

PATENT SPECIFICATION



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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Cigar Lighters and the like.

We, THE EVER READY COMPANY (GREAT BRITAIN) LIMITED, of Hercules Place, Holloway, London, N. 7, a British limited liability company duly registered, 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:—

10 This invention is for improvements in or relating to cigar lighters and the like and more particularly to that type of lighter in which a metal striker is employed with a wick at one end saturated with an inflammable spirit. The striker is lighted by drawing it across two contacts which form a gap in an electric circuit in such a manner that after the circuit has been made it is then broken near the wick end of the striker and causes a spark which ignites the wick.

25 It has heretofore been proposed to provide a lighter of the type described in which one of the contacts was in the form of a spring-member, but this spring-member extended between two shanks of the other contact over which the metal tube of the striker was wiped.

30 According to the present invention there is provided a lighter of the type described, in which that contact against which the wick end of the striker is intended to bear comprises a "thin" wire stretched between two supports, for the purpose of ensuring a snap action between the striker and the wire when the striker is pressed on the wire and then drawn across it.

40 Preferably, the second contact of the lighter comprises a spring-member which is capable of yielding in the direction in which thrust is applied in pressing the striker against the said wire, for the purpose described hereinafter.

45 The invention is more particularly

described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of the lighter according to the present invention, and

Figure 2 shows a modification of the spring contact illustrated in Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, 1 illustrates a receptacle in which there is located a battery which supplies current to a primary coil of an induction coil, the ends of the secondary coil of which are connected to two contacts 2 and 3 mounted on the top of the receptacle 1. The contact 2 comprises a U-shaped member 4 across which is stretched a wire 5 which is connected to one of the ends of the said secondary coil and is so thick and is drawn to such a degree of tautness that when the end of a striker is pressed into engagement with the wire 5 and drawn across it, a snap action occurs between the end of the striker and the wire when the striker breaks contact with the same. The contact 3 comprises a horizontally-disposed spring 6 mounted on an upright 7 so that it lies parallel to the wire 5 and the said contact 3 is connected to the other end of the secondary coil of the induction coil. The striker 8 which normally rests in the holder 12 comprises a reservoir which is packed with an absorbent such as cotton-wool saturated with an inflammable spirit and is provided at one end with a narrow portion 9 into which is inserted a wick 10 which is kept in contact with the saturated cotton-wool in the receptacle. The free end of the narrow end of the striker 8 has a flared end 11 thus ensuring that when the narrow end 9 of the striker is bridged across the spring 6 and the wire 5, and the striker is drawn in the direction of the contact 3 so as to release the flared end of the striker from the wire, a snap

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action occurs between the end of the striker and the wire causing a spark which ignites the wick of the striker.

Figure 2 illustrates a modified construction of the second contact hereinbefore referred to, in which the said contact comprises a horizontally-disposed spring-member 13 carried by an upright 15 mounted on the top of the receptacle 1. The advantage of constructing the second contact so that it is capable of yielding in the direction in which thrust is applied when the striker is pressed against the wire is that it ensures that the striker will always bear against the second contact whilst the striker is being drawn across the two contacts and thus obviates the possibility of the striker missing one of the contacts during this operation.

It is to be understood that although the lighter has been described in conjunction with a striker having a reservoir integral therewith, it is possible to use any type of metal striker which has a wick at the end saturated in an inflammable spirit.

The reference "a 'thin' wire" occurring in Claim 1 comprises any wire

which will give a knife edge effect between the wire and the striker when the same is drawn across it.

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

1. A lighter of the type described in which that contact against which the wick end of the striker is intended to bear comprises a "thin" wire stretched between two supports for the purpose described.

2. A lighter of the type described and as claimed in Claim 1 in which the second contact comprises a spring member (6 or 13) which is capable of yielding in the direction in which thrust is applied in pressing the striker against the said wire, for the purpose described.

3. Lighters substantially as described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 14th day of March, 1923.

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

