April 23, 1940. M. M. LUKEZIC 2,198,311

CIGAR OR CIGARETTE LIGHTER

Original Filed Aug. 13, 1936

Fig. 1.

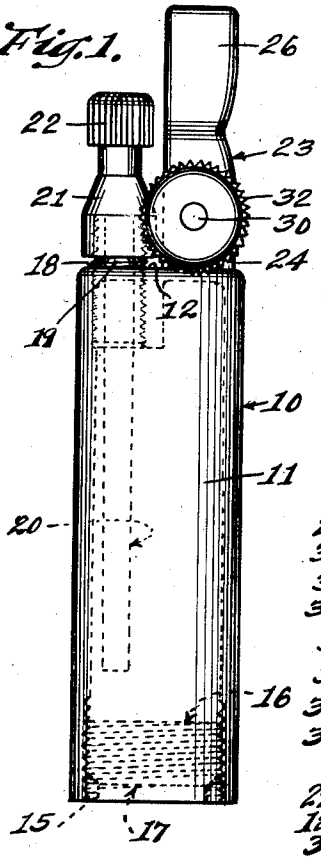


Fig. 5.

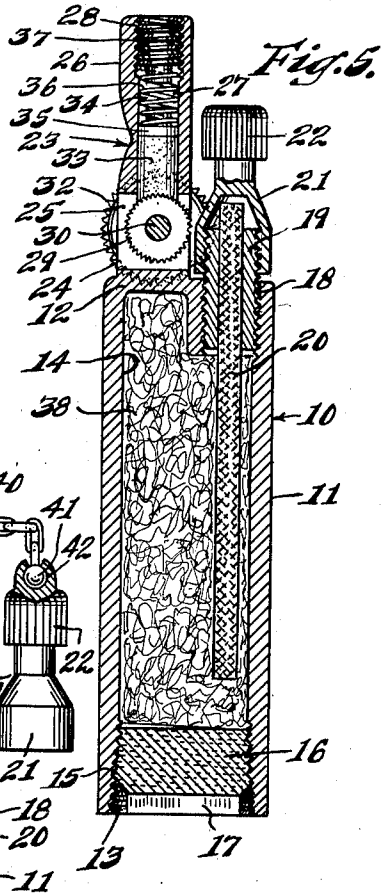


Fig. 6.

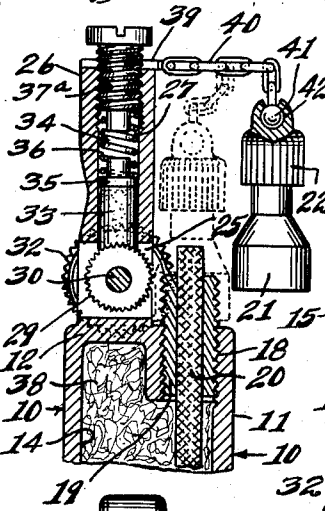


Fig. 3.

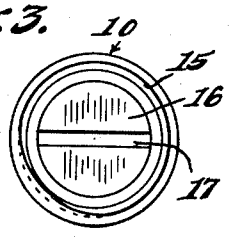
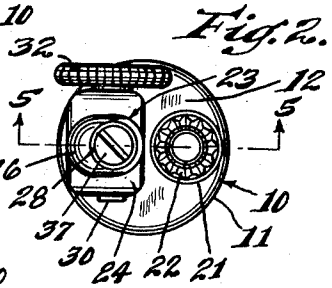


Fig. 2.



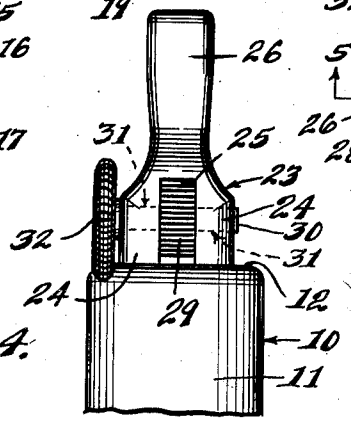


Fig. 4.

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2,198,311

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,198,311

CIGAR OR CIGARETTE LIGHTER

Matthew M. Lukezic, Chicago, Ill.

Continuation of application Serial No. 95,778, August 13, 1936. This application October 3, 1938, Serial No. 232,907

2 Claims. (Cl. 67—7.1)

This invention relates to cigar or cigarette lighters and more particularly to a pocket type of a device of that character, and is a continuing application of my prior application for patent for cigar or cigarette lighters filed August 13, 1936, under Serial No. 95,778.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a simple, practical, and inexpensive device of the character described in which the top of the casing containing the volatile or inflammable lighter fluid, is closed except for the projection of the wick, and is provided with a fixed or integral upwardly extending hollow pedestal containing the lighter or spark producing device and is so constructed whereby the flint is resiliently held or spring pressed downwardly with its lower end against the top edge of the friction wheel so that a spark is produced to ignite the volatile or inflammable lighter fluid at the wick by an anti-clockwise turning of the friction wheel against the flint by a similar turning of the thumb wheel and shaft or by an upward motion of a finger against the thumb wheel at the back and outside of the pedestal remote from the wick as distinguished from the usual downward motion and turning of the friction wheel in a direction reverse to that specified as with other lighters where the flint is mounted beneath the friction wheel within or at the outside of the casing and is always in position for operation while having no loose or complicated removably or pivotally connected parts which renders the same expensive to produce or likely to get loose or in a state of disrepair or difficult to operate especially where two relatively movable parts must be held in a certain fixed relation during the igniting operation.

Another object is to provide such a device which is capable of improved efficiency and reliability.

