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F. X. MALOCSAY

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SEALING DEVICE FOR CIGAR WRAPPING MACHINES

Filed April 1, 1930

Fig. 1.

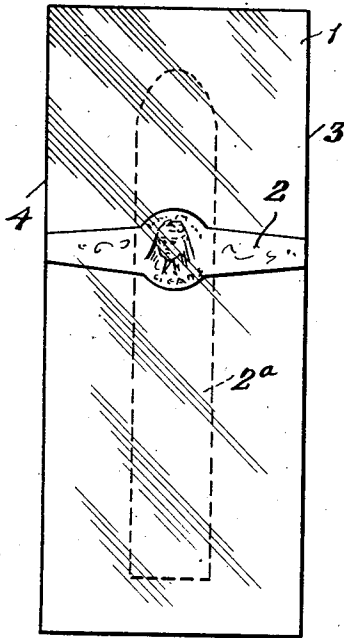


Fig. 2.

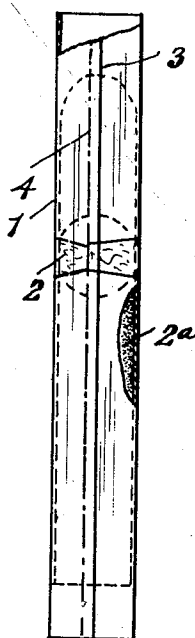


Fig. 6.

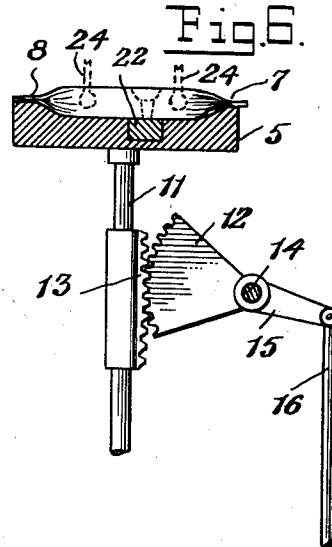


Fig. 3.

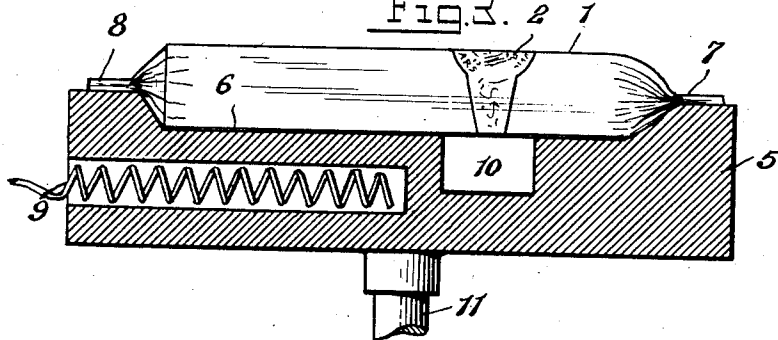


Fig. 4.

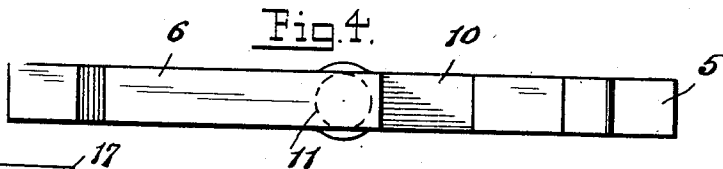
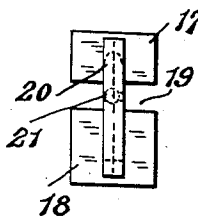


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SEALING DEVICE FOR CIGAR WRAPPING MACHINES

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This invention relates to a means for sealing the wrappers that are used for enclosing cigars. It is well known that at the present time, there is a widespread tendency on the part of cigar manufacturers to present to the purchasing public a more sanitary product, by wholly wrapping or otherwise enclosing the cigars which they manufacture in a wrapper of some sort. Such wrappers are composed of various materials, such as tin-foil and various kinds of transparent cellulose papers, one of this type being referred to by the trade name of "Cellophane." This last mentioned transparent paper wrapper is so made that when the same is wrapped around the cigar, its overlapped edges, and its ends which project beyond the cigar tips, may be sealed together by an application of heat, thus totally enclosing the cigar within the wrapper. In order to properly seal the overlapped edges and ends of the wrapper, which edges extend for the full length of the wrapper, heat must be applied along these edges. During such an application of heat, the cigar band, which encircles the cigar and which is either located under the transparent paper wrapper or on the outside of the same or, sometimes printed directly on the wrapper, is brought into physical contact, or at least in very close proximity to, the heated surface of the heat-applying means. The result of this contact is that the printing and varnish appearing on the band is softened by the heat, causing not only the band to be badly smeared and blurred in appearance, but creating an odor of scorched ink and varnish which is likely to be retained by the cigar, thus greatly deteriorating from its flavor and consequent value.

