Jan. 13, 1953 R. F. JONES ET AL 2,625,163

SAFETY CIGARETTE HOLDER

Filed July 29, 1949

FIG. 1.

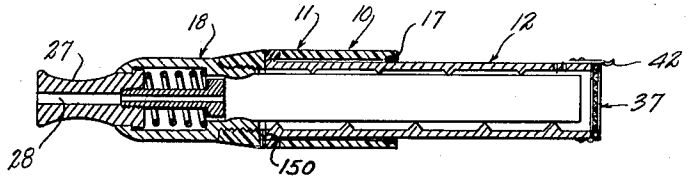


FIG. 2.

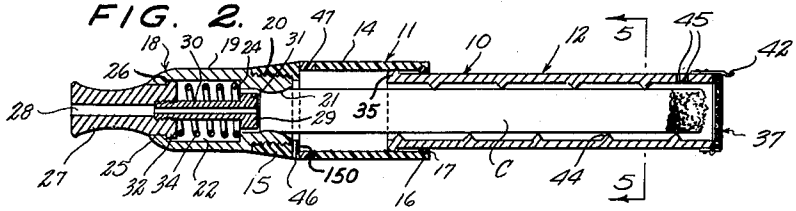


FIG. 3.

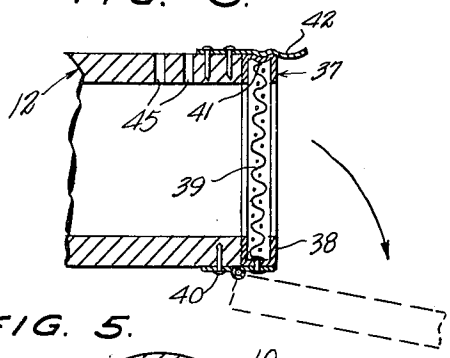


FIG. 4.

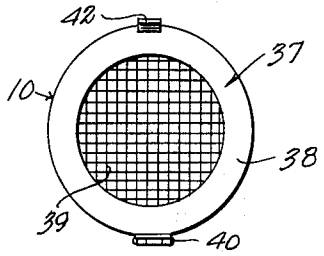


FIG. 5.

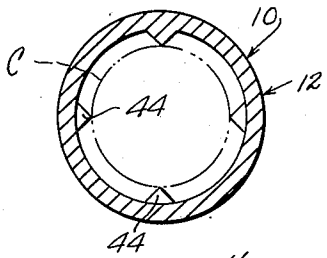


FIG. 6.

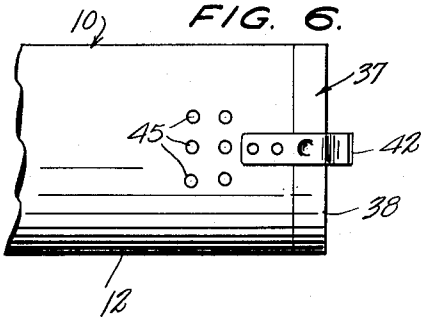
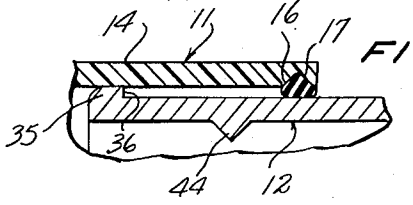


FIG. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,625,163

SAFETY CIGARETTE HOLDER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 131—175)

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This invention relates to a cigarette holder, and more particularly to a novel cigarette holder which is expansible for supporting the various sizes of cigarettes and formed with an ejector for removing the burned portions when and as desired.

It is an object of this invention to provide a cigarette holder of the kind to be more particularly described hereinafter having provision for supporting a cigarette to provide for the free passage of air about the supported cigarette to support the normal and proper combustion thereof.

