Aug. 27, 1935. J. R. HENDERSON 2,012,533

CIGARETTE DISPENSER

Filed Sept. 5, 1933

Fig. 1

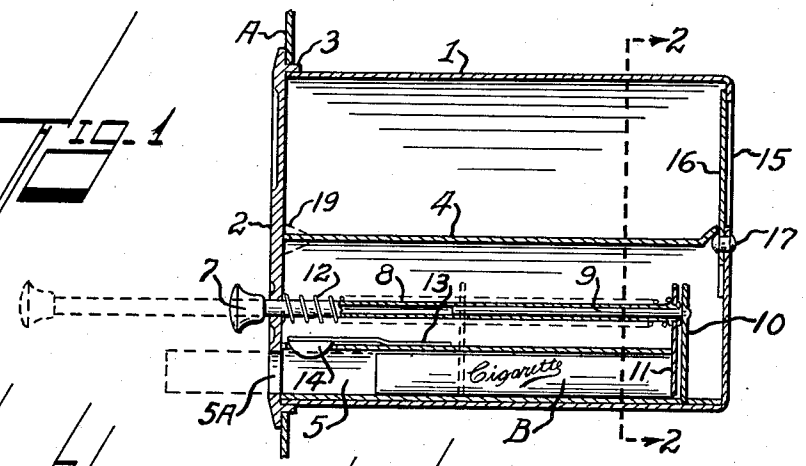


Fig. 2

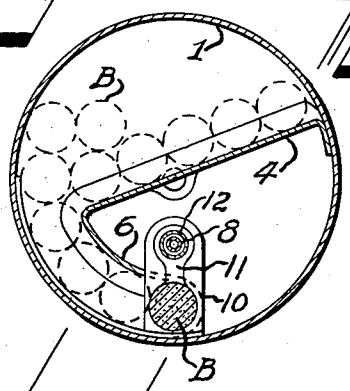


Fig. 3

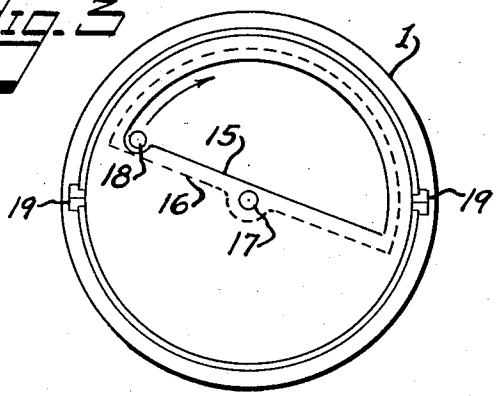
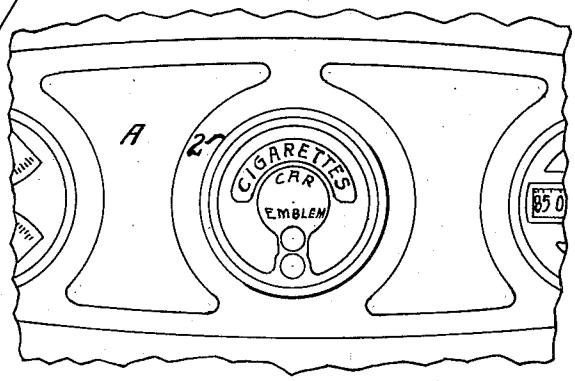


Fig. 4



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CIGARETTE DISPENSER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 312—78)

This invention relates to a device particularly adapted to be incorporated within the instrument panel of an automobile for the purpose of providing a case having ample space therein for the accommodation of a quantity of cigarettes, and the object of the invention is to facilitate the use of cigarettes when driving by embodying an arrangement within the case whereby one cigarette may be quickly and easily obtained with but slight effort on the part of the smoker.

The invention possesses further advantages, all of which will be clearly revealed during the course of the following detailed description, illustrated throughout the accompanying drawing, and more fully pointed out in the appended claims.

With reference to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of the complete device taken substantially through the center thereof; the dotted lines in this view illustrate the operation of the device.

Figure 2 is a transverse section taken substantially upon line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the device.

Figure 4 is a partial front elevation of a modern instrument panel of an automobile showing a reduced view of the invention embodied therein.

The device comprises a cylindrical case indicated by the numeral 1, and the forward end thereof completely enclosed by face plate 2 which provides a space for the word, "Cigarettes" and also a space for the name of the car if preferred, as clearly indicated in Figure 4. Also in Figure 1 it is seen that circumferential flange 3 of the said plate passes through a similarly formed opening in automobile panel A and is adapted to telescopically engage the said casing in a permanent manner as indicated.

Permanently secured within casing 1 is member 4, which is formed as shown in Figure 2, and the purpose of the said member is to direct one cigarette at a time to portion 5 therein through the medium of rolling gravity and by virtue of portion 6 of member 4. Directly in line with portion 5 is opening 5A in plate 2, which is slightly larger in diameter than the customary cigarette, the latter being indicated by the letter B. With the cigarettes in order as shown in Figures 1 and 2 knob 7 is moved as indicated by the dotted lines in Figure 1 thus discharging one end portion of one cigarette in a single operation, upon which it is taken from the device, and in this manner the cigarettes may be obtained from the device one by one until all shall have been exhausted.

