Jan. 10, 1961 J. J. KELTER 2,967,528

DEVICE FOR ENDING HABIT OF SMOKING

Filed March 12, 1959

Fig. 1

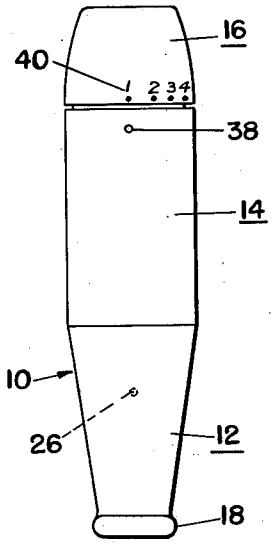


Fig. 2

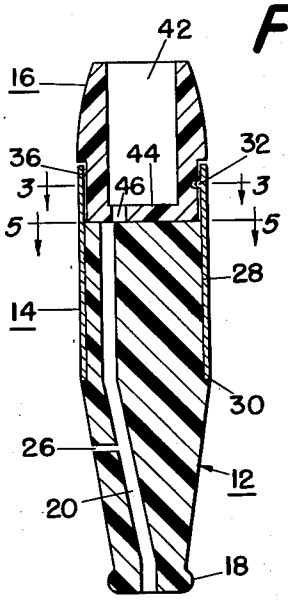


Fig. 3

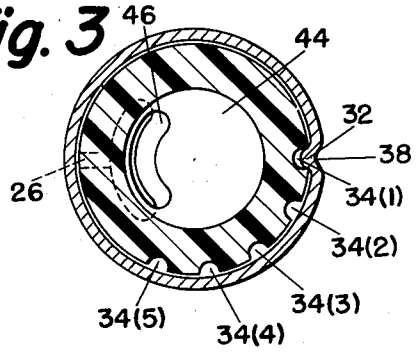
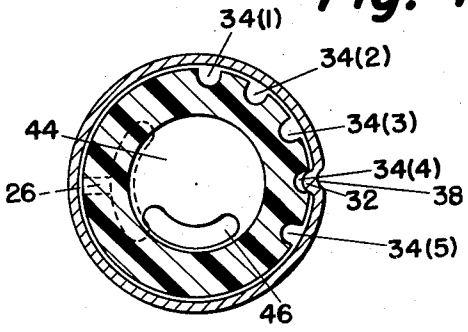


Fig. 4



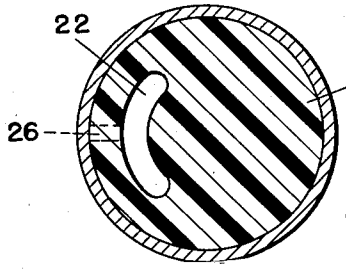


Fig. 5

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DEVICE FOR ENDING HABIT OF SMOKING

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5 Claims. (Cl. 131—198)

The present invention is directed to a device for ending the habit of smoking, and more particularly to a device whereby the habit of smoking cigarettes and the like is terminated through resort to a regulated withdrawal from the harmful tobacco smoke.

Modern researches have established beyond question the harmful effects of smoking tobacco, and in particular cigarettes. However, experience has demonstrated that the smoking of tobacco, possibly due to the presence of the alkaloid nicotine, is a habit which cannot be readily terminated.

I have found that the habit of smoking cigarettes and analogous tobacco products may be broken by a regulated withdrawal over a time period in which the quantum of inhaled tobacco smoke is gradually reduced.

This invention has as an object the provision of a device for ending the habit of smoking.

This invention has as another object the provision of a device in which the smoking habit may be ended by virtue of the calculated reduction in tobacco smoke intake on the part of the smoker of a predetermined time period.

This invention has as a still further object the provision of a device which permits a predetermined amount of tobacco smoke to be inhaled by a smoker.

This invention has as yet another object the provision of a device in which the relative concentration of tobacco smoke to air inhaled by a smoker can be regulated.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention there is shown in the drawings a form which is presently preferred; it being understood, however, that this invention is not limited to the precise arrangements and instrumentalities shown.

