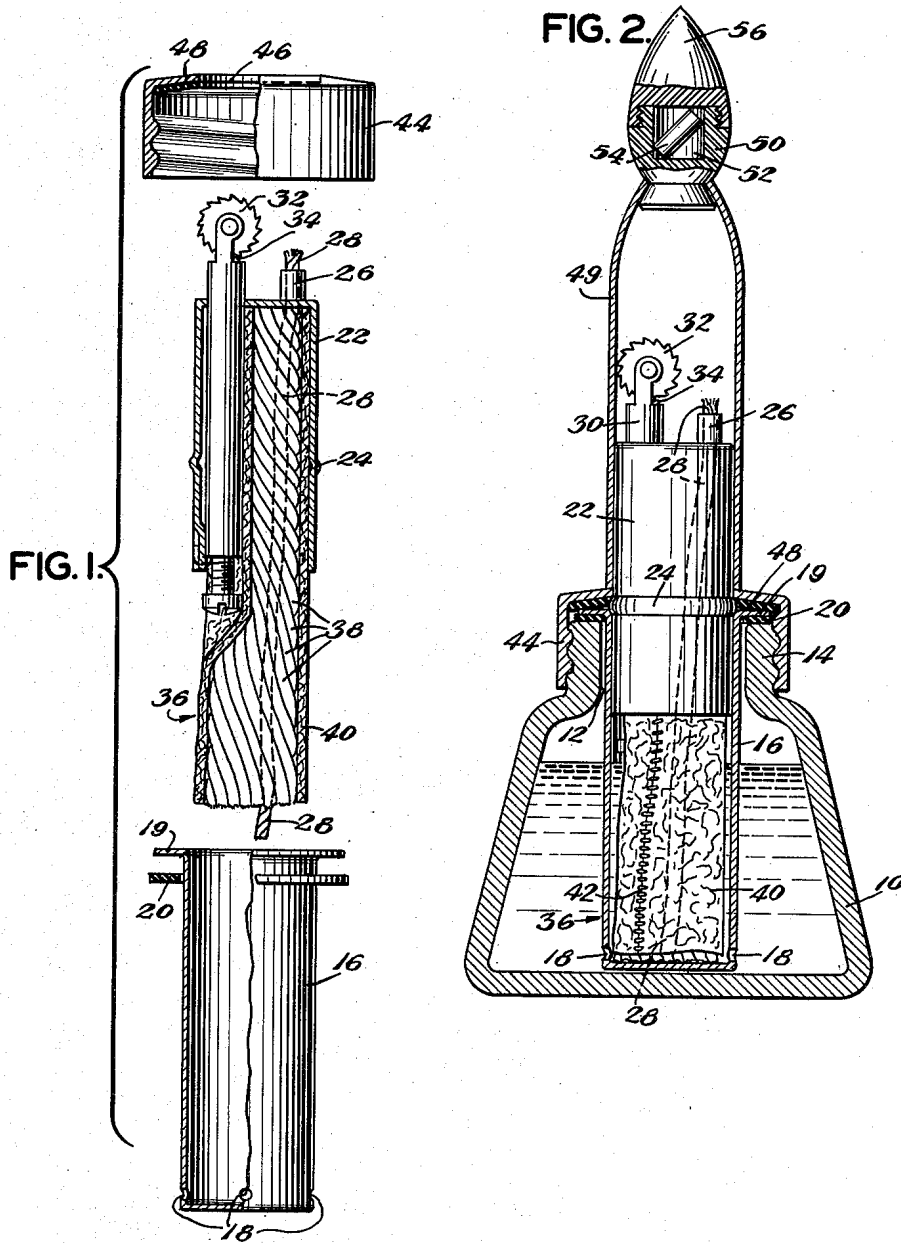


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CIGAR AND CIGARETTE LIGHTER

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## CIGAR AND CIGARETTE LIGHTER

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7 Claims. (Cl. 67-4.1)

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This invention relates to cigar and cigarette lighters, and more particularly to lighters having a wick.

