

H. E. ROBINSON.  
CIGARETTE FORMER.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1909.

960,110.

Patented May 31, 1910.

Fig. 1.

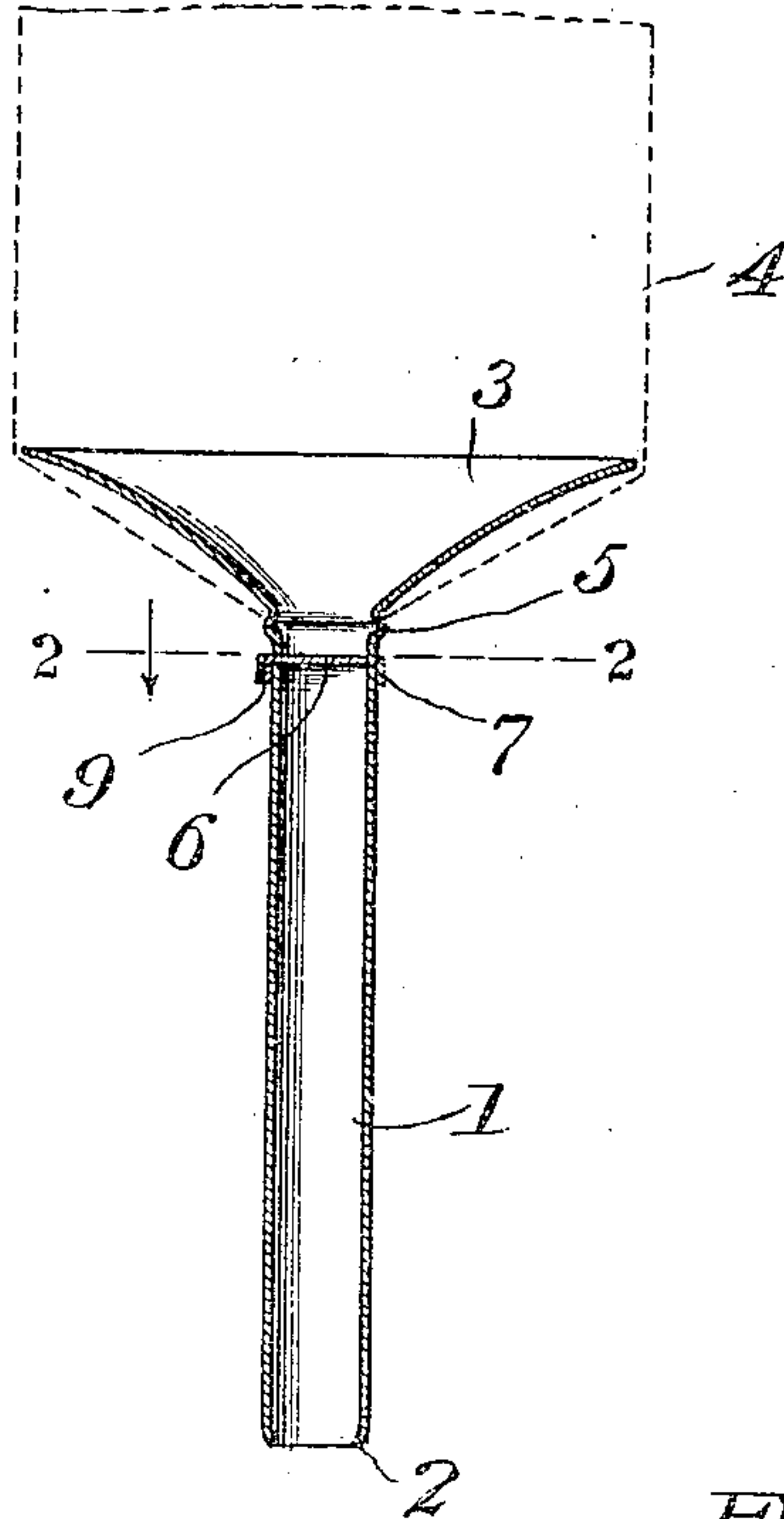


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

