Feb. 26, 1935. A. C. PEARSON 1,992,579

TABLET DISPENSING DEVICE

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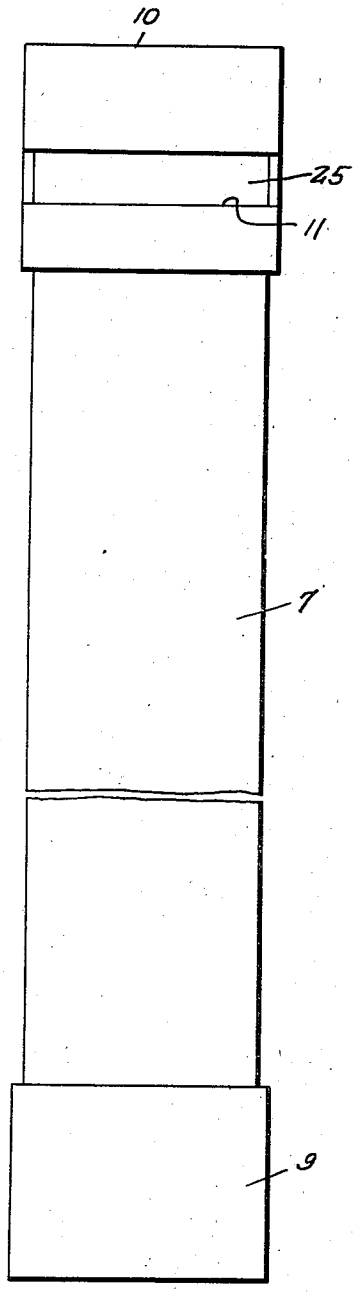
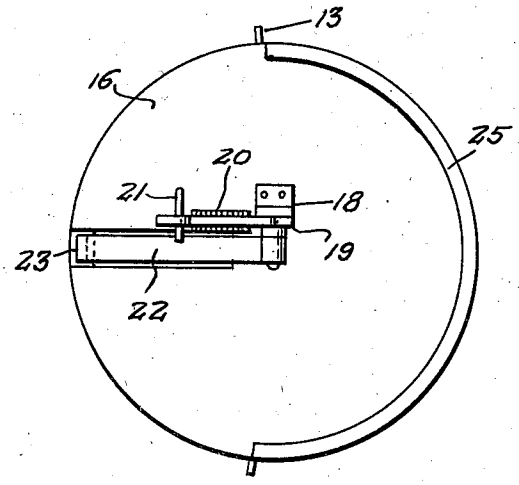


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.



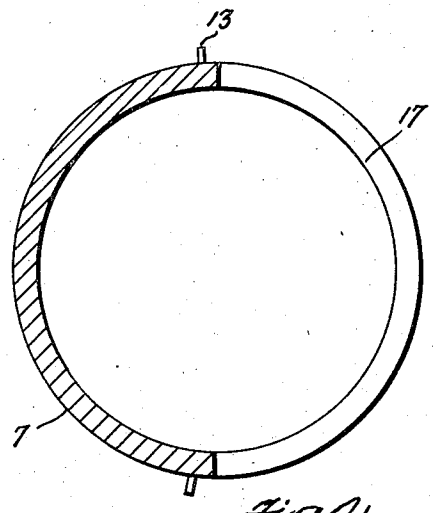


Fig. 4.

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TABLET DISPENSING DEVICE

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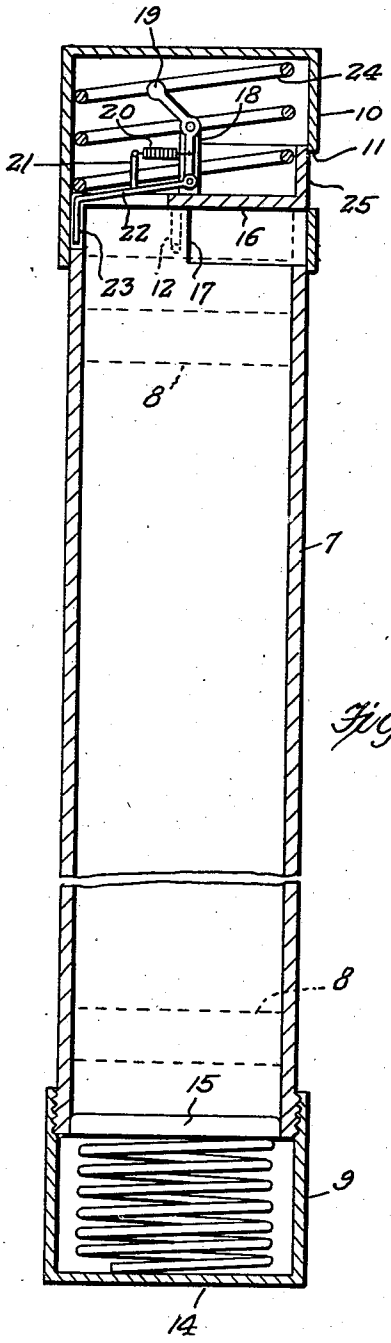


Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.

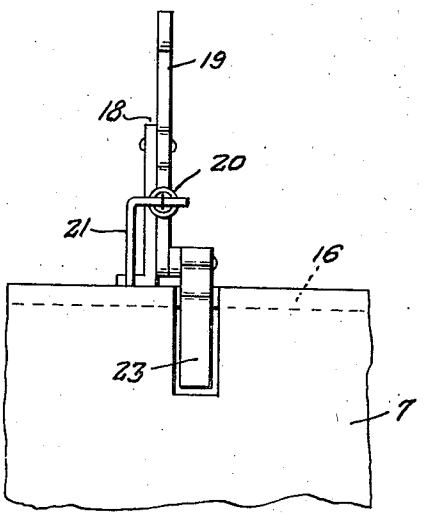
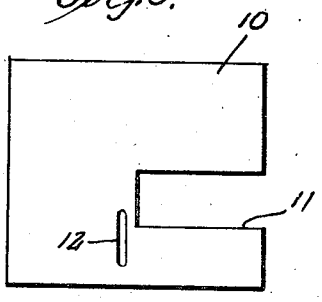


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,992,579

TABLET DISPENSING DEVICE

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Application July 19, 1934, Serial No. 736,120

6 Claims. (Cl. 206—42)

This invention relates to a relatively small article dispensing device of the so-called pocket type adapted for individual and personal use and intended to accommodate and facilitate the dispensing of tablets of a medicinal type as well as peppermint candy and similar wafers and lozenges for use.

It is a matter of common knowledge that peppermint candy rings, wafers and the like are now frequently sold in fragile paper containers and when the wrapper is torn off at one end and one or two of the products removed for use, the remaining products are liable to become soiled and contaminated when carried in one's pocket or pocketbook or the like. Without attempting to enumerate the undesirable results accompanying such circumstances, I need only point out that there is an obvious need for a more satisfactory form of holder and dispensing device for such items.

It follows, therefore, that with these objections in mind, I have evolved and produced a simple and economical pocket-type holder such as will enable the user to transfer the wafers or tablets into the same from the customary marketed package and to thereafter have handy a reliable means for selective access thereto.

The structural features and the accompanying advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and drawings.

In the drawings:—

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a device constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view, on an enlarged scale, of Fig. 1, the special presser cap being removed.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view through the body or casing portion of the device.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary detail elevational view illustrating the ejector mechanism.

Fig. 6 is a detail elevational view of the telescopic slidable presser cap constituting an enclosure for said mechanism.

In the drawings, it will be observed in Fig. 1 that the body portion of the device is in the nature of an elongated tube. This may be described as a cylindrical casing 7 constituting a container for the confectionary wafers, disks or other products shown in dotted lines as at 8 (Fig. 2). On the lower end of the casing is a removable filler cap 9 and on the opposite or outer end is a slidable presser cap 10. The latter cap is provided with an arcuate discharge slot 11 and on diametrically opposite sides with elongated guide slots 12 for reception of the guide and retention pins or studs 13 carried by the adjacent end portion of the casing. It is obvious that the cap 10 fits slidably over the casing and that the slots 12 receive the pins 13 and this allows the cap to be securely maintained in place.

Considering the lower end structure in Fig. 2 a little more in detail, it will be observed that the cap 9 is a screw cap and is threadedly connected with complemental threads on the cylindrical casing. Moreover, it is adapted to contain an expansion coiled spring 14 which presses against the under side of a follower disk 15. The disk 15 serves to press the wafers 8 up toward discharge positions.