Referring to the drawings wherein like reference characters refer to like parts:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of the device of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the devices of the present invention.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view, similar to that of Figure 3, but with the detent of the sleeve disposed within a different socket of the cigarette holder from the disposition of such detent in Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings, the device of the present invention is designated generally as **10**. The device **10** comprises the mouthpiece **12**, the sleeve **14**, and the cigarette holder **16**. While a wide variety of materials may be used to form the components of the device **10** of the present invention, preferably the mouthpiece **12** and cigarette holder **16** are formed from plastic, and the sleeve **14** is formed from metal.

The mouthpiece **12** is provided with a beaded end **18**, which is inserted into the user's mouth. The passageway **20** is provided through the length of the mouthpiece **12**, such passageway **20** ending in the crescent shaped slot **22** at the front end **24** of mouthpiece **12**. The passageway **20** may be of round or elliptical cross-section at the beaded end **18** of the mouthpiece **12**, and may taper to substantially the shape of the crescent shaped slot **22** at the front end **24** of the mouthpiece **12**. The front end **24** of mouthpiece **12** is flattened to provide a planar surface which is generally imperforate except for the crescent shaped slot **22**.

The air duct **26** comprises an opening in the wall of the mouthpiece **12** which is disposed intermediate the ends of the mouthpiece **12**. The air duct **26** enables the passageway **20** to be in communication with the outside atmosphere at all times.

The outside surface of the mouthpiece **12** is recessed at **28** to provide a surface on which the sleeve **14** may be press fitted. The mouthpiece **12** is provided with the shoulder **30** on its outer surface against which the sleeve **14** is seated.

The sleeve **14** serves to maintain the mouthpiece **12** and the cigarette holder **16** in axial engagement. Although the sleeve **14** is press fitted to the mouthpiece **12**, it is relatively loosely engaged with the cigarette holder **16**, as may be seen particularly in Figure 2.

Axial disengagement between the mouthpiece **12** and the cigarette holder **16** is prevented by the reception of the detent **32** on the inner wall of the sleeve **14** within one of the sockets **34** on the outer wall surface of the cigarette holder **16**.

The outer wall surface of the cigarette holder **16** is provided with a recessed portion **36**, which as above-indicated is loosely spaced in respect to the juxtaposed inner surface of the sleeve **14**. A plurality of the sockets **34** are radially disposed on such recessed portion **36** in alignment permitting operative engagement with the detent **32** of the sleeve **14**. In the illustrated embodiment five sockets **34** are provided, such five sockets being designated respectively as **34(1)**, **34(2)**, **34(3)**, **34(4)**, and **34(5)**. However, it is to be understood that a larger or smaller number of such sockets may be utilized in the device **10** of the present invention.

An index point **38** is provided on the outside wall surface of the sleeve **14** to indicate the position of the detent **32**. Indicia **40** are provided on the outer surface of the cigarette holder **16** adjacent the front end of the sleeve **14**, as can be seen in Figure 1, to designate the location of the sockets **34**, such indicia **40** being in radial alignment with their respective sockets and being referenced to indicate their particular socket. Thus, socket **34(1)** is referenced by the indicium "1," socket **34(2)** is referenced by the indicium "2," etc.

It is to be emphasized that it is not necessary for the sockets **34** to be evenly distributed about the periphery of the cigarette holder **16**. Thus, the method of the present invention comprehends a non-linear tapering off of cigarette smoke, and the sockets **34** may be spaced to produce any intended non-linear tapering off which is desired.

The cigarette holder **16** is provided with the cavity **42** within which the cigarette to be smoked is received. The cavity **42** is defined by the cylindrical wall of the cigarette holder **16**, and by its back end **44**. A crescent shaped opening **46** is provided in the back end **44**. As seen particularly in Figures 2, 3, and 4, the crescent shaped opening **46** is offset from the crescent shaped slot **22** so that even when the crescent shaped opening **46** and the crescent shaped slot **22** are disposed with maximum alignment affording maximum registry, as shown in Figure 3, but a fractional portion of each of crescent shaped opening **46** and crescent shaped slot **22** are overlapped.