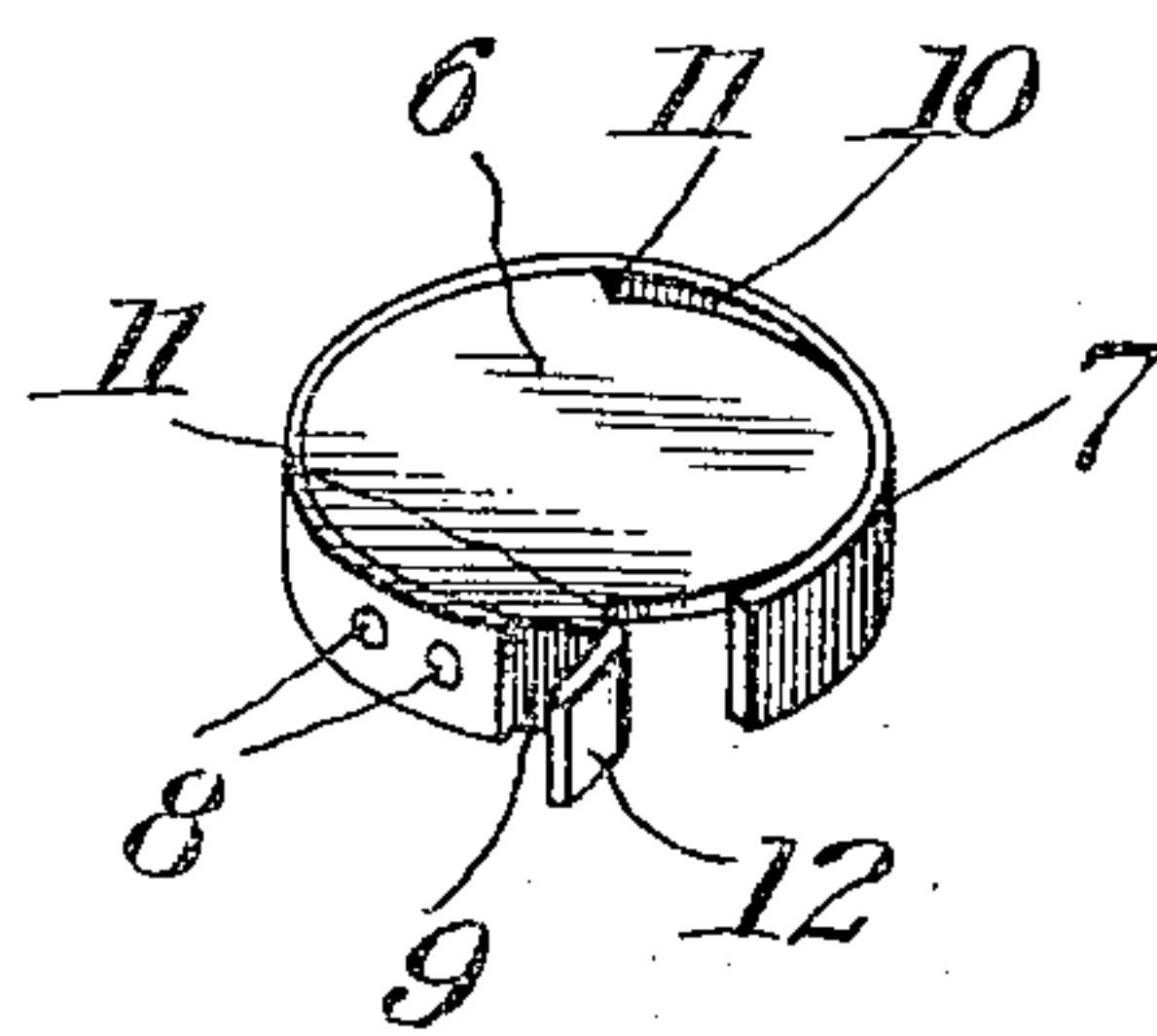
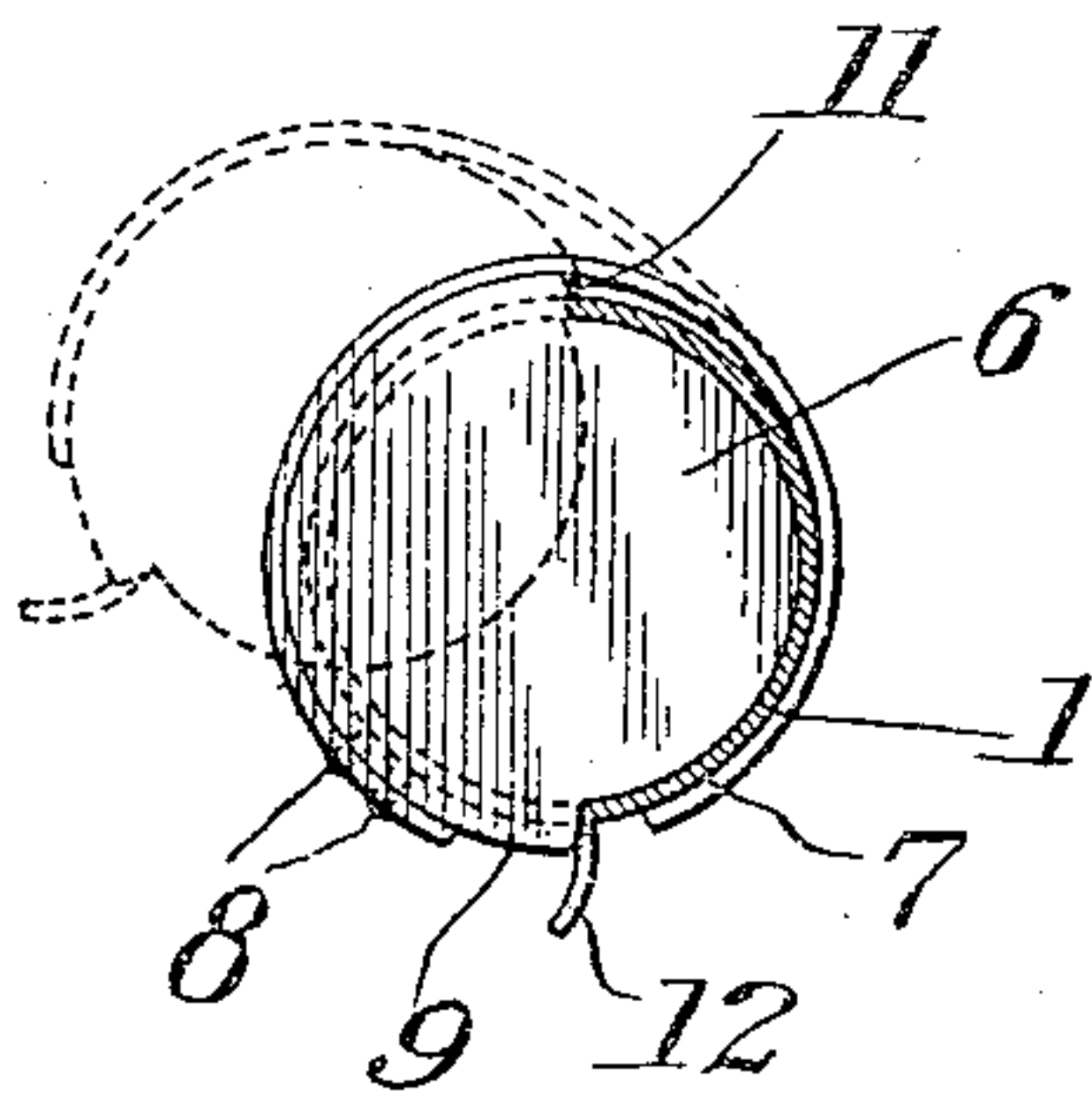
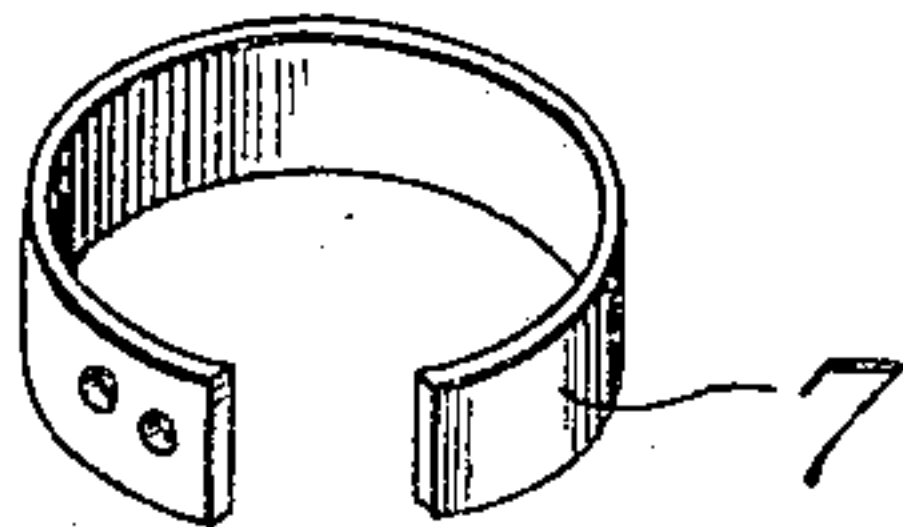


