

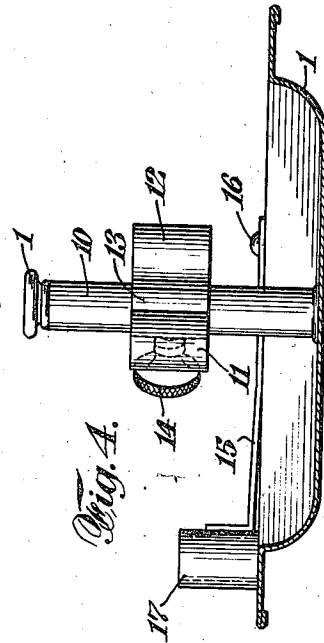
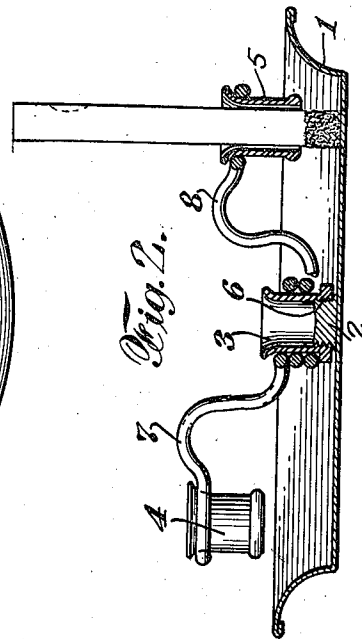
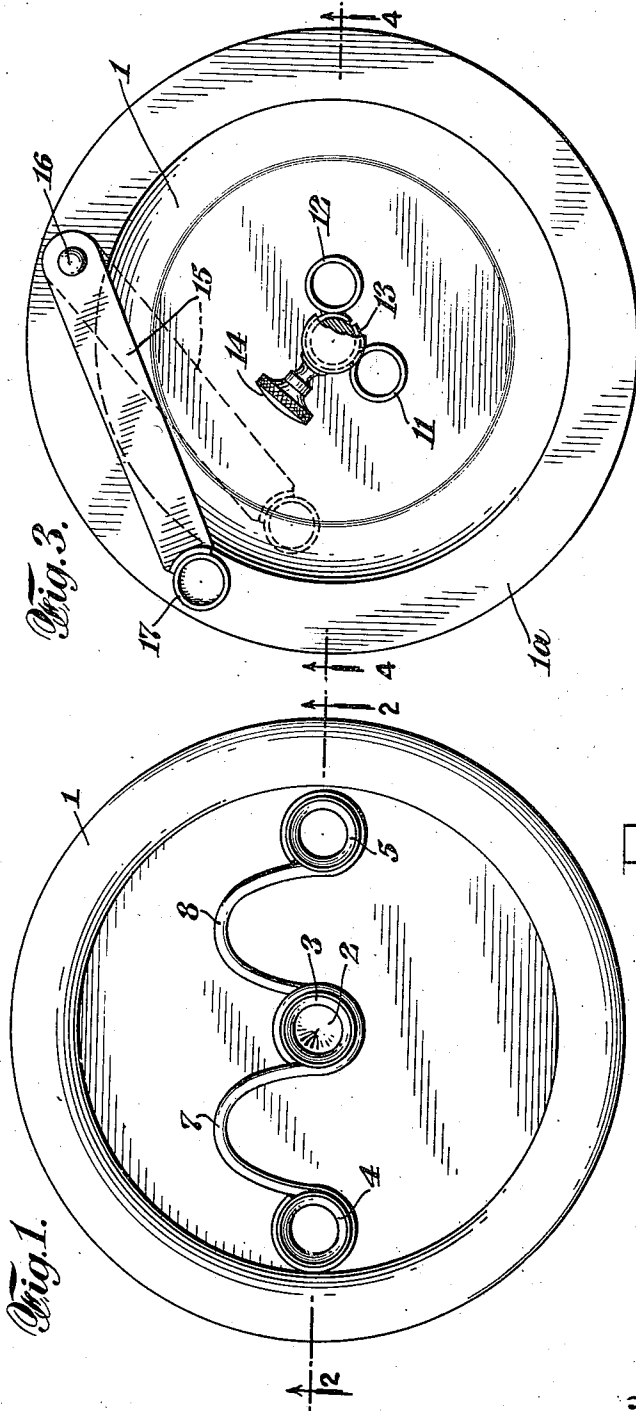
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ASH TRAY

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ASH TRAY

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8 Claims. (Cl. 131—51)

The object of the present invention is to produce an ash tray or receptacle with improved means for snuffing cigarettes, and for temporarily holding a lighted cigarette so that it will be gradually extinguished, if left and forgotten, but will afford a short time for a smoker to take his cigarette from the holder and resume his smoke before it is extinguished.

