

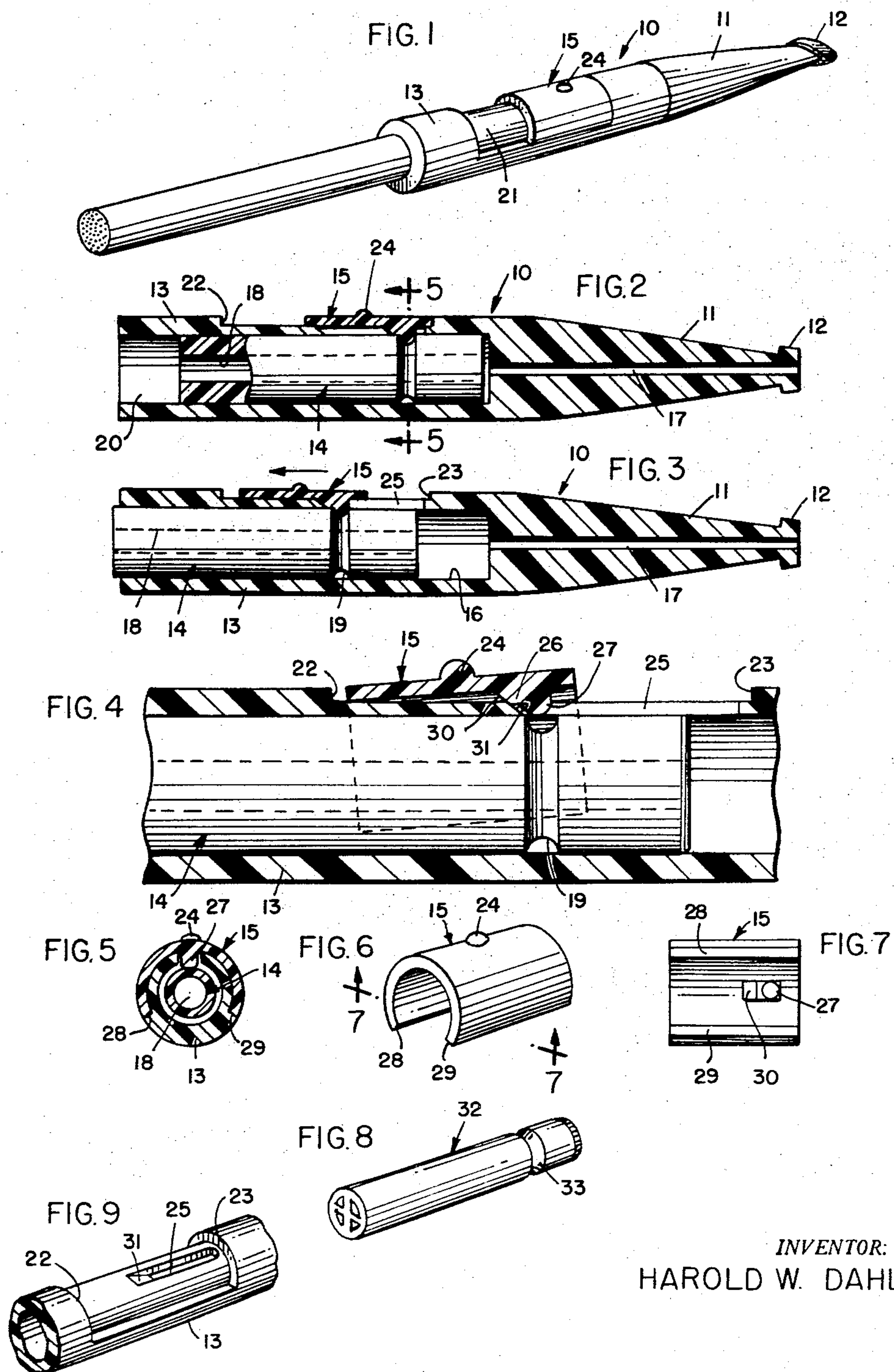
Sept. 20, 1960

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2,953,136

CIGARETTE HOLDER WITH EJECTOR

Filed July 23, 1958





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2,953,136

## CIGARETTE HOLDER WITH EJECTOR

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Filed July 23, 1958, Ser. No. 750,486

5 Claims. (Cl. 131—182)

This invention relates generally to a cigarette holder and more particularly to a cigarette holder having an ejector.

