United States Patent [19]

Hendricks

[11] **3,791,390**

[45] **Feb. 12, 1974**

[54] **SMOKING PIPE**

[76] Inventor: **Victor P. Hendricks**, 1776 Wright St., Pomona, Calif. 91766

[22] Filed: **Aug. 14, 1972**

[21] Appl. No.: **280,505**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **131/196**, 131/198 R, 131/220, 131/3

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A24f 1/22**, A24f 1/18

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 131/3, 174, 175, 195, 196, 131/183, 220, 198 R, 198 A

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

610,839	9/1898	Wright	131/196
647,740	4/1900	Beatty	131/196
2,091,440	8/1937	Gilliam	131/3
2,313,344	3/1943	Jacob	131/220 X
3,605,758	9/1971	Patterson	131/183 X
1,486,031	3/1924	Phillips	131/183
1,118,276	11/1914	Fredericks	131/183
782,219	2/1905	Coleman	131/3
764,125	7/1904	Heald	131/196 UX
1,552,548	9/1925	Donivan et al.	131/175

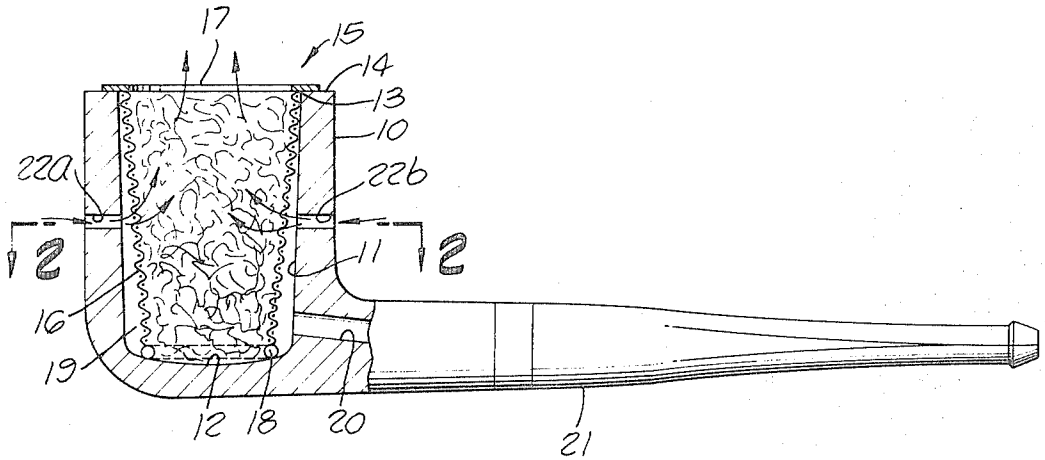
Primary Examiner—Joseph S. Reich

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Whann & McManigal

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A smoking pipe having a foraminous bowl insert which serves as a grate for the burning tobacco, the insert coacting with the inner wall of the bowl cavity to provide a surrounding air chamber having a communication with a smoking stem passage, and an auxiliary passage between the air chamber and the bowl exterior adapted for finger control by the smoker so as to be closable during conventional smoking, and opened for short inactive smoking periods to provide combustion air to the air chamber to maintain combustion and continued burning of the tobacco.

4 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures



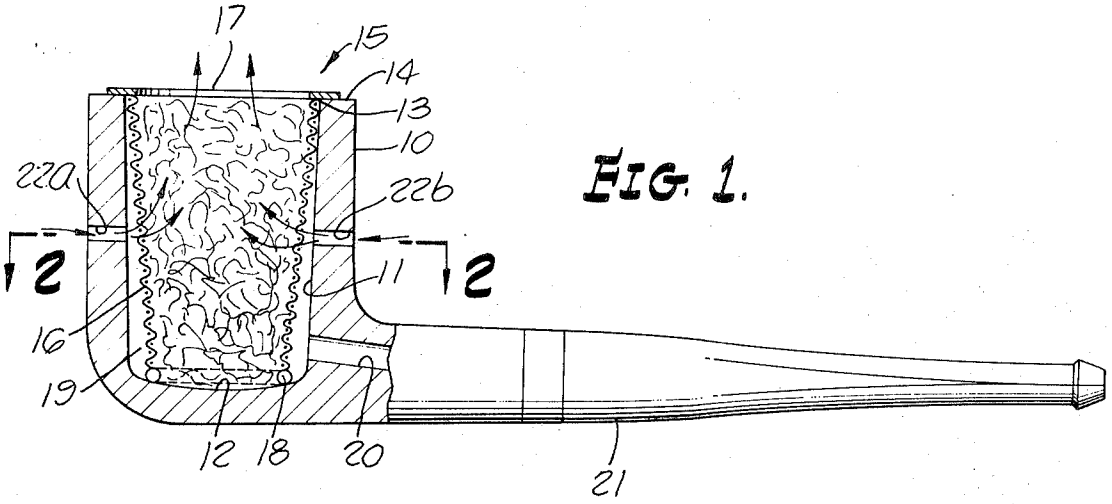


FIG. 1.

