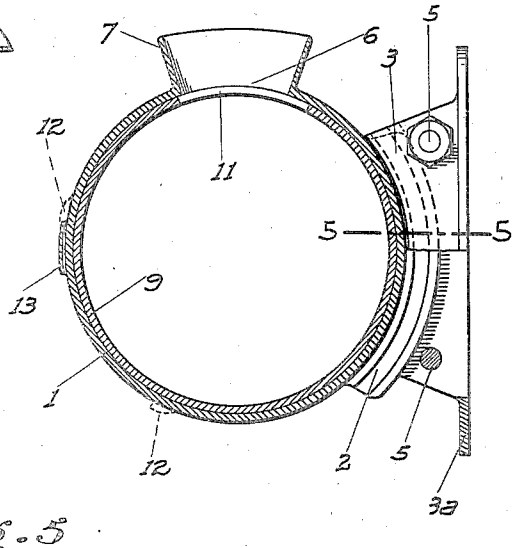
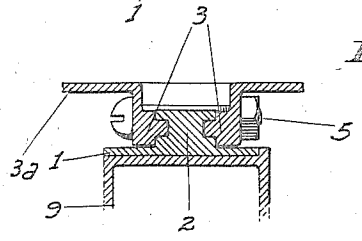



Fig. 5




INVENTORS

Frank B. Nims and

Voigt J. Nims

BY [signature] ATTORNEY

Patented July 21, 1925. 1,546,604

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK B. NIMS AND VOIGT J. NIMS, OF STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA.

## SAFETY ASH TRAY.

Application filed December 31, 1923. Serial No. 683,585.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, FRANK B. NIMS and VOIGT J. NIMS, citizens of the United States, residing at Stockton, county of San Joaquin, State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety Ash Trays; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this application.

This invention relates to improvements in smokers' accessories, and particularly to an ash-tray to receive the ashes of cigars or cigarettes, and the butts of the latter when the smoker is finished with them.

The principal objects of our invention are to provide an ash-tray, especially intended for use on automobiles to receive the ashes etc. from the article being smoked by the driver or other occupant of the vehicle, so constructed that the ashes cannot spill out no matter how violent the vibration of the car; the wind cannot blow them about; and an air-tight enclosure may be formed in which any butt will be almost instantly extinguished from lack of air.

At the same time it is but the work of a second to empty out the ash receptacle when necessary.

We believe that our ash tray, having the above features, will fill a long-felt want among the motoring public, not only to those who smoke, but to those who at present are inconvenienced by the ashes blowing into the faces when the smoker, following the ordinary custom, projects his arm outside the vehicle and flicks the ashes from his cigar etc. with one finger. This custom also is a prolific source of unintended and misleading signals to drivers of other cars.

If the ashes are dropped on the floor of the car instead of as above, the owner is put to frequent cleaning out of the same if he desires the appearance of his car to be kept up. Also the habit of throwing butts along the roadside is a very frequent cause of forest, grass and grain fires, of possibly disastrous proportions.

Our improved ash tray eliminates all the above named objectionable and dangerous features of present-day practice, and renders smoking in an automobile clean, safe and unobjectionable, as far as the disposing of the ashes and butts is concerned.

The ash-tray is also suitable for use in offices and in any other indoor location where smoking is practiced.

A further object of the invention is to produce a simple and inexpensive device and yet one which will be exceedingly effective for the purposes for which it is designed.

These objects we accomplish by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claims.

In the drawings similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of our ash-tray, showing the same mounted on the dashboard of an automobile.

Fig. 2 is a front view of the device.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same.

Fig. 4 is a cross section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a cross section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, the numeral 1 denotes a cylindrical shell of suitable diameter and of short length, having a peripheral and oppositely grooved flange 2, concentric therewith, and slidably cooperating with similar flange or track means 3 provided with a bracket $3^a$ adapted to be mounted on a dashboard 4 or the like, the shell then projecting from the dashboard with its axis in a horizontal plane.

Bolts 5 pass through the flanges 3 clear of the flange 2, cinching up of said bolts causing the flanges 3 to bind against the flange 2, thus holding the bracket and shell in fixed and immovable relation.

The uppermost surface of the shell is cut away to form a longitudinal slot 6 of suitable size.

This slot is outlined by upwardly extending walls 7, which extend beyond one end of the shell, and merge into a curved trough 8 designed to support a cigar or the like.

The shell is open on both ends, and slidably and turnably mounted therein, and removable from one end thereof, is the ash and butt receptacle 9, closed on both ends, and having a knob 10 on its outer end whereby it may be turned in, or removed from, the shell.

The receptacle is provided with a slot 11 substantially the same size as the slot 6, and adapted to aline therewith.