An object of the present invention is to provide a cigar and cigarette lighter, which when lit gives a flame burning for a considerable length of time, so that the lighter may be conveniently passed around from person to person for lighting cigars or cigarettes.

Another object of the present invention is to improve on the construction of cigar and cigarette lighters as now ordinarily made.

Other objects and structural details of the invention will be apparent from the following description when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, wherein:

Fig. 1 is an exploded view, partly in section, of parts of a lighter according to the invention, and

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of a lighter according to the invention.

Referring now to the drawings, 10 indicates a base container having an aperture 12 in its neck portion 14.

A casing 16 being open at its upper end and having a series of bores 18 at its closed lower end is inserted through said aperture 12 into the container 10. A flange 19 arranged at the upper end of the casing 16 is seated on a gasket 20 resting on the upper edge of the neck portion 14 of the container 10.

A barrel-shaped housing 22 closed at its upper end and open at its lower end is snugly inserted into the casing 16, a bulge 24 of said housing resting on the upper edge of the casing 16. The housing 22 has an outlet or passage 26, at its upper end. The upper end of a wick 28 is threaded through and projects from said passage 26. The housing 22 carries a lighter mechanism 30, which may be of standard construction including a friction wheel 32 for cooperation with a spring-loaded flint 34.

A body 36 comprising material capable of capillary attraction is inserted into the hollow housing 22, the lower end of said body projecting from the lower end of said housing and extending into the interior of the casing 16. In the embodiment shown in the drawing, said body 36 is in the shape of a wick being of larger cross-section than the wick 28. The wick 36 is composed of a plurality of thin wicks 38 packed together in a wrapper 40 of felt closed by a seam 42. The wick 28 extends lengthwise through the large wick 36. The lower end of the wick 28 projects from the lower end of the large wick 36 and rests on the bottom of the casing 16.

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A fastening cap 44 having a bore 46 engaged with the housing 22 is screwed on a threaded portion of the neck 14 of the container 10 whereby the housing-casing assembly 22, 16 is held in position. A gasket 48 is placed between the cap and the flange 19 of the casing 16. When the cap 44 is tightened on the neck 14, the container 10 is perfectly sealed by the gaskets 20 and 48 placed on either side of the flange 19 of the casing 16.

A cylindrical covering cap 49 having a tapered upper end snugly fits on the cylindrical upper portion of the housing 22 projecting from the base container 10. The lower edge of the cap 49 covering the friction wheel 32 and the upper end of the wick 28 rests on the upper surface of the fastening cap 44.

A closing member 50 having a cavity 52 for receiving spare flints 54 is inserted into and rigidly connected with the open tapered end of the covering cap 49. A top element 56 may be screwed on said closing member 50 for covering the cavity 52 of the latter.

The operation of the lighter is as follows:

In order to make the lighter ready for use, the covering cap is removed from the housing 22 and the fastening cap 44 is unscrewed, whereupon the entire unit 22, 16 may be removed from the base container 10. Now, a supply of liquid fuel, for example so called lighter fluid, may be filled into the container through the aperture 12. After reinsertion of the unit 22, 16 and tightening of the fastening cap 44 on the neck 14 of the container 10 the lighter is ready for use. The tight seal by the gaskets 20 and 48 prevents undesired evaporation of the fuel in the base container 10.

As the interior of the casing 16 communicates with the interior of the container 10 through the bores 18, liquid fuel held by the container 10 will enter the casing 16, so that the lower ends of the large wick 36 and the thin wick 28 are immersed into liquid fuel. Thus, the wicks 36 and 28 are saturated with fuel, and the fuel is brought to the upper end of the wick 28 from the supply in the container 10 by capillary attraction.

When, after removal of the covering cap 49 the lighter is lit by a rotation of the friction wheel 32 cooperating with the flint 34, the lighter will burn for a long time with a good flame at the upper end of the wick 28. Fuel consumed in the wick 28 by the burning flame will be continuously replaced by capillary attraction of fresh fuel from the supply of fuel in the container 10. Thus, the lighter, once lit, may be conveniently used by many persons, one after

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the other. After use, the flame may be readily extinguished by placing the covering cap 49 back on the housing 22. As only little food is consumed when the lighter is used for lighting cigarettes or cigars, one filling of the lighter may last for many months.

