Dec. 16, 1952 R. F. REIFERS 2,621,782

CONTAINER

Filed Sept. 27, 1949

Fig. 1.

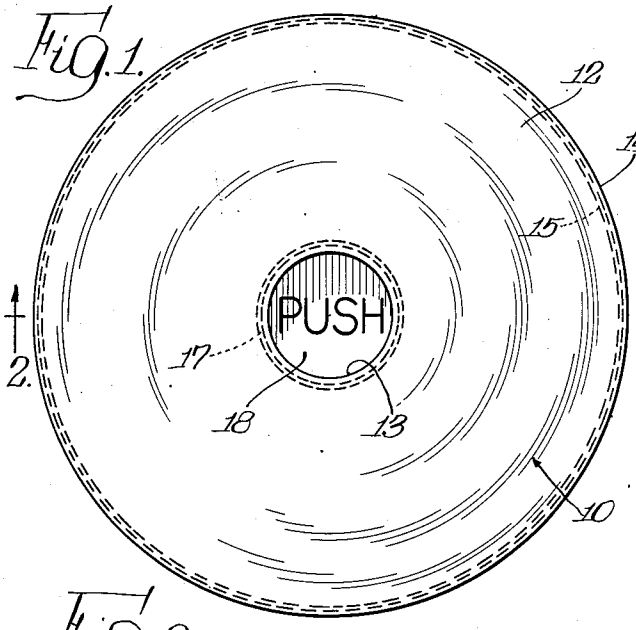


Fig. 2.

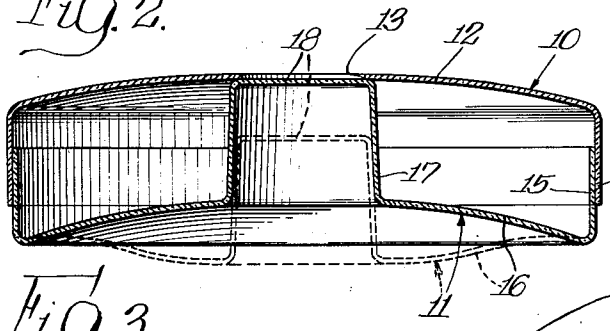


Fig. 3.

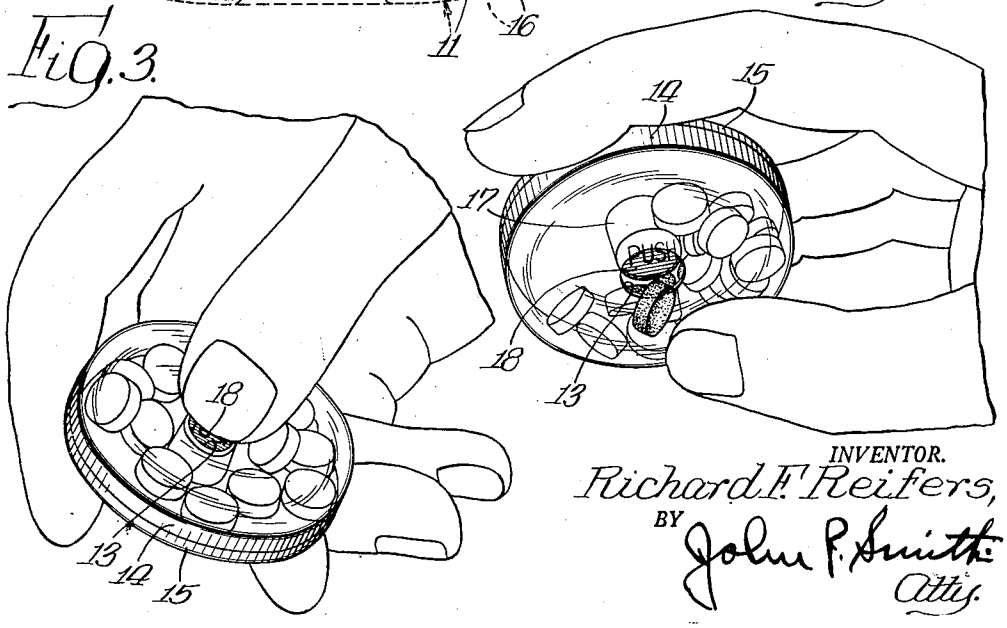


Fig. 5.

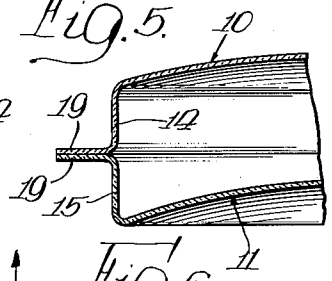


Fig. 6.

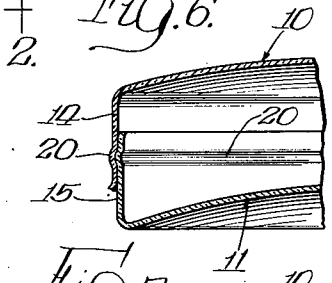


Fig. 7.

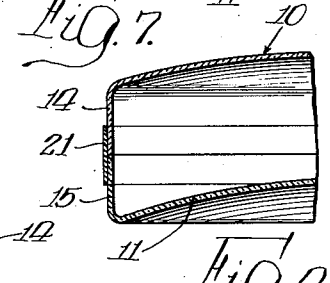


Fig. 4.

