O. HAMMERSTEIN.

MOUTHPIECE AND LIP PROTECTOR FOR CIGARS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 21, 1908.

953,419. Patented Mar. 29, 1910.

Fig. 1.

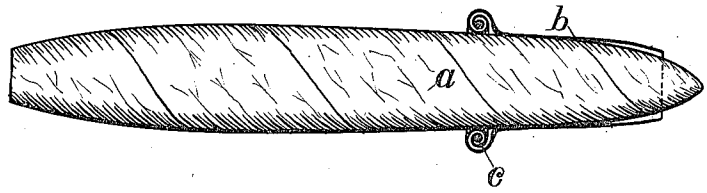
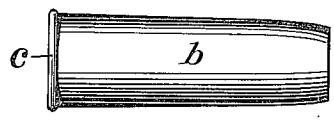


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR

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MOUTHPIECE AND LIP-PROTECTOR FOR CIGARS.

953,419. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 29, 1910.

Application filed March 21, 1908. Serial No. 422,439.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mouthpieces and Lip-Protectors for Cigars, of which the following is a specification.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view of a cigar which carries my improved lip protector. Fig. 2 is a side view of the lip protector as it appears before it is placed on the cigar.

The object of my invention is to supply a cigar with a lip protector which will prevent the moist tobacco from coming into contact with the lips of the smoker, which protector shall be easily applied to a cigar, but which, when once applied, cannot come off spontaneously, and which, moreover, is so constructed that it will not cover the cigar tightly at the place where it enters the mouth.

My invention mainly consists in a lip protector of very thin india rubber which hugs the cigar tightly at the inner end, but is quite free and loose at the outer end, and which has a thickening ring formed on its inner end.

In the accompanying drawings *a* represents a cigar.

b in Fig. 2 represents the lip protector which is made of very thin india rubber, preferably tapering to be smaller at the outer end than at the inner end, and which, at the inner end, is provided with a flange-like enlargement *c*, in the form of a rubber ring. When this lip protector is applied to a cigar, it assumes the form and position indicated in Fig. 1, that is to say, it hugs the cigar tightly at its inner end *c* and is quite loose and distant from the body of the cigar at its outer end. With the outer end of the protector thus loose and spaced from the body of the cigar the said cigar is not clamped or pinched at this point and consequently draws freely when the protector is in position.

The protector is applied to a cigar by slipping the inner end *c* over the end of the cigar until it begins to hug it and then rolling the protector along, so that part of it will roll around the ring *c*, as indicated in Fig. 1. Thus it will be seen that the lip protector actually on the cigar has, by this rolling around the ring *c*, become shorter than it was when off the cigar. The smoker cuts the tip of the cigar off in line with the open outer end of the protector and can then smoke the cigar without having the protector interfere with the draft, and without having his lips come in contact with the tobacco. The protector cannot come off the cigar, unless it is rolled off, and will, therefore, retain its proper position as long as desired; nor will it injure the cigar wrapper while being applied to the cigar, because as soon as the thin india rubber begins to hug the cigar, the rolling process heretofore described will enable it to assume the final position desired, without interfering with the wrapper of the cigar or injuring it.

I desire it to be understood that wherever I have used the term india rubber in the specification and claim, this term is to cover any flexible material capable of use in connection with my invention and that the claim is to be construed in this manner.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A detachable lip protector for cigars comprising a thin india rubber tube having an enlargement at its inner end and having its outer end tapered, said protector being adapted to hug the cigar at the inner end and to be free and out of contact with said cigar at its outer end.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 20th day of March, 1908.

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN.

Witnesses:
JOHN A. KEHLENBECK,
RUDOLPH ABERLI.