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United States Patent [19]
Counts et al.

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[54] **FLAVOR-DELIVERY ARTICLE**

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[51] **Int. Cl.⁵** **A24D 1/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **131/194; 131/335; 128/200.14; 128/202.21; 128/203.26; 128/203.27; 128/204.13**

[58] **Field of Search** **131/270, 194, 195, 329, 131/330, 335; 128/200.14, 202.21, 203.26, 203.27, 204.13**

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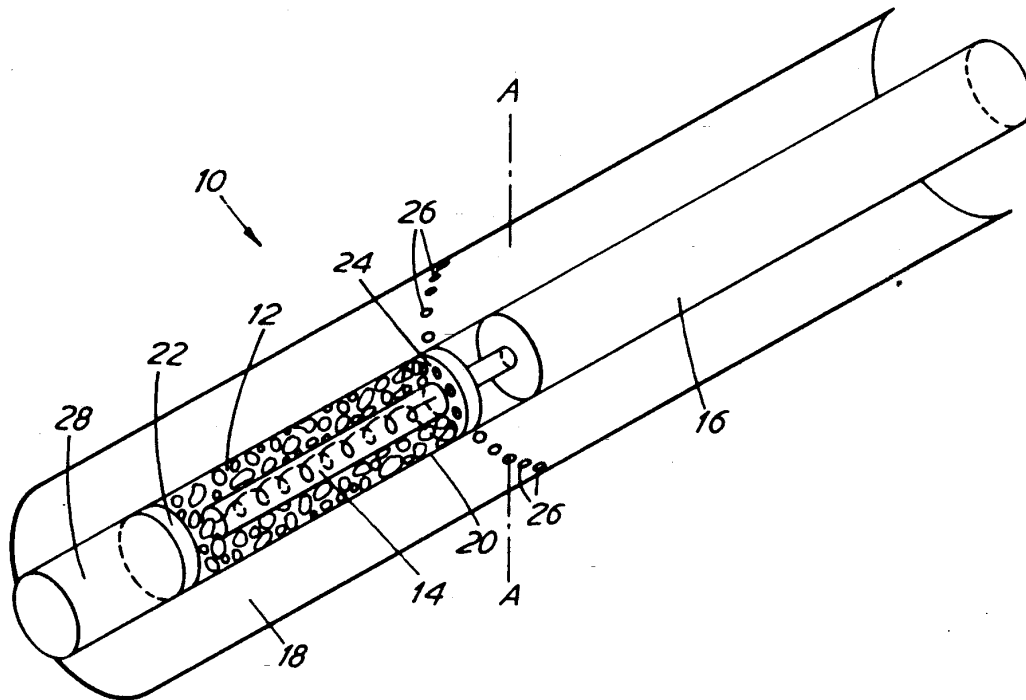
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Primary Examiner—V. Millin
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jeffrey H. Ingerman

[57] **ABSTRACT**

Methods and apparatus for releasing flavor components from a flavor-generating medium using an electric heating element are provided. A non-combustion flavor-generating article uses electrical energy to power a heating element which heats tobacco or other flavorants. The flavor-generating medium is formed into a packed bed. Energy delivered to the heating element is regulated to maintain the flavor-generating medium at a relatively constant operating temperature to ensure a relatively constant release of flavor.

