Nov. 3, 1964 A. F. MINCHIN 3,155,099

CIGARETTE HOLDERS

Filed June 20, 1963

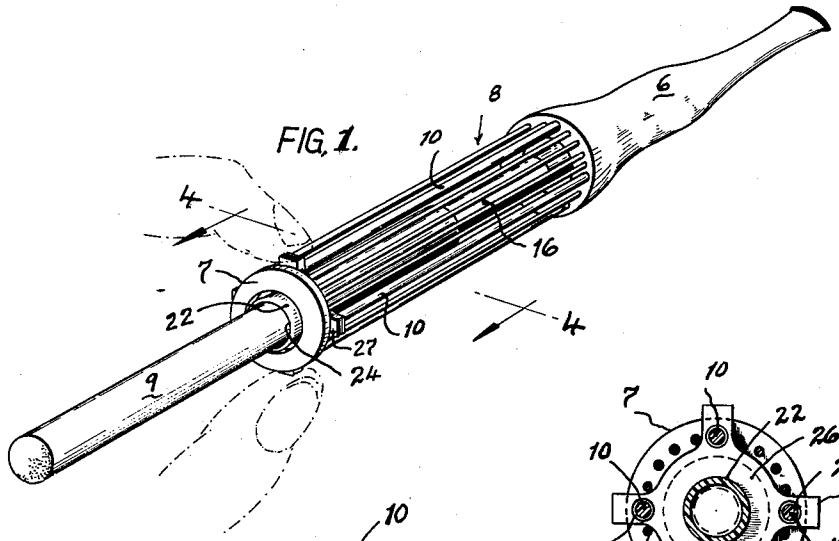



FIG. 1.

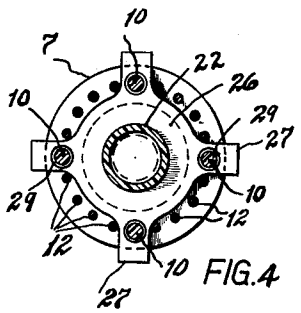



FIG. 4

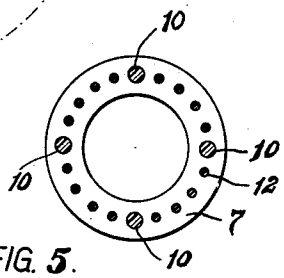



FIG. 5.

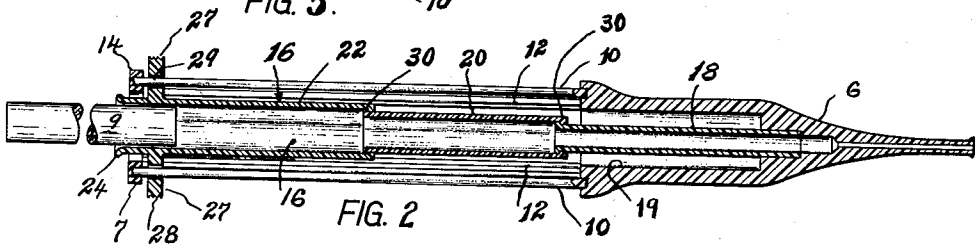



FIG. 2

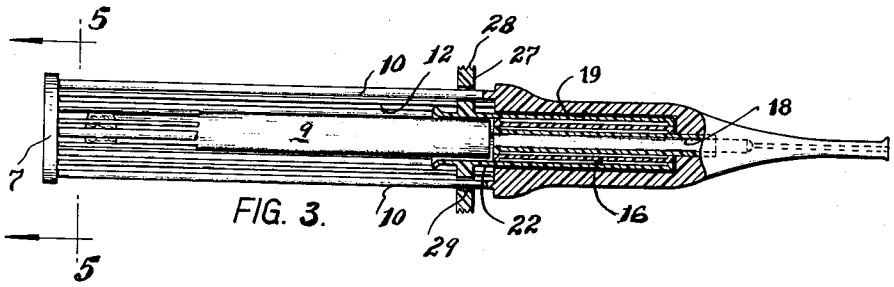



FIG. 3.

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# CIGARETTE HOLDERS

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This invention relates to improvements in cigarette holders having cigarette enclosing cages, and particularly aims to provide an efficient and economical cigarette holder for supporting a cigarette in a projected position for lighting and in a retracted and shielded position for smoking.

Various attempts have been made to provide a retractable cigarette holder capable of supporting a cigarette to permit the smoking thereof and to allow shielding thereof against adverse outdoor conditions, fire hazards, etc.

Such prior art holders also have generally been arranged to act as containers for encasing cigarettes while they are being smoked. A major shortcoming of this type of holder is that it does not provide for ready access for the lighting of the cigarette. According to the present invention this shortcoming is overcome by the provision of a telescopic tube within the container or cage, which can readily be extended to project beyond the front end of the container or cage in order to receive the cigarette and permit it to be lit. The telescopic tube is sufficiently air tight at the joints as to enable the smoker to draw on the cigarette as required to ignite it. The telescopic tube is then collapsed to effect the withdrawal of the cigarette into the container or tube so that it can be smoked in safety. The holder guards against fire and has all the attendant advantages of a holder of this character.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a telescopic cigarette holder wherein the telescopic sections are relieved of bending forces by a relatively sturdy external cage, thereby ensuring a relatively slack-free and sturdy construction.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a telescopic cigarette holder wherein excellent ventilation is obtained without, however, any appreciable dissemination of sparks and ash therefrom.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide a telescopic cigarette holder which is relatively cool to the touch whereby discomfort cannot be caused to the smoker's fingers.

