Nov. 3, 1931. L. L. CLARK 1,830,591

HUMIDOR

Filed March 27, 1928 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

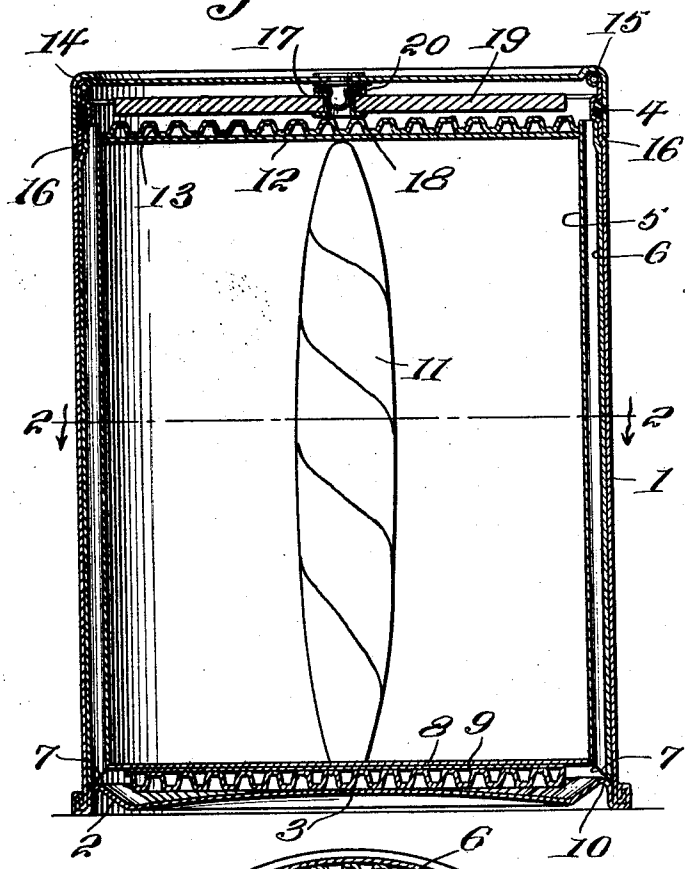


Fig. 3.

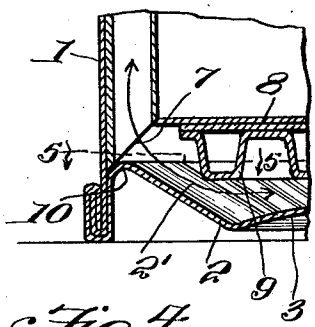


Fig. 4.

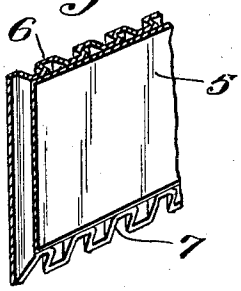


Fig. 2

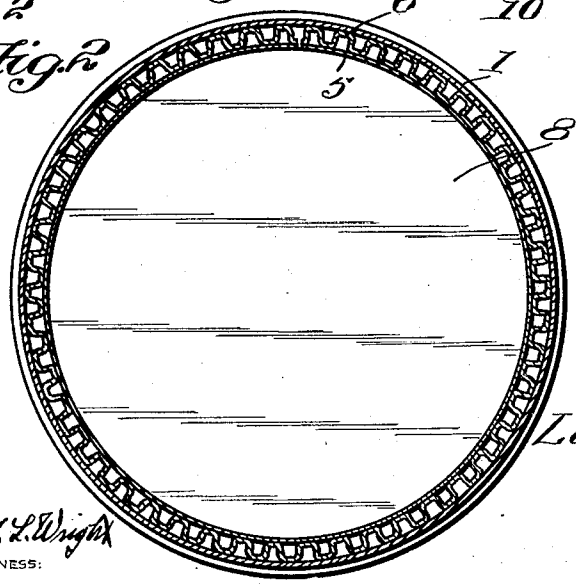
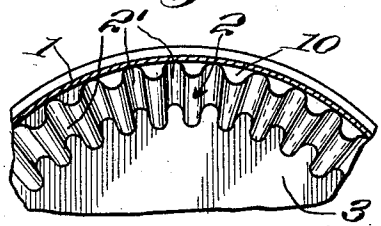


Fig. 5.



