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TUBE HOLDING AND DISPENSING DEVICE

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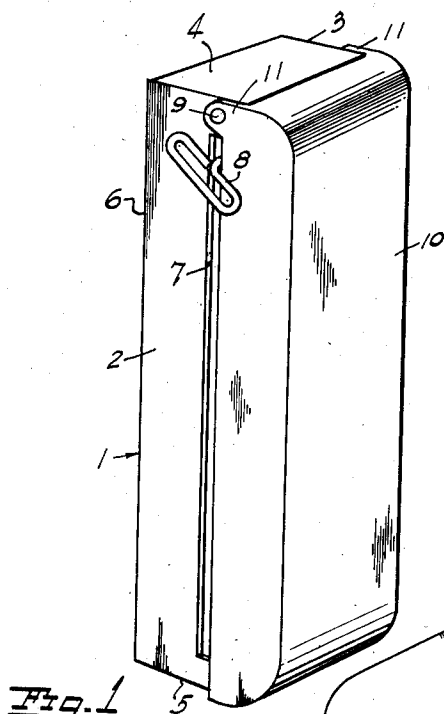


Fig. 1

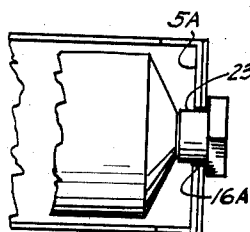


Fig. 5

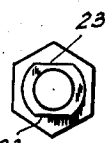


Fig. 6

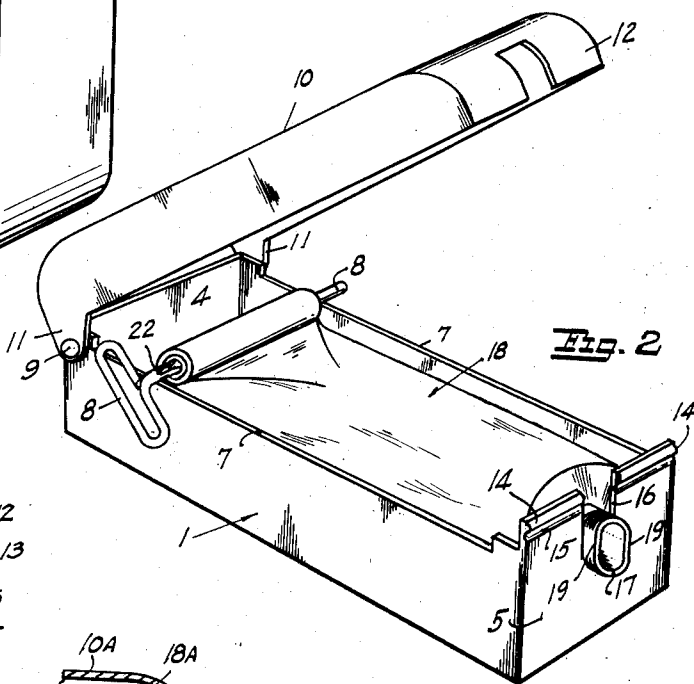


Fig. 2

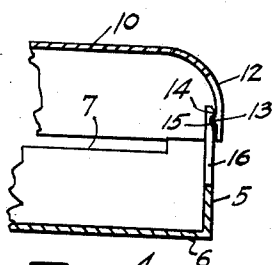


Fig. 4

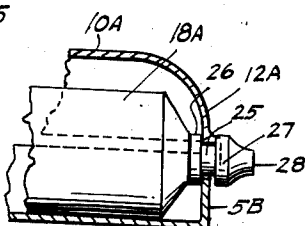


Fig. 7

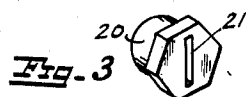


Fig. 3

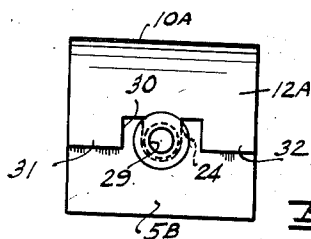


Fig. 8

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TUBE HOLDING AND DISPENSING DEVICE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 222-100)

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This invention relates to improvements in a holder and dispensing device for collapsible tubes designed to contain pasty materials such as dental creams, soap or the like.

It is one of the principal objects of the invention to provide a device of this character which is especially designed for use with a collapsible tube having either a neck portion or a closure cap made in accordance with my invention.

A further object is the provision of a holder adapted for attachment to a support in a depending or vertical position and one within which the collapsible tube is securely held against displacement with respect to the holder while being collapsed by means of a winding key.

