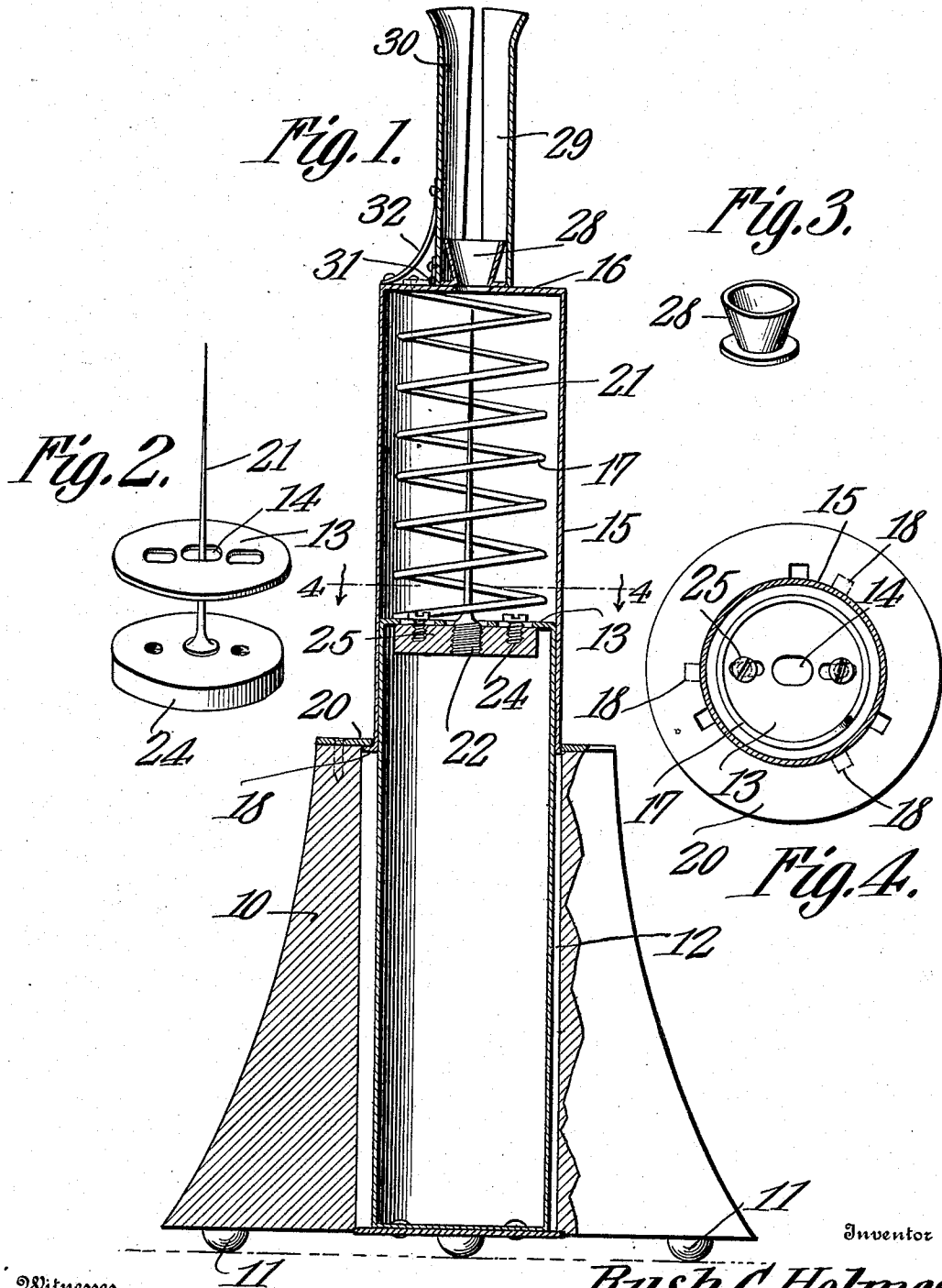


R. C. HOLMES.
CIGAR PIERCING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1908.

933,250.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.



Witnesses
E. J. [Signature]
J. M. [Signature]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUSH C. HOLMES, OF NORTH BEND, OREGON.

CIGAR-PIERCING DEVICE.

933,250.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.

Application filed December 19, 1908. Serial No. 468,350.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUSH C. HOLMES, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Bend, in the county of Coos and State of Oregon, have invented a new and useful Cigar-Piercing Device, of which the following is a specification.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a machine of simple construction for piercing cigars from the butt inward for the purpose of permitting a free draft through the length of the cigar.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cup that will accommodate cigars of varying sizes without damage or breaking.

