April 25, 1950 E. E. VOMACKA 2,505,697

DISPENSING CONTAINER

Filed April 15, 1946

FIG. 1.

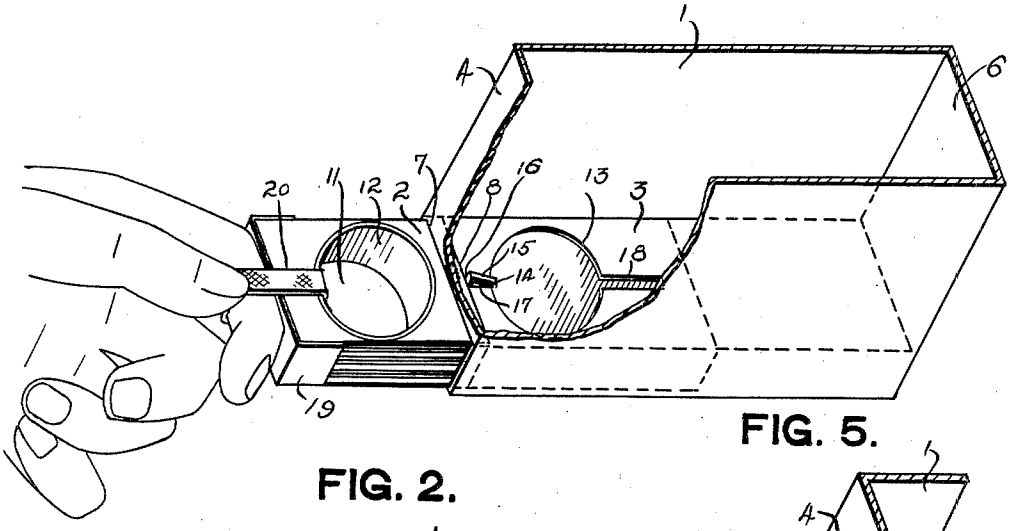


FIG. 5.

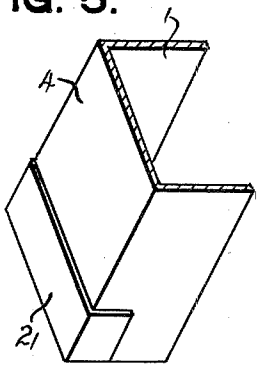


FIG. 2.

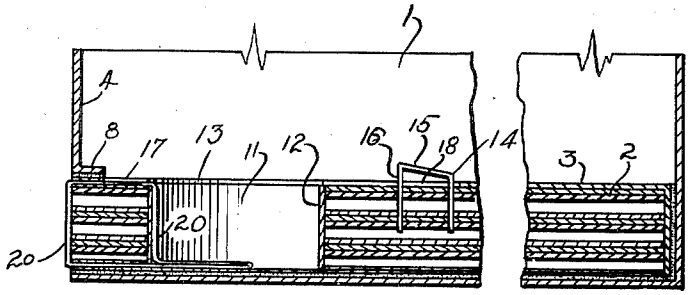


FIG. 3.

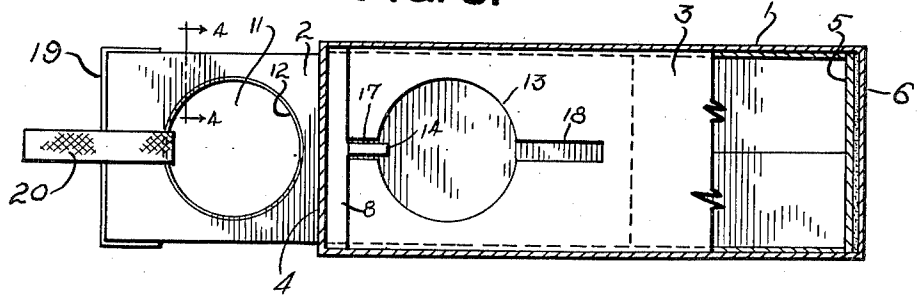
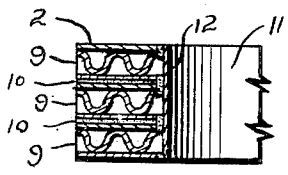


FIG. 4.



