

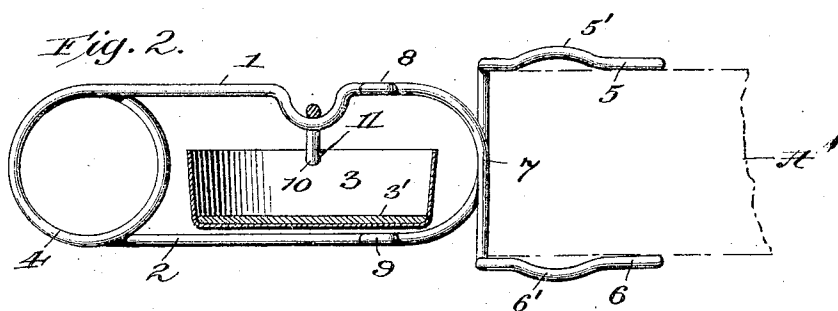
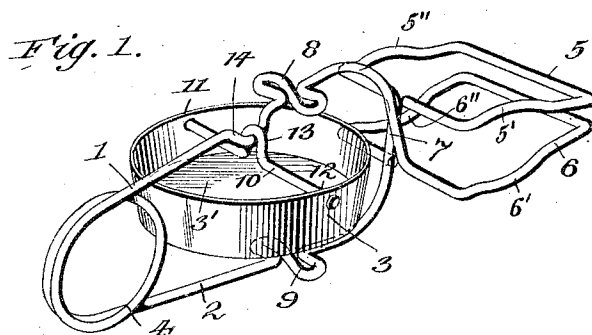
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1,523,744

F. E. AYER

ASH RECEIVER

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERIC E. AYER, OF AKRON, OHIO.

ASH RECEIVER.

Application filed February 17, 1922. Serial No. 537,223.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERIC E. AYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ash Receivers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to smokers' ash receivers of the type provided with means for attaching the receiver to a convenient support, such as an article of furniture, and is primarily directed to the designing of a device of this character which is of relatively simple, yet durable, construction and may therefore be readily and cheaply manufactured in large quantities.

The present device while quite similar to that shown in my patent No. 1,408,970 dated March 7, 1922, and on which it is an improvement possesses numerous advantages over the earlier form of receiver not only in the smaller number and greater simplicity of the parts used, thereby lessening the cost of production, but also in the novel arrangement of the ash receiving member itself with reference to the support-attaching means.

In general, the device consists of an upper and lower spring arm crossing each other near one end and having support-clamping jaws formed at their extremities while, at the other end, the spring arms are connected by a coil or loop in order to provide the necessary spring action of the arms. Preferably, all of these parts are formed of a single continuous piece of spring steel wire of suitable gauge. Intermediate the clamping jaws and the coil connecting the spring arms and so suspended from the upper arm as to allow it to swing freely in all directions between the arms is the ash receptacle proper. This receptacle may, if desired, be weighted in its lower portion to insure stability and help maintain it always in upright position. With the ash receptacle freely suspended and weighted as described so as to permit it to swing in all directions it will be seen that, irrespective of the position assumed by the other parts of the device, as when the jaws are attached to an inclined or vertical surface or support, the ash receptacle proper will always remain in a horizontal position thus precluding any possibility of the spilling of its contents. This particular location of the ash receptacle is intended not only to place it in a protected position where it is less likely to

be knocked or tipped over but, by placing the receptacle proper near the clamping jaws, the leverage exerted on the device and the tendency of the clamping jaws to slip from their support is considerably reduced.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference numerals indicate the same parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device before it is attached to its support; while

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same, the ash receptacle being shown in section and the device attached to a support as when in actual use.