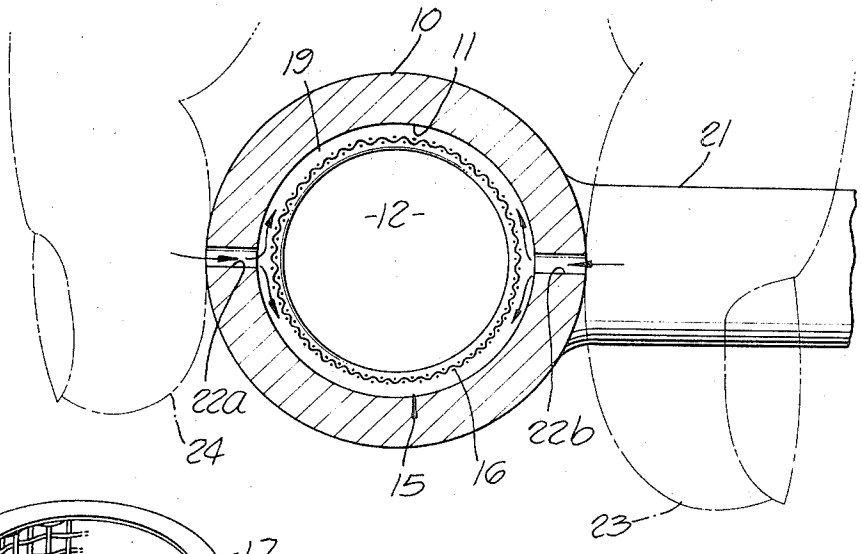


FIG. 2.

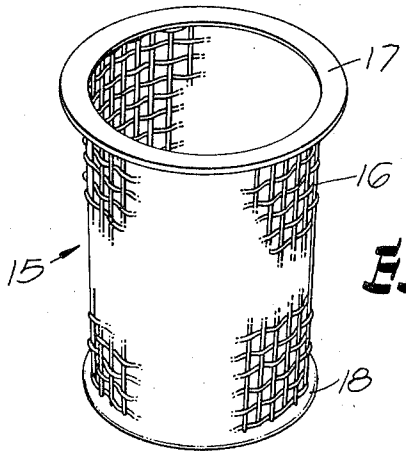


FIG. 3.

SMOKING PIPE

PRIOR ART

In the prior art there are a number of smoking pipes and similar devices having an inner bowl or insert for the burning tobacco, as well as means for supplying outside air to specific portions of the pipe bowl during the smoking operation. The closest art known to applicant's are the following patents:

578,881	Mar. 16, 1897
695,185	Mar. 11, 1902
883,954	Apr. 7, 1908
1,313,280	Aug. 19, 1919
1,967,367	July 24, 1934
3,303,849	Feb. 14, 1967
3,336,929	Aug. 22, 1967

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to smoking pipes.

Heretofore, in conventional smoking pipes it has been a problem to keep the tobacco burning during inactive smoking periods, as when the smoker temporarily sets the pipe down. The burning tobacco quickly goes out because of a lack of combustion supporting air. As a consequence, the smoker is subjected to the nuisance of having to continuously re-light the tobacco.

It has previously been known from U. S. Pat. No. 695,185 to use an inner bowl with a large number of perforations to increase and distribute the burning area of the tobacco in order to induce a more complete combustion of the tobacco, and while the inner bowl is surrounded by a chamber, this chamber is used primarily as a mixing and cooling chamber for the smoke rather than for the purpose of supplying combustion supporting air as in applicant's invention.

In U.S. Pat. No. 1,967,367, the problem has been appreciated of supplying combustion supporting air to the burning tobacco in the pipe bowl to keep the tobacco burning during periods when the smoker is not actively puffing on the pipe in the usual manner. The use of the controllable spaced openings around the bowl as disclosed in this patent has the inherent disadvantage that the combustion supporting air is restricted to limited intake areas in the bowl. In applicant's invention, this problem is solved by the use of an air chamber around the tobacco supporting inner bowl or grate.

A later U. S. Pat. No. 3,336,929 discloses a cigarette holding device for reverse smoking of the cigarette, and while a finger-controlled air hole is provided in the cigarette supporting bowl, the cooperative association is not the same as in the use of a grate for supporting the tobacco in a pipe bowl.

Applicant's smoking pipe concept provides a new combination which respectively overcomes the problems existing in the presently known smoking pipes, and particularly those as disclosed in the patents discussed above.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a smoking pipe, and is more particularly concerned with the provision of improved control means for maintaining the burning of the tobacco during intervals of non-active smoking.

