UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS MAIER, OF KARLSRUHE, GERMANY.

PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ARTIFICIAL TOBACCO-LEAVES.

1,068,403. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 22, 1913.

No Drawing. Application filed November 25, 1911. Serial No. 662,395.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS MAIER, a subject of the German Emperor, residing at 19 Waldhornstrasse, Karlsruhe, Baden, Germany, have invented a certain new and useful Process for the Production of Artificial Tobacco-Leaves, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to render the waste produced in the preparation of cigars and cigarettes from fermented tobacco and which was hitherto generally worthless capable of again being employed in the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes and also of pipe tobacco by forming it into continuous flat leaves without the employment of any foreign substances.

The process is carried into effect in the following manner:—A certain percentage of fine tobacco veins, of which the height depends upon the purpose for which the tobacco leaf is to be employed is softened and soaked for about 24 hours in cold water and then ground and reduced to fibers in a pulping device, in the same manner as when producing paper, to a broth-like mass. To this mass is then added the necessary quantity of waste from cigars, cigarettes or pipe tobacco, whereupon the whole mass is then placed into a long sieve, the water removed and by means of rollers it is pressed into flat sheets which are then reduced in size according to the purpose for which they are required. For the purpose of again imparting to the tobacco leaf thus produced its color and flexibility which it has lost during this process, a certain amount of licorice juice is applied on its passage through the rollers, which imparts to it the natural color, as also a coating of glycerin which is adapted to impart to the leaf the necessary flexibility. For the manufacture of cigars, the tobacco leaves thus obtained are employed as the covering or surrounding leaves and are cut into pieces corresponding to the size of the cigars, or if they are to serve as the body of the cigars they are cut into small strips. The cigars thus produced have the advantage in comparison with those of natural tobacco leaves that there is a uniform burning and admission of air, and in comparison with the employment of a badly burning covering tobacco by the snow white ash. Besides this a greater number of cigars can be produced in the same time by a worker as the necessary time for placing the leaves in their proper position required for natural tobacco leaves is avoided. The cigars may also be rolled more uniformly and smoothly than has hitherto been the case. The cigars produced from these tobacco leaves have the great advantage that they require no plant for drying as is the case when employing natural tobacco leaves, but they are immediately in a good dry condition and ready for sale.

The production of cigarette tobacco requires about 5% of pure tobacco veins which are treated in the hereinbefore described manner and to the broth-like mass produced 95% of waste of cigarette tobacco added. The water is then removed from the whole mass on a sieve and it is pressed in the known manner into flat sheets as required and again cut for cigarette tobacco. This artificial cigarette tobacco is advantageously characterized in comparison with the natural tobacco as it remains in long fibers whereby only very unimportant waste is produced on manufacture which is of great importance in the manufacture of cigarettes.

In the production of pipe tobacco about 10% of tobacco veins is employed, while the remainder consists of waste tobacco which in the hereinbefore described manner is pressed into flat sheets and then cut into pipe tobacco. In this manner a useful product is formed which in composition and quality cannot be differentiated from natural tobacco.

In this application I do not claim the article disclosed herein as the same constitutes the subject matter of a separate application filed by me on May 21st, 1913, Serial No. 768,971.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A process for the production of artificial tobacco leaves consisting in pulping tobacco veins, mixing tobacco waste with the pulped veins, and pressing the mixture into a sheet.

2. A process for the production of artificial tobacco leaves consisting in softening and soaking tobacco veins in cold water, pulping tobacco veins, mixing tobacco waste with the pulped veins, and pressing the mixture into a sheet.

3. A process for the production of artificial tobacco leaves consisting in pulping tobacco veins, mixing tobacco waste with

the pulped veins, removing the moisture from the mixture and pressing the mixture into a sheet.

4. A process for the production of artificial tobacco leaves consisting in pulping tobacco veins, mixing tobacco waste with the pulped veins, pressing the mixture into a sheet and cutting the sheet into strips.

5. A process for the production of artificial tobacco leaves consisting in pulping tobacco veins, mixing tobacco waste with the pulped veins, and pressing the mixture into a sheet and adding licorice juice and glycerin while the sheet is being pressed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS MAIER.

Witnesses:
A. O. TITTMANN,
G. SCHIMPF.