To allow for only limited rotation of the receptacle when the latter is fully telescoped into the shell, the outer end of the former has spaced and radial lugs 12, between which a combined stop and clip 13 projects, this stop being mounted on the shell and being arranged to engage the outer-end flange 14 of the receptacle, to prevent undesired removal of the latter without interfering with its rotation.

In operation, the receptacle when empty is telescoped within the shell so that the slots 6 and 11 register.

When any ashes are deposited between the walls 7, they will drop through the slots into the receptacle, which may then be turned to move the slot 11 out of alinement with the slot 6. The receptacle having as stated a close fit with the shell, is then an airtight enclosure, to which fresh air, or wind, has no access, and therefore the ashes can never be blown about when once in said enclosure.

For the same reason, live butts in the receptacle will almost immediately be extinguished, and any danger due to their continued burning or smoldering is eliminated.

Even if the slots are left in alinement, as they may be if no draft or wind is present, the ashes can never drop out, as will be evident, and the cigar etc. may be placed in the trough 8 so that the lighted end will overhang the slots.

When the receptacle is full, it is but the work of a second to withdraw it from the shell, and dump out its contents by holding it upside down.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that we have produced such a device as substantially fulfills the objects of the invention as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the device, still in practice such deviations from such detail may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention what we claim as new and useful and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An ash tray comprising an outer shell having a slot in its surface, and an ash retaining receptacle independent of the shell and removably mounted therein and having a slot to aline with the shell-slot.

2. An ash tray comprising an outer shell having a slot in its surface, an ash retaining receptacle mounted in the shell, and having a slot to aline with the shell-slot, and means whereby the slot in the receptacle may be covered at will.

3. An ash tray comprising an outer shell having a slot in its surface, an ash retaining receptacle mounted in the shell, and having a slot to aline with the shell-slot, and means for enabling relative movement between the shell and receptacle to be had in a manner to cause the receptacle-slot to be covered by the shell.

4. An ash tray comprising an outer shell having a slot in its surface, and an ash retaining receptacle mounted in the shell and having a slot to aline with the shell-slot, the ash receptacle being turnable in the shell whereby to enable the slots being moved out of alinement with each other.

5. An ash tray comprising a cylindrical shell, means for supporting the same in a horizontal position, said shell having a slot in its upper surface, and a cylindrical ash retaining receptacle provided with a slot to register with the shell-slot, turnably mounted in the shell and removable from one end thereof.

6. An ash tray comprising a shell having a slot in its surface, an ash retaining receptacle mounted in the shell, means for enabling ashes to be admitted to the receptacle from the shell-slot, and means for enabling the receptacle to be made an air-tight enclosure at will without the ashes spilling from the same.

7. An ash tray comprising a cylindrical shell, means for supporting the same in a horizontal position, said shell having a slot in its upper surface, a cigar-supporting trough projecting from and terminating at said slot, and a cylindrical ash receptacle having a slot to register with the shell-slot turnably mounted in the shell.

8. An ash tray comprising a cylindrical shell, means for supporting the same in a horizontal position, said shell having a slot in its upper surface, and a cylindrical ash receptacle provided with a slot to register with a shell-slot turnably mounted in the shell, with a snug running fit and removable from one end thereof.

9. An ash tray comprising a horizontal shell, a flange projecting outwardly from one end of the shell arranged to be mounted on a fixed surface, the shell having a slot in its upper surface, and an ash receptacle having a slot to aline with the shell-slot slidably mounted in the shell and removable from the outer end of the latter.

10. An ash tray comprising a relatively immovable member having a slot in its surface, ash retaining means separate from said member and having a slot to register with the first slot, means for attaching said member to a fixed surface, and means arranged in connection with said attaching means for enabling the first slot to be maintained in a predetermined plane irrespective of the slope of the fixed surface relative thereto.

11. An ash tray comprising cooperating members, one within the other, opening means through said members whereby ashes

may be admitted to and retained by the inner member and means whereby the opening in the inner member may be covered by the surface of the outer member at will, to make an air-tight enclosure of the inner member.

12. An ash tray comprising a shell open at one end, and having a slot in its upper surface, an ash receptacle having a slot to register with the shell-slot, turnably mounted in the shell and removable from the open end thereof, and means normally preventing removal of the receptacle but not interfering with the rotation thereof.

13. An ash tray comprising a member having a slot in its surface, ash holding means separate from said member and with which said slot communicates, means for attaching said member to a fixed surface, and a swivel connection between said member and its attaching means for enabling the slot to always lie in the same plane irrespective of the slope of the fixed surface relative thereto.

14 An ash tray comprising a shell open at one end, and having a slot in its upper surface, an ash receptacle having a slot to register with the shell-slot, turnably mounted in the shell and removable from the open end thereof, and a spring clip mounted on the shell and normally engaging the end-face of the receptacle at the open end of the shell.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

FRANK B. NIMS.
VOIGT J. NIMS.