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A. L. BEARDSLEY

1,782,526

TUBULAR CONTAINER

Filed Jan. 30, 1928.

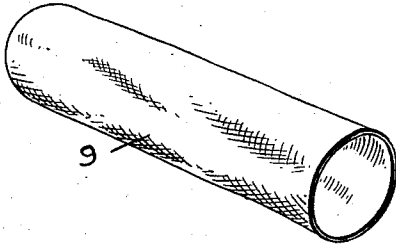


Fig. 1.

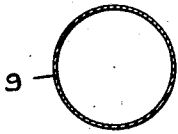


Fig. 2.

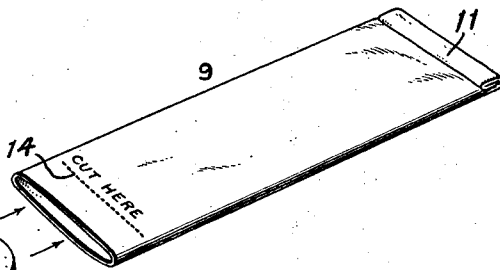


Fig. 3.

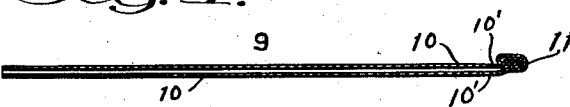


Fig. 4.

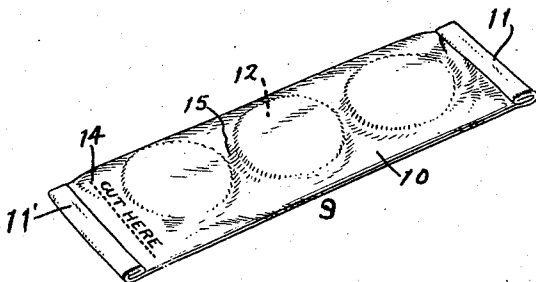
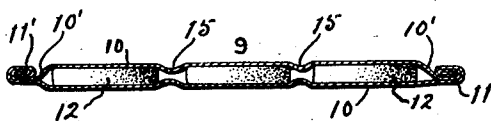


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.



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TUBULAR CONTAINER

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This invention relates to a package and method of making the same through the employment of novel tubular containers which are adapted to essentially a single use, that is, are intended to be discarded when emptied, which can be readily filled, easily closed and very conveniently opened and readily resealed to protect the remaining contents when a definite portion thereof is removed.

In the transmission of certain substances through the mails, or otherwise, if they are absorbent or deleteriously affected by exposure to the air, it is of vital importance that they be contained in a receptacle that is both air and moisture proof. This is particularly true of tablets or granular material of a medicinal character which the container of my invention is peculiarly adapted to contain.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a moisture and air-proof ductile metal container for any substance which is either absorbent or deleteriously affected by exposure to air.

Another object of the invention is to provide a moisture and air-proof ductile metal container for tablets or granular materials which may be either absorbent or deleteriously affected by exposure to air.

A third object of the invention is to provide a flat tubular ductile metal container, adapted to be sealed at both ends thereof to make it both air and moisture-proof, for mailing, or transmitting, absorbent tablets or granular material therein.

Other and more specific objects of the invention are mentioned herein.

With the foregoing objects in view, the invention consists of the novel construction hereinafter more specifically stated, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein improvements are illustrated, but it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications may be resorted to without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

In describing the invention in detail reference is had to the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification and wherein like numerals of reference indicate

corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of a cylindrical piece of ductile metal of which the container is made;

Fig. 2 is a section of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the metal cylinder flattened out and one end thereof closed by folding;

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the completed container illustrating both ends thereof closed by folding; and

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section of Fig. 5, showing a plurality of tablets contained therein.

The body of the container 9 is preferably a seamless tube which is formed of any suitable ductile metal such as thin metallic foil, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, and may initially be cylindrical in form. The tube is then subjected to the action of a relatively flat mandril which is inserted therein to flatten the tube throughout its length to the approximate shape illustrated in Figure 3. Then one end 10' of the tube is closed by clamping the upper and lower sides or walls together into a flat shape and the end thus flattened is folded upon itself so as to form a return or double fold as indicated at 11 in Figures 3 and 4. The tube is then in condition to receive the material to be contained therein, which, for convenience only, is illustrated as a relatively thin, flat bromide tablet 12, a plurality of which are introduced edge to edge into the tube, the latter being then sealed with a double fold 11' similar to the opposite end 11. To effectually compress the tube closures 11 a pincher-like tool is applied to thoroughly compress the metal of the tube body together, whereby an air and moisture proof closure is provided at each end of the tube.

The tube exterior is or may be provided with the corrugated transverse line 14 or given the indicia "Cut here", Fig. 5, to provide a point at which the tube may be transversely cut to enable ready removal of the tablets. And the walls 10 of the tube 9 may be compressed inwardly, manually or otherwise, as illustrated at 15, whereby the tablets

may be suitably spaced apart and rendered immovable due to contact thereof with the upper and lower walls of the tube.

A ductile metal container made as described and sealed at both ends by a compressed double fold provides a most convenient element for mailing tablets or granular substances and insures the preservation of the container contents if the latter is absorbent or subject to deterioration by exposure to air.

10 An important advantage accruing to this container and a package formed thereby is that the package may readily and invariably be opened by the bare hands only, the thin
15 metal of the container easily permitting tearing thereof just inside the fold 11 or 11'. A tablet or dose of the contents may then be removed and such removal vacates sufficient of the container that the walls may then be
20 flattened against each other and the end folded back upon itself to again seal the package substantially as tight as before. This keeps the remaining contents of the package away from atmospheric influence and conse-
25 quent deterioration. This operation of re-sealing may be performed by the bare hands without difficulty.

I claim:

1. As an article of manufacture, a package
30 comprising a thin-walled, flattened tubular sleeve of ductile metal containing a plurality of doses of medicinal material which tends to be adversely affected by exposure to at-
35 mospheric influences, said metal sleeve having each end flattened together and folded upon itself to form a tight seal, opening of the package being effected by removal of the folded walls at one end of the sleeve, the removal of a dose of the material thereupon
40 providing sufficient unoccupied space in the package to permit the walls of the unoccupied part to be flattened together and folded upon themselves to reseal the package.

2. In combination, a flattened sleeve or
45 ductile metal, a plurality of medicinal tablets subject to deterioration by access of air or moisture in said sleeve, said sleeve having its end sealed by flattening and folding over, the removal of one or more of said tablets pro-
50 viding sufficient unoccupied space in the tube to permit the opened end thereof to be pinched together and folded upon itself to form a tight seal.

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