

July 16, 1946.

C. F. HINES

2,404,174

ASH TRAY

Filed May 25, 1942

Fig. 1.

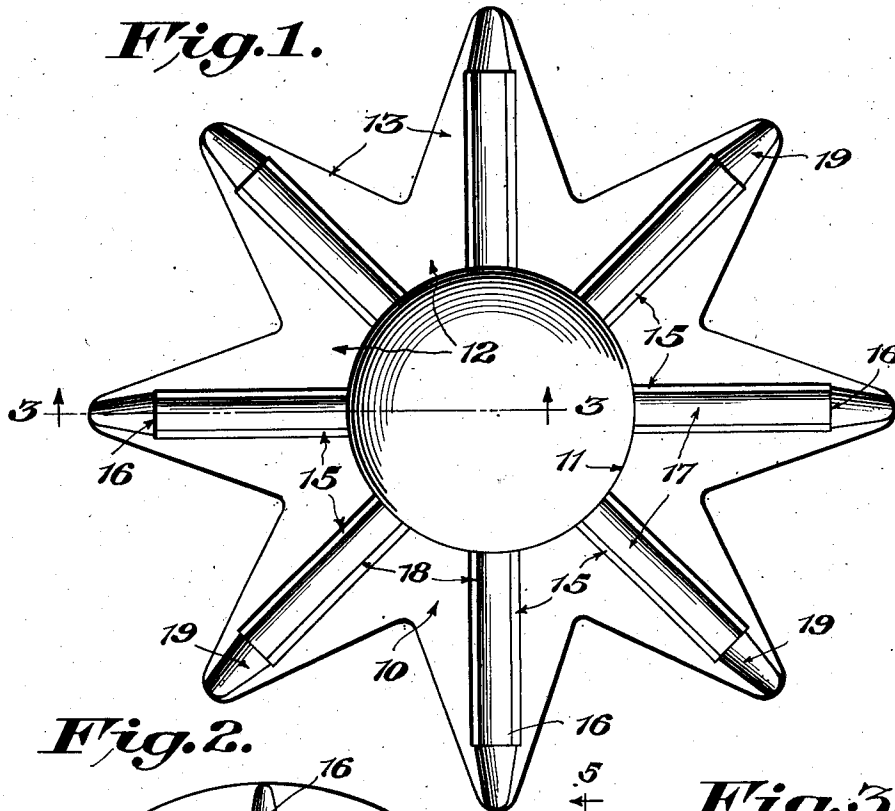


Fig. 2.

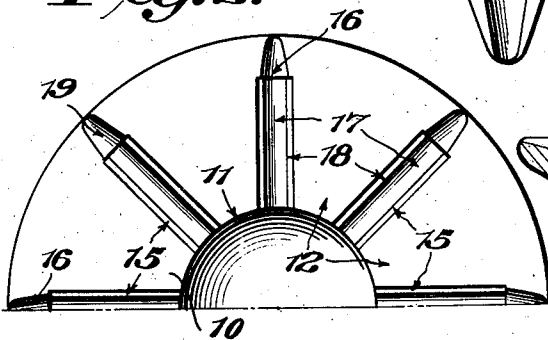


Fig. 3.

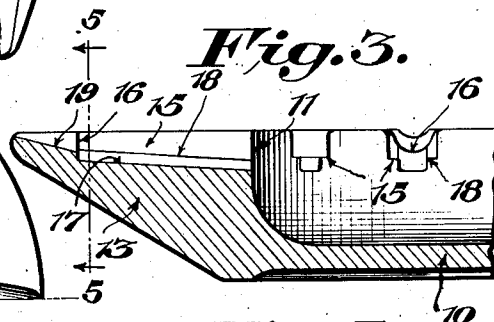


Fig. 4.

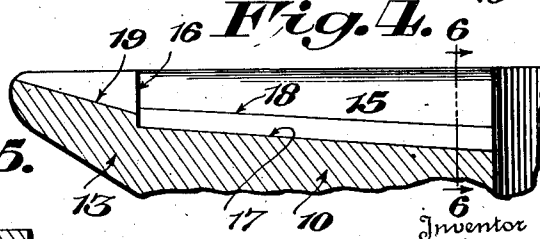


Fig. 6.

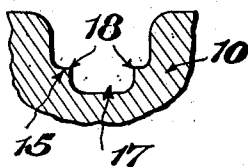
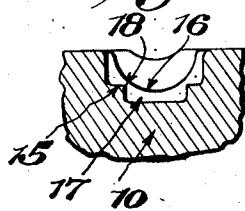


Fig. 5.



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2,404,174

ASH TRAY

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Application May 25, 1942, Serial No. 444,412

2 Claims. (Cl. 131-235)

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The present invention relates to improvements in ash trays for cigars, cigarettes and the like, and aims generally to improve existing trays of that type.