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY E. ROBINSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CIGARETTE-FORMER.

960,110.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 31, 1910.

Application filed March 10, 1909. Serial No. 482,424.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY E. ROBINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cigarette-Formers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cigarette formers, the object of the invention being to produce a simple and practical device of the class described adapted to be carried in the pocket and to be associated and connected with a bag or pouch of tobacco and remain connected with such bag or pouch until the entire contents thereof has been used in the formation of cigarettes.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple and practical device for cutting off the flow of tobacco through the former.

With the above general object in view, the nature of which will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as herein fully described, illustrated and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a vertical diametrical section through a cigarette former embodying the present invention, showing a tobacco bag or pouch in dotted lines associated with the former. Fig. 2 is a cross section on an enlarged scale taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of a spring closed cut off, showing the cut off and the spring. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the spring *per se*.

The cigarette former consists of a tube 1 which may be either perfectly cylindrical or made slightly tapering and in the preferred embodiment of the invention the discharge end of said tubular former is slightly contracted or constricted as shown at 2 which facilitates the removal of the paper from the former as the cigarette is being filled. At its receiving end the tubular former 1 is provided with an enlarged flaring funnel shaped mouth 3 which is adapted to be inserted in the mouth of a bag or pouch of tobacco indicated by dotted lines at 4 in Fig. 1, the former being wedged outwardly

as shown at 5 to form a bead or flange to facilitate securing the mouth of the bag around the mouth of the former, it being designed to leave the former and bag connected until the contents of the bag has been completely used. Adjacent to the junction of the tubular former 1 with the mouth 3, said tube is provided in one side with a slide adapted to receive a disk-shaped cut off 6 which is movable through such slide in a plane perpendicular to the length of the tube 1.

7 designates a spring, one end of which is connected as shown at 8 to the disk-shaped cut off 6, said cut off being provided for that purpose with a depending flange 9 to which the end of the spring is secured. A marginal edge of the cut off is also cut away as shown at 10 to conform to the inner curvature of the tube 1 and in order to provide limiting shoulders 11 which limit the inward movement of the cut off. The flange 9 is bent outward as shown at 12 to form a finger or thumb piece which will adapt the cut off to be moved outward through the slide in the pouch and against the tension of the spring 7 in order to permit the tobacco to gravitate down the tobacco former 1. Upon releasing the cut off the latter is automatically closed or carried to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2 by means of the spring 7 which embraces the tube 1 by extending part way around the outside thereof as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The cigarette paper is first wrapped around the tubular former 1 and the lower end thereof is pinched or closed in any convenient manner. The cut off 6 is then opened to allow the tobacco to pass down the tube 1. At the same time the paper is withdrawn from the tube 1 and just before effecting the complete withdrawal of the paper, the cut off 6 is allowed to close, thus preventing the outflow of any more tobacco. After removing the cigarette from the former, the former may be inverted and the tobacco may be allowed to run back into the bag or pouch 4 by again opening the cut off 6.

In the use of the cigarette former herein above described, a very considerable saving of tobacco is effected as compared with the



usual manner of forming cigarettes by rolling the tobacco in papers held by the fingers.

I claim:—

5 A cigarette former comprising a forming tube having a funnel-shaped receiving mouth and provided adjacent to the junction of the tube and mouth with a slot in the side of the tube, a spring closed cut off in the form of a disk movable through said slot in a plane

perpendicular to the length of the forming tube, and an operating thumb piece for said cut-off. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HARRY E. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

T. S. P. MILLER,

ESTELLE R. CARGEL.