The cigarette holder of the present invention includes a body having a mouthpiece on one end and a barrel extending from the other end. A smoke hole extends longitudinally through the body, intercommunicating the mouthpiece with the barrel. An ejector is slidably received in the barrel and of such a length that when it is bottomed at the inner end, a cigarette supporting socket will be defined at the outer open end of the barrel. Mounted on the outer surface of the barrel is an ejector actuator which is interconnected with the ejector whereby movement of the ejector actuator along the barrel results in like movement of the ejector for purposes of ejecting a cigarette from the barrel. Means is also provided for disengaging the ejector from the ejector actuator so that the ejector may be removed from the barrel. The ejector may take the form of an elongated sleeve or a filter cartridge, depending upon the desires of the user.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide an improved cigarette holder having an ejector for ejecting cigarette butts from the holder.

Another object of this invention resides in the provision of an integrally formed cigarette holder having an ejector, wherein the ejector may be easily removed from the holder for purposes of periodically cleaning it and the holder.

Still another object of this invention is in the provision of a cigarette holder with an ejector, wherein the ejector may take the form of an elongated sleeve or a filter cartridge.

A further object of this invention is to provide a cigarette holder having an ejector slidably received in the barrel of the holder and movable upon actuation of an element mounted exteriorly of the barrel.

Other objects, features, and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed disclosure, taken in conjunction with the accompanying sheets of drawings, wherein like reference numerals refer to like parts, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the cigarette holder according to the invention showing the position of the parts when a cigarette is held by the holder;

Fig. 2 is an axial sectional view taken through the holder with some parts in elevation and other parts broken away for purposes of clarity and illustrating the position of the ejector and the actuator in smoking position;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but illustrating the positions of the ejector and actuator in ejecting position;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged sectional view of the actuator section illustrating the means for disengaging the actuator from the ejector to permit removal of the ejector from the barrel of the cigarette holder;

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view, taken along line 5—5 of Fig. 2;

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Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the actuator removed from the cigarette holder;

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the actuator, taken substantially along line 7—7 of Fig. 6 and looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a combination filter cartridge and ejector which may be used in place of the ejector shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4; and

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary perspective view of the holder, illustrating the slot in the barrel, wherein the actuator has been removed for clarification purposes.

Referring now to the drawings, the cigarette holder of the present invention is generally designated by the numeral 10 and includes generally a body 11 having a mouthpiece 12 at one end and a barrel 13 extending from the other end. An ejector, generally designated by the numeral 14, is slidably received in the barrel and controlled by an ejector actuator or slide, generally designated by the numeral 15.

The body 11 is generally cylindrical in shape and tapers toward the mouthpiece 12 and is preferably made integral with the barrel 13. Preferably, the entire cigarette holder may be molded from plastic or similar material although certain parts may be made of metal if desired. The barrel 13 is generally cylindrical in shape and the interior may be defined as having an ejector bore 16. A smoke hole 17 intercommunicates the mouthpiece 12 with the inner end of the ejector bore 16 of the barrel 13. The exterior configuration of the holder is shown as generally cylindrical, but may be square or have any other configuration. However, the ejector bore 16 must be cylindrical, for all practical purposes, since it must receive in its open end a cigarette, which is cylindrical.

The ejector 14 as shown in Figs. 2, 3, 4 and 5 is in the shape of a sleeve or hollow cylinder having an outer diameter somewhat less than the ejector bore 16 in order to freely slide therein, and is provided with a smoke hole 18 extending axially therethrough. The external surface of the ejector, adjacent the end which is remote from the outer end of the barrel 13, is provided with an indent or socket 19 in the form of an annular groove. The outer end of the ejector, when the ejector is in smoking position as seen in Fig. 2, defines with the outer end portion of the barrel 13 a cigarette supporting socket 20 which may receive one end of a cigarette. Upon movement of the ejector toward the open end of the barrel 13, any cigarette normally received in the socket 20 will be ejected from the cigarette holder.