Laurell L. Clark
INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

J. T. L. Wright
WITNESS:

Nov. 3, 1931. L. L. CLARK 1,830,591

HUMIDOR

Filed March 27, 1928 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 6.

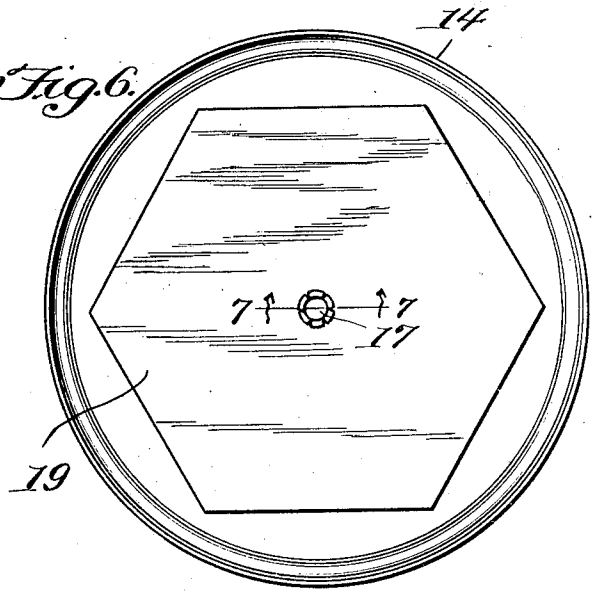


Fig. 7.

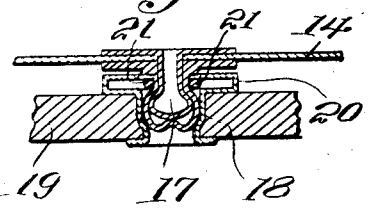


Fig. 8.

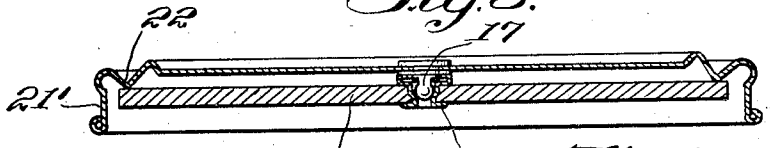


Fig. 9.

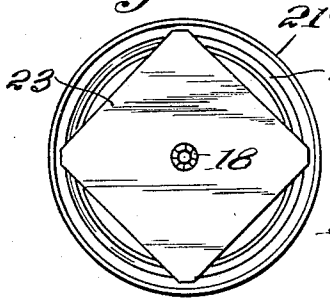


Fig. 10.

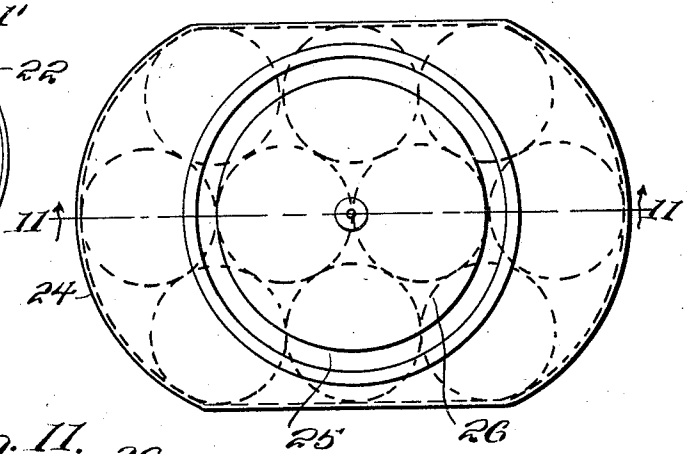
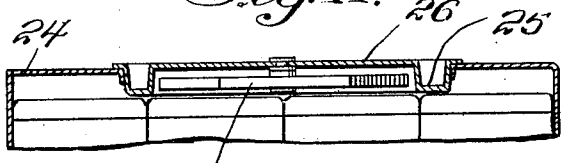


Fig. 11.