For a more comprehensive appreciation of the aims and objects of the invention, however, reference should be made to the ensuing description and drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the telescopic cigarette holder of the invention shown in the extended condition and when carrying a cigarette;

FIG. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a side elevational view similar to FIG. 2 with parts broken away and shown in section but illustrating the holder telescoped to the retracted position whereby the cigarette becomes shielded i.e. the smoking position;

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 4—4 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 5—5 of FIG. 3.

Considering the selected form of the cigarette holder disclosed in the drawings, numeral 6 represents a conventional mouthpiece intended to be held between the smoker's teeth in the manner of a pipe stem as is well known. Mouthpiece 6 is integrated with a container or cage 8 having a substantial annular collar 7 spaced from said mouthpiece at a distance slightly greater than the length of the usual cigarette. This desired spacing between mouthpiece 6 and collar 7 is maintained by means of a circular array of wires which form a sturdy protective cage about the cigarette 9. This shielding cage 8 comprises several wires 10 of relatively heavy gauge interspersed with a greater number of wires 12 of lighter gauge. The heavy-gauge wires 10 thus serve primarily to support annular collar 7 at the required distance from mouthpiece 6, while the relatively slender wires 12 are effective principally as a shield or guard for the cigarette 9.



A telescopic assembly 16 is located within guard cage 8 and comprises a fixed tube 18 mounted within a counterbore 19 in mouthpiece 6, an intermediate sleeve 20 slidable over said tube 18 and an outer sleeve forming a cigarette receptacle 22. Receptacle 22 is also of tubular configuration and preferably has a flared lip 24 to facilitate insertion of the cigarette 9. This receptacle tube 22 is also provided with a guide flange 26 having tabs 27 projecting radially therefrom. Tabs 27 may be knurled over a portion of their surface as shown at 28, whereby they may be readily grasped between the thumb and forefinger of a smoker as in FIG. 1 to enable the tubular receptacle 22 to be telescoped or circumposed over the intermediate section 20 and accommodated in recess 19 of mouthpiece 6 as in FIG. 3. When telescopic member 16 is in fully "collapsed" condition as in FIG. 3 it will be noted that the cigarette 9 is completely withdrawn within cage 8 and thus shielded thereby. To facilitate such telescoping action of the telescopable members, tabs 27 on flange 26 are pierced by holes 29 through which the heavy-gauge support wires 10 are arranged to extend as best shown in FIGS. 2 and 4. Such wires 10 thus furnish guides for the associated flange 26 of the tubular receptacle 22, as well as forming supports for collar 7.

The mode of operation of the invention will best be understood with reference to FIGS. 1 and 2 wherein the flange 26 of receptacle tube 22 has been slid along guide wires 10, as by grasping tabs 27 between the thumb and index finger as shown in phantom in FIG. 1. The cigarette 9 is then readily inserted into the flared outer end of the receptacle tube 22. After lighting the cigarette and retracting it into the cage, it is fully shielded while being smoked.

It will be noted that stop means, such as shoulders 30, may be provided on all three sections 18, 20, and 22 of the telescopic member 16 to ensure that intermediate section 20 will be drawn out to its fully extended position of FIG. 2 when receptacle tube 22 is slid out to it full extent as in FIG. 2 by means of guide flange 26 as hereinbefore explained.

A cigarette is also effectively shielded against wind since the relatively closely spaced wires comprising cage 8 provide an effective shield of an air-admitting character. The spacing of said wires comprising cage 8 is nevertheless also sufficiently close together to prevent, for all practical purposes, cigarette ash from dropping from the holder.

A further advantage of the cigarette shield in the form of the wire cage 8 is that the combined surface area of such an array of wires is quite considerable, whereby cage 8 presents a considerable heat-transfer surface to the ambient atmosphere.

Thus, while the invention has been illustrated and described with reference to a particular physical arrangement thereof, it will be appreciated that equivalent constructions will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art. These and other modifications may be resorted to as fairly come within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A cigarette holder for smoking a cigarette in an enclosed condition comprising a mouth-piece having a smoke-passage extending therethrough, said mouth-piece including an elongated counterbore opening into one end thereof; a telescoping assembly comprising a plurality

of tubular elements terminally secured at one end in the innermost portion of said counterbore; said tubular elements normally being circumposed about each other and received in said counterbore when a cigarette is smoked, the outermost element of said telescoped member including means thereon for extending said elements longitudinally away from said mouth-piece when a cigarette is inserted in said holder; and an open cage of a length greater than the cigarette to be smoked and anchored at one end and extending longitudinally from said mouth-piece, said means on said outermost element being reciprocably connected to said open cage, said cage comprising a plurality of mutually parallel wire elements embedded at one end in said mouth-piece, an annular collar connected to the other ends of said wire elements and retaining said wire elements in fixed relation, said means comprising an apertured flange integral with said outermost tubular element and having means for receiving certain of said wire elements therethrough.

2. The structure as claimed in claim 1 in which said tubular assembly comprises three of said tubular elements, said tubular elements being of progressively decreasing cross section and including an innermost element secured at one end in said counterbore and fixed to said mouth-piece, an intermediate element circumposed about



said innermost element in said counterbore, and an outermost element circumposed about said intermediate element and disposed in said counterbore, the combined length of said intermediate and outermost members being of substantially the same length as said cage.

3. The structure as claimed in claim 2 in which said innermost and intermediate elements include outermost end positions positionable in coplanar relation for forming an abutment for the innermost end of a cigarette held in said outermost element when said elements are telescoped to the smoking position for said cigarette.


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