Another object of this invention is to provide a cigarette holder having a tubular cigarette-enclosing member formed with cooperating openings at the opposite ends thereof providing free ventilation of air about the enclosed cigarette to diffuse or dissipate the heat from the burning cigarette.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a safety cigarette holder of this kind to provide for the safe smoking and carrying of lighted cigarettes and eliminating the usual fire hazards of smoking resulting in the burning of clothes and upholstery with hot ashes. The cigarette holder contains the ashes of the burned cigarette, thereby preventing the hot ashes from dropping on floors and rugs and the dropping of sparks in congested public gatherings where smoking is permitted.

A further object of this invention is to provide a safety cigarette holder having a cigarette-enclosing and supporting tubular body to be grasped in the fingers of the smoker and eliminating the highly objectionable nicotine stains which accumulate on the fingers from holding the burning cigarette.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a device of this kind which may be readily formed of metal, plastic or other suitable materials at an economical cost for manufacture and retail distribution.

With the above and other objects in view, our invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a cigarette holder constructed according to an embodiment of our invention, showing the holder in its retracted position;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section showing the holder in its extended position;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary longitudinal section

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showing the vent openings in the forwardmost cigarette-enclosing member and showing the hinged closure member on the forward end thereof;

Figure 4 is a front elevation of the cigarette holder;

Figure 5 is a transverse section taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 2;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary top plan view of the forward end of the cigarette holder, showing the vent openings and the closure member in its closed position;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary longitudinal section, partly broken away, showing the engagement of the two telescopic cigarette-enclosing members.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates generally a novel safety cigarette holder constructed according to an embodiment of our invention. The cigarette holder 10 is formed of a pair of telescopic body or cigarette enclosing members 11 and 12 which are adapted to enclose or encase a cigarette therein for smoking and carrying the cigarette. The cigarette enclosing members 11 and 12 are preferably formed of metal, plastic or other suitable material and are slidably engaged for retracting the entire assembly for carrying about in a pocket of the user and for extension to fit the various sizes of cigarettes currently on the market. The cigarette holder 10 is also formed for use in smoking cigarettes where there is little or no accommodation for the burned ashes therefrom, and the cigarette holder will support the burning cigarette and the ashes until such time as it may be advisable or necessary to discard the ashes and the burned cigarette.

The cigarette enclosing member 11 is formed of a tubular, cylindrical body 14 which is open at the opposite ends and is formed with a reduced diameter, threaded nipple section 15 at one end which provides adjacent the corresponding end of the member 11 an internal annular shoulder 150 which constitutes a stop for a purpose to be later described. The other end of the body portion 14 of the cigarette enclosing member 11 is formed with an annular groove 16, the recess 16 opening inwardly. A resilient bead or washer 17 is formed for engagement in the annular recess 16 and extension inwardly of the body 14, as shown in Figure 7 of the drawings. The inwardly extending annular member 17 constitutes a stop element for the purposes to be described hereinafter.

A mouthpiece 18 is removably engaged in one end of the body 14 by threaded engagement within the reduced-diameter, internally threaded sec-

tion 15 thereof. The mouthpiece 18 is formed with a tubular body section 19 open at the opposite ends having a reduced diameter, threaded end 20 which is threadably engageable in the reduced diameter, threaded end of the body 14, as clearly shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. The reduced diameter portion 20 of the mouthpiece 18 is formed with a tapered cutout portion or recess 21 which is disposed in the reduced end of the body 14. A restricted end portion 21 of the mouthpiece 18 constitutes a substantial clamping member for engagement with one end of a cigarette C contained within the cigarette holder 10. One end of the cigarette C is adapted to be pressed into the restricted portion 21 and will there be clamped within the cigarette holder 10, as shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings.

The tubular portion 19 of the mouthpiece 18 is formed with an enlarged recess or main body portion 22 adjacent to the restricted recess 21 and in communication therewith. The juncture of the portion 21 with the recess 22 defines a shoulder 24 at one end of the mouthpiece 18 and the reduced diameter opening 25 near the other end of the mouthpiece 18 defines a second shoulder 26 at the opposite end of the recess 22 from the shoulder 24.

