A. DUNHILL.

APPARATUS FOR SEASONING AND FINISHING TOBACCO PIPES.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 23, 1919.

1,383,193. Patented June 28, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

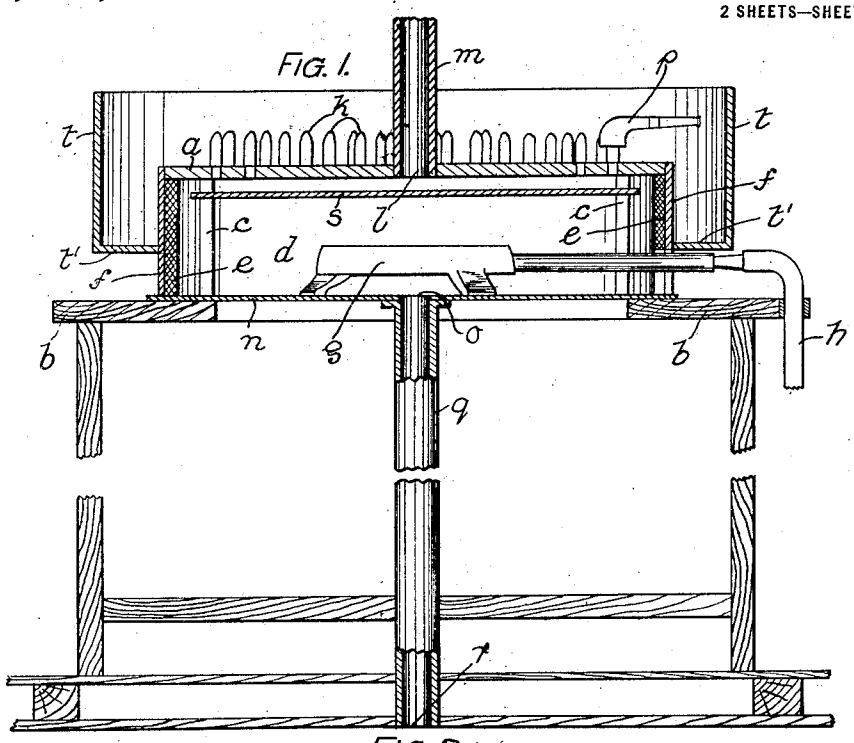
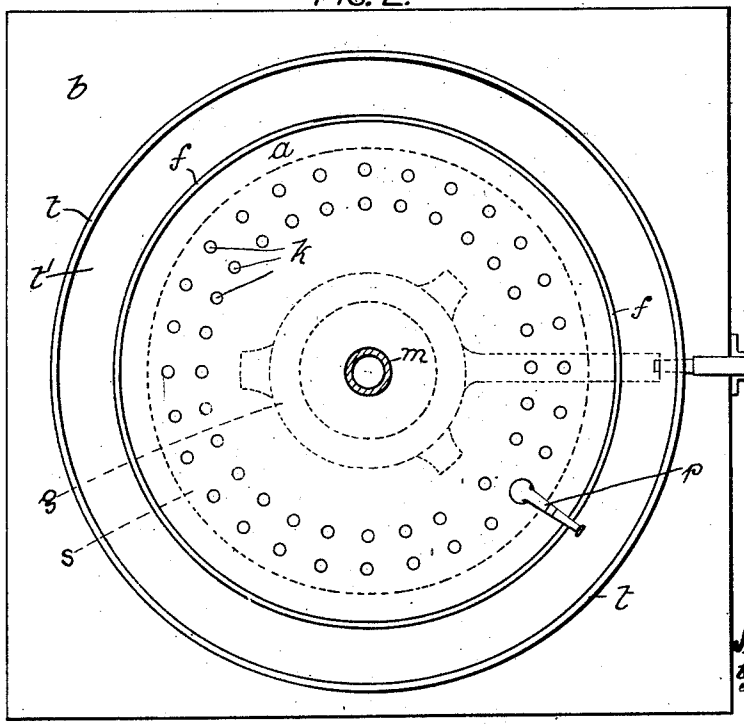


FIG. 2.