A still further object is to provide a holder having a lid with means formed therein for cooperating with means formed in the holder for locking the tube therein, as aforesaid, and for locking the lid in a closed position, and at the same time providing space around the closure cap of the tube for access thereto.

These and other objects will appear as my invention is more fully hereinafter described in the following specification, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and finally pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tube holder and dispenser made in accordance with my invention and shown in closed form.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the invention shown in open form.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a closure cap adapted for attachment to the form of tube shown in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional detail view of a cover fastening means.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional detail plan view of a modified form of the invention.

Figure 6 is a plan view of a modified form of closure cap.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary sectional side elevation of a further modified form of invention.

Figure 8 is a front elevation of Figure 7.

The invention comprises a housing of box-like formation generally indicated at 1, and formed with side walls 2 and 3, end walls 4 and 5 and a back wall 6. Each side wall is cut away substantially throughout its length to form one side of slots 7 through which a key 8 is rotatably and movably mounted. One end of the housing 1 is provided with hinge pins 9 to which and about which is hingedly attached a cover 10 by means of projections 11 formed at one end there-

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of. The opposite end wall 12 of the lid 10 is slotted as shown and on each side of the slot on the inside of the wall is formed a transverse rib 13 adapted for engagement beneath a rib 14 formed at the upper end of the end wall 5 and with a groove 15 formed below said rib, for locking the cover in a closed position with respect to the box.

The end wall 5 of the box is formed with a vertical slot 16 of sufficient width to embrace the threaded neck 17 of a collapsible tube 18 disposed within the box. Both sides of the threaded neck are flattened as at 19 for firm engagement with the sides of the vertical slot 16 to prevent rotation of the tube within the box. The cap 20 shown in Figure 3 is advanced on the threads of the neck 17 for permanent engagement therewith and is formed with an elongated slot 21 which is preferably arranged at right angles to the bottom or back wall 6 of the housing 1 for dispensing the contents of the tube.

The key 8 is formed with an elongated slot 22 for engagement with the conventional flattened and reinforced end of the tube 18 so that rotation of the key within the slots 7 will collapse the tube by rolling it about the key against the resistance of the threaded cap 20 which, as aforesaid, is secured to the threaded neck of the tube and bears against the end wall 5 of the box.

In the modified form of the invention illustrated in Figure 5 the threaded neck of the tube is of conventional cylindrical form but the cap applied thereto is flattened on opposite sides as at 23 for engagement with the side walls of the slot 16A in the end wall 5A. Thus it will be seen that only a tube provided with a flattened threaded neck as shown in Figure 2 or with a cap flattened on its sides is adaptable for use with the invention.

With reference to the further modification shown in Figures 7 and 8 the front wall 5B of the housing is slotted as at 24 to receive the cylindrical portion 25 of a modified form of cap comprising two flanges 26 and 27 formed integral with the cylindrical portion 25 and spaced apart a sufficient distance to embrace the front wall 5B around the edges of the slot 24. The flange portion 26 is internally threaded for engagement with the externally threaded end of the tube 18A. The outer face of the flange 27 is tapered as shown and its outermost end 28 may be slotted as in the other form of the invention or formed with a cylindrical opening 29.

The end wall 12A of the cover 10A is slotted

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as at 30 to form two downwardly extending flanges 31 and 32 spaced apart sufficiently to provide space for manipulating the closure cap shown in Figure 7 in applying it to or removing it from the end of the tube. These flanges are also provided with horizontal ribs for engagement with horizontal ribs formed in the end wall 5B as illustrated in Figures 2 and 4 for maintaining the lid in closed position.

While I have shown particular forms of embodiment of my invention, I am aware that many minor changes therein will readily suggest themselves to others skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

A device for holding collapsible tubes and dispensing the contents thereof, comprising in combination, an elongated box-like housing having bottom, side and end walls, a box-like cover having bottom, side and end walls and hingedly attached at one of its end walls to a corresponding end wall of said housing, means formed in the opposite end wall of said housing adapted for engagement with means formed in the opposite end wall of said cover for normally maintaining the cover in a closed position, aligned slots formed in said corresponding opposite end walls of said housing and cover adapted to receive the threaded neck of a collapsible tube disposed within the housing, said neck being flattened on two

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of its sides for engagement with one of said slots, and a closure cap threadedly attached to said neck and adapted to bear against the marginal edges of said slot in said opposite end wall of the cover for maintaining said means in the said opposite end wall of the cover in engagement with said means in the opposite end wall of the housing and for securing said collapsible tube within the housing.

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