One of the primary objects of the invention is the provision of an improved tray for holding a burning cigarette, which will prevent the complete burning of the cigarette while resting on the tray.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a tray having a novel type of cigarette-retaining groove which will cause a burning cigarette to be extinguished after a relatively short period, while remaining unsweatiable.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description, reference being had to the drawing illustrating preferred embodiments of the invention.

In the drawing

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a preferred form of tray according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view of a modified form thereof;

Fig. 3 is a central sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of the rest of the modified form of tray as taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a detail transverse sectional view taken on the line 5-5 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view taken on the line 6-6 of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawing, the tray advantageously comprises a body 10 provided with a bowl 11 and a flat top surface 12 extending substantially outwardly beyond the bowl so as to provide for a plurality of rests 13, herein illustrated as eight, of substantial length, the length of the rests being preferably more than half the length of a standard sized cigarette. The perimeter of the surface 12 may be pointed as shown in Fig. 1, in which case the rests are in the form of radial extensions from the body 10 and bowl 11. Alternatively, the perimeter of the top 12 may be substantially circular and coextensive with the body, in which case the rests comprise portions of the body.

Each of the rests is formed with a cigarette-receiving groove of novel construction, adapted to receive and substantially embrace a burning cigarette.

The cigarette-receiving groove 15 is preferably rectangular in cross section extending from the bowl 11 to a point 16 spaced from the outer perimeter of the surface 12, or the ends of the rests

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13, and preferably these grooves taper downwardly toward the bowl 11, being deeper at the bowl end. The grooves 15 are preferably of a width slightly greater than the diameter of the cigarette, and the bottom thereof is formed with a supplementary groove 17, providing sharp corner edges 18 for supporting the cigarette by edge contact throughout substantially the length of the groove.

The outer ends of the rests 13 are formed with conical grooves 19 tapering towards the ends of the rests and inclined downwardly toward the groove 15, providing at the point 16 a semi-circular seat for the cigarette adjacent the plane of the edge 18.

A lighted cigarette placed on the tray with the lighted end in the bowl 11 is maintained in downwardly inclined position, and is supported longitudinally by edge contact with the sharp edges 18. If the cigarette is a fully lighted one or is of a length exceeding the length of the groove 15, the outer end portion may be supported arcuately by the semi-circular edge of the groove 19 at the point 16. Inasmuch as the groove 15 is wider than the cigarette and the bottom is grooved as at 17, the sides of the groove are out of contact with the cigarette which prevents sweating thereof.

In either of these positions the current of air may pass under the cigarette inwardly from the point 16 down through the groove 17 to permit the even burning of the cigarette until the ash extends to a point within the groove 15, when the cigarette will be extinguished, thus eliminating much of the offensive, and irritating odor of a burning cigarette. The fact that the cigarette is positioned between the closely adjacent comparatively high walls forming the sides of the groove 15 apparently has considerable effect in producing this result. I have found from experience with the grooves of the size and proportion shown in the drawing that the cigarette will become extinguished in about two and one-half minutes. By widening the grooves 15 the cigarette will burn longer. Usually the cigarette burns from a sixteenth to an eighth of an inch before being extinguished.

The improved tray of my invention may be made of glass, pottery, metal or other material suitable for the purpose.

In the specification and claims I have referred to the grooves as being of a size for retaining cigarettes but it will be understood that some or all of the grooves may be of a size to receive stogies, cigars and the like without departing from the invention. Obviously my invention is

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not limited to the details of construction as shown and described, but includes equivalents as well.

I claim:

1. An ash tray comprising a body formed with a bowl and a plurality of cigarette rests extending therefrom, said rests being of substantial length and formed with a cigarette receiving groove in the upper face thereof, said groove being of substantially rectangular cross section for the major portion of the length thereof, a supplementary groove of narrower width formed in the bottom of the receiving groove and providing therewith relatively sharp edged supporting means for the cigarette, the outer ends of said rests being formed with an arcuate groove having an upper edge substantially triangular in form and the upper edge of said arcuate groove being in a plane above the bottom of the groove of narrower width.

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2. An ash tray comprising a body formed with a bowl and a plurality of cigarette rests extending therefrom, said rests being of substantial length and formed with a cigarette-receiving groove in the upper face thereof, said grooves being of substantially rectangular cross section for the major portion of the length thereof, a supplementary groove of narrower width formed in the bottom of the receiving groove and providing therewith relatively sharp edged supporting means for the cigarette, the outer ends of said rests being formed with arcuate grooves communicating with said rectangular grooves and having an upper edge substantially triangular in form and pointed towards the ends of the rest, the upper edge of said arcuate groove communicating with the rectangular groove above the bottom of the groove of narrower width.

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