I have described a preferred embodiment of my invention, but it is understood that this disclosure is for the purpose of illustration and that various omissions or changes in shape, proportion and arrangement of parts, as well as the substitution of equivalent elements for those, herein shown and described, may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

For example, the housing-casing assembly could be replaced by a single hollow unit, which, for example, may have a detachable screw cap at its lower end permitting the insertion of the wicks.

Moreover, the large wick composed of a plurality of thin wicks packed together in a wrapper of felt could be replaced by a wick of different construction.

Furthermore, the lower end of the thin wick must not necessarily project from the lower end of the large wick.

Moreover, the lighter mechanism for lighting the wick could be of different construction.

I claim:

1. A cigar and cigarette lighter comprising: a base container capable of receiving a supply of liquid fuel, a neck portion on said container having an aperture, a casing in said container, said casing being open at its upper end and having at least one bore at its lower end, the interior of said casing communicating with the interior of said container through said bore, the upper end of said casing being received by said aperture of the neck portion of said container, a flange on the upper end of said casing carried by the edge of said neck portion, a barrel-shaped housing inserted into the open end of said casing, said housing being open at its lower end extending into said casing and having a passage at its upper end projecting from said casing, a lighter mechanism carried by said housing, a fastening element engaged with said casing-housing assembly detachably mounted on said container for holding said assembly in position, a member comprising material capable of capillary attraction inserted into said housing and projecting from the lower end thereof into the interior of said casing, and a wick, said wick passing through the material of said member, the upper end of said wick being threaded through and projecting from said passage of the housing.

2. A cigar and cigarette lighter comprising: a base container capable of receiving a supply of liquid fuel, a neck portion on said container having an aperture, a casing in said container, said casing being open at its upper end and having at least one bore at its lower end, the interior of said casing communicating with the interior of said container through said bore, the upper end of said casing being received by said aperture of the neck portion of said container, a flange on the upper end of said casing carried by the edge of said neck portion, a barrel-shaped

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housing inserted into the open end of said casing, said housing being open at its lower end extending into said casing and having a passage at its upper end projecting from said casing, a lighter mechanism carried by said housing, a fastening element engaged with said casing-housing assembly detachably mounted on said container for holding said assembly in position, a member comprising material capable of capillary attraction inserted into said housing and projecting from the lower end thereof into the interior of said casing, and a wick, said wick passing through the material of said member, the upper end of said wick being threaded through and projecting from said passage of the housing, and the lower end of said wick projecting from the lower end of said member into the interior of said casing.

3. In a cigar and cigarette lighter as claimed in claim 1, said fastening element being in the shape of a cap having a bore engaged with said housing, a first gasket being placed between the flange of said casing and the upper edge of said neck portion of the container, and a second gasket being placed between said flange of the casing and said cap.

4. A tank for liquid fuel having an aperture on top, a hollow wick enclosure structure open on top supported by, and extending through said aperture to the interior of, said tank, and immersed in the liquid thereof, but having its lower end spaced from the tank bottom and having passages for intercommunication with the interior of said tank, a spark mechanism, a hollow spark mechanism carrier mounted in said structure and protruding upwardly therefrom, a wick disposed inside said carrier and said structure and having a portion extending adjacent said spark mechanism, and means for removably securing said structure and said carrier to said tank.

5. In a lighter as claimed in claim 4, said wick enclosure structure being closed at the bottom.

6. In a lighter as claimed in claim 4, said wick comprising a capillary action material, an envelope surrounding said material, said wick portion being longitudinal and enclosed by said material throughout its length and extending above and below the minimum level of said liquid.

7. In a lighter as claimed in claim 4, together with, said wick being composed of a plurality of wick strands to form a unitary body, said wick portion being constituted by one of said strands disposed within said body and extending upwardly thereof.

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