In the drawing, 1 and 2 represent the upper and lower spring arms, respectively, of the supporting and support-attaching means for the ash receptacle 3. At one end the arms 1 and 2 are connected by a coil or loop 4, while at their opposite extremities the arms are provided with clamping jaws 5 and 6, respectively, adapted to engage a suitable flat support, as for instance that shown at A in Figure 2, and also having curved portions 5', 5'' and 6', 6'' so that the jaws may firmly engage a round support such as a bed post or an automobile steering post. Arms 1 and 2 just inside of their jaws 5 and 6, are bent downwardly and upwardly respectively so as to cross each other at 7 and thereby provide for the proper clamping action of the jaws on support A. Finger-engaging portions, so that the device may be readily grasped and manipulated without twisting in the hand, are provided at 8 and 9 on the upper and lower arms respectively, these finger-engaging portions being formed by a transverse bending of the material forming the spring arms, or in any other suitable manner. Preferably, the parts described, i. e., the arms 1, 2; coil 4; jaws 5, 6; and finger-engaging portions 8, 9, are all formed from one continuous piece of spring steel wire of suitable gauge which may be readily bent to form the several parts. It is not however intended that this part of the invention shall be limited to the one piece construction shown, although as stated, this is the preferred form since it contributes materially to the cheapness of manufacture of the device.

The cup-shaped ash receptacle 3, which may be stamped or otherwise formed from any suitable metal, and which may or may not be provided in its bottom with a weight

3' to insure stability and help always maintain it in upright position, is located between spring arms 1 and 2, and in order that it may be suspended from the upper arm 1, is provided near its top with a diametrically-disposed cross rod 10 suitably secured to receptacle 3 at its ends 11, 12 by engaging in holes provided in the receptacle or otherwise as may be found desirable. Midway of its length cross rod 10 is bent upwardly to form a loop 13 which engages with a similar downwardly extending loop 14 formed in the upper spring arm 1. Thus, it will be seen that ash receptacle 3 is suspended from upper arm 1 so as to swing freely in all directions between the two spring arms 1 and 2. Preferably, the sides of loop 13 of the cross rod 10 are formed substantially vertical so as to preclude any likelihood of the disengagement of said loop from loop 14 of spring arm 1 and the consequent destruction of the free swinging action of ash receptacle 3.

Normally spring arms 1 and 2 assume the relative positions shown in Figure 1, that is, sprung slightly outwardly by reason of the spring action of coil 4. When it is desired to attach the device to a support, it is grasped in the hand with the fingers engaging the finger-engaging portions 8, 9 and spring arms 1, 2 squeezed toward each other so as to force jaws 5, 6 apart against the resistance of coil 4 as shown in Figure 2. With the parts in this position jaws 5, 6 are placed so as to extend respectively above and below support A and the device released so as to allow the jaws to clamp on to the support by reason of the tendency of the jaws to approach each other under the action of coil 4. Ash receptacle 3, being made of a suitable size so that lower spring arm 2 will not interfere with it in its free swinging action, it will readily be seen that the device will not only function properly so as to prevent the spilling of the contents of the receptacle when the device is attached to a horizontal support A, such as shown in Figure 2, but it may be attached to an inclined support, such for instance as the arm of a rocking chair, or even to a vertical support, such as a tubular bed post or an automobile steering post, and still the ash receptacle will always remain in an upright position by reason of the universal

connection between it and the upper spring arm 1.

While the preferred form of the invention has been illustrated and described, it will be understood that it is not to be confined to the means shown except as limited by the appended claims.

What I claim is:—

1. A device of the character described comprising in combination, a pair of spring arms connected at one end and having support-engaging portions on their opposite extremities, and an ash receptacle disposed between said spring arms and freely suspended from the upper spring arm for movement in all directions.

2. A device of the character described comprising in combination, a pair of spring arms connected at one end and having support-clamping jaws formed on their opposite extremities, an ash receptacle, and a diametrically-disposed cross rod secured to the upper part of said receptacle, said rod being provided midway of its length with a loop engaging a similar loop formed in the upper spring arm so as to permit said receptacle to swing freely between said arms.

3. A device of the character described comprising in combination, a pair of spring arms connected at one end by a coil and having support-clamping jaws formed on their opposite extremities, said spring arms being also provided with finger-engaging portions, all of said parts being formed of a single continuous piece of spring steel wire, and an ash receptacle disposed between said spring arms and freely suspended from the upper spring arm for movement in all directions.

4. A device of the character described comprising in combination an upper spring arm, a lower spring arm located in substantially the same plane with the upper arm, said arms being connected at one end by a coil and formed at their opposite extremities with support-clamping jaws, and an ash receptacle located between said spring arms intermediate the coil and the jaws and so attached to the upper arm as to swing freely between said arms.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

FREDERIC E. AYER.