M. L. ROBBINS.

CIGARETTE CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 18, 1913.

1,091,083.

Patented Mar. 24, 1914.

Fig. 1.

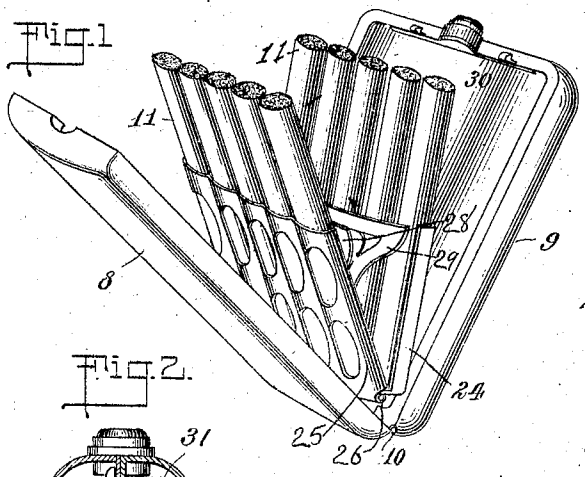


Fig. 2.

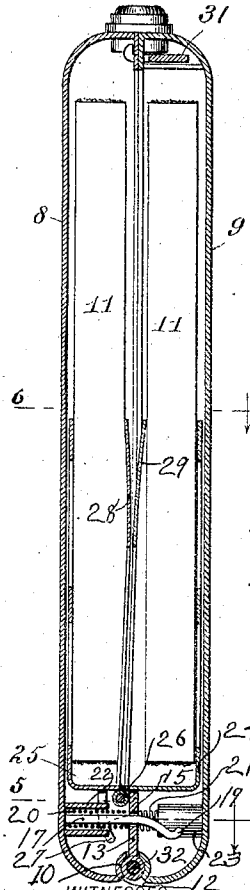


Fig. 4.

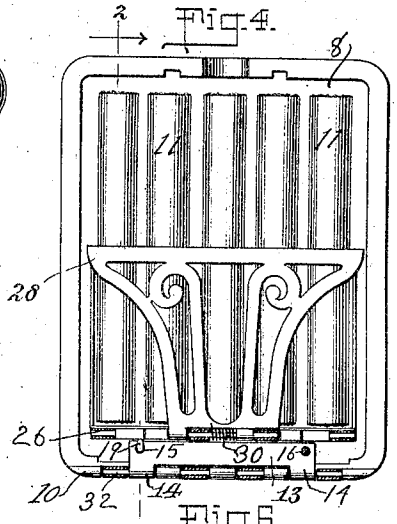


Fig. 5.

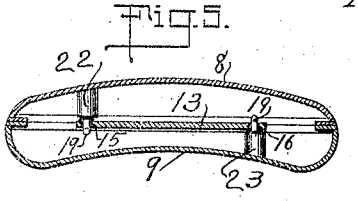


Fig. 6.

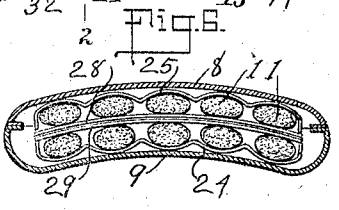


Fig. 3.

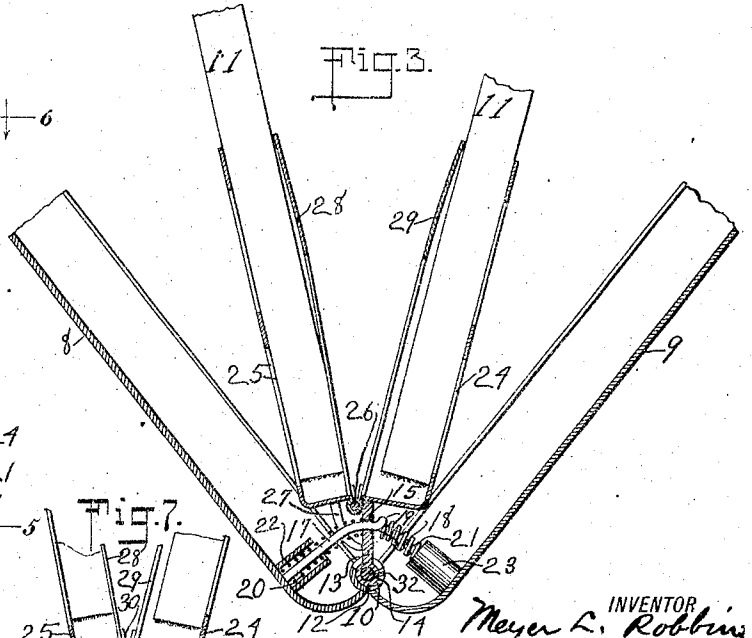


Fig. 7.

WITNESSES:

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CIGARETTE-CASE.