The operation of the device of the present invention

and the method of the present invention is as follows:

A user of the device **10** who intends to end his habit of smoking cigarettes commences using the device **10** in the detent **32** received within the socket **34(1)**, such setting being achieved by the use of the index point **38** and the indicia **40** as shown in Figure 1. With this setting, the crescent shaped opening **46** in back end **44** of cigarette holder **16** is in maximum alignment with the crescent shaped slot **22** in the front end **24** of mouthpiece **12**, as shown in Figure 3. When a cigarette is inserted within the cavity **42**, and then smoked in the device **10** of the present invention, the cigarette smoke being drawn through the device **10** is blended with air from the atmosphere which is introduced into the passageway **20** from the air duct **26**.

After the user has become accustomed to using the device **10** with the setting indicated as "1," he rotates the cigarette holder **16** in reference to the mouthpiece **12** until the detent **32** is received within socket **34(2)**. The user will notice both by the mechanical click which will be obtained when this event occurs, and also by the alignment between the index point **38** and the indicium "2." In this setting the extent of registry between the crescent shaped opening **46** and the crescent shaped slot **22** is reduced from the prior setting in which the detent **32** is received within the socket **34(1)**. Thus, upon inhalation using this setting, the percentage of inhaled tobacco smoke passing through the passageway **20** to the percentage of air from air duct **26** passing through the passageway **20** will be reduced.

After the user has become adjusted to the aforesaid setting "2," the cigarette holder **16** is then rotated to the setting "3" in which the detent **32** is received within the socket **34(3)**. The procedure set forth above is then followed after which the cigarette holder is rotated to the setting "4" which is shown in Figure 4. As can be seen from Figure 4, in this setting the extent of overlapping between the crescent shaped opening **46** and the crescent shaped slot **22** is very small, so that the percentage of tobacco smoke to air being inhaled by the user is likewise very small.

When the setting "5" is reached, the amount of tobacco smoke which is inhaled by the user is almost negligible, although there will be traces of tobacco smoke coming through the passageway **20**, so that the user will get a slight sense of smoking a cigarette. From the stage "5" to complete elimination of the smoking habit, all that is required is the use of either a plugged holder, if the user wishes to persist with the insertion of something within his mouth, or the complete elimination of smoking and the holding of an object in the user's mouth.

By the gradual elimination of the amount of tobacco smoke being inhaled by the user over a prolonged period of time, the user can be completely divorced from the tobacco habit.

The cleaning of the device **10** of the present invention is readily accomplished. Thus, the cigarette holder **16** may be readily separated from the sleeve **14** by pulling the same axially, if a thorough cleaning of the device is needed, or alternatively, the user may effect a fair degree of cleaning by setting the device at the stage "1" shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, and blowing through the device.

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof and, accordingly, reference should be made to the appended claims, rather than to the foregoing specification as indicating the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A device for ending the habit of smoking comprising a mouthpiece member having a passageway therethrough, a cigarette holder member, a sleeve for embracing said members and holding said members in operative engagement, an opening in said cigarette holder member which may be aligned with the passageway in said mouthpiece member when said members are in operative engagement, with said sleeve press fitting one of said members and loosely engaging the other of said members, whereby the other of said members may be rotated within said sleeve, and means on said sleeve cooperating with the other of said members for selectively maintaining said sleeve and the other of said members in such disposition that the opening in said cigarette holder member and the passageway of said mouthpiece member may be selectively registered.

2. A device in accordance with claim 1 in which the sleeve is provided with a detent which may be received in any one of a plurality of sockets in the other member.

3. A device in accordance with claim 1 having a duct communicating between the ambient atmosphere and the passageway in the mouthpiece member.

4. A device for ending the habit of smoking comprising a mouthpiece having a passageway therethrough, a cigarette holder, a sleeve embracing said cigarette holder and said mouthpiece for holding said cigarette holder and said mouthpiece in operative alignment, an opening in said cigarette holder which may be aligned with the passageway and said mouthpiece when said cigarette holder and said mouthpiece are operatively aligned, said sleeve being press fitted on said mouthpiece and being loosely fitted on said cigarette holder, a plurality of sockets on the exterior of said cigarette holder, a detent on said sleeve which may be disposed in any one of the sockets on the exterior of said cigarette holder, whereby the extent of registry between the opening in said cigarette holder and the passageway in said mouthpiece may be selectively regulated.

5. A device in accordance with claim 4 having a duct communicating between the ambient atmosphere and the passageway in the mouthpiece.

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