

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

POINDEXTER W. CAPEHART, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

## TOBACCO PAPER FOR CIGARETTES.

No. 872,987.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 3, 1907.

Application filed November 30, 1906. Serial No. 345,813.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, POINDEXTER W. CAPEHART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tobacco Paper for Cigarettes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to wrappers for cigarettes.

The object of the invention is to provide a substitute for ordinary paper and a tobacco leaf wrapper for cigarettes which shall be similar to paper yet consisting mainly of tobacco.

Further objects and advantages will be more fully described herein and specifically pointed out in the claims.

To produce the paper, forming the basis of my invention, I reduce tobacco stems or leaf to a very fine powder to which is added a solution of wheat gluten in dilute acetic or phosphoric acid. The mass is then washed with pure water to free it from acid. The resultant combination is partially dried and combined with rice jelly or paste and thoroughly mixed so as to form a plastic consistency adapted to be passed through cold rollers to be rolled several times the thickness that it is desired to make the sheets after which the sheets are rolled between hot calender rolls the heat being sufficient to partly cook the rice and hardening and compressing the other ingredients into a compact flexible sheet adapted to be cut into cigarette paper. If the mass is not sufficiently stiff for rolling a very small percentage of wheat straw or other vegetable pulp may be incorporated after the acid washing process is finished and before the jelly is added. I prefer the following proportions for the hereinbefore named mass: Tobacco in fine powder 1000 parts, acid solution of gluten, 8 to

15 parts, rice jelly 15 to 35 parts, straw pulp 6 to 10 parts.

Should it be necessary, I use a weak solution of salicylic acid to prevent decomposition or souring of the gluten when in a moist state which is accomplished by washing the gluten after the first washing in pure water.

The gluten when dry is soft and elastic and forms a flexible medium for the wrapping or cover for cigarette tobacco without the danger and discoloration to the smokers fingers now the case with linen rag stock or French paper.

The paper consists almost entirely of tobacco held in sheet form by the rice jelly and glutinous material having no disadvantages of the ordinary white paper.

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

1. A compound of the class described consisting of tobacco, rice paste and gluten.

2. A compound of the class described consisting of tobacco, rice jelly, gluten and a vegetable pulp.

3. A compound of the class described consisting of tobacco, rice jelly, gluten and a straw pulp.

4. A compound of the character specified consisting of tobacco one thousand parts, rice jelly fifteen to thirty five parts, gluten eight to fifteen parts, and straw pulp six to ten parts in or about the proportions specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

POINDEXTER W. CAPEHART.

Witnesses:

W. E. HALSTEAD,  
WALTER B. BURROW.