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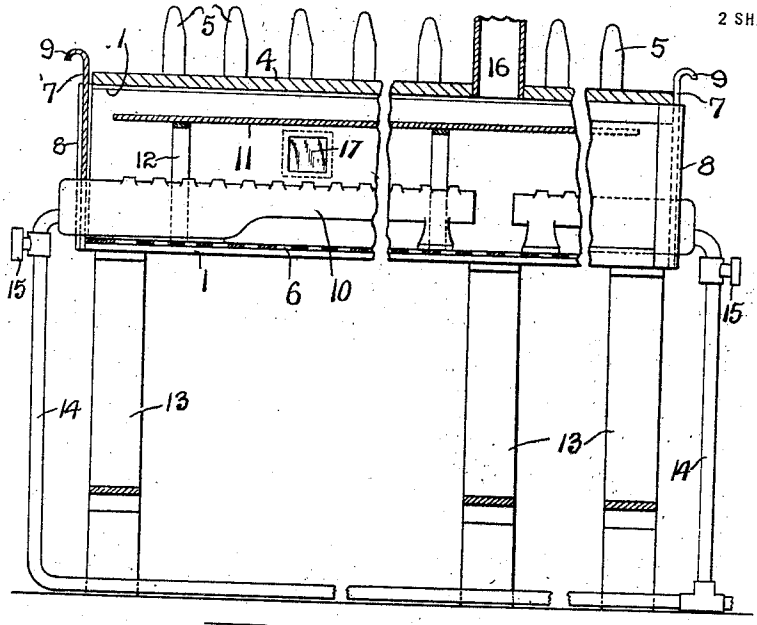

FIG. 3.

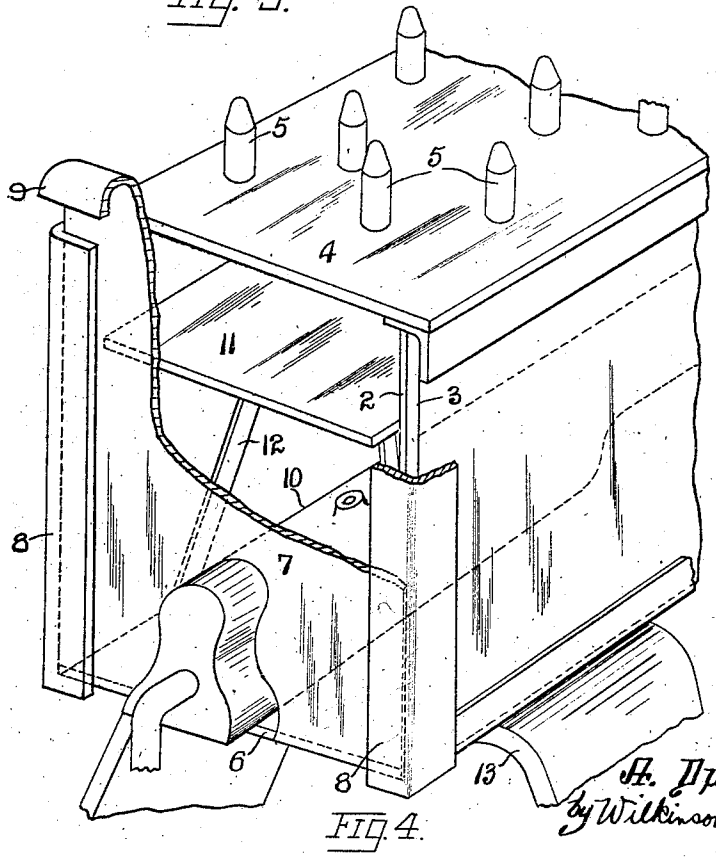

FIG. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED DUNHILL, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

APPARATUS FOR SEASONING AND FINISHING TOBACCO-PIPES.

1,383,193. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 28, 1921.**

Application filed October 23, 1919. Serial No. 332,821.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED DUNHILL, a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, residing at London, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Seasoning and Finishing Tobacco-Pipes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to apparatus for seasoning and finishing tobacco pipes made from briar and other wood.

In the manufacture of these articles it is often desirable to employ oils, but the employment of such oils is open to the objection that when the pipe is first used, the heat of the burning tobacco causes the oil to exude, imparting an unpleasant flavor to the smoke and destroying the appearance of the outer surface of the pipe.