Referring to the upper or discharge end portion of the casing, it will be observed that this is closed by an end plate or head as indicated at 16 and just below this plate is a discharge slot 17 with which the aforesaid slot 11 is adapted to register to allow the candy wafers to be forced laterally out for grasping and removal. Ejecting mechanism is employed to expedite this action and it comprises a standard 18 mounted on the top and carrying a bell-crank lever 19. The bell-crank lever is returned to and held in a normal position through the instrumentality of a coiled spring 20 attached to the bell crank as well as to an appropriate anchoring fixture 21. The lower arm of the bell crank is attached to an L-shaped ejector. The long arm 22 rides in a slot in the end plate 16 and the short arm 23 constitutes an ejecting finger and is adapted to engage behind the wafer and to force it out when the slots 11 and 17 are in alinement. This ejecting mechanism is contained in the presser cap 10. Moreover, there is a coiled spring 24 in this cap which serves to force the cap up and to thereby utilize the cap as a closure for the slot 17. It is evident however that by placing the thumb against the cap 10 and forcing it down against the action of the spring 24, this brings the slots 11 and 17 into registry for dispensing of a wafer. At the same time, the pressure against the bell crank by said cap serves to actuate the ejector and this moves the finger 23 in a manner to force the wafer out through the alined slots. It is yet to be pointed out that the end plate 16 carries a segmental or marginal flange 25 which is more in the nature of a guard and dust shield to prevent dirt from getting into the container by way of the clearance slot in which the ejector finger works.

It is thought that persons skilled in the art to which the invention relates will be able to

obtain a clear understanding of the invention after considering the description in connection with the drawings. Therefore, a more lengthy description is regarded as unnecessary.

Minor changes in shape, size and rearrangement of details coming within the field of invention claimed may be resorted to in actual practice, if desired.

I claim:—

1. A dispensing device comprising a hollow casing, a closure on one end of the casing, a spring-pressed follower within the casing, the other end of the casing formed with an opening, a retractile closure on said other end formed with an opening adapted to register at a certain position with the opening in the casing, and an ejector carried by the casing and operable in response to the movement of the retractile closure.

2. A dispensing device comprising a tubular casing, a closure cap on one end of the casing, a spring-pressed follower conformably fitting in one end of the casing, a lateral slot in the other end of the casing, a retractile closure cap formed with a slot adapted to register with the lateral slot in one position, said retractile closure cap mounted on said other end of the casing, and an ejector carried by the casing and operable in response to the movement of the retractile closure cap.

3. A device of the class described comprising a cylindrical casing, a filling cap at one end, a spring pressed follower at the same end, a cap mounted on the opposite end and movable axially with respect to the casing, said opposite end being formed with a slot, said cap having a slot adapted to register with the first-named slot to permit the contents of the casing to be removed, and mechanical ejector mechanism responsive to the movement of and contained in said slotted cap.

4. A device of the class described comprising a cylindrical casing, a filling cap at one end, a spring pressed follower at the same end, a cap telescopically mounted on the opposite end and bodily movable with respect to the casing, said opposite end being formed with a slot, said cap having a slot adapted to register with the first-named slot to permit the contents of the casing to be removed, and mechanical ejector mechanism contained in said slotted cap and embodying an ejector finger working into the adjacent end portion of said casing to force the products one by one out through the registrable slots.

5. A structure of the class described comprising a casing, a spring pressed follower device in one end of the casing, the opposite end of the casing being closed to provide it with an upright forming a standard, a bell crank pivotally mounted on said standard, a return spring for said bell crank, an L-shaped ejector device connected with said bell crank, the end of said casing having a slot in which said ejector device is operable, said casing being provided adjacent said ejector device with a discharge slot.

6. A structure of the class described comprising a casing, a spring pressed follower device in one end of the casing, the opposite end of the casing being closed to provide it with an upright forming a standard, a bell crank pivotally mounted on said standard, a return spring for said bell crank, an L-shaped ejector device connected with said bell crank, the end of said casing having a slot in which said ejector device is operable, said casing being provided adjacent said ejector device with a discharge slot, and a slotted cap telescopically and slidably mounted on the slotted end of said casing, said cap serving as an enclosure for said ejector mechanism and containing a coiled spring to normally move the cap to a predetermined position, said cap having a discharge slot for registration with the slot in said casing when the cap is depressed against the tension of said spring.

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