146 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



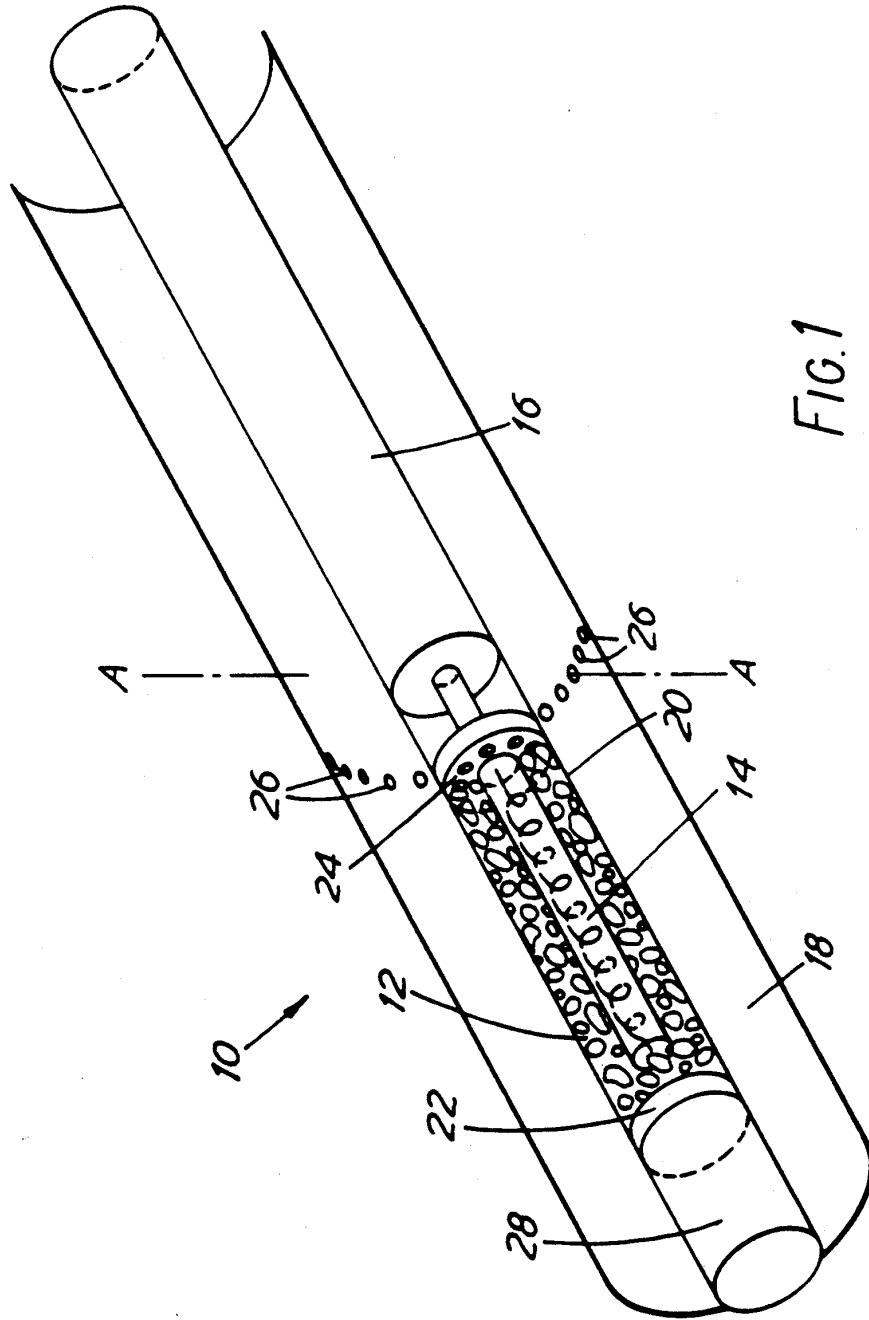


FIG. 1

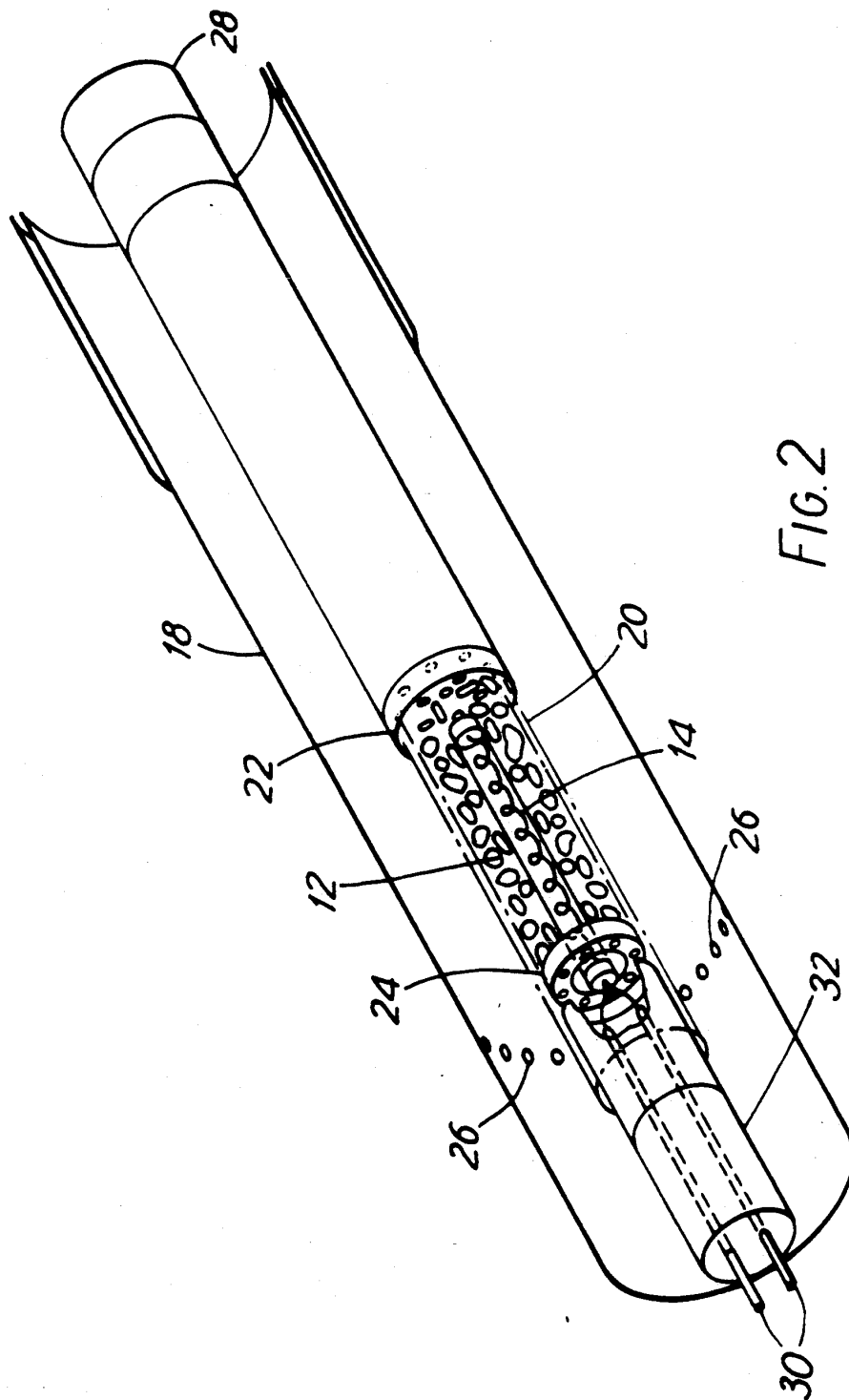