My present invention relates to improved means for overcoming this drawback, and relates to a seasoning and heating apparatus which enables the pipes to be treated with oil and quickly prepared for use, without it being necessary to store them away for long periods, as has been usually the practice after treating pipes with oil, in order to prevent superfluous oil being exuded during the process of smoking.

In order that my said invention may be clearly understood, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of one form of the apparatus for seasoning the pipes.

Fig. 2 is a plan of the same.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal view of another form of the apparatus and,

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one end of the same apparatus, with the door broken away for the sake of clearness.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, *a* is a hot plate, supported upon the table or the like *b* by legs or other suitable standards *c*.

A space between the lower surface of the hot plate *a* and the table forms a cylindrical or other suitably shaped chamber *d*. The depending sides *e* of the chamber are formed of asbestos or other heat insulating material, and may, if found necessary be incased in an outer shell *f* of sheet metal.

Within the chamber *d* is placed a gas ring *g* connected to a supply pipe *h*.

The hot plate *a* is provided with any suitable number of holes or perforations, preferably arranged in two concentric rings at or near the periphery of the plate *a*. Within these holes are placed plugs *k* on which the bowls of the pipes *p* are supported.

The plate *a* is also provided with a central hole or aperture *l* to which is connected a pipe *m* for conveying away the products of combustion from the interior of the chamber.

The lower portion of the chamber *d*, which is preferably formed of sheet metal *n* is provided with a central hole *o*, connected to a pipe *q*, through which atmospheric air is admitted for supporting combustion within the chamber.

When the apparatus is erected in an upper work room, the pipe *q* may be connected to an opening in the ceiling of the work room beneath, as shown diagrammatically at *r*, so that the apparatus also serves for ventilating the room or workshop of the floor below.

In order to obtain a uniform distribution of the heated gases over the under surface of the hot plate *a*, a baffle plate *s* is provided. This plate is preferably of the same shape as the chamber *d* and of such size as to leave an annular space between its periphery and the walls *e* of the chamber.

The baffle plate is conveniently supported in position at a suitable distance from the hot plate *a* by the legs or standards *c*.

The chamber *d* is surrounded by a band or upwardly projecting shield *t* formed of asbestos, sheet metal or other suitable material. This shield is located at a short distance from the outer edge of the hot plate *a* and extends a little higher than the tops of the plugs *k*, so as to protect the pipes placed thereon from cold drafts of air.

This screen is continued downward as shown and is connected to the walls *e* by the member t^1.

In utilizing the apparatus, each pipe to be treated is placed upon a plug *k*. The heat is communicated to the bowls of the pipes, the wood having previously been soaked in oil in the ordinary manner. At suitable intervals of time, the exuding oil is wiped off from the surface of the wood, so that accumulation and caking of the oil is avoided and after this process has been continued for a sufficient time the pipe is removed.

I find in practice that the apparatus just described gives admirable results in working, as all the bowls of the pipes are treated uniformly, a result which is due not only to

the perfect distribution of the heated gases over the lower surface of the hot plate, but also to the fact that no cold drafts of air for supplying the gas stove are set up in the neighborhood of the apparatus.

Referring to the form of the apparatus shown in Figs. 3 and 4, 1 is a metal framework provided with longitudinal side walls 2 preferably of iron plate, covered by sheets 3 of asbestos or other heat insulating material. The top of the chamber is closed by a metal plate 4 constituting the hot plate having a plurality of plugs 5, on which the pipes are placed. The bottom of the chamber consists of a perforated metal plate 6. One or each of the ends of the chamber preferably consists of slidable doors 7 suitably supported in guides 8, the upper edge of the door being conveniently curved or arched at 9 to facilitate handling.

The heat generator consists of two burners 10 resting on the perforated bottom 6 and inserted in the chamber from both ends, the end doors 7 being suitably slotted or formed with suitably shaped apertures, so as to fit snugly over the burners.

The interior of the chamber is provided with a baffle plate or deflector 11 supported by brackets or the like 12. The chamber is supported on suitable legs 13. 14 is the supply pipe leading to the burners 10 and controlled by cocks or taps 15, and 16 is a chimney, preferably located at the center 8 of the hot plate 4.