One object of the herein described invention is to provide an improved tobacco smoking pipe with an inner bowl insert which provides a grate, the grate being surrounded by an air chamber having communication with the pipe stem, and an auxiliary passage which may be selectively manually closed when puffing on the stem for smokingg in the usual manner, or opened during idle periods to provide combustion supporting air to keep the tobacco burning so as to obviate the necessity of having to continuously re-light the tobacco.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be brought out in the following part of the specification, wherein detailed description is for the purpose of fully disclosing a preferred embodiment of the invention without placing limitations thereon.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are for illustrative purposes only:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of a pipe embodying the features of my invention, portions being shown in section to reveal the cooperative relationship of the coacting components:

FIG. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary transverse section through the pipe bowl, taken substantially on line 2—2 of FIG. 1 and illustrating manual control of an auxiliary air supply passage; and

FIG. 3 is an enlarged perspective view of the bowl insert or grate as utilized in the smoking pipe of my invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring more specifically to the drawings, for illustrative purposes, the invention is shown in FIG. 1 as being applied to a smoking pipe.

As illustrated, the smoking pipe of my invention embodies a bowl **10** formed with an internal cavity which is circumscribed by a side wall **11** and a bottom wall **12.** The bowl cavity at its uppermost end forms an opening **13** at the bowl brim **14.**

A tubular sleeve insert as generally indicated at **15** is removably receivable within the bowl cavity and forms a grate for receiving the smoking tobacco therein.

As clearly shown in FIGS. **1** and **3,** the tubular insert comprises a foraminous wall **16** which may vary as to construction, but is illustrated as being of a screen-like material. At its uppermost end, the wall connects with an annular end flange **17** which is arranged to peripherally project outwardly over the bowl brim so as to provide a sealing engagement therewith, when the insert is in an operative position. The insert is of appropriate length so that in its position of use, a lower end ring will make seating engagement with the bottom wall of the bowl cavity.

It will be observed that the insert wall **16** is tapered towards its lowermost end, and in accordance with a main feature of the invention the wall **16** coacts with the side wall **11** of the bowl cavity to provide a surrounding air chamber **19** which extends substantially the entire length of the insert between the end flange **17** and lower end ring **18.**

Adjacent the bottom of the bowl cavity, the air chamber **19** communicates with a connecting passage **20** leading through a conventional pipe stem **21** in a

conventional manner for puffing the pipe during smoking.

At substantially a mid-way position between the top and bottom of the bowl cavity, the bowl wall is provided on diametrically opposite sides with a pair of auxiliary passages **22***a* and **22***b* which connect the air chamber **19** with the exterior of the pipe bowl.

By placing the passages **22***a* and **22***b* in axial alignment with the stem axis, these auxiliary passages are manually controllable by means of a smoker's thumb **23** and a finger **24**, as shown in phantom lines, in a facile manner during smoking. The purpose of the passages **22***a* and **22***b* is to provide a supply of air to the air chamber **19** between active smoking puffs on the pipe, and during inactive periods when, for example, the smoker may set the pipe down for a few moments. It is a very natural movement to cover and uncover the passages **22***a* and **22***b*, so that in setting the pipe down, air will be supplied to the air chamber and distributed over substantially the entire surface of the foraminous wall **16** so as to provide combustion air which will keep the tobacco burning and obviate the extinguishment of the burning tobacco and necessity of re-lighting it each time the pipe is picked up to continue actively the smoking in the usual manner. It will of course be appreciated that when puffing on the stem during smoking, the smoker will close the passages **22***a* and **22***b*, unless of course the smoker should desire to admit cool air to cool the smoke prior to its passage into the stem.

From the foregoing description and drawings, it will be clearly evident that the delineated object and features of the invention will be accomplished. Various modifications may suggest themselves to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of my invention, and, hence, I do not wish to be restricted to the specific forms shown or uses mentioned, except to the extent indicated in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. As an article of manufacture, an insert for the bowl of a smoking pipe, comprising:
   a. a generally open ended tubular wall of a foraminous material;
   b. a peripheral upper end outwardly projecting flange on said wall; and
   c. a peripheral lower end bowl seating ring on said wall.

2. An article of manufacture according to claim **1**, wherein the wall is of a screen mesh material.

3. An article of manufacture according to claim **1**, in which the wall is tapered towards its lower end.

4. A smoking pipe, comprising:
   a. a bowl having an inner wall forming a top opening cavity;
   b. a tobacco containing tubular sleeve insert extending through said top opening into said cavity, said insert having an upper end peripherally engaged with the bowl brim, at said top opening, a lower open end peripherally engaged with a bottom wall portion of the cavity, and a foraminous wall coacting with said cavity wall, to provide an air chamber surrounding the foraminous wall, said air chamber being closed at its top except for communication through the foraminous wall;
   c. a smoking stem having a passage connection with said air chamber; and
   d. at least one auxiliary manually controllable passage in said bowl connecting said air chamber and the outside of said bowl adapted to be closed by a finger of the smoker while applying suction to the stem, and opened when not smoking to provide a supply of combustion air to the chamber to maintain combustion and continued burning of the tobacco.

* * * * *