Laurel L. Clark
INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

WITNESS:
J. F. L. Wright

Patented Nov. 3, 1931 1,830,591

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LAUREL L. CLARK, OF CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

HUMIDOR

Application filed March 27, 1928. Serial No. 265,058.

My present invention has reference to a method and means for preserving cigars in the state and condition of their manufacture for an indefinite period of time, regardless of the climatic changes to which the cigars are subjected.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a humidor container for cigars, of a simple and cheap construction which will retain the cigars in a fresh condition for an indefinite period of time independent of other means of protection, and which will require no attention on the part of manufacturer and dealer from the time cigars are placed in containers and sealed at the place of manufacture until unsealed by retailer or consumer.

A further object is the provision of a water and air tight humidor container for cigars so constructed that the moisture content permeating the cigars when placed in the humidor container and sealed at the place of manufacturer, will be retained, improved and kept equally distributed throughout container and contents, blended with the fragrance of Spanish cedar wood, considered so essential in cigar containers by all cigar manufacturers.

A further object is the provision of a humidifier container for cigars in which cigars tightly bunched in statutory numbers are yieldably supported, and in which is provided space around the entire package of cigars for the purpose of conveying and equally distributing humidity without coming in direct contact with the cigars; thus insuring the cigars against must and mold, or any chance of adulteration.

A further object is the provision in a humidor container for cigars, of means for adding moisture when desired to the humidor without exposing the cigars in the humidor to exterior atmospheric influence.

A still further object is the provision in a humidor container for cigars, of a cap for such humidor engageable with the humidor in a manner to afford an air and water tight joint therebetween and which cap has removably secured thereto and spaced therefrom an absorbent disc of aromatic property, which may be removed and dampened when added moisture is required in the humidor.

The invention will be fully and comprehensively understood from a consideration of the following detailed description when read in connection with the accompanying drawings which form part of the application, with the understanding, however, that the improvement is capable of extended application and is not confined to the exact showing of the drawings nor to the precise construction described and, therefore, such changes and modifications may be made therefrom as do not affect the spirit of the invention nor exceed the scope thereof as expressed in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is an approximately central vertical longitudinal sectional view through my improvement.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view approximately on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged detail sectional view approximately on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of the lower portion of the fibre receptacle.

Figure 5 is a detail horizontal sectional view approximately on the line 5—5 of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is an inverted plan view of the cap or lid.

Figure 7 is a section approximately on the line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a central longitudinal sectional view through a modified form of cap or lid.

Figure 9 is an inverted plan view thereof.

Figure 10 is a plan view of the humidor container shaped to provide a shipping case, the cap or lid being removed.

Figure 11 is a detail sectional view approximately on the line 11—11 of Figure 10.

The outer member or casing of my improvement is of tin or like metal, and the cylindrical bottom thereof is indicated in the drawings by the numeral 1. The bottom is slightly elevated above the lower edge of the casing and the said bottom from its junc-

ture with the casing, is flared inwardly and downwardly for a determined distance, as indicated by the numeral 2. This flared portion 2, throughout its circumference is formed with equidistantly spaced grooves or depressions 2′, the purpose of which will presently be apparent. The bottom, from the flared edge thereof is bowed or rounded upwardly to the center thereof, as indicated by the numeral 3.

