PATENT SPECIFICATION

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Petrol-Electric Lighters for Cigars, Cigarettes and the like

I, AERMOUNT TUYTEL, of 35, Westeinde, Voorburg, Holland, a subject of the Queen of the Netherlands, 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:—

This invention relates to a lighter for cigars, cigarettes and the like which has a wick holder which may be separated from the liquid fuel reservoir and an electric filament which may be heated for lighting the wick, the wick holder being used to complete the electrical circuit of the filament.

In such a lighter the filament may be positioned under an opening in the top wall of the device and as said filament is usually very thin, and therefore vulnerable, it often happens that it is broken by the wick holder being brought into physical contact therewith, with the result that the lighter is rendered useless until a new filament has been fitted.

The object of the present invention is to obviate this disadvantage for which purpose and according to this invention two points with which the wick holder is brought into physical contact when the wick is to be lighted are so situated relatively to one another and to the filament that when the wick holder is so located it cannot come into physical contact with, and thus damage, the filament; hence the useful life of the filament is increased.

The invention is illustrated, by way of example, in the accompanying drawings of which Figure 1 is a fragmentary vertical section of the upper part of a lighter and Figures 2 and 3 are fragmentary sectional views (in planes at right angles to that of Figure 1) of two forms of contact points.

As shown in Figure 1 *a* and *b* are the two physical contact points on the lighter 1 across which the wick holder, represented by the dotted line 2 is laid, when the wick is to be lighted. The point *a* is situated on a part 3 insulated from the lighter 1 and the point *b* lies at the edge of an opening 4 in the top wall of the lighter 1, beneath which opening is situated a filament 5; for the sake of convenience the electrical connections are not illustrated. The points *a* and *b* are so situated relatively to one another and to the filament 5 that when the wick holder (represented by the dotted line 2) is located thereon, it cannot pass through the aperture 4 and come into physical contact with, and thus damage, the filament 5.

As shown in Figure 1 the part 3 and the opening 4 are located at the top of the lighter 1; if desired they may be located at a side thereof. Further the part 3 need not be rigid; for example a spring influenced contact device may be moved to a predetermined extent and arrested at a point corresponding with the point *a*. Owing to its simpler and stronger construction a contact device consisting of fixed parts is to be preferred to a contact device consisting of movable parts, in which lost movement and compression of a spring may result in the weakening or even rupture of the spring.

As shown in Figure 2 the contact device 3 consists of two small metal plates which overlap partly and are insulated from one another and from the lighter 1, said plates being located by one or more insulated bolts. These plates are connected with the opposite poles of an electric battery, not shown. The contact edges of these metal plates are inclined and are sharpened, so that a cutting edge results. By pressing the wick holder 2 against the edges of the plates the thin layer of carbon and dried petrol which may be on said wick holder is penetrated so that a good electrical contact is ensured. Obviously the inclination of the sharp edges of the plates may be altered or the edges may be suitably curved if desired.

In the modification shown in Figure 3 the two plates do not overlap but lie side by side, while the contact edges are inclined and sharpened.

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:—

[*Price* 1/-]

1. A lighter for cigars, cigarettes and the like which has a wick holder which may be separated from the liquid fuel reservoir and an electric filament which may be heated for lighting the wick, the wick holder being used to complete the electrical circuit of the filament, wherein two points with which the wick holder is brought into physical contact when the wick is to be lighted are so situated relatively to one another and to the filament that when the wick holder is so located it cannot come into physical contact with, and thus damage, the filament.

2. A lighter as claimed in Claim 1 wherein one of the physical contact points is constituted by juxtaposed metal plates having oppositely inclined and preferably sharpened edges, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Dated this 27th day of July, 1939.

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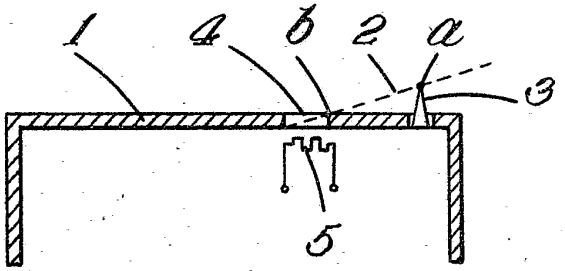

Fig. 1.

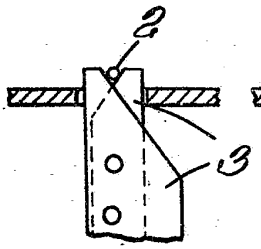

Fig. 2.

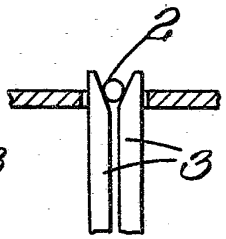

Fig. 3.

Malby & Sons, Photo-Litho.