The object of my invention therefore, is to provide a heat-applying means for sealing a cigar wrapper, in which said heat-applying means will avoid applying heat to any portion of the cigar band appearing on the cigar that is being wrapped, whether such band actually forms a part of said wrapper or whether it is independent therefrom and encircles the cigar under or over the wrapper.

In cigar wrapping machines of the present-day type, the heating means for seal-

ing the wrapper is usually in a fixed position or so arranged that should the machine cease operation by reason of becoming clogged, or should its operation be halted for any other reason, the heat-applying means will continue its application of heat to any cigar that happens to be located adjacent to it or in contact with it in the machine. The result of this is that said particular cigar or cigars located adjacent to it are spoiled by becoming scorched or burnt.

A further object of this invention is therefore to remedy this defect in cigar-wrapping machines by arranging the heat-applying means so that the same may, during any period of cessation of operation of the machine, be moved away from the cigars in the wrapping machine so that it is not possible for sufficient heat to be applied to such cigars to dry out, scorch or otherwise cause such cigars to be injured.

With these objects and such other objects as may hereinafter appear, in view, I have devised the arrangement of parts set forth below and more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof, in which

Figure 1 is a plan view of a wrapper composed of a transparent, glassine paper of similar characteristics as that known under the trade name of "Cellophane", which wrapper in this particular instance has the representation of a cigar band printed directly upon it;

Figure 2 is a view showing the same wrapper folded about a cigar and ready for the application of heat to seal together the overlapped edges of said wrapper;

Figure 3 is a sectional view of a heat-applying means in the act of sealing the wrapper about a cigar;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the heat-applying means disclosed in Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a modified type of heat-applying means, the same consisting, in this particular embodiment of my invention, of a pair of independent, spaced, heated plates; and

Figure 6 is a sectional view of a heat-apply-

ing device showing a form of mechanism for shifting the heater away from a cigar.

Throughout the various views of the drawing, similar reference characters designate similar parts.

In the embodiment of my invention disclosed in the accompanying drawing, 1 indicates a flat or unfolded wrapper adapted to enclose a cigar. The same may, as hereafter set forth, be made of any suitable material capable of being sealed about a cigar by an application of heat, such as for instance, a glassine type of paper of the kind commercially known as "Cellophane". The wrapper 1 preferably consists of an elongated sheet of such material and in the embodiment shown in Figure 1, the same is provided with the representation of a cigar band 2 which is printed directly upon the sheet. Thus, the sheet 1 when wrapped about a cigar, performs the dual function of enclosing the cigar and at the same time to all effects, providing a cigar band therefor.

In Figure 2, the wrapper 1 is shown as being wrapped about a cigar 2^a with its longitudinal side edges 3 and 4 placed in overlapped relationship. In such relationship, these edges are adapted to be adhesively secured together by an application of heat. The means for applying heat and sealing the wrapper is disclosed in one of its embodiments at 5 in Figure 3. In such embodiment, the heat-applying means consists of a member having a shallow top depression 6 shaped to fit the shape of the cigar after the wrapper ends 7 and 8 have been compressed together by any suitable means. The member 5 may be made of metal or any other suitable substance and receives its heat from a heating coil 9 contained within it. The heating coil is heated from any suitable source of electric current. It will be understood that heat may be applied to the heating member 5 by any other suitable heat-supplying means.

In order to prevent the member 5 from applying heat to the printed representation of the band 2 appearing on the wrapper 1, I provide an aperture or recess 10 in the upper face of the member 5, said aperture or recess being so located that the same lies in registration with the band.

Thus, when the member 5 is brought into contact with the wrapped cigar for the purpose of applying heat and some slight pressure, to the overlapped edges 3 and 4 of the wrapper, the printed portion of the wrapper is insulated from, or held out of contact with the band or any other printed matter that might be placed on the wrapper. This prevents the varnished surface and printing of the band being blurred or smeared and incidentally avoids the creation of an odor caused by scorched varnish and ink that might possibly be absorbed and retained by the cigar.

The heating device 5 may be supported in any particular manner such as on a stem 11. Such stem is adapted to be reciprocated, as for instance, by a segmental gear 12, engaging with a rack 13 secured on the stem 11. The segmental gear 12 is pivoted on a stud 14 that may be provided on any suitable part of the wrapping machine and said gear is actuated by an arm 15 that is connected to a rod 16. The rod 16 may run to a suitable pedal operated by the foot of the operator for shifting the heating means 5 away from the cigar when the machine is placed out of operation so that heat will not be continually applied to any cigar then located in the machine and caused to be scorched. The rod 16 may be also operated by cam and clutch means acting to automatically shift the heating means 5 away from the cigar during a cessation of operation of the machine. Such clutch means is customarily found on cigar wrapping machines of the present day type and the rod 16 can readily be connected up to it.