A bit member 27 is slidably engageable within the body 19 of the mouthpiece 18, and normally is spring pressed for extension through the opening 25 thereof. The bit member 27 is formed with a conventional external configuration adapted to be engaged between the teeth and lips of the smoker, and is formed with a longitudinally extending bore or passage 28 therein. A cigarette ejecting element 29 is threadably engaged on one end of the bit member 27 and extends within the body 19. The ejector element 29 is formed with a longitudinally extending bore 30 therethrough which opens at one end in communication with the smoke passage 28 and at the other end with the restricted recess 21 described above. A head 31 is formed on said other end of the ejector element 29 and has an outside diameter slightly smaller than the inside diameter of the restricted portion 21 of the body 19 and is slidably engageable therein.

Said one end of the bit member 27 is formed with an outwardly extending shoulder 32 which is adapted to be engaged by the shoulder 26 of the body 19 in the normal position of the mouthpiece bit portion 27. A spring 34 is engaged about the main body portion of the ejector element 29 and bears at its forward end against the shoulder 24 of the body 19 and at its other end against the shoulder 32 of the bit member 27. The spring 34 will normally press the bit member 27 to its extended position in the mouthpiece body 19.

The cigarette enclosing telescopic member 12 is slidably engaged in the cigarette enclosing member 11, as clearly shown in Figures 1, 2 and 7 of the drawings. The telescopic member 12 is formed with an outside diameter slightly smaller than the inside diameter of the telescopic member 11, and a radially, outwardly extending rib 35 is fixed to or formed integrally with one end of the member 12 to be engaged within the cigarette enclosing member 11. The rib 35 defines a shoulder 36 on said one end of the telescopic member 12 which is adapted to be engaged by the side of the stop element or resilient ring 17 to limit movement of the member 12 relative to the member 11 in one direction, relative movement of these members being limited in the opposite direction by engagement of the end of member 12 carrying the rib 35 with the internal shoulder 150 in the member 11. The cigarette enclosing member 12 will initially be slidably engaged within the cigarette enclosing member 11 and then the resilient ring 17 will be engaged within the recess or groove 16 to provide an abutment member or stop element for limiting the sliding movement of the cigarette enclosing member 12.

A closure member 37 is hingedly mounted on the other end of the cigarette enclosing member 12 and includes an annular body portion 38 supporting a transverse screen 39 therein. A hinge 40 is fixed on one side of the body 38 and on said other end of the cigarette enclosing member 12, shown in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings. The body or ring 38 is formed with a detent 41 opposite from the hinge 40 thereon and a resilient latch member 42 is carried by the other end of the cigarette enclosing member 12 opposite from the hinge mounted thereon. The resilient latch member 42 is formed of an elongated length of metal or other suitable resilient material which is engageable within the detent 41 for frictionally securing the closure member 37 in its closed position and providing for the forcible pivoted movement of the closure member from the closed to the open position shown in dotted lines in Figure 3.

The cigarette enclosing telescopic member 12 is formed with a plurality of longitudinally and circumferentially spaced apart lugs or supporting members 44 on the inner surface thereof which extend inwardly from the inside surface of the cigarette enclosing member 12. The inwardly extending lugs 44 constitute spacers or supporting members which are engageable along the length of the cigarette C enclosed within the holder 10 for supporting the cigarette in spaced relation from the inside surface of the cigarette enclosing member. The lugs 44 engage the forward end of the cigarette C for supporting the forward end of the cigarette spaced inwardly from the supporting member 12, while the rear end of the cigarette is held in spaced relation from the inside walls of the other cigarette enclosing member 11 by the engagement of that end of the cigarette in the restricted cigarette engaging recess 21 described above.

