

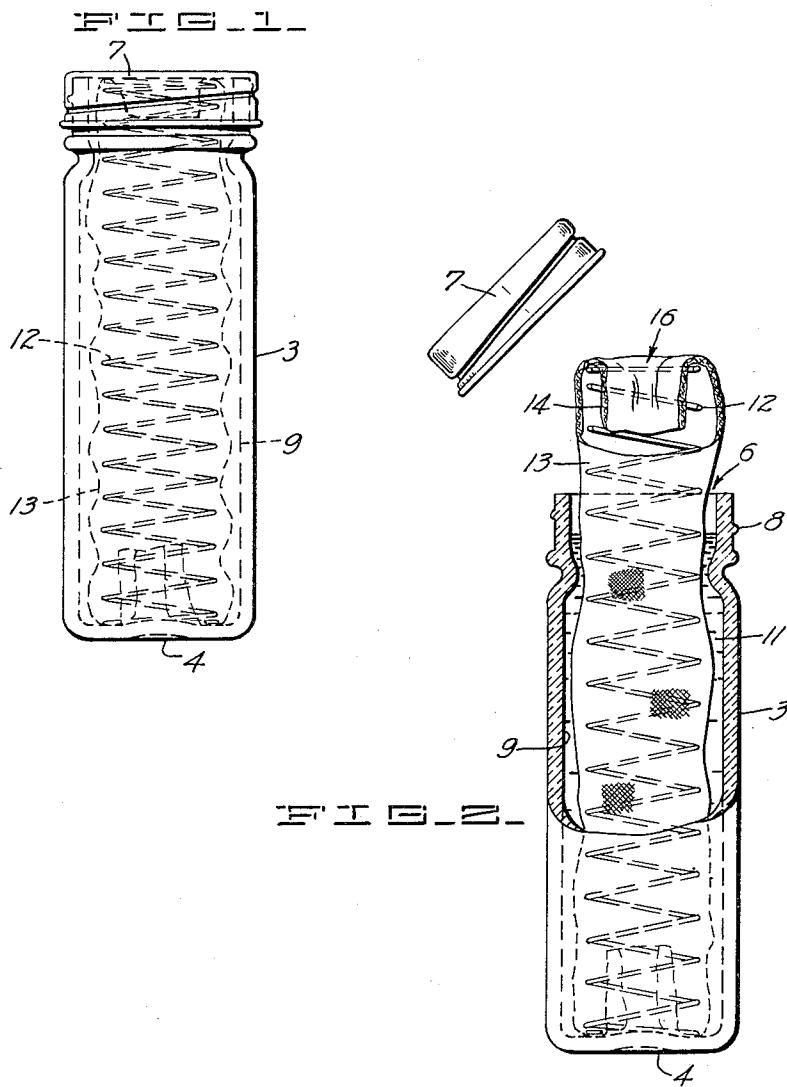
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F. L. TOMASCHKE

2,538,989

DISPENSER FOR DEODORANTS

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## DISPENSER FOR DEODORANTS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 299—20)

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This invention relates to the removal of obnoxious or undesirable odors from the atmosphere of enclosures such as cooking odors from kitchens, compartments or other rooms and has particular reference to apparatus for holding and dispensing quantities of the substance active in effecting the deodorization.

An object of the invention is to provide a normally thermetically sealed dispensing container for deodorants which may be opened and conditioned for operation without the danger of any of the substance within the container coming in contact with the user's fingers or hands.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container of the character described provided with means which as a sequence to the operation of opening the container, will automatically extend a dispensing element to an operating position extended from the container.

A further object of the invention is to provide a container of the character described embodying an automatically extensible dispensing wick so constructed as to displace a minimum amount of the active solution in the container.

Still another object of the invention is to provide apparatus of the character described including a container equipped with an automatically extensible wick element, each of these elements being capable of such economical production as to not materially increase the ultimate cost to the consumer of the dispenser.

The invention possesses other objects and features of advantage, some of which, with the foregoing, will be set forth in the following description of the preferred form of the invention which is illustrated in the drawings accompanying and forming part of the specification. It is to be understood, however, that variations in the showing made by the said drawings and description may be adopted within the scope of the invention as set forth in the claims.

Referring to the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the dispenser in closed condition and the wick element in retracted position.

Figure 2 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in vertical section showing the dispenser in opened condition and the wick element in extended position.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a suitable container 3, which may be the glass bottle or jar shown, formed with a component part such as the flat bottom 4, by means of which the container may be stabilized in an erect position on a supporting surface, and having a comparatively

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wide mouth 6 which may be covered by a closure, such as the cap 7 engageable with screw threads 8 or their equivalent, so as to hermetically seal the container. Within the chamber 9 of the container, which is substantially filled with a liquid solution 11, I provide an extensible dispensing element preferably comprising a generally cylindrically-shaped coil spring 12 which has an axial free length considerably in excess of that of the container 3 and which is associated with a wick member 13 preferably comprising a tubular-shaped sleeve of fabric enclosing the spring preferably over its entire length and having end portions 14 tucked into the opposite ends of the spring or otherwise attached thereto. The solution 11, whose nature does not form an essential part of the present invention, may be one of several different types depending on the circumstances under which the dispenser is used. For instance, for deodorizing, any of the well known solutions containing formaldehyde and essential oils may be employed, while naphthaline or menthol and camphor solutions may be used, respectively, for repelling insect pests or for medicating the atmosphere of chambers occupied by persons suffering from respiratory congestion. The dispenser may of course also be utilized for the dissemination of perfumes and the like.

The dispenser appears, in Figure 1, as it is offered for sale, with the cap 7 tightly screwed on and closing the container 3 and retaining the spring 12 in axial compression within the chamber 9. To condition the device for dispensing the contents of the chamber the container 3 is rested in upright position on a suitable supporting surface and the cap 7 is unscrewed and gently lifted from the container neck. This frees the spring 12 which expands axially carrying with it the wick member 13 so as to project upwardly a considerable amount out of the container and to expose the wick member to the ambient air. Evaporation of the solution from the exposed portion of the wick member then proceeds, the solution thus dispensed being supplanted by capillary action through the wick member from the supply of solution within the chamber of the container.

The opening 16 which extends axially into the wick member and which is formed by the passage through the tucked-in portion 14 of the wick, permits the admittance of air to the interior of the wick member so that evaporation may occur not only from all of the external surface of the fabric extending above the level of the liquid in the chamber but also from the peripheral surface of the tucked-in portion. The dispensing

efficiency of the device is thus obviously greatly increased over that of a device using a wick from which evaporation may take place only from a comparatively limited exterior surface area.

Having described my invention in detail, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a device of the character described, a wick member comprising a fabric sleeve, a spring disposed substantially entirely within said sleeve, a portion of said sleeve being tucked into an end of said coil spring and defining an opening through which air may reach the interior surface of said sleeve.

FREDERICK L. TOMASCHKE. 15 Number 445,544

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