In Figure 5, I show a modification of the heating means wherein the same consists of two independent spaced plates 17 and 18 which are arranged apart from one another so that they provide an aperture 19 between them. These plates 17 and 18 are heated in any suitable manner and are either movable so that they may be brought in contact with the wrapped cigar to seal the same, or the cigar can be moved to be brought in contact with the plates. In either event, the wrapped cigar shown at 20 is so positioned with respect to the plates 17 and 18 that the cigar band 21 is located in registration with the aperture 19 and thus held from contact with the face of the plates 17 and 18 and consequently prevented from being smudged, scorched or smeared by heat.

In Figure 6, I have shown the heating means 5 provided with a section of insulation 22 so located that the same lies in registration with a cigar band 23 during the application of heat to the wrapper by the member 5 in that figure. This insulation is similar in result to the aperture 10 and it may be of porcelain or any suitable substance which does not retain sufficient heat to affect the band or any other printed matter that might be either placed directly upon the wrapper 1 or else encircle the cigar under or else on the outside of the wrapper.

While I have herein shown, particularly in Figures 1 and 2, a cigar band actually physically printed upon the transparent wrapper 1, it will be understood that the band may be of the ordinary kind wholly independent of this wrapper, encircling the cigar either under or over the wrapper. In any event, it is found desirable to prevent heat from being applied to the band and thus my invention is applicable without regard to how the band is

held on the cigar. Thus, when I herein refer to a "banded" cigar, I wish to be understood as meaning any of the various ways described herein by which the band may be applied.

In the structure shown in Figure 6, where the heating means 5 is capable of being moved to and from the cigar, the cigar may be supported in any suitable way during the application of heat. I have diagrammatically shown, for this purpose, clips or grippers 24 acting to hold and support the cigar during the application of heat to its wrapper.

Having described several embodiments of my invention, it is obvious that the same is not to be restricted thereto but is broad enough to cover all structures coming within the scope of the annexed claims.

What I claim is:—

1. In a cigar wrapping machine for wrapping banded cigars, means for sealing sheets into tubular wrappers for said cigars by uniting together the longitudinal edge portions of said sheets by an application of heat and means for preventing bands on said cigars from receiving heat during the sealing operation.

2. In a cigar wrapping machine for wrapping banded cigars, means for sealing sheets into tubular wrappers for said cigars by uniting together the longitudinal edge portions of said sheets by an application of heat, said means being apertured to prevent contact of heated parts with the bands on the cigars.

3. In a cigar wrapping machine for applying printed sheets to cigars, heating means for sealing the longitudinal edge portions of said sheets, and means for preventing the printed matter on the sheets from being scorched during the sealing operation.

4. In a cigar wrapping machine for wrapping banded cigars, means for heat-sealing the longitudinal edge portions of said wrappers applied to said cigars, and means for preventing contact of heated parts of the sealing means with the bands on the cigars.

5. In a machine for applying printed wrappers to cigars, a heated member for contacting with the wrappers to seal the overlapping longitudinal edges of the same, said member having an aperture located in registration with the printed matter on the wrappers.

6. In a machine for applying wrappers to cigars bearing a cigar band, a heated member for sealing together overlapped longitudinal edges on said wrappers, said heated member provided with an aperture located in registration with the band on each cigar and preventing contact of heated parts of the heating member with the cigar bands.

7. In a cigar wrapping machine, a heated sealing member adapted to unite the overlapped longitudinal edges of a wrapping sheet to form it into a tubular cigar wrapper, said member having portions insulated to

prevent contact of heated parts of said member with parts of the wrappers sealed by said sealing member.

8. In a cigar wrapping machine for wrapping banded cigars, sealing means for uniting the overlapped edges of a sheet to form it into a tubular wrapper by an application of heat, means for preventing bands on the cigars to be wrapped from coming into contact with heated parts on the sealing means during the sealing operation, and means for retaining the heating means distanced from cigars to be wrapped, during any pause in the operation of the machine.

9. In a machine for applying transparent printed wrappers to cigars, means for heating the longitudinal joint in said wrappers to seal the same, said means having an insulated area preventing contact of heated parts with printed parts of the wrappers, and means for preventing scorching of cigars during inoperative periods of the machine.

10. In a machine for wrapping banded cigars, heating means for contacting with and sealing together the overlapped longitudinal edges of transparent cigar wrappers, and means for preventing the portions of the bands on said cigars that are located adjacent to the overlapped edges of the wrappers from being affected by heat during the operation of uniting the overlapped longitudinal edges of the wrappers.

Signed at the city, county and State of New York, this 31st day of March, 1930.

FRANCIS X. MALOCSAY.