A plurality of vent openings 45 are formed on one side of said other end of the cigarette enclosing member 12 adjacent the latch 42, as shown in Figure 6 of the drawings. Vent openings 46 are formed in the other cigarette enclosing member 11, as shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. The vent openings 45 and 46 of the cigarette enclosing members 11 and 12 communicate between the outside atmosphere and the space between the outer surface of the cigarette C and the inner surface of the cigarette enclosing members 11 and 12 to provide for the free passage of air along the length of the cigarette holder about the body of the cigarette C contained therein. By providing for the free passage of air along the length of the cigarette C on the radially outer side thereof, the cigarette C is held from overheating the body of the cigarette holder 10 and the apertures in no manner impair the normal and conventional smoking of the cigarette.

In the use and operation of the cigarette holder 10 described above, from its compact and folded position, as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings, the cigarette holder 10 may be removed from the pocket or other convenient carrying place and extended to its fully extended position shown

in Figure 2 of the drawings. In its extended position, the closure member **37** will be swung to its open position and a cigarette will be engaged through the open end of the cigarette enclosing member **12** and extended along the length thereof into the cigarette enclosing member **11** for engaging one end of the cigarette in the restricted recess **21** of the mouthpiece **18**. The sliding disposition of the cigarette enclosing members **11** and **12** will then be adjusted to suitably confine the particular cigarette within the cigarette holder **10** and by moving the cigarette enclosing member **12** longitudinally for exposing the forward end of the cigarette beyond the closure member **37**, the forward end of the cigarette being exposed for igniting in the conventional manner.

After the forward end of the cigarette C has been ignited, the cigarette enclosing member **12** is then moved to its fully extended position and the closure element **37** containing the screen **39** is then pivoted to its closed position in engagement with the resilient latch **42**. From this position the cigarette enclosing member **12** may then be moved longitudinally relative to the member **11**, so that the extreme forward end of the cigarette C is within member **12** and spaced from the screen or foraminous portion **39** of the closure member **37**.

The cigarette may then be smoked in a conventional manner and the ashes from the burning cigarette will be suitably contained within the holder **10** as the screen **39** may be of a suitable mesh to contain the ashes from inadvertently spilling out of the cigarette holder. The lugs **44**, together with the restricted recess **21**, support the cigarette spaced from the inside walls of the cigarette holder so that the burning cigarette will not unduly heat the telescopic portions of the cigarette holder. An annular ring or a plurality of circumferentially spaced apart, transparent elements **47** are carried by said other end of the cigarette enclosing member **11** so that the burning portion of the cigarette C may be viewed or exposed when the cigarette has been substantially burned to its smallest usable condition. As the cigarette C will normally be contained within the cigarette enclosing members **11** and **12**, and as the enclosing members may not in all circumstances be transparent, the viewing windows **47** will provide for the suitable signaling to the smoker that the cigarette is substantially burned out and may at this time be discarded.

For ejecting the cigarette C from the cigarette holder **10**, the cigarette enclosing member **12** will be slid along the cigarette enclosing member **11** to its fully-telescoped or folded position, shown in Figure 1 of the drawings, and the bit member **27** of the mouthpiece **18** will be pressed forwardly within the body **19** thereof. The head **29** of the ejector element **27** will then bear against the end of the cigarette C pressing the cigarette out of the restricted portion **21** to fall freely within the cigarette enclosing members **11** and **12** to be later discarded by swinging the closure member **37** to its fully-opened position.

We do not mean to confine ourselves to the exact details of construction herein disclosed, but claim all variations falling within the purview of the appended claim.

We claim:

A cigarette holder comprising a first tubular body having at one end an internally screw threaded formation of reduced diameter having an internal annular shoulder adjacent said one end and having adjacent its other end an internal annular groove, a second tubular body slidably received at one end in said other end of said first body and having at said one end thereof an annular external flange, a ring of resilient material secured in the groove in said first body and slidably engaging said second body to provide a sliding frictional connection between said bodies, the flange on said second body cooperating with the internal annular groove in said first body and with said ring to limit longitudinal sliding movement between said bodies, a mouthpiece having at one end an externally screw threaded formation threaded into the internally screw threaded formation on said first body and having internally thereof a socket for receiving one end of a cigarette and holding the cigarette positioned within said first and second bodies.

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