With this arrangement, the seasoning and finishing of the pipes can be conducted in a highly satisfactory manner.

The perforated metal 6 forming the bottom of the chamber prevents the heat escaping and finding its way up the sides of the apparatus to the vulcanite mouth pieces of the pipes on the plugs or nozzles which would cause damage to such mouth pieces. It also enables an adequate supply of air to pass into the chamber for supporting combustion.

The arrangement of the deflector or baffle plate in this case also causes the heat to be uniformly distributed over the hot plates during the process of treatment thus insuring that all the pipes shall be equally treated.

The asbestos covering to the walls of the chamber also serves to maintain the proper temperature on the interior and to economize heat.

One or more inspection windows 17 may be provided for enabling the burners and the interior of the chamber to be inspected without opening the door or doors 7. Each window may be of mica or other suitable material of appropriate dimensions.

It will be understood that the plugs on the hot plate may be arranged in any suitable manner.

A convenient arrangement in the case of the long rectangular form of the apparatus is the one shown in Fig. 4, in which four rows of nozzles are provided parallel to the side walls of the apparatus. The nozzles in the adjacent rows may be staggered as shown in order that the stems of the pipes on the inner rows can be conveniently passed between the nozzles in the outer rows or where the nozzles are not staggered the pipes may be placed in an inclined position in the inner rows for the same purpose. In fact any convenient arrangement of nozzles may be adopted.

It will be understood that various constructional modifications may be introduced without departing from the principle of my invention.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States of America is:—

1. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising in combination, an inclosed chamber, a heating unit located in said chamber, a hot plate constituting the top of said chamber, a series of plugs fixed to and extending upwardly from the top of said hot plate, and means within said chamber and between said heating unit and said hot plate for causing the heat to be uniformly distributed over the under surface of the said plate, for the purposes set forth.

2. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising in combination, an inclosed chamber at least one heating unit located within said chamber, a hot plate constituting the top of said chamber, a series of plugs fixed to and extending upwardly from the top of said hot plate and shaped to receive the bowl of a tobacco pipe, means within said chamber and between said heating unit and said hot plate for causing the heat to be uniformly distributed over the under surface of said plate, and means for admitting air to the bottom of said chamber for the purposes set forth.

3. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising in combination, an inclosed chamber, a heating unit located within said chamber, a hot plate fixed to the top of said chamber, a plurality of plugs fixed to and extending upwardly from the top of said hot plate, and a baffle plate supported within said chamber between said heating unit and the hot plate, said baffle plate extending to within a short distance of the walls of said chamber, and arranged so as to cause uniform distribution of heat over the surface of said hot plate, for the purposes set forth.

4. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising in combination an inclosed chamber, an asbestos covering on the walls of said chamber, a hot plate constituting the top of said chamber,

a series of plugs fixed to and extending upwardly from the top of the said hot plate, means within said chamber for causing the heat to be uniformly distributed over the under surface of said plate, and means for admitting air to the bottom of said chamber for the purposes set forth.

5. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising in combination, an inclosed chamber, a perforated bottom to said chamber, a hot plate constituting the top of said chamber, a plurality of plugs fixed to and extending upwardly from the top of said chamber, a heating unit within said chamber, and baffling means between said heating unit and said hot plate for causing the heat to be uniformly distributed over the under surface of said hot plate, for the purposes set forth.

6. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising in combination, an inclosed rectangular chamber, a perforated bottom to said chamber, a hot plate fixed to the top of said chamber, a plurality of plugs fixed to and extending upwardly from the top of said hot plate, a baffle plate supported within said chamber between said heating unit and said hot plate, a door at one end of said chamber, and an inspection window closed by a covering of transparent material in said chamber, for the purposes set forth.

7. Apparatus for seasoning, finishing or treating tobacco pipes, comprising an inclosed chamber consisting of a metallic frame covered with sheet metal, an asbestos covering to the walls of the said chamber, a perforated bottom to said chamber, a heating unit within said chamber, a hot plate fixed to the top of said chamber, means in the top of said hot plate for supporting a plurality of tobacco pipes, baffling means between said heating unit and said hot plate to cause a uniform distribution of the heat over the under surface of said hot plate, and an inspection door in said chamber for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

ALFRED DUNHILL.