1,091,083. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 24, 1914.

Application filed July 18, 1913. Serial No. 779,746.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MEYER L. ROBBINS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county of New York and State of New York, have made and invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigarette-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cases for cigarettes, cigars, etc., of the kind designed to be carried in the pocket, and more particularly to cases formed entirely of metal, and the object thereof is to provide a cigar, cigarette, or similar case in which the cigarettes or cigars held by it will, when the case is opened, be presented or held in such a way that any individual cigar or cigarette may be readily removed from the case without interfering with the others, and without interference from the others.

A further object of my invention is to provide a case of the type above referred to which will be simple in construction, durable, easy to manufacture, and of pleasing appearance.

With the above and other objects of invention in view, my invention consists in the improved cigar or cigarette case hereinafter described and claimed, and in such variations and modifications thereof as will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which my invention relates.

In the drawing wherein the preferred embodiment of my invention is illustrated, Figure 1 is a view illustrating my improved case in perspective; Fig. 2 is a view drawn upon a considerably larger scale than Fig. 1 and showing a section upon vertical transverse planes indicated by the line 2—2, Fig. 4; Fig. 3 is a view showing a section upon a vertical transverse plane indicated by the line 2—2, Fig. 4, but showing the case opened and illustrating the manner in which the several rows of cigarettes are made to stand out independent of one another. Fig. 4 is a view drawn upon the same scale as Fig. 1, one of the lids of the case having been removed and the remaining lid being shown in elevation. Fig. 5 is a view showing a section taken upon a transverse plane indicated by the line 5—5, Fig. 2, the scale of this view, however, being approximately the same as that of Figs. 1 and 4; Fig. 6 is a similar view showing a cross-section upon a plane indicated by the line 6—6, Fig. 2; and Fig. 7 is a view illustrating a detail of construction.

Referring to the drawings, the reference numerals 8, 9 designate two lids each of which is concaved or dished, and which lids are pivotally connected with one another along one of the edges as shown at 10, whereby a hollow body portion or case is provided within which the cigarettes designated by the reference character 11, and the mechanism whereby they are held, are supported. The case as a whole is curved slightly in the manner illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, as is usual in cigarette and similar cases, and in order to provide a case which will fit well in the pocket. The hinge connection 10 includes a pivot 32 and shoulders 12 which contact with one another as shown in Fig. 3 when the case is open, to thereby limit the extent of the opening movement of the dished lids, as will be understood from Figs. 1 and 3.

The reference numeral 13 designates a supporting member pivotally supported within the body portion formed by the lids as above explained, as, for example, by providing the said member with ears provided with openings as shown at 14, through which the pin 32 of the hinge connection between the lids extends so that the member 13 is pivotally supported at the hinge connection whereby the lids themselves are connected with one another. The supporting member 13 is provided with holes as shown at 15, 16, through which holes the free ends of arms 17, 18 extend, these arms being carried by and fixedly secured one to each of the lids of the case. These arms are preferably provided with laterally projecting lugs 19 at their free ends, from which it will be understood that by means of the arms the supporting member 13 will be held approximately in a central position between the lids when the case is open in the manner shown in Figs. 1 and 3, as it will be understood that if the member moves in either direction the movement will be stopped or arrested by the projection at the end of the arm with which it will presently come into contact.

The reference numerals 20, 21 designate two springs one end of each of which abuts against one of the lids of the case, while the other ends abut against a supporting member 13. These springs preferably surround the arms above referred to and their

outer ends are preferably located in sockets provided by tubes 22, 23 secured to the inner surface of the lids adjacent the connecting hinge. These springs act to force the lids apart and to hold them in the open position shown in Figs. 1 and 3. They also perform the further function of holding the supporting member 13 in a central position, as it will be seen that they act in opposition upon said member. It therefore follows that ordinarily when the case is open the supporting member 13 will not contact with either of the projections 19, but will be held in a central position by the springs. The extent of opening of the case at such times is limited by the shoulders 12 at the hinge as above explained. If, however, the springs are somewhat weak, or if they are slightly shorter than they should be, the supporting member may then come into contact with one or another of the projections 19. These projections and the springs therefor constitute in a sense two separate devices for holding the supporting member in a central position, which devices may act independently or in conjunction with one another according to the condition of the parts.

The supporting member 13 in turn supports two or more members which form the immediate supports for the cigars or cigarettes contained in the case. These cigarette supports or cigarette carrying members are shown at 24, 25, and they are preferably provided with corrugations as shown in Fig. 6 to provide seats for the cigarettes, and both of them are pivotally connected with the supporting member 13 by means of a hinge connection shown at 26. Suitable stops are provided for limiting the movement of these cigarette carrying members with reference to the supporting member 13, which stops may be of any form appropriate to accomplish the end in view. In the form of my invention shown in the drawing, however, the member 24 contacts with the upper end of the support 13, see Fig. 3, while the member 25 is shown as provided with an arm 27 the free end of which contacts with the supporting member 13.

