

Sept. 8, 1925.

1,552,877

R. S. PHILLIPPS ET AL

CONTAINER FOR TOBACCO AND OTHER PRODUCTS

Filed Jan. 25, 1923

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

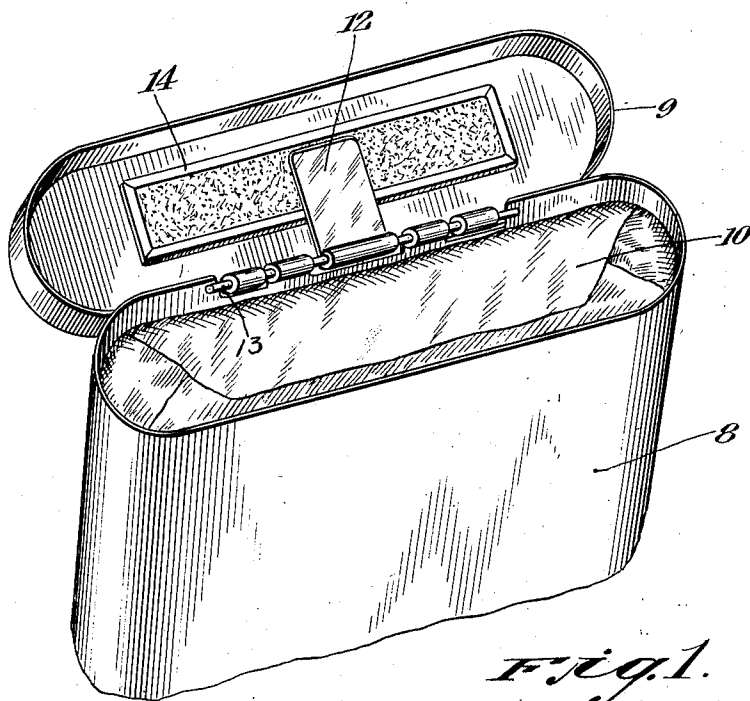


Fig. 1.

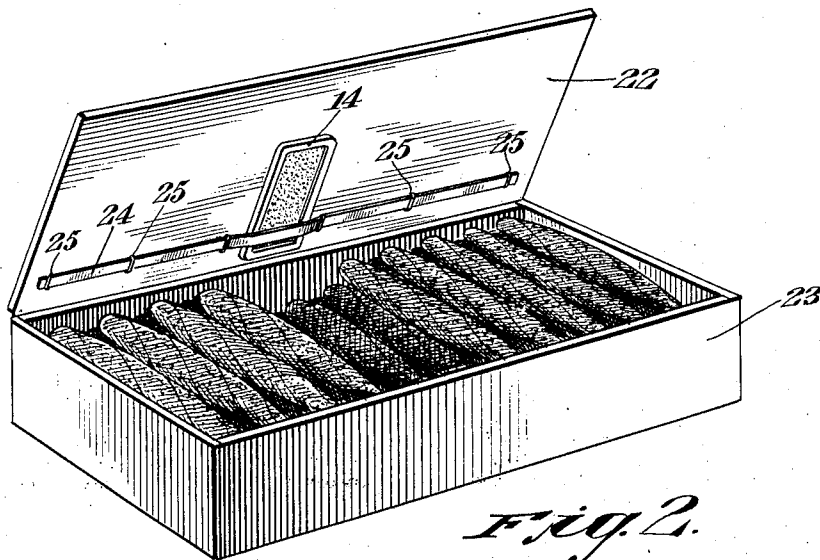


Fig. 2.

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

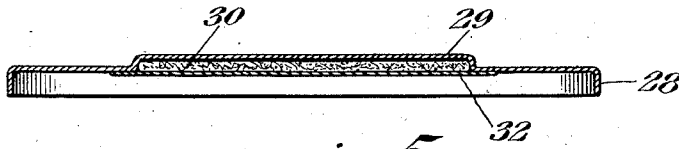


Fig. 5.

