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J. J. HELM

COMBINATION ASH TRAY AND CIGARETTE CASE

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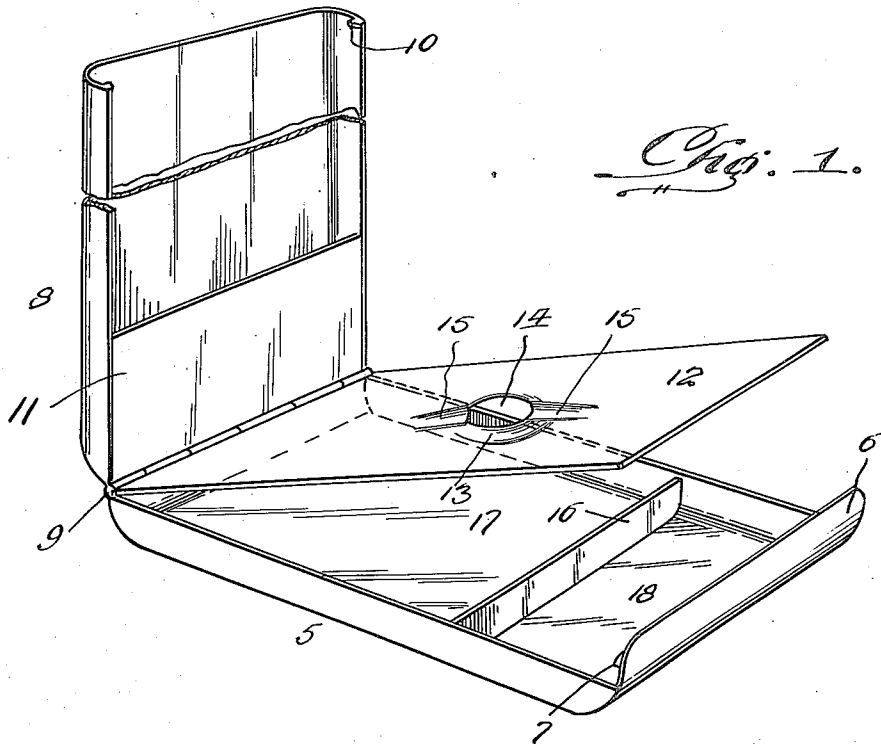
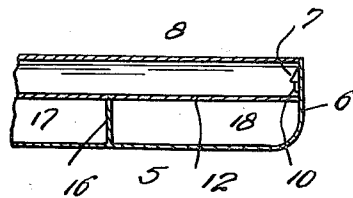


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. HELM, OF QUANTICO, VIRGINIA.

COMBINATION ASH TRAY AND CIGARETTE CASE.

Application filed February 2, 1924. Serial No. 690,252.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. HELM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Quantico, in the county of Prince William and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Ash Tray and Cigarette Case, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to special receptacles, particularly adapted for pocket and personal use, and has specific reference to an improved combination ash tray and cigarette case.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a device of the above kind that shall be simple and durable in construction and highly useful as a smoker's appliance.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combination ash tray and cigarette case that may be cheaply manufactured and which embodies construction permitting ready access to the cigarettes, and wherein the cigarettes are accessible when the device is used as an ash tray or receiver.

A still further object of the invention is to provide means of a simple and effective nature for maintaining the parts of the device in closed relation and for maintaining the ashes within the ash compartment so that the device may be conveniently carried within the pocket without danger of soiling the clothes.

Other objects will become apparent as the nature of the invention is better understood, and the same consists in the novel form, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawing and claimed.

In the drawing, wherein like reference characters indicate corresponding parts in both of the views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view, partly broken away, of a combination ash tray and cigarette case constructed in accordance with the present invention and with the cover and hinged division plate respectively in opened and partially opened position, and Figure 2 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view of the device shown in Figure 1, with the parts in closed position.