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DISPENSING CONTAINER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 222—361)

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This invention relates to a dispensing container and it is one object of the invention to provide a container for holding flake soap or other powdered or granulated materials, the container having associated with it a measuring device by means of which measured quantities of the material may be withdrawn from the container and dropped into a receptacle such as a washing machine, dish pan, or the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide the container with a dispenser consisting of a casing which is mounted at the bottom of the container and a block slidable longitudinally in the casing, from a retracted position in which a well or pocket formed in the block registers with an opening in the top of the casing, to an extended position in which the block projects from the container and material in the well may drop out of the same.

Another object of the invention is to provide a dispenser which may be easily thrust into the casing but has its outward movement limited by a staple or equivalent abutment which makes contact with a flange or lip extending inwardly across the upper edge of the opening through which the casing is fitted into the container, the flange reinforcing the container and preventing the staple from tearing its way through the wall of the container.

Another object of the invention is to provide a dispenser wherein the block is preferably formed of layers of corrugated cardboard and thus provide a block which will be of a predetermined thickness and strong, but light in weight.

Another object of the invention is to provide the block with a withdrawing tape which is initially disposed mainly in the well or pocket of the block with a portion in such position that it may be readily grasped and drawn outwardly to an extended position and a finger engaged through the tape for drawing the block to an extended position.

Another object of the invention is to provide a dispensing container which is simple in construction, cheap to manufacture and which may be mounted in a cardboard container of conventional form and dimensions, the depth of the dispenser being such that it occupies no more space in a container than is usually left empty at the top of a filled container.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the lower portion of a container and a dispenser of the improved construction therein.

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Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken vertically through Figure 1 longitudinally of the dispenser and with a portion broken away and removed to condense the view, the dispenser being in a retracted position.

Fig. 3 is a view partly in section taken horizontally through the container body and partly in plan of the elements shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view upon an enlarged scale taken along the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the dispenser covered by a tape which holds it in the retracted position.

The improved dispenser is embodied in a container 1 which is formed of cardboard and may be of any predetermined dimensions desired or required to hold a predetermined quantity of flaked, powdered or granulated material such as soap or other materials which are customarily sold in packages and, at the present time, poured from the container through an opening formed therein for use. When soap is poured from a container directly into a washing machine or into a cup or glass which happens to be convenient, if often happens that too much or not enough soap will be poured from the container. Therefore I have provided a dispenser which is slidably mounted in the lower portion of the container and by means of which measured quantities may be dispensed from the container.

This dispenser consists of a block 2 which is slidably mounted in a casing 3 thrust into the container through an opening 7 formed across the lower end of an end wall 4 of the container. The casing is formed of cardboard and rectangular in cross section, the inner end wall 5 of the casing being glued or otherwise firmly secured against the end wall 6 of the container. When the wall 4 of the container is cut to form the opening 7, through which the casing 3 is thrust into the container and the block 2 slid longitudinally from a retracted position to an extended position, a portion of the wall 4 is bent to form a tongue or lip 8 which is glued against the upper wall of the casing 3 to secure the casing across its front or outer end and also provide an abutment which reinforces the wall 4 across the upper edge of the opening.

The block 2 preferably consists of a plurality of layers of corrugated cardboard 9 which are secured in face to face engagement with each other by glue 10 and form a block of such thickness that it fits snugly into the casing 3. An opening or well 11 is formed vertically through the outer or

forward portion of the block and the walls of the opening are covered by a strip of paper 12 so that the wall of the well will be smooth and soap powder prevented from working into crevices in the block. The opening 11 is of such diameter that it will register with an opening 13 formed through the top of the casing and into the block is driven suitable stop element 14, such as a staple which is bent so that its bridge 15 extends at an incline, as shown in Figure 2, and its front leg projects upwardly from the block a greater distance than its rear leg and provided a shoulder 16 for abutting engagement with the lip or flange 8 of the container. Since the bridge 15 of the staple extends rearwardly at a downward incline, the block may be thrust into the casing and the staple then projects upwardly into position for contact with the lip 8. Slots or slits 17 and 18 extend forwardly and rearwardly from the opening 13 and are of such width that the staple may move into these slots when the block is shifted longitudinally to adjusted positions. From an inspection of Figure 3 it will be seen that the front end of the slot 17 terminates even with the edge of the lip or flange 8 so that when the block is slid forwardly to the extended position the staple will make contact with a double thickness of cardboard and will not be liable to tear its way out of the container. The slot 18 allows the block to be slid into the casing to a fully retracted position in which the opening or well 12 registers with the opening 13.