With these and other objects, in view, as will more fully hereinafter appear, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportions, size and minor details of the structure may be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of a cigar piercing machine constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the piercing knife detached. Fig. 3 is a detailed perspective view of the upper guiding ring for the cigar butt. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of references are employed to indicate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawing.

The device is mounted on a suitable base 10 which may be formed of wood, papier mâché, or other suitable material and ornamented in any desired manner. In the bottom of the base are arranged a number of resilient foot plugs 11 in order that the device may be placed on a polished surface without damaging the latter. Extending through the base is a vertical opening arranged for the reception of a vertically disposed tube 12 the bottom of which is riveted or otherwise secured in place. The upper end of the tube is closed by a disk 13 having an enlarged central opening 14. Slidable upon the tube 12 is a second tube 15, at the upper end of which is secured a disk 16 and between the two disks 13 and 16 is a com-

pression spring 17 that tends to keep the tube 15 in an elevated position. The opening in the base is of sufficient diameter to permit the ready passage of the outer tube 15 and at the base of this tube are outwardly extending lugs 18 that fit within suitable guiding grooves formed in the wall of the opening. Secured at the top of the base is a small ring 20 that is provided with notches through which the lugs 18 may pass when the tube 15 is circumferentially adjusted for the purpose. Normally the notches of the ring are out of alinement with the lug-receiving grooves of the base so that the rings are used as a stop to check the upward movement of the tube.

The piercing knife 21 is in the form of a long, thin stiletto-like blade that is provided at the bottom with a threaded shank that fits within a similarly threaded opening formed in a disk 24 that is secured to the disk 13. The disk 24 has openings for the passage of securing screws 25 that pass through radially disposed slots formed in the disk 13 so that the lower disk 24 may be adjusted in a diametral line for the purpose of holding the knife in the longitudinal axis of the tubes 12 and 15.

To the top of the upper tube 16 is secured a small frusto-conical cup 28 that receives the butt end of the cigar and serves to hold the same from splitting and prevents breakage of the wrapper during the entrance of the piercing knife. As this receiving cup tapers, it will firmly hold the butts of cigars of various shapes and sizes.

Secured to the upper ring or disk 16 is a semi-cylindrical guide 29 which co-acts with a similar guide member 30 that is connected to the disk 16 by a hinge 31 and the member 30 is normally held up in position parallel with the member 29 by means of a small leaf spring 32 which will yield after the guiding device receives a cigar of large diameter.

In operation, the cigar is introduced between the two members 29 and 30 of the guide and is thrust downward until its butt end is firmly fitted in the cup 28. As the downward pressure is continued, the cigar, its guiding devices and the tube 15 will all be forced to descend against the stress of the spring 17 and the cigar will be pierced in the direction of its length by the blade 21 so that a free draft will be insured without the necessity of cutting off the end of the cigar as usually practiced. When the pres-

sure is relieved the spring 17 will act to restore the parts to normal position. During the cigar piercing operation the cigar is held in alinement with the knife and lateral play is prevented by the guiding members 29 and 30 and the cup 28.

I claim:—

1. In a cigar piercing machine, a base having a central opening, the wall of which is provided with vertical slots, a tube secured within the opening and extending above the top of the base, a perforated disk secured to the upper end of the tube, a cigar piercing knife extending through the opening in the disk, a knife-carrying disk adjustable diametrically of the tube, means for securing the knife-carrying disk in position, an upper tube arranged to telescope over the lower tube, and provided at its lower end with regularly disposed lugs entering the guiding slots, a notched ring secured to the top of the base and limiting upward movement of the upper tube, a compression spring between the two tubes, a two-part cigar guide

carried by the upper tube and arranged to engage the body of the cigar and a cigar butt receiving cup at the base of said guide. 25

2. In a cigar-piercing device, a base, a tube secured within the base and extending above the top thereof, a cigar-piercing member secured at the upper end of the tube, a tube telescoping over the first-mentioned tube, a spring within the last mentioned tube, normally holding the same elevated, and a cigar-guide mounted upon the last mentioned tube, and comprising a fixed sleeve portion, a hinged sleeve portion arranged in juxtaposition with respect to the fixed sleeve portion, and a spring bearing against the hinged sleeve portion whereby to hold the same in the direction of the fixed sleeve portion. 30 35 40

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

RUSH C. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

A. E. SHUSTER,
J. W. GROUT.