To this end the present invention comprises an ash tray or receptacle of any desired shape or design having a snuffer member secured thereto of the shape of a relatively thick ring or short tubular sleeve. One or more such tubular or ring shaped members for holding lighted cigarettes may be arranged upon an ash tray with more or less of a ventilating space between the tray and supporting member, whereby a lighted cigarette can be placed in the holder with the lighted end toward the tray and be supported in upright position and be extinguished at once or kept burning therein until the ash at the lighted end builds up and closes off the ventilating space beneath the holder and causes the light upon the cigarette to be gradually extinguished. The time that a lighted cigarette can be kept in the holder with the light continuing is determined by the extent of the ventilating space between the tray and the holder ring or sleeve. It is preferable to provide the holder for lighted cigarettes with means for adjusting this ventilating space so that the holder can be arranged to maintain the light upon the cigarette for a greater or lesser time. This adjustable feature may be accomplished by having the holder adjustably mounted upon a support projecting from the tray, or the tray may be provided with any other suitable means for adjustably supporting the holder at a particular height to determine its ventilating space and consequently the time a cigarette will be kept burning;—or in other words the amount of space provided between the tray and the ring or sleeve that supports the cigarette. It will, of course, be understood that the purposes of having a holder that will only temporarily maintain the light and eventually extinguish the fire, are, first, to afford a convenient holder for a lighted cigarette, and, second to safely and eventually extinguish the cigarette that has been put aside and possibly forgotten.

In order that the invention may be fully understood, it will first be described with reference to the accompanying drawing, and the novelty afterwards pointed out in the annexed claims.

In said drawing:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of an ash tray showing two forms of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of the same;

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 1 showing

two further modifications of the present invention; and

Figure 4 is a sectional elevation of the same.

In the embodiment of my invention shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawing 1 is a suitable ash tray or receptacle having secured to its upper face by soldering, riveting or any other suitable mechanical means an upright circular stud or post indicated at 2. Upon the central stud or post 2 is removably mounted a slightly flared tubular sleeve or collar 3 which may be threaded to the post as indicated at 6 so as to make it removably mounted upon the ash receptacle although the member 3 may have a frictional fit or any other easily detachable fastening means for holding it in place.

Sleeve or collar 3 constitutes with the post 2 a closed shallow receptacle into which a cigarette may be placed with the lighted end down to quickly extinguish or snuff out the fire. This is the simplest form of improved snuffer upon the ash tray.

A further embodiment of the invention as shown in Figures 1 and 2 comprises a tubular member having the dual functions of safely supporting or holding a cigarette while lighted and extinguishing the fire after a given short period. In this modification the supporter and extinguisher comprises a slightly flared sleeve such as shown at 4 or 5, each being mounted upon an arm such as 7 or 8 which may be secured to the sleeve or collar 3 which is removably attached to the face of the tray 1, as above explained. The arms 7 and 8 project oppositely from the central snuffer sleeve or collar 3 and support the sleeves 4 and 5 with their lower edges slightly above the tray bottom to afford a slight space between the tray and each snuffing holder. This form of the cigarette holder and snuffer operates upon the plan of placing the lighted end of a cigarette down through the sleeve 4 or 5 in contact with the tray and permitting the cigarette to burn until the ash piles up from the tray bottom sufficiently to cut off the air and extinguish the fire as the burning point of the cigarette reaches the sleeve 4 or 5. A partly burned cigarette C is shown supported in sleeve 5 at the right of Figure 2. The arms 7 and 8 may be made of bendable wire to adjust the sleeves or collars with reference to the tray, or any other suitable provision for adjustment may be provided.

Collar 3 carrying arms 7, 8 and sleeves 4 and 5 may be removed for cleaning, and arms 7 and 8 may be adjusted by bending or otherwise, to present sleeves 4 and 5 closer or further away from the bottom of the tray, to adjust the period that a lighted cigarette will be held and permitted to burn before being snuffed out.

In Figures 3 and 4 I show further modifications

in one of which a central upright post 10 is mounted upon the tray 1 and supports a pair of slightly flared snuffing sleeves 11 and 12 set at an angle of 120° upon a carrying split collar 13 which is mounted upon and frictionally engages the post 10 to support the sleeves 11 and 12 in contact with the bottom of the tray or receptacle for the quick snuffing of a cigarette, or at the desired distance above the tray to provide an open space of sufficient extent to permit a cigarette to burn for a period after being placed in the supporting and snuffing sleeve 11 or 12. A projecting knob 14 upon the split collar 13 provides a convenient handle for raising and lowering and adjusting circumferentially the holding and snuffing sleeves 11 and 12.

