Feb. 19, 1929. 1,702,322

A. G. SNOWDON

PIPE CLEANER

Filed Dec. 1, 1926

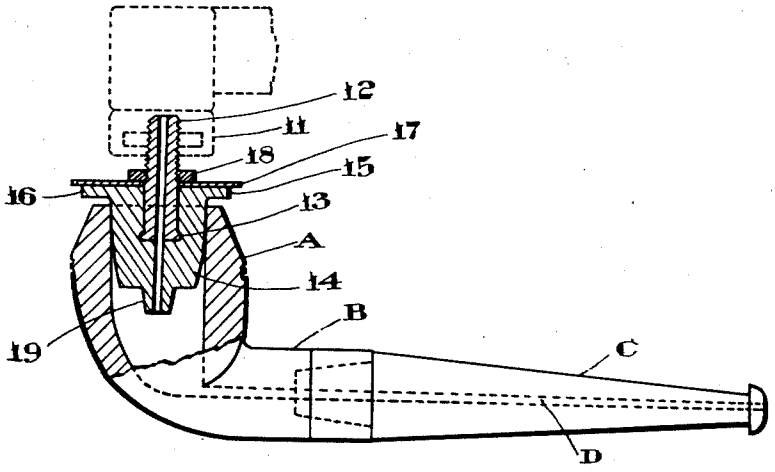

FIG. 1

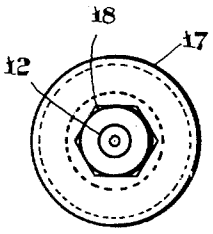

FIG. 3

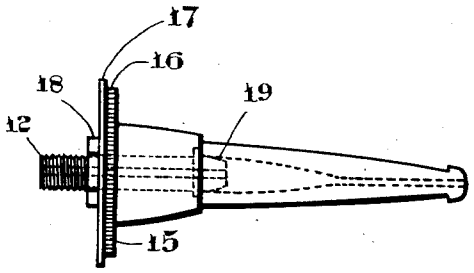

FIG. 4

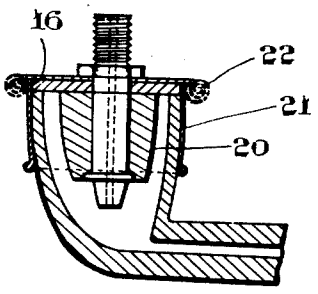

FIG. 2

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PIPE CLEANER.

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in cleaning devices for tobacco pipes, and the like, and the object of the invention is to provide a cleaning attachment which will allow the pipe to be easily connected to a source of compressed fluid supply, whereby any obstruction in the pipe may be cleaned out by the passage of the fluid therethrough.

Another object is to provide a cleaning device for smoking devices, which will be constructed to suit various sizes of pipe bowls, and cigarette or cigar holders, without the necessity of adjusting same.

A further object is to provide a cleaning device which will be simple in construction and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture, and which will be easily and conveniently carried in the pocket of the user.

In my invention I provide a cleaning device, the main body of which is made of resilient material so shaped that it will fit into various sizes of pipe bowls, cigarette holders and cigar holders, and seal same, so that a blast of air may be passed through said attachment into the pipe or like smoking device, to clear the passage of same of any obstruction.

In the drawings which illustrate various forms of my invention;—

Figure 1 is a sectional side elevation of a tobacco smoking pipe with my cleaning attachment fitted thereto.

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of one modification of the device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the attachment shown in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of my device used to clear obstructions from a cigarette holder.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, A designates a pipe bowl having the usual shank B, which is recessed to receive the mouthpiece C. The shank and mouthpiece are bored to provide a smoke passageway D. My cleaning device is used for cleaning said passageway of any obstruction which may tend to block same.

In Figure 1 which shows one form of my invention, 11 designates the valve at the discharge end of a hose connected to a source of compressed air supply, such as is used for supplying air to automobile tires at a service station, or to an ordinary hand pump. My cleaning device fits into the bowl of the pipe and is provided with a portion which fits into the valve so that the air supplied from a pump or hose line may be used for cleaning the pipe. The device comprises a threaded stem 12, the lower end 13 of which may be flanged, as shown. The stem is bored to allow air to pass therethrough. Moulded around the shank is the truncated cone-shaped plug 14, which is made of resilient material. The plug is provided with an enlarged flange 15, the edge 16 of which may be serrated or knurled. A pressure plate 17 may be fitted over the stem and held in place by the threaded nut 18. The lower end of the plug has projecting downwardly therefrom a smaller truncated cone-shaped portion 19, adapted to fit into the ends of the pipe stems or cigarette holders, as shown in Figure 4. The plug has a centrally disposed aperture which registers with the aperture in the stem. In the modified type shown in Figure 2, the stem extends through the plug, designated 20, and may be tapered towards said end in a somewhat similar manner as the projecting portion 19 of the device shown in Figure 1. When the device is used on the larger types of pipe bowls, a rubber sleeve 21 is used, the lower end of which is made thicker than the remaining portion, so that it will fit tightly around the outer wall of the pipe bowl when in use. The upper end 22 of said sleeve engages with the knurled edge of the flanged portion of the plug, as shown in Figure 2. The sleeve when not in use may be rolled up clear of the bowl, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 2. Modifications may be made in the general construction of the device without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In operation the plug is pressed into the bowl of a pipe or into the end of a cigar or cigarette holder. The plug being of a resilient nature fits closely against the walls and forms a sealing means to prevent air from passing between the plug and the surfaces of the smoking device it comes in contact with. The end of the plug is connected to the end of the hose to raise the valve 11 therein and allow air under pressure to pass into the pipe to clear out any matter which tends to clog up the passageways in the pipe. When the device is used for pipes having a larger bore than the plug, the sleeve forms the sealing medium. It will be readily seen that a device constructed in the manner herein detailed, provides a simple pipe attachment which can be used on a variety of pipes of different bores or on pipe shanks, cigarette holders,

cigar holders, and the like, without making any adjustments to the plug. It is very simple and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture and provides an efficient device for use in cleaning out the smoke passageways of tobacco smoking devices. It is of a compact nature and may be conveniently carried by the user of same.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In a pipe cleaning attachment, a threaded stem, a frusto-conically shaped body portion of resilient material secured to part of the stem, a resilient flange on said body portion adapted to contact with the upper edge of the bowl of a pipe, a pressure plate secured to the stem and contacting with the upper surface of the flange, a smaller frusto-conically shaped extension formed integral and projecting downwardly from the bottom of the body portion, and means formed in the stem, the body portion, and its extension, to allow for the passage of air therethrough.

2. A cleaning device for tobacco pipes and the like comprising a body of resilient material formed with a central air passage and presenting frusto-conical portions of different mean diameters with a shoulder between said portions, the portion of larger mean diameter being adapted to plug the mouth of a pipe bowl and the portion of smaller mean diameter being adapted to plug cigarette and cigar holders.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

ARCHIBALD G. SNOWDON.