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PATENT



SPECIFICATION

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

**Improvements in and connected with Cigarette-making  
Machines.**

I, GEORGE CANTOURIS, Tobacco Specialist, of 150, Ladbroke Grove, London, W., do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

5 This invention relates to cigarette making machines of the kind comprising two substantially semi-cylindrical outer members hinged together, each having an inner slidable member adapted to contain and feed the tobacco. Previously such devices were held closed by spring lugs, and it was found difficult to adjust  
10 them so as to hold the two members firmly together during operation and yet allow of easy opening. The object of the present invention is to arrange that the hinged members are held firmly together during the operation of loading the cigarette but open automatically on the withdrawal of the inner slidable members, and further to ensure that when the inner slides are drawn out, they  
16 are held with their edges together along their whole length.

According to this invention, means are provided for holding the machine closed during use and the inner members together along their whole length, but for allowing it automatically to open upon retracting the inner slides. Preferably, a ring or band is provided at the open end of one of the outer members,  
20 adapted by embracing the inner slides to hold the former firmly together while the tobacco is being forced forward and to allow them to open automatically upon retracting the inner slidable members.

Such a construction is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the device in the closed position.

Fig. 2 is a plan view open.

Fig. 3 is an end view closed;

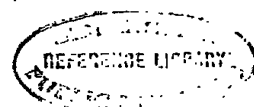
Fig. 4 is an end view open; and

Fig. 5 a diagrammatic plan of a machine including a plurality of these devices.

In the drawings, 1 denotes the outer semi-cylindrical members hinged together at 4. Mounted upon the outer members are two relatively slidable inner members 2 pulled out and in by knobs 5 and having at their inner ends stops or lugs 8 which serve to push the tobacco forward when the slides are pulled out. Slots 6 are provided in the outer member to allow of movement. A continuous ring or band 3 is formed on the outer open end of one of the outer members 1. This is of such proportions that the inner slidable members may pass through it and are guided by it. It also serves the purpose of holding the device closed during the operation of filling a cigarette. The outer members may be provided with ribs 7 to strengthen them.

The operation of the device is as follows: The inner slides are filled with tobacco while in the position shown in Fig. 2. The apparatus is then closed and the inner slidable members 2 are slid out, being shown in this process in Fig. 1. The cigarette paper is then threaded over the projecting ends of the

[Price 6d.]



slides 2 and pushed on to the slides. The left hand slide in Fig. 2 is then withdrawn, when the device will open under the influence of a spring or the like mounted on the hinge, since when withdrawn the end of this slide clears the ring 3. The cigarette is then pulled off from the other slide and the device is ready for use again.

If desired, a cutter may suitably be mounted on the machine to sever the strands of tobacco at the end from which it has been fed. A stop may also be employed, if required, to prevent the cigarette from being drawn back into the machine when the slides are withdrawn.

The arrangement of the ring 3 not only has the advantage that it holds the device closed positively, as distinct from the known lugs, and also absolutely releases the two halves when the slides 2 are drawn back into the outer casings, but in addition when the slides 2 are withdrawn to their full extent from the outer casings the ring 3 tends to hold the slides in contact with one another along their edges for their whole length. Hitherto it was common for these slides to sag apart and for various shreds of tobacco to hang through the gaps left. The result of this was that frequently even after the shreds had been cleared off by hand the paper tube to be threaded on the slides was torn or split.

The extra ease with which the present device may be operated causes it to lend itself to incorporation with a plurality of others to form a machine for making a number of cigarettes simultaneously. A plan of such a machine is diagrammatically shown in Fig. 5. The outer members 1, exactly as before, enclose the inner slides 2 and one of each of the members 1 is provided with a complete ring 3. In the drawing this is the lower outer member in each case. Alternate lugs 5 are connected to one of two cross bars 9, 10. The crossbar 9, which is below the crossbar 10, is attached to all the lugs 5 which retract the inner slides 2 on the opposite side to the ring 3, while the slides 2 on the same side as the ring 3 are all connected to the crossbar 10. The crossbar 9 is connected by a link 11 to a lever handle 12 pivoted at a point 13 on the framework 14 of the machine which carries the devices 1, 2. The crossbar 9 is extended upwards so that when, by means of the handle 12, the crossbar 9 is pushed in such a direction as to push the slides 2 outwards, the upper projection on it also pushes against the crossbar 10 and pushes the lower slides 2 out as well. Then the paper tubes are threaded over the slides so pushed out, and the handle 12 pulled back. This only retracts the slides 2 opposite the ring 3, and so the outer casings 1 fall apart into the open position. The cigarettes are each drawn off from one of the remaining slides 2, which can then be retracted by pulling on the crossbar 10, when the machine is ready for refilling.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In a cigarette making machine of the kind described, the provision of means for holding the machine closed during use and the inner members together along their whole length, but also for allowing it to open automatically when the slides are retracted.

2. A cigarette making machine as claimed in Claim 1, in which the open end of one of the outer members is formed with a complete ring or band which embraces both of the inner slides except when they are completely retracted into the outer members.

3. A cigarette making machine as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 11th day of February, 1916.

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Liverpool and Bradford,  
Patent Agents for the Applicant.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