The casing 1, adjacent to its open mouth is formed with an exterior groove, provided by depressing the said casing inwardly, and this groove forms a pocket for an elastic or other compressible band washer 4.

Arranged in the cylindrical body 1 of the casing there is a fibre receptacle. The inner face of this receptacle is indicated by the numeral 5. The outer face of the round or cylindrical body 5 of the receptacle is formed, or preferably has secured thereon a strip of corrugated material which is also of fibre. This corrugated strip is indicated by the numeral 6 and the outer faces of the corrugations contact with the inner wall of the casing. The receptacle 5 is of a less length than the casing 1, the corrugations extending below the lower edge of the said casing, and these portions of the corrugated strip 6 are beveled, as at 7, (see Fig. 4).

The bottom of the receptacle is in the nature of a fibre disc 8. This disc, on its outer or lower face is formed with or has secured thereon a continuous corrugated sheet 9. The outer walls provided by the corrugated sheet 9 rest on the inwardly bowed bottom 1 of the casing. The beveled edges of the corrugated outer face 6 of the receptacle 5 rest on the straight portions 10 outward of the grooves 2′ on the bottom 1.

When cigars are freshly made they are moist and pliable and when in this condition they are pressed together with considerable force and are placed in containers with but little room for expansion, leaving them so tightly pressed together that no air space is left therebetween. When thus put up in air-tight metal containers in which cigars stand perpendicularly there is no means for ventilation from the middle of the package to the bottom thereof and unless such provision is made either for absorption or ventilation there is danger of the bottom of the cigars molding and for this reason most all of the manufacturers using cans for containers punch holes through the bottom of such containers for ventilating the cigars therein. This, of course, results in the drying of the cigars shortly after they leave the factory. Cigars freshly made are bunched as above described, are placed in the receptacle 5 and, of course, rest on the bottom disc 8 of the receptacle. I now arrange in the receptacle and in direct contact with the upper ends of the cigars 11 a fibre disc 12. This disc is substantially similar to the disc 8 having on its outer or upper face a corrugated strip or disc 13.

The lid or cover for the casing and the receptacle is of metal and comprises a flanged member 14. The flange of the lid or cover is in frictional contact with the rubber or elastic gasket 4, the top of the cover contacting with the beaded mouth 15 of the receptacle and the bottom of the flange resting on or in close proximity to a shoulder 16 formed by inwardly bending the metal casing at the mouth portion thereof. The lid or cover 14, on the center thereof has fixed the inwardly extending male member 17 of a snap catch. The female member 18 of the snap catch is let through a central opening in a disc 19 of absorbent and aromatic property. The disc 19 is preferably formed of Spanish cedar wood.

By reference to Figure 7 of the drawings it will be noted that the male member 17 of the clasp is provided with both inner and outer heads and that the female member 18 of the clasp is formed with a hollow disc portion 20 that rests on the top of the disc 19, and that the head of the male member is engaged by springs 21 that enter the central opening in the part 20 of the female member. While this is of the ordinary construction it affords both an air and water tight joint between the lid or cover and the interior of the casing and receptacle which provide the humidor container. The lid or cover may be readily and temporarily removed to permit of the moistening of the absorbent disc 19, it being noted that the arrangement of the catch elements space the disc from contact with the lid of the container. The moisture from the absorbent disc 19 creates a humid condition around the top, sides and bottom of the fiber receptacle 5 to a degree that permeates the receptacle in the nature of absorption, which process retards evaporation of the moisture content of the cigars without coming in direct contact with them, which is the means by which the original freshness and aroma of cigars are kept intact and free from all danger of adulteration, must or mold. With the improvement the container will remain sealed as it left the place of manufacture until unsealed by retailer or consumer, after which the absorbent disc need be moistened only at extended intervals; as a matter of fact, the amount of moisture required for the humidor depends largely on atmospheric and climatic conditions in general and heating season in particular. It will be noted that when the disc is removed for moistening, the cigars in the container will not be subjected to light or atmospheric changes as it requires only a very short space of time for removing, moistening and replacing the disc to the cover, and rearranging the cover on the casing.