Another object is to provide a lighter of the character described which is secure against leakage of the lighter fluid.

A further object is the improvement in a lighter of the character described in which the flint is capable of maximum use and readily replaceable.

Other objects and advantages will appear and be brought out more fully in the following description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side view of a pocket lighter embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a top view of the same;

Fig. 3 is a bottom view;

Fig. 4 is a side view of the top portion of the lighter shown in Fig. 1, but turned about an angle of ninety degrees;

Fig. 5 is a sectional elevation taken along the line 5—5 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view of the top portion of the lighter in central section showing a modified form of wick cap.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, I show a lighter generally by the numeral 10, having a casing 11 which is provided with a closed end or top portion 12 and an open end 13 which gives access to a chamber 14. The casing 11 is shown as being generally of cylindrical shape, the open end 13 having a tapered threaded portion 15 for cooperative engagement with a tapered plug 16, which has the usual screwdriver slot 17. The top member 12 has a threaded aperture 18 in which is a threaded tube 19, the tube 19 being adapted to secure the end of a wick 20 which extends a substantial distance within the chamber 14, and a threaded cap 21 encloses the exposed end of the wick 20 when not in use and is provided with a knurled head portion 22.

Mounted also on the closed top portion 12 is an integral pedestal 23 with one side thereof substantially in vertical alignment with the adjacent side or wall of the casing 11 therebeneath which has a pair of spaced legs 24 by which it is secured to the top 12 and between which is an opening 25, the pedestal 23 having an upper tubular portion 26 which in turn has a plain bore 27 communicating with the opening 25 and a threaded bore 28 connecting with the bore 27. A knurled friction wheel 29 is located in the opening 25 and is secured to and supported by a shaft 30 which is rotatable in a bearing aperture 31 in each of the legs 24. A knurled thumb wheel 32 is provided at one end of the shaft 30 by which the same, together with the friction wheel 29, may be rotated. A cylindrical flint element 33 is slidably secured in position in the bore 27 and held down against friction wheel 29 by an adjustable spring unit 34, which unit comprises a seat element or follower disc 35, a compression spring 36, and a headless adjusting screw 37 retained by the threaded bore 28 and having a groove for a screwdriver as shown in Fig. 2. A quantity of absorbent fabric material 38 fills the chamber 14 and is adapted to retain a quantity of inflammable lighter fluid which obviously requires no further description herein.

Fig. 6 shows a somewhat modified form of wick cap structure and attachment. The flint adjusting screw 37a is of the fillister head type

and holds a loose ring 39 which connects with a chain 40 to a swivel ball 41 retained in a socket 42 of the top 22 of the cap 21.

The operation of the device should be apparent from the foregoing description. The plug 16 having a tapered thread portion is adapted to provide the lighter with a secure closure for preventing the escape of fluid within the chamber 14 inasmuch as the plug will provide a tight fit to the tapered threads 15 at all times, even after an appreciable amount of wear after numerous removals of the plug for refilling. The pedestal 23 provides the lighter with a sturdy and secure housing for the flint element and also provides an improved arrangement for maintaining the proper pressure of the flint against the friction wheel by the concealed adjustable screw 37 which is prevented from abrading the top of the flint by the seat or follower 35. The flint is resiliently held or spring pressed downwardly with its lower end against the top edge of the friction wheel 29 so that a spark is produced to ignite the volatile or inflammable lighter fluid at the wick by an anti-clockwise turning of the friction wheel in the position shown in Fig. 1 or a clockwise turning in the position shown in Fig. 5 against the flint by a similar turning of the thumb wheel 32 and shaft 30 or by an upward motion of a finger from the outside of the casing 11 against the thumb wheel 32 at the back and outside of the pedestal 23 remote from the wick, as seen in Fig. 1, or in a clockwise direction as seen in Figs. 5 and 6, and so that the finger may continue to ride or slide upwardly against the outside of the pedestal 23 and the upper tubular portion 26 thereof to facilitate ignition and prevent burning of the finger from the ignited flame, as distinguished from the usual awkward downward motion and turning of the friction wheel in a direction reverse to that specified with other lighters where the flint is mounted beneath the friction wheel within or at the outside of the casing.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying my invention into effect, this is capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described by invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A cigar or cigarette lighter comprising a tubular casing having a chamber adapted to contain a volatile fluid with means for filling the same, said casing having a top wall and a sleeve portion with an aperture, a tube adjustably held in said aperture and securing the end of a wick extending into the chamber for vertical adjustment by raising or lowering the tube, a hollow pedestal extending up from the top end of the casing, a friction wheel rotatably supported in an opening at the bottom of the pedestal, a spring pressed flint element in the pedestal, a threaded screw in the upper end of the pedestal to adjust the tension of the spring pressed flint element, means for turning the friction wheel, a cap threaded on the tube and a flexible connection loosely held by the screw and having a universal connection with the cap.

2. A cigar or cigarette lighter comprising a casing having a chamber adapted to contain a volatile fluid with a filler opening and closing means therefor, a wick in said chamber and having an externally exposed end portion, the adjacent end of the casing being closed, a tubular upright formed with the casing at said end portion with one side thereof substantially in vertical alignment with the adjacent side of the casing therebeneath and having a diametrical opening at the bottom in line with the wick, a friction wheel rotatably supported on a horizontal axis in said opening, a flint element in the bore of the upright, a follower on the flint, a spring in the upright on the follower, an adjustable screw threaded in the upper end of the upright to hold the flint against the friction wheel on the axis of the friction wheel, and a thumb wheel and projecting outwardly of the upright for actuating the friction wheel by an upward stroke of the finger against the thumb wheel at the outside of the tubular upright.

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