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CONTAINER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 206—42)

1

The present invention relates generally to a novel and improved mechandise display or cosmetic powder container which can be readily opened or closed by a mere flexing of a portion of the container.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a novel and improved container for a wide variety of articles, such as, pills, capsules and the like, in which the container will display the articles therein and can at the same time be readily opened to dispense the material therefrom or readily closed by flexing one portion of the container.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved article container made of any flexible material but preferably made of transparent material such as plastic in which the container consists of top and bottom members suitably secured together. One of these members being provided with an aperture through which the articles or material contained therein may be dispensed therefrom and the other member being provided with a closure portion for closing the aperture in the first member of the container.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a novel simple and ornamental container which can readily serve as a cosmetic accessories for containing and dispensing powders and the like, therefrom.

These and other objects are accomplished by providing construction arrangement of the various parts in the manner hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an enlarged top plan view of my improved container;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on the lines 2—2 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an illustrative perspective view of reduced size showing the manner in which the container is held in one hand and the closure member is depressed by the thumb in order to uncover the opening in the container;

Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the manner in which the container is inverted so that the articles contained therein may be dispensed therefrom;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary view shown in cross-sectional and illustrating a modified form of securing the top and bottom members of the container together;

Fig. 6 is a similar fragmentary cross-sectional view showing another modified construction for

2

securing the top and bottom members of the container together; and

Fig. 7 is a similar fragmentary cross-sectional view showing a third modification or means for securing the top and bottom members of the container together.

The preferred embodiment of my invention includes a top container member and a bottom container member, generally indicated by the reference numerals 10 and 11 respectively. Both of these members are preferably made of transparent plastic or similar material. The top member includes an outwardly convexed circular or disk-like portion 12 having in the axial center thereof an aperture or opening 13 through which the material or articles may be dispensed from the container. Formed on the periphery of the disc-like portion 12 of the top 10 is a cylindrical or angular flange 14 which is adapted to telescopically engage a similar flange 15 formed on the periphery of an inwardly concaved disk-like portion 16 of the bottom 11. Formed integrally with the concaved flexible bottom 16 is an inwardly extending cylindrical portion 17 which is located in the axial center of the disk 16 of the bottom 11. Formed integrally with the inner end of the cylindrical portion 17 is a horizontal or flat circular closure portion 18 which is adapted to normally cover or close the aperture in the top member in the manner hereinafter described. The telescoping flanges 14 and 15 of the respective top 10 and bottom 11 members may frictionally engage one another or may be secured together by any other suitable means if desired.

The top and bottom members 10 and 11 are preferably made of suitable transparent material so that the articles contained therein may be viewed from the outside to afford suitable display for the merchandise and the like contained therein or either one or both of these parts of the container may be readily made of metal having sufficient flexibility to permit the flexing of the bottom thereof to uncover the opening in the top for dispensing the material from the container. In this connection, it will be obvious that the top 10 or the bottom 11 may be made of transparent plastic or other materials while the bottom could readily be made of flexible metal or other suitable materials.

In the operation of uncovering the aperture of the container to permit the materials to be dispensed therefrom, it will be noted that by merely pressing the thumb against the closure member 18 as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings the disk-like

portion 16 of the bottom 11 is depressed or snapped from the full line position shown in Fig. 2 to the broken line position shown in this figure to uncover the opening 13 in the top portion 10 and by inverting the container as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings, the articles contained therein may be readily dispensed through the opening 13 located in the center of the disk-like portion 12 of the top 10. When it is desired to close the container, the disk-like portion 16 of the bottom 11 is pressed inwardly and the closure member 18 snaps into position to close the opening 13 as shown by the full line position in Fig. 2.

In the modified form shown in Fig. 5, the peripherial flanges 14 and 15 of the respective top and bottom members 10 and 11 are provided with horizontally extending aligned parallel flanges 19 which may be heat sealed or cemented.

In the modified form shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings, the peripheral flanges 14 and 15 of the respective top and bottom 10 and 11 are provided with peripherally arranged interlocking complementary recesses and beads as shown in 20, for securing the top and bottom portions together.

In the modified form shown in Fig. 7, the peripheral flanges 14 and 15 of the respective top 10 and bottom 11 are positioned in alignment and an adhesive tape or paper strip 21 is secured to the adjacent portions of the flanges for securing the top and bottom members together.

Summarizing the advantages and functions of operation of my improved container, it will readily be seen that by merely holding the container in one hand in the manner illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings and by depressing the thumb on the closure member 18 of the bottom 11 inwardly to the position shown in broken lines in Fig. 2, the bottom and the closure member will be flexed or snapped outwardly to uncover the aperture 13 in the cover 10. Then by inverting the container to the position shown in Fig. 4, the articles such as pills, powder or other similar material or merchandise may be dispensed therefrom and the container immediately closed by pressing the bottom thereof and snapping the closure member to its closed position or the position shown in full lines in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

From the above description it will be readily seen that I have provided a very simple, compact container which can be easily and readily opened or closed with a slight pressure by flexing the bottom with respect to the top and at the same time when flexed to the closed position, will positively seal and prevent the accidental discharge of the articles or materials contained therein.

While in the above specification I have illustrated and described my improved container as being preferably in circular form, it could obviously be made in any non-circular form such as polylateral, oblong or even star-shape if so desired.

In the above specification I have described one preferred embodiment and several slight modifications which my invention may assume in practice. It will, of course, be understood that the same is capable of other modifications without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claim.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A container comprising a circular top and bottom member, said bottom member being made of flexible material, annular flanges formed in the peripheries of said members telescopically connecting said members together, there being an opening in the axial center of said top member, an integral inwardly projecting cylindrical plug-like closure member having a flat end face located in the axial center of said bottom member in alignment with said opening, said plug-like member being of a diameter slightly larger than said opening, said flat end face contacting said upper member about the periphery of said opening to close said opening when said bottom is flexed to a normally inward concave position, said bottom member being depressible to an outwardly convex position by manually depressing said plug-like member to uncover said opening.

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