The outer surface of the barrel 13 includes a recessed portion 21 which extends axially between points spaced inwardly from the opposite ends of the barrel, and approximately through a 240° arc.

The actuator 15 is in the form of an elongated hollow cylinder having a longitudinal section removed, wherein the cross section extends through approximately 240° and is therefore slidably received on the recessed portion 21 of the barrel. The wall thickness of the actuator 15 is substantially equal to the depth of the recessed portion 21 whereby the outer surface of the actuator is substantially coplanar with the outer surface of the barrel 13 thereby providing smooth lines for the cigarette holder. Further, the recessed portion defines forward and rear shoulders 22 and 23 respectively, which serve as stops for the actuator 15 thereby preventing the possibility of sliding the actuator completely off the barrel 13 of the holder. A raised portion or knob 24 extends outwardly from the outer surface of the actuator 15 to facilitate engagement thereof for movement purposes.

An ejector slot 25 is provided in the area of the recessed portion 21 of the barrel of the holder and extends axially thereof. Received in the slot is a de-



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pending portion 26 extending downwardly from the inner surface of the actuator 15 and terminating in a detent 27 which normally engages the indent 19 of the ejector 14. Thus, the indent 19 and the detent 27 mate to provide a coupling between the actuator and the ejector, whereby slidable movement of the actuator 15 along the barrel effects similar slidable movement of the ejector within the barrel. The actuator 15 has circumferential terminating edges 28 and 29, Figs. 5 and 6, which, as seen in Fig. 5, terminate below the axial center of the holder. The actuator is constructed so that it resiliently engages the outer surfaces of the barrel recessed portion 21 and thereby provides a slight frictional fit so that it will be retained in any position along the barrel within its limits of movement. It may also be noted that the length of the ejector actuator 15 is such that when it is in smoking position it completely covers the slot 25, sealing it at each end to prevent the passage of air therethrough when the holder is in use for smoking.

Since it is desirable to periodically clean the holder, the ejector 14 may be removed by disengaging the detent 27 from the indent 19. This is accomplished, after ejection of any cigarette, by further movement of the actuator 15 toward the open end of the barrel 13. In this regard, a cam face 30 is formed on the forward end of the depending portion 26 to mate with a cam face 31 formed at the forward end of the barrel slot 25. Thus, engagement of the cam faces 30 and 31 forces the detent 27 upwardly through the slot 25 and out of engagement with the indent 19 of the ejector 14, permitting it to be removed from the cigarette holder. This position is shown in Fig. 4 and it may be noted that, even in the raised position, lower edges 28 and 29 of the rear end of the actuator are still below the center of the barrel and therefore maintain good purchase on the barrel. Upon reinsertion of the ejector and rearward movement of the actuator 15, it will snap into normal position for use as seen in Fig. 3. Inasmuch as the actuator 15 resiliently engages the barrel, it may be merely removed therefrom by pulling it outwardly of the barrel whereby the edges 28 and 29 will spread so that they may pass the center of the barrel. Reassembly may be easily accomplished by merely pressing the actuator onto the barrel.

Since many users still desire to use filters, a filter cartridge 32, Fig. 8, may have a detent in the form of an annular groove 33 which may be substituted in place of the sleeve type ejector 14. In this case, the filter cartridge will double as an ejector and be controlled by operation of the actuator 15.

It will be understood that modifications and variations may be effected without departing from the scope of the novel concepts of the present invention, but it is understood that this application is to be limited only by the scope of the appended claims.