A paper strip 19 may be glued to the front edge face of the block with its ends turned and secured against side edge faces of the block to firmly hold the covering strip in place and prevent it from being torn loose at its ends. This strip imparts a neat appearance to the outer end of the block.

In order to permit the block to be easily drawn outwardly to an extended position there is provided a ring-like strip or tape 20 which loops freely about the narrow forward end portion of the block between the well 12 and the front end of the block and between the upper and lower faces of the block and the top and bottom walls of the chamber formed by casing 3. This looped tape is initially folded so that it lies flat upon the bottom of the casing and extends diametrically across the wall as shown in Fig. 2, the forward portion of the loop being covered by a sealing strip 21 which has its end portions adhering to side walls of the container. When it is desired to use powdered soap with which the container is filled, the sealing strip 21 is removed and the outer portion of the loop 20 pulled forwardly to the extended position as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 so that a finger may be engaged through the loop and pull exerted to draw the block outwardly as shown in Figure 1. When the block is in the retracted position, the tape between the upper and lower faces of the block and the top and bottom walls of the chamber formed by the casing 3 will aid, due to frictional engagement, to prevent accidental forward sliding of the block. When the block is in the retracted position the material to be dispensed will fill the well and this material will be carried forwardly with the block and drop from the well into a selected receptacle over which the container is held. Therefore each time the block or dispenser is drawn outwardly a measured quantity of material will be dispensed from the container. After a desired quantity of material has been dispensed from the container the block may be thrust rearwardly into the casing. By moving the block outwardly part way with a portion of the opening 13 overlapping a portion of the well 11 and a portion of the well protruding from the casing the material may be poured from the container into a measuring receptacle or directly into a receptacle in which it is to be used if all of the material in the container is required.

While the embodiment of the present invention as herein disclosed, constitutes a preferred form, it is to be understood that other forms might be adopted, all coming within the scope of the claims which follow.

I claim:

1. A dispensing container comprising a container body including a wall formed across its lower end with an opening extending the full width of the said wall and an inwardly extending lip along the upper edge of the opening, a casing fitted into the container through said opening and open at its outer end, said lip being secured upon the upper surface of the casing and holding the casing against outward movement, the upper wall of the casing being formed with an opening and slots extending forwardly and rearwardly therefrom midway the width of the casing, the front slot having its front end terminating at the edge of said lip, a block thrust into the casing through the open front end thereof and slidable longitudinally from a retracted position to an extended position, said block being formed with a well through its forward portion registering with the opening in the top of the casing when the block is in the retracted position, a stop carried by said block rearwardly from the well and projecting upwardly from the block in position for moving through the slots during longitudinal movement of the block, said stop consisting of a staple having its bridge extending forwardly at an upward incline and having its front arm projecting upwardly from the block to form a shoulder for abutting engagement with the rear edge of the lip to limit outward movement of the block the rear end of the bridge being flush with the upper face of the block to permit inward movement of the staple under the lip and the front end portion of the upper wall of the casing, and a member at the front end of the block adapted for engagement by a finger to draw the block outwardly to the extended position.

2. A dispensing container comprising a container body formed with an opening across the lower end of a wall, a casing fitted into said container through said opening and being open at its front end and formed in its top wall with an opening and with slots extending forwardly and rearwardly therefrom, a block slidable longitudinally through the open front end of said casing from a retracted position within the casing to an extended position and having its forward portion formed with an opening constituting a well registering with the opening in the top of the casing when the block is in the retracted position, a lip extending inwardly from the said wall of the body along the upper edge of the opening therein and secured upon and serving as a reinforcement for the portion of the top wall of the casing between its front end and the front slot, an abutment member for limiting outward movement of the block projecting upwardly therefrom and disposed in position for movement in the slots during sliding movement of the block, and a member at the outer end of

the block adapted for engagement by a finger to draw the block outwardly.

3. A dispensing container comprising a container body including a separate chamber at its bottom open at the front of the body and provided with an opening through its top for flow of material from the container, a block slidable through the open end of the chamber to retracted and extended positions and having its forward portion formed with a well registering with the opening in the top of the chamber when the block is in the retracted position, and a ring-like tape looped freely about the forward end portion of the block so as to extend through the well, between the upper and lower faces of the block and the upper and lower walls of the chamber and across the front of the block, a portion

of the tape being initially folded and lying upon the bottom of the chamber in said well, said tape movable outwardly to an extended position in which a finger may be passed through the outwardly projecting portion thereof and pull exerted to draw the block outwardly to the extended position.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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