This operation is made possible by reason of knob 7 being permanently secured to horizontally disposed tube 8 which is adapted to freely slide upon rod 9, one end of which is provided with a shoulder and is riveted to upright support 10 and the lower portion of the said support secured to case 1 where indicated. The opposite end of tube 8 is secured to upright member 11 with coil spring 12 interposed between the said member and the inner surface of face plate 2. As knob 7 is moved as previously explained upright 11 will convey the cigarette as shown in Figure 1 and which is ready to take from the device. Coil spring 12 in the relation as described will automatically return knob 7 to normal position as shown by the full lines in this view. Consequently another cigarette will immediately take the position in portion 5 as the one just having been released from the device, and continuing, responsive to the operation of the device until the contents of the same is exhausted.

With particular reference to Figure 1, it is clearly observed that horizontal spring 13 is provided and is secured to portion 6 of member 4 where shown, and secured to one end of the said spring is lug 14, which is adapted to depend through an opening provided for the same in portion 6.

Lug 14 of spring 13 serves a double purpose, namely, for preventing the cigarettes from jarring out of case 1, and secondly the said lug effects a slight tension upon the cigarette that has been discharged and in readiness for use as clearly indicated by the dotted lines in this view.

A novel method for filling the device with cigarettes is employed and referring to Figure 3 it is noted that opening 15 is provided within the rear end of case 1 as indicated, and enclosed by shutter 16 of similar shape and the same is adapted to be pivotally secured to case 1 by stud 17, and knob 18 which is secured to the said shutter, being rotatably moved in the direction of the arrow in this view, case 1 is opened and the cigarettes are placed therein upon member 4 through the said opening, and likewise closed in a similar manner.

Diametrically opposed lugs 19 are provided and are made integral with casing 1 and are for the purpose of preventing the said casing from turning with respect to panel A.

This invention being primarily intended for use in conjunction with the instrument panel of an automobile, it is understood that it may be

applied elsewhere for the same purpose and supported by any suitable upright member.

It is evident that I have hereinabove described a single embodiment of my invention, however I reserve the right to make slight alterations in the construction or in the design thereof, if necessary during any probable further development for the market, but in any eventuality a departure from the general principle as disclosed would be consistently avoided.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. In a cigarette dispenser, a case having a discharge opening in the forward end thereof, a single cigarette receiving chamber in the case aligned with said discharge opening, a downwardly inclined plate arranged in the case, the lower end portion thereof being spaced from the adjacent wall of the case to form a restricted passage to guide the cigarettes one at a time to the receiving chamber, a spring controlled plunger slidable through the front of the case, a cigarette ejector member connected to the inner end of the plunger and operable within the receiving chamber for forcing the cigarette deposited therein outwardly through the discharge opening and guide means for the slidable plunger and ejector member and a spring controlled lug projecting through an opening in the lower end portion of the plate for disposition within the path of movement of the ejected cigarette and adapted to engage the latter to hold the same in a partly projected position.

2. In a cigarette dispenser, a case having a discharge opening in the forward end thereof, a single cigarette receiving chamber in the case aligned with said discharge opening, a downwardly inclined plate arranged in the case, the lower end portion thereof being spaced from the adjacent wall of the case to form a restricted passage for guiding the cigarettes one at a time to the receiving chamber, a fixed rod extending horizontally in the case above the receiving chamber, an ejector member slidable on the rod and operable within the receiving chamber to eject the cigarette deposited therein outwardly through the discharge opening, and a spring controlled plunger slidable on the rod and through the front of the case, the inner end of the plunger being connected to the ejector member for operating the same, an actuating handle on the outer end of the plunger, and a spring controlled lug projecting through an opening formed in the lower end portion of the aforesaid plate for disposition within the path of movement of the ejected cigarette and adapted to engage the same for holding the cigarette in a partly projected position.

3. In a cigarette dispenser, a case open at its forward end, a removable cover plate for the open forward end, said cover plate being provided with a discharge opening for a single cigarette, a downwardly inclined plate arranged in the case, the lower end portion thereof being spaced from the adjacent wall of the case forming a restricted passage to guide the cigarettes one at a time to a cigarette receiving chamber arranged in the case, said receiving chamber being disposed in alinement with the discharge opening in the cover plate, an elongated rod arranged horizontally in the case above the receiving chamber, a support for the rear end of the rod, an ejector member slidable along said rod and operable within the receiving chamber to eject the cigarette deposited therein through the discharge opening in the cover plate, a tubular plunger slidable on said rod and operable through the cover plate, the inner end of the tubular plunger being rigidly connected to the ejector member, an operating handle on the outer end of the tubular plunger, a coil spring encircling the tubular member and the rod and disposed between the cover plate and said ejector member for normally holding the ejector member in its rearward most position, and a spring controlled lug projecting through an opening provided in the lower end portion of the plate for disposition within the path of movement of the ejected cigarette to engage the latter and hold the same in a partly projected position.

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