In Figures 8 and 9 I have illustrated a flanged cap or lid 21′ formed, adjacent to

its outer edge with a continuous groove providing the said cap or lid with an inner rib 22 against which the absorbent aromatic disc 23 rests. The disc 23 is square in plan, in contradiction to the hexagonal disc disclosed in the remaining figures of the drawings. In this connection I desire to state that I do not wish to be restricted to the precise formation of the absorbent discs, but preferably provide the same with corners so as to insure a circulation of moisture between the top of the lids and the said discs.

In Figures 10 and 11 the metal casing is indicated by the numeral 24. This casing is of a materially greater size than the casing 1. The casing has round ends and straight or flat sides and is centrally formed on its top with a round opening in which is received the cupped or beaded peripheral edge portion 25 that depends from the top of the lid or cover 26. The lid or cover has secured on its inner face by snap fasteners as heretofore described an absorbent disc 27. The casing 24 is employed as a shipping casing, and by reference to Figure 10 of the drawings it will be seen that a large number of bunched and wrapped cigars may be arranged therein.

The scientific principle underlying all the forms of my improvement and its future success is based on an economical means by which the moisture content and aromatic elements of tobacco as contained in fresh cigars, may be confined and retained for an indefinite period of time without attention, and with all danger of must and mold removed, which has never been successfully overcome in the use of air tight metal containers for fresh cigars. All of these desirable features in cigar containers is claimed for my improvement as a result of introducing a well known scientific principle in combination with air tight metal containers, which provide both, a means of absorption and circulation; absorption in its pull on any available source of moisture puts circulation in motion, causing the humidity created by the moisture content of fresh cigars to be equally distributed throughout the humidor container and its contents. To understand the simple construction of the improvement and the scientific principle involved, is to know how cigars in humidor containers are preserved in their original purity, freshness and aroma regardless of weather conditions in the different seasons of the year in all climates, in all conditions of storage and transportation, steam heated stores and so on. The humidor container is an insurance against damage by water and smoke in case of fire, and all manner of contamination that may be encountered between manufacturer and consumer. The improvement complies with all the internal revenue regulations, as the revenue stamp may be attached to the casing and to the lid thereof, or to the packages of cigars in the shipping case.

The receptacle 5 may be cut at desired lengths from sheets of material and thereafter rounded upon itself to fit into casings of different sizes. The corrugated outer faces of the discs 8 and 12 not only provide air spaces therebetween but permit of yielding of the said discs so that the same will not exert undue pressure against the cigars 11 and consequently will inflict no injury to the ends of the cigars.

Having described the invention, I claim:

1. A humidor for cigars comprising an outer metal casing having a bottom characterized by a circumferential flared portion provided with spaced grooves therein, an inner fibre receptacle, means for supporting the bottom of the fiber receptacle spaced above the bottom of the metal receptacle, and a member surrounding the inner receptacle and formed with corrugations for spacing the receptacle from the outer casing and providing air ducts between said parts, the lower ends of said corrugations reposing upon the bottom of the outer casing outwardly of said grooves, whereby the latter provide for the circulation of air from said ducts beneath the bottom of the inner receptacle.

2. A humidor for cigars comprising an outer metal casing, including a bottom characterized by a circumferential flared portion, an inner fibre receptacle, a member surrounding the inner receptacle and corrugated to space the respective receptacles and to provide air ducts between said parts, and a corrugated member carried by the bottom of the inner receptacle for spacing the latter from the bottom of the outer casing, said last mentioned corrugated member terminating inwardly from the circumferential edge of the bottom of the inner receptacle to establish communication between the air ducts of the first corrugated member and those of the second mentioned corrugated member through the space defined about the lower edge of the inner receptacle.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LAUREL L. CLARK.