I also show in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawing a form of holder and snuffer comprising an arm 15 pivotally mounted at 16 upon the side flange 1a of the ash tray 1 and carrying at its free end a snuffing sleeve 17 which, because of the pivotal mounting of arm 15, can be moved into position shown in full lines in Figure 3 above and in contact with the flat flange 1a of the tray 1 to close the bottom of the snuffing sleeve and cause it to act as an instantaneous cigarette snuffer, or be presented in the position shown in dotted lines in Figure 3 with the holding and snuffing sleeve 17 spaced above the bottom of the tray 1 for a timed holding and snuffing of the cigarette.

The various movable and adjustable forms of the invention are of value first in determining the length of time a lighted cigarette will be held before its fire will be snuffed out and second, for convenient removal of parts to facilitate cleaning the ash tray.

I have found a relatively thin ring to be a sufficient encircling support for a cigarette to ensure the final snuffing of the fire from the cigarette when the ash builds up from the bottom of the tray to the supporting ring. If the ring is too thin it will not invariably arrest and snuff the fire. Holding sleeves or collars with somewhat greater length or longitudinal extent of encircling wall are in most cases more desirable than the thin ring so long as there is ample room to provide the necessary ventilating space between the holding member and the bottom of the tray to permit the cigarette to burn to the desired extent before being snuffed.

The snuffing ring or sleeve is not intended to have any gripping hold upon a cigarette but is to have a bore of sufficient diameter to freely receive the average sized cigarette, which slides freely through the sleeve and drops till its lighted end contacts with the tray bottom, the cigarette being supported in upright position upon its lighted end. As the cigarette in the snuffing sleeve continues burning, ash forms and accumulates upwardly under the cigarette until the fire reaches the lower end of the sleeve, at which time the air supply becomes sufficiently restricted by the built up ash to extinguish the fire.

The interval of delay in snuffing a cigarette is directly proportional to the spacing of the snuffing sleeve from the bottom of the ash tray.

So far as I am aware I am the first to provide an ash tray with a cigarette holding delayed snuffing member comprising a sleeve-shaped cigarette supporting member which is adjustably mounted upon the tray to present it with its lower edge in different spaced relations to the tray for determining the rapidity of the snuffing ac-

tion of said member upon a burning cigarette. While I have shown several forms in which my invention may be embodied I would have it understood that other forms and modifications can be made within the spirit of the invention and which is not limited to any particular form, but is of the scope defined by the claims.

I claim:—

1. The combination with an ash tray, of a cigarette holding and delayed snuffing member comprising an open end sleeve of approximately circular cross section mounted upon said tray, and adjustable means determining the rapidity of the snuffing action of said member.

2. The combination with an ash tray, of a cigarette supporting and delayed extinguishing member comprising a tubular cigarette-embracing collar and an arm carrying said collar and movably mounted upon said tray to present said collar in contact with said tray in one position and spaced above said tray in another position.

3. The combination with an ash tray, of an upright support projecting from said tray, and a plurality of angularly arranged tubular holding and delayed extinguishing members mounted upon said support, said members being adjustable toward and away from said tray.

4. The combination with an ash tray, of a delayed snuffing cigarette-supporting member comprising an open-end tubular sleeve, and adjustable mounting means presenting said sleeve in upright position upon said tray to loosely support a burning cigarette on its lighted end in said tray, the open lower end of said sleeve being adjustably spaced from the tray for limiting the venting of a burning cigarette to a desired time interval.

5. The combination with an ash tray, of a delayed snuffing cigarette-supporting device comprising a plurality of open-end tubular sleeves, and adjustable mounting means for said sleeves presenting them in upright position above said tray to loosely support a plurality of burning cigarettes with their lighted ends downwardly in said tray, the lower ends of said sleeves being adjustably spaced from the tray for limiting the venting of the burning cigarettes for the desired time intervals.

6. The combination with an ash tray, of an upright support upon said tray, a sleeve adjustably mounted upon said support and movable toward and away from said tray, and tubular holding and extinguishing members mounted upon said sleeve.

7. The combination with an ash tray, and a snuffer carrying arm mounted upon said tray, of a delayed snuffing cigarette supporting member comprising an open end tubular sleeve movably mounted upon said carrying arm and vertically adjustable thereon to be presented thereby in upright position above said tray to loosely support a burning cigarette with its lighted end in said tray, the open lower end of said sleeve being thereby adjustably spaced from the tray for venting a burning cigarette for different time intervals.

8. The combination with an ash tray, of a delayed snuffing cigarette-supporting member adjustably mounted thereon and comprising an open end sleeve having an unrestricted bore to loosely encompass a cigarette, whereby said member may be presented in different desired spaced relations to said receptacle to effect different time intervals of snuffing.

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