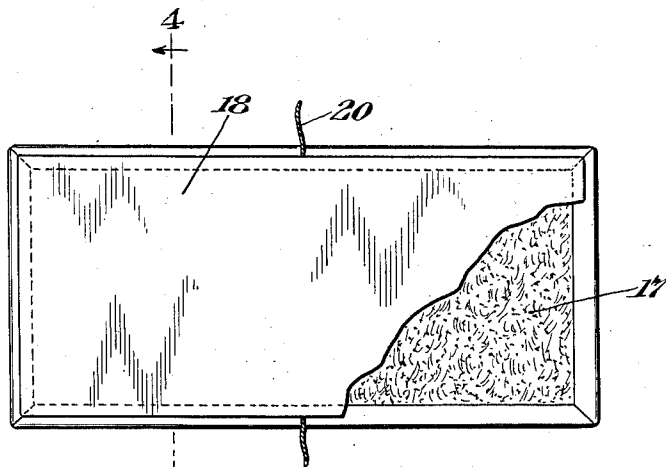


Fig. 3.

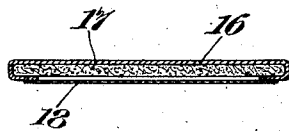


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH S. PHILLIPPS, OF NEW YORK, AND EDWARD HAUSER, OF WOODHAVEN, NEW YORK.

CONTAINER FOR TOBACCO AND OTHER PRODUCTS.

Application filed January 25, 1923. Serial No. 614,745.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, RALPH S. PHILLIPPS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, and EDWARD HAUSER, a citizen of the United States, residing in Woodhaven, county of Queens, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Containers for Tobacco and Other Products, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to containers for tobacco and other products and has for its general object to provide such containers with new and improved means whereby moisture may be easily added to the contained products when this becomes desirable.

Every tobacco user knows that although pipe tobacco, cigars and cigarettes may be delivered to the user tightly sealed and with the proper amount of moisture in them, it usually happens that soon after the container has been opened its moisture evaporates to such an extent that the quality of the contents from the smoker's standpoint is very much impaired. Although various kinds of humidors have been devised for the purpose of maintaining tobacco products in their proper moist condition, the use of such devices among smokers has not become universal owing probably to the fact that such humidors are usually expensive and cumbersome, and above all to the fact that the user forgets or neglects to moisten the moisture-containing material used in them.

Having reached the conclusion that most smokers will not devote any great amount of effort to keeping their tobacco properly moist, however desirable this condition may be, we have conceived the present invention by which tobacco may be kept properly moist with the minimum of effort on behalf of the user. The characteristic novelty of the invention resides in the fact that it provides, either as an integral part of a container for tobacco products or as a separate article that can readily be inserted in such containers, means which is delivered to the user in a moist condition but hermetically sealed up so that it can be easily unsealed when the absorption of its moisture by the tobacco becomes desirable.

Obviously the invention may be embodied in many structures, and those hereinafter

described are intended to be merely illustrative. The invention will be understood from the following description of these embodiments, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which Figure 1, perspective view of the top part of a box of pipe tobacco having the invention embodied therein; Figure 2 is a perspective view of a box of cigars having the invention embodied therein; Figure 3 is a plan view of the form of moistening pad shown in Figures 1 and 2; Figure 4 is a sectional view on the line 4-4 of Figure 3; and Figure 5 is a sectional elevation through the cover of a container for tobacco products, showing another form in which the invention may be embodied.

Referring to Figure 1, a body 8 of a tobacco box is shown as provided with a hinged cover 9. Within the box, there is illustrated the usual lining of paper and tinfoil which results in practically hermetically sealing up the tobacco until it reaches the user. As shown, this box is provided with a flap 12, secured to the pintle 13 of the cover hinge, which is adapted to hold a moistening pad 14 against the inside of the cover 9 of the box. The flap 12 is preferably non-rotatably attached to the hinge pintle 13, said flap having sufficient flexibility so that it can be sprung out enough for the insertion of the moistening pad 14.

