

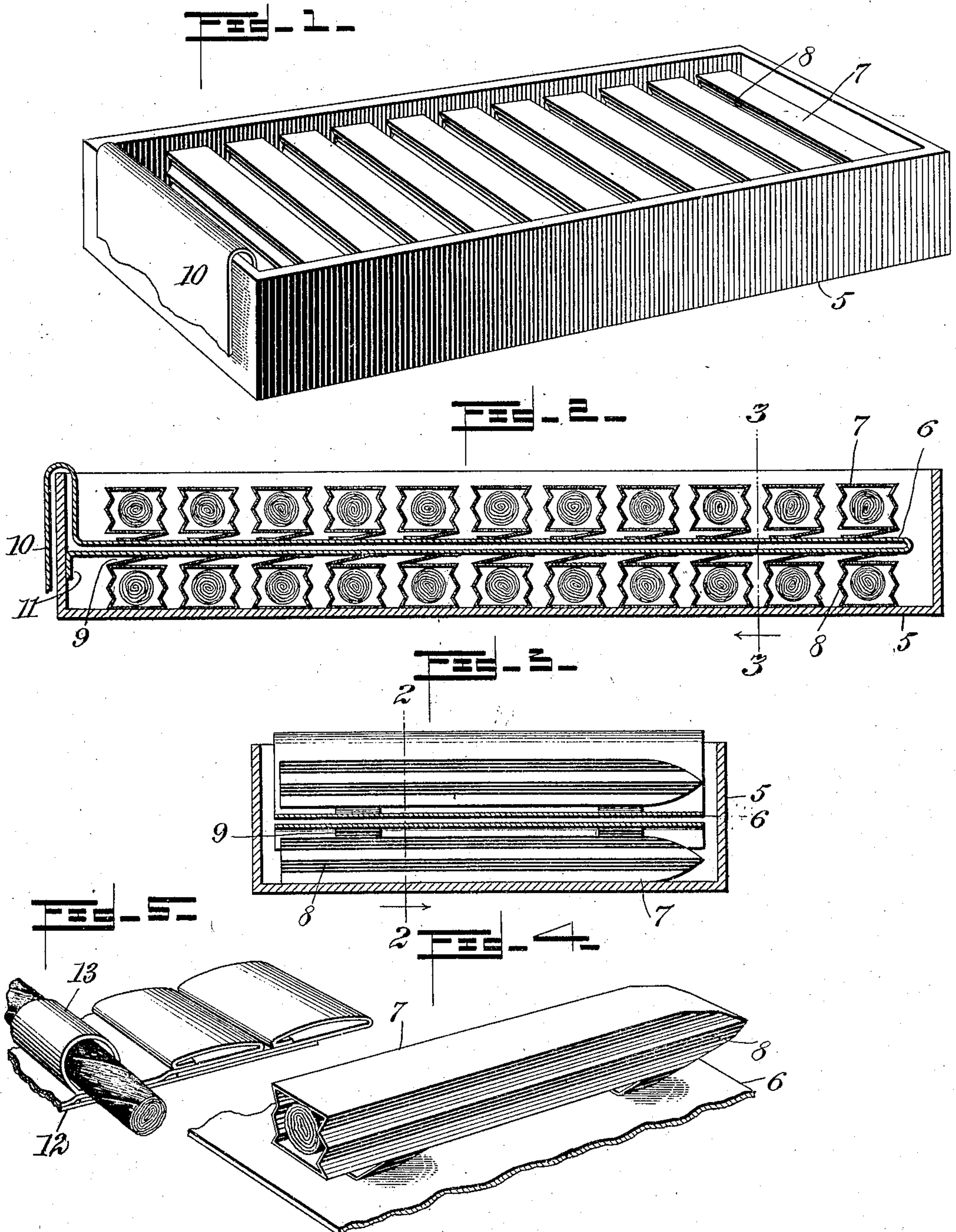
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PATENTED MAY 30, 1905.

T. B. ERWIN & H. C. MEYER.

CIGAR HOLDING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 21, 1904.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS B. ERWIN AND HENRY C. MEYER, OF BRITT, IOWA.

CIGAR-HOLDING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,257, dated May 30, 1905.

Application filed June 21, 1904. Serial No. 213,466.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, THOMAS B. ERWIN and HENRY C. MEYER, citizens of the United States, and residents of Britt, in the county of Hancock and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Cigar-Holding Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates particularly to improvements in devices for holding and delivering cigars or the like from vending-machines, the object being to provide a novel means for holding cigars whereby they may be readily ejected one at a time from a coin-controlled vending-machine—such, for instance, as shown in our application for coin-controlled vending-machines, filed under date of May 13, 1904, Serial No. 207,742.

We will describe a cigar-holding device embodying our invention, and then point out the novel features in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cigar-holding device embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a section thereof on the line 2 2 of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the cigar-holding cases, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing a modified form of cigar-holding belt or band.

Referring to the drawings, 5 designates a box designed as a receptacle for the cigars. This box may be of any desired size to hold any required number of cigars. Arranged in the box is a pliable band 6 of a suitable length and width and which affords support for a plurality of individual cigar-holding cases 7. The several cases 7 are of similar construction and each consists of a stiff paper box substantially rectangular in cross-section; but two opposite sides are rendered expansible by forming in each of said sides folds 8. By this arrangement the cases are adapted for holding cigars of various sizes as to diameter. The cases 7 are secured to the

strip or band 6 by means of links 9, of comparatively thin paper, so that they may be readily torn from the strip. The strip or band 6 is of a material strong enough to permit it to be pulled upon with considerable force without breaking or tearing it. The strip or band is of such length that it will fold in the box, as clearly indicated in Fig. 2, and it has one end, 10, extended over the end of the box, while the other end, 11, is secured to the front wall of the box. The folding of the band or strip is at the end of the box opposite the end upon which the band or strip is secured, and it will be seen that this arrangement of the strip or band provides for a series of the cases 7, one series of which will rest on the bottom of the box, while the other is upon the upper layer or the strip or band.

Instead of the wide band or strip and the long pockets above described we may in some instances employ a narrow band 12, with short pockets 13 thereon, which will engage the cigars at about the center. The pockets are made large enough to permit the easy insertion of the cigars, and when the cigars are packed in a box and placed under a press the pockets are caused to closely envelop the cigars. These pockets have the link connections similar to those first described.

In the operation the end 10 of the strip or band is to be connected to the operating mechanism of a coin-controlled vending-machine, such as mentioned above, and so arranged that upon the deposit of an appropriate coin and the operating of a handle or the like the end portion 10 will be pulled upon sufficiently for the removal of one of the cases 7 and the cigar, of course, with it.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A device for holding and delivering cigars from a vending-machine comprising a pliable strip of material, and a plurality of cigar-holding cases having separable link connections with said strip.

2. A device for holding and delivering cigars from vending-machines comprising a box,

a strip of pliable material having one end secured to an end wall of the box, the said strip being folded in the box and having its opposite end extended outward from the box, and
5 a plurality of cigar-holding cases having separable link connections with the strip.

In testimony whereof we have signed our

names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS B. ERWIN.
HENRY C. MEYER.

Witnesses:

W. L. BLISS,
E. B. O'HAIRE.