FIG. 2

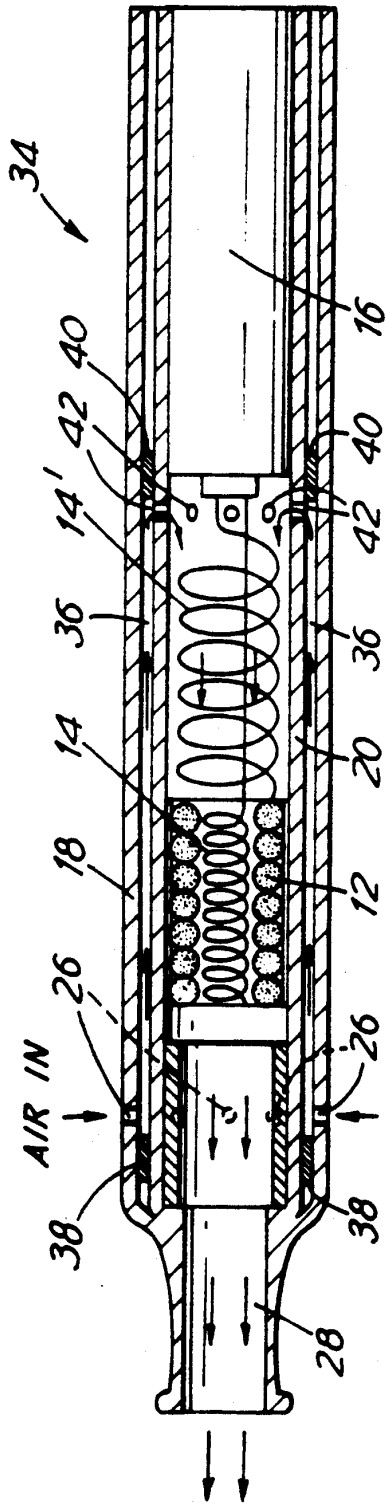


FIG. 3

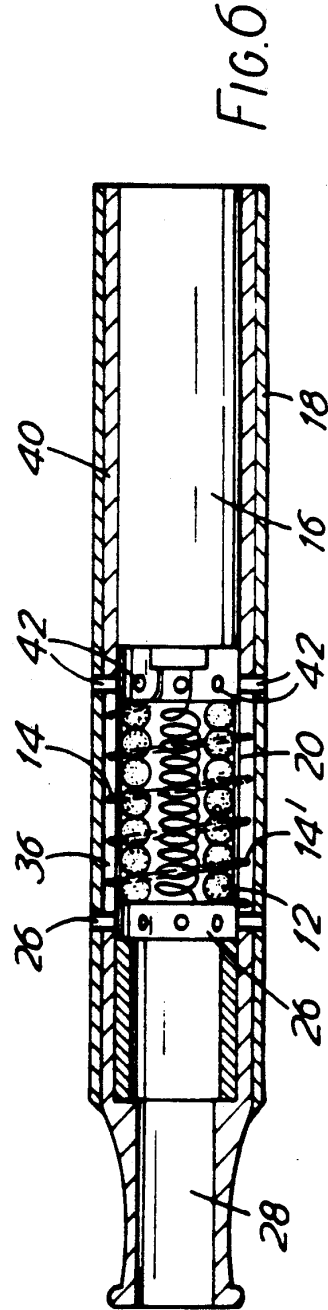