Obviously, the moistening pad may be of many constructions, some of which are shown in Figures 3 and 4. As shown in these figures, the pad comprises a backing 16 of moisture-proof material, such as tin, the edges of which are turned inwardly so as to hold moisture containing material 17 of any suitable kind. It is our idea that this moisture containing material 17 will be properly moistened and that it will be hermetically sealed up by means of a sheet 18 of moisture-proof material such as wax paper which may be attached by a suitable water-proof glue or cement to the turned-in flanges of the backing 16. In order to facilitate removal of the covering sheet 18 over the moistening material, a thread 20 may be laid across the pad before the sheet 18 is attached thereto. When it is desired to remove the sealing sheet 18, it is merely necessary to pull one end of the thread 20 which results in cutting the sheet across and in making its tearing off an easy matter.

In the form of the invention shown in Figure 2, the inside of the cover 22 of a cigar box 23 is provided with a flexible member such as a rubber band 24 which is held at intervals by staples 25. After a few of the cigars have been removed from the box, a space is left sufficient to receive the moistening pad 14 which can be slipped under the flexible bands 24, as shown in the drawing. This pad is shown with the sealing cover removed, in order to allow the moisture to escape, it being understood that until the pad was inserted in the cigar box it was maintained in its sealed condition. The cigars are thus kept in a properly moist condition while the contents of the box is being used.

Figure 5 shows a tobacco box cover 28 provided with a struck out portion 29 which forms a cavity on the inside of said cover adapted to receive moistened material 30 which may be held in said cavity in any suitable way, as by means of waterproof cement. The pad of moistened material 30 may be hermetically sealed within the cavity in the box cover by means of a sheet 32 of moisture impervious material which may be attached to the inside of the box cover and may be easily torn off when the moisture in said pad is needed for keeping the tobacco in the box in proper condition.

It is our idea that hermetically sealed pads of moistened material may be either incorporated in containers for tobacco products, as described in this application, or may be distributed separately, either free or for a consideration, to tobacco users who will unseal and insert them in tobacco containers adapted for their reception. We believe that by the use of our invention, tobacco products may be kept properly moistened while the contents of the ordinary container is being used up. Of course, if the user is particularly slow in disposing of the contents of the container, or if such container is kept under conditions which are particularly conducive to drying out of the contents, it may happen that the moisture initially in the pad will not be sufficient to moisten properly all of the contents of the container. In such event, it is of course possible for the user to re-moisten the pad or to insert a new ready-moistened one; but the invention contemplates making the pad large enough and impregnating it with enough moisture before it is hermetically sealed up so that it will be sufficient without re-moistening to keep in proper condition

the tobacco products with which it is intended to be used.

While we have described certain forms in which our invention may be embodied we wish it to be understood that we intend in the appended claims to cover all of the forms of invention which come within the spirit thereof.

What we claim is:

1. In combination with a container for tobacco and other products, moistened material adapted to be inserted in said container, and easily removable means cooperating with said moistened material for hermetically sealing up said material to prevent evaporation therefrom.

2. In combination with a container for tobacco and other products, a flat piece of moistened material adapted to be inserted in said container, and easily removable means cooperating with said moistened material for hermetically sealing up said material to prevent evaporation therefrom.

3. As an article of manufacture, moistened material, means for hermetically sealing up said material so as to prevent loss of moisture therefrom, and means cooperating with said moistened material for facilitating the removal of enough of the said sealing means to permit moisture to escape from said material.

4. As an article of manufacture, backing material which is impervious to moisture, moistened material attached to said backing material, and easily removable means cooperating with said backing material for hermetically sealing up said moistened material to prevent evaporation therefrom.

5. In combination, a container for tobacco and other products, having a cavity in the inside of one of the walls of the container, moistened material capable of giving up its moisture located in said cavity, and easily removable means for hermetically sealing up said moistened material within said cavity.

6. In combination, a container for tobacco and other products, having a cover on the inside of which is a cavity, moistened material capable of giving up its moisture located in said cavity, and easily removable moisture-proof material covering the mouth of said cavity for hermetically sealing up said moistened material within said cavity.

In testimony whereof we have affixed our signatures to this specification.

RALPH S. PHILLIPPS.
EDWARD HAUSER.