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F. RICCA

1,864,693

CONTAINER AND METHOD OF PREPARING SAME

Filed Dec. 9, 1929

FIG. 1.

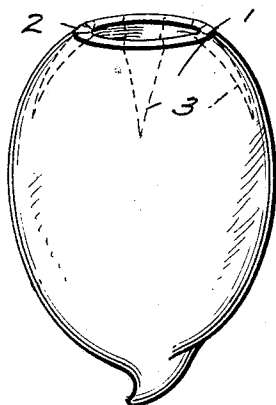


FIG. 2.

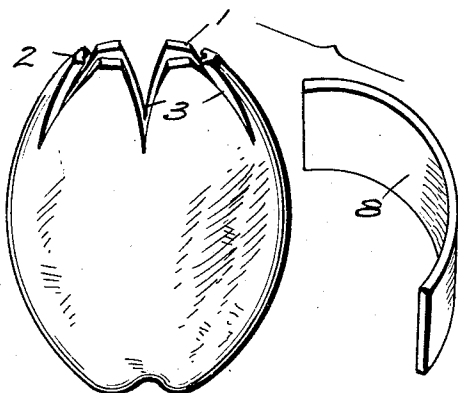


FIG. 3.

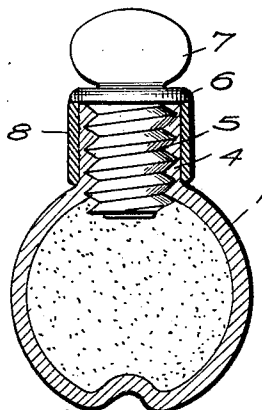
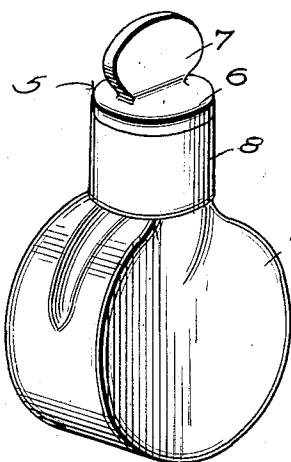


FIG. 4.



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CONTAINER AND METHOD OF PREPARING SAME

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My invention relates to improvements in inhalers or containers and the novel method of making the same.

An object of the invention is to provide a novel inhaler or container for an inhaling composition,—the material of which said container is made containing and giving off an inherent constituent of the inhaling composition.

A further object of the invention mentioned, resides in the production of an inhaler vessel from a citrus fruit,—and particularly a lemon.

Another object of the invention resides in the production of an inhaler from a citrus fruit and in the means and method of so doing,—to the end that the finished product will have the ability to withstand wear and the action of the elements which would otherwise cause same to decay.

In its most limited aspect the invention comprehends