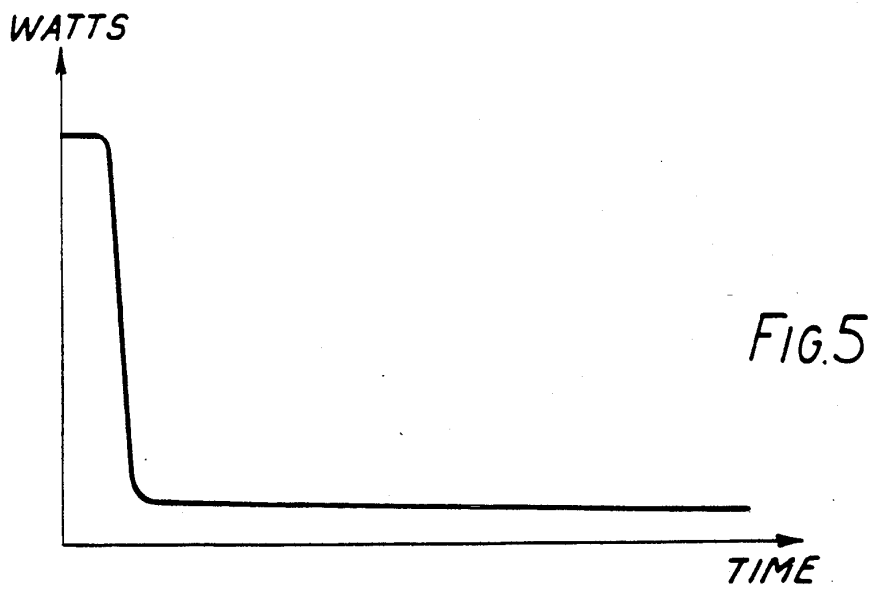
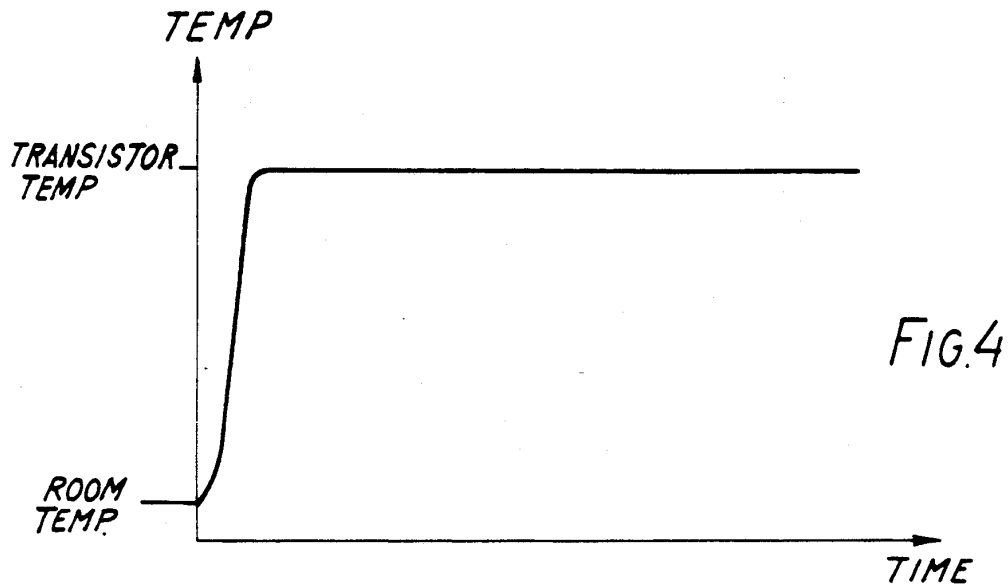


FIG. 6



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