The invention is claimed as follows:

1. A cigarette holder comprising a body, a mouthpiece at one end of the body and a barrel extending from the other end thereof, said body having a smoke hole extending axially therethrough intercommunicating the mouthpiece and the barrel, an ejector slidably received in the barrel and defining a cigarette supporting socket at the outer free end, said barrel having a longitudinally extending slot, an ejector actuator slidably mounted on the outer surface of the barrel, said ejector actuator comprising a hollow cylinder having a longitudinal slot opening at both ends thereof and frictionally gripping the outer surface of the barrel, said ejector having an indent comprising an annular groove, a detent projecting from said ejector actuator and through said barrel slot into engagement with said indent whereby movement of the ejector actuator is transmitted to the ejector, and means for disengaging said detent and indent to permit removal of the ejector from the barrel, said disengaging means comprising a cam on said ejector actuator

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and a cam on said barrel at the end of the barrel slot adjacent the open end of the barrel.

2. A cigarette holder comprising a body, a mouthpiece at one end of the body and a barrel extending from the other end thereof, said body having a smoke hole extending axially therethrough intercommunicating the mouthpiece and the barrel, an ejector slidably received in the barrel and defining a cigarette supporting socket at the outer free end, said barrel having a longitudinally extending slot, an ejector actuator slidably mounted on the outer surface of the barrel, said ejector actuator having an arcuate form which extends approximately  $240^\circ$ , means on said barrel limiting longitudinal movement of said ejector actuator thereon, said ejector having an indent aligned with said slot, and a detent projecting from said ejector actuator and through said slot into engagement with the indent of the ejector, whereby actuation of the ejector actuator slides the ejector in the barrel for ejecting a cigarette therefrom.

3. A cigarette holder comprising a body, a mouthpiece at one end of the body and a barrel extending from the other end thereof, said body having a smoke hole extending axially therethrough intercommunicating the mouthpiece and the barrel, an ejector slidably received in the barrel and defining a cigarette supporting socket at the outer free end, said barrel having a longitudinally extending slot, an ejector actuator slidably mounted on the outer surface of the barrel, said ejector actuator having an arcuate form which extends approximately  $240^\circ$ , means on said barrel limiting longitudinal movement of said ejector actuator thereon, said ejector having an indent aligned with said slot, said indent comprising an annular groove, and a detent projecting from said ejector actuator and through said slot into engagement with the annular grooves of the ejector, whereby actuation of the ejector actuator slides the ejector in the barrel for ejecting a cigarette therefrom.

4. A cigarette holder comprising a body, a mouthpiece at one end of the body and a barrel extending from the other end thereof, said body having a smoke hole extending axially therethrough intercommunicating the mouthpiece and the barrel, an ejector slidably received in the barrel and defining a cigarette supporting socket at the outer free end, said barrel having a longitudinally extending slot in said barrel, an ejector actuator slidably mounted on the outer surface of the barrel, said ejector actuator having an arcuate form which extends approximately  $240^\circ$ , means on said barrel limiting longitudinal movement of said ejector actuator thereon, said ejector having an indent aligned with said slot, and a detent projecting from said ejector actuator and through said slot into engagement with the indent of the ejector, and means on said ejector actuator coacting with means on said barrel for disengaging the detent from the indent to permit removal of the ejector from the barrel, whereby actuation of the ejector actuator slides the ejector in the barrel for ejecting a cigarette therefrom.

5. A cigarette holder comprising a body, a mouthpiece at one end of the body and a barrel extending from the other end thereof, said body having a smoke hole extending axially therethrough intercommunicating the mouthpiece and the barrel, an ejector slidably received in the barrel and defining a cigarette supporting socket at the outer free end thereof, said barrel having a longitudinally extending slot and a recessed portion in the outer surface thereof, an ejector actuator slidably received in said recess and having an arcuate form extending approximately  $240^\circ$ , said recessed portion having a length greater than the length of the actuator, said ejector having an indent aligned with said slot, and a detent projecting from said ejector actuator and through said slot into engagement with the indent of the ejector, and means for disengaging the detent from the indent to permit removal of the ejector from the barrel,



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said latter means comprising coating camming surfaces on said barrel and ejector actuator, whereby actuation of the ejector actuator slides the ejector in the barrel for ejecting a cigarette therefrom.

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