The reference numerals 28, 29 designate suitable holding fingers or guards for holding the cigarettes in place within the seats in the carrying members 24, 25, which guards are shown as provided with ears at their lower ends by means of which they are pivotally supported from the pin of the hinge connection 26 above referred to.

The reference numeral 30 designates a spring surrounding the pin of the hinge connection 26 and the ends of which bear against the fingers 28, 29, from which it will be seen that the spring serves not only to keep the fingers in contact with the cigarettes in the holders but also to force the supporting members, that is, the members 24, 25 away from one another and cause them to assume the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3 when the case is open.

Any suitable catch mechanism such as is shown at 31 may be employed for the purpose of holding the lids together and the case in a closed condition.

From the above it will be obvious that upon releasing the catch 31 the hinged lids will be forced apart from one another by the springs 20, 21, and at the same time the inner ends of these springs will cause the supporting member 13 to take up a central position with reference to the lids as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. At the same time the spring 30 will force the cigarette carrying members 24, 25 apart from one another, thus causing the rows of cigarettes within each holder to stand out independent of one another as illustrated in Fig. 1. It will therefore be seen that any cigarette of either row may be readily withdrawn from the holder and from the case, and that the two rows of cigarettes do not interfere with one another and prevent any particular cigarette from being readily grasped and removed as would be the case if they were always held close to and parallel with one another, as in such a case the fingers could not be inserted between the rows to withdraw the cigarettes.

Having thus described and explained my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In a cigarette case, a body portion comprising a pair of dished lids pivotally connected with one another to thereby provide a hinge connection; a supporting member located within said body portion and pivotally supported at the hinge connection aforesaid, and which supporting member is provided with openings; a cigarette carrying member pivotally connected with said supporting member; an arm secured to each of said lids and the free ends of which arms extend through the opening aforesaid in said supporting member; and a spring surrounding each of said arms and which springs tend to force said lids apart and to hold said supporting member in a central position between the lids when the case is open.

2. In a cigarette case, a body portion comprising a pair of dished lids pivotally connected with one another to thereby provide a hinge connection; a pivotally supported supporting member located within said body portion; two cigarette carrying members pivotally connected with said supporting member and adapted to overlie one another when the case is closed; a spring acting upon said carrying members and tending to force them apart; means for limiting the movement of said carrying members; and means for holding said supporting member in a

central position between the lids when the case is open.

3. In a cigarette case, a body portion comprising a pair of dished lids pivotally connected with one another to thereby provide a hinge connection; a pivotally supported supporting member located within said body portion; two cigarette carrying members pivotally connected with said supporting member and adapted to overlie one another when the case is closed; a spring acting upon said carrying members and tending to force them apart; means for limiting the movement of said carrying members; an arm carried by each of said lids and the free ends of which arms are adapted to engage said supporting member; and spring mechanism acting upon said lids and tending to force them apart.

4. In a cigarette case, a body portion comprising a pair of dished lids pivotally connected with one another to thereby provide a hinge connection; a pivotally supported supporting member located within said body portion and provided with openings; two cigarette carrying members pivotally connected with said supporting member and adapted to overlie one another when the case is closed; a spring acting upon said carrying members and tending to force them apart; means for limiting the movement of said carrying members; an arm carried by each of said lids and the free ends of which arms extend through openings provided in said supporting member; and a spring surrounding each of said arms and which springs tend to force said lids apart and to hold said supporting member in a central position between the lids when the case is open.

5. In a cigarette case, a body portion comprising a pair of dished lids pivotally connected with one another to thereby provide a hinge connection; a supporting member located within said body portion and pivotally supported at the hinge connection aforesaid; two cigarette carrying members pivotally connected with said supporting member and adapted to overlie one another when the case is closed; a spring acting upon said carrying members and tending to force them apart; means for limiting the movement of said carrying members; an arm carried by each of said lids and the free ends of which arms are adapted to engage said supporting member; and spring mechanism acting upon said lids and tending to force them apart.

6. In a cigarette case, a body portion comprising a pair of dished lids pivotally connected with one another to thereby provide a hinge connection; a supporting member located within said body portion and pivotally supported at the hinge connection aforesaid, and which supporting member is provided with openings; two cigarette carrying members pivotally connected with said supporting member and adapted to overlie one another when the case is closed; a spring acting upon said carrying members and tending to force them apart; means for limiting the movement of said carrying members; an arm carried by each of said lids and the free ends of which arms extend through the opening aforesaid in said supporting member; and a spring surrounding each of said arms and which springs tend to force said lids apart and to hold said supporting member in a central position between the lids when the case is open.

Signed at New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 16th day of July, A. D. 1913.

MEYER L. ROBBINS.

Witnesses:
ANNA V. WALSH,
R. N. FLINT.