Referring more in detail to the drawing, the present invention embodies a body or bottom member 5 preferably in the form of an elongated substantially rectangular pan or tray including bottom, side and end walls, the outer end wall being extended upwardly

beyond the side walls to provide a resilient flange 6, the ends of which are provided with inwardly extending keeper lugs 7. The device further embodies a cover member 8 that is hinged at its inner end as at 9 to the inner end of the body member or tray 5 and that is provided with side walls adapted to seat in edge to edge relation upon the side walls of the tray 5 when closed. The cover member 8 is devoid of an end wall at its outer end and is adapted to be closed when in closed relation to the tray 5 by means of the flange 6 of said tray, the outer ends of the side walls of the cover member 8 being provided with inwardly projecting transversely projecting lugs 10 adapted to be engaged under the keeper lugs 7 of the flange 6 for maintaining the cover member closed with relation to the body member or tray 5. A plate 11 connects the side walls of the cover member 8 at the inner end of the latter so as to form a compartment between said plate and the top wall of the cover 8 for reception of the ends of a plurality of cigarettes whereby the latter are retained or carried by the cover in the usual well known manner generally practiced with conventional forms of cigarette cases now in use. A division plate 12 is hinged at one end by the hinged connection 8 between the cover 8 and the tray 5, and this division plate 12 is of a form to snugly fit between the walls of the tray 5 when closed, so as to form a cover for said tray and prevent displacement of ashes therefrom. The division plate 12 is formed with a central raised portion as at 13 that is provided with a central opening 14 through which the ashes may be deposited into the tray 5 when the division plate 12 is in closed relation to the tray 5 as illustrated in Figure 2, the raised portion 13 being provided with channels or depressions 15, forming rests or seats for cigarettes adjacent the opening 15. If desired, a transverse partition 16 may be provided between the side walls of the tray 5 adjacent the outer end of the latter for dividing the interior of said tray into an inner relatively large ash compartment 17 and an outer smaller match compartment 18, the division plate 12 being adapted to rest upon the upper edge of the partition 16 for preventing passage of the ashes into the match compartment, or passage of the matches into the ash compartment. It is obvious that the division plate 12 may be raised for facil-

itating removal of the ashes from the compartment 17 or permitting removal of matches from the compartment 18.

A device constructed as described above will constitute an extremely useful smoker's appliance, and by reason of its simple construction may be produced and marketed at a relatively small cost.

From the foregoing description, it is believed that the construction and operation, as well as the advantages of the present invention will be readily understood and appreciated by those skilled in the art.

What I claim as new is:

1. A combination ash tray and cigarette case comprising cover and tray members hingedly connected at one end of the device, a division plate disposed between and hingedly connected to the cover and tray member at their point of hinge connection, said division plate forming a cover for the tray and having a central opening through which ashes may be deposited into the tray, means cooperating with and carried by the cover for facilitating retention of cigarettes within said cover against the top wall thereof, and means for releasably maintaining the cover and tray members in closed relation.
2. A combination ash tray and cigarette case comprising cover and tray members hingedly connected at one end of the device, a division plate disposed between and hingedly connected to the cover and tray members at their point of hinge connection, said division plate forming a cover for the tray and having a central opening through which ashes may be deposited into the tray, means cooperating with and carried by the cover for facilitating retention of cigarettes within said cover against the top wall thereof, means for releasably maintaining the cover and tray members in closed relation, said division plate further having a central raised portion in which said opening is formed, said raised portion being provided with substantially radial depressions forming cigarette retaining seats.

3. A combination ash tray and cigarette case comprising cover and tray members hingedly connected at one end of the device, a division plate disposed between and hingedly connected to the cover and tray members at their point of hinged connection, said division plate forming a cover for the tray and having a central opening through which ashes may be deposited into the tray, means cooperating with and carried by the cover for facilitating retention of cigarettes within said cover against the top wall thereof, means for releasably maintaining the cover and tray members in closed relation, said division plate further having a central raised portion in which said opening is formed, said raised portion being provided with substantially radial depressions forming cigarette retaining seats, and a transverse partition dividing the tray into ash receiving and match retaining compartments.

4. A combination ash tray and cigarette case comprising cover and tray members hingedly connected at one end of the device, a division plate disposed between and hingedly connected to the cover and tray member at their point of hinge connection, said division plate forming a cover for the tray and having a central opening through which ashes may be deposited into the tray, means cooperating with and carried by the cover for facilitating retention of cigarettes within said cover against the top wall thereof, means for releasably maintaining the cover and tray members in closed relation, said cover member being devoid of an end wall at its outer end and provided with transversely and inwardly extending lugs at the outer ends of its side wall, the outer end wall of the tray member being extended in the form of a resilient flange, keeper lugs extending inwardly from said flange and adapted to engage the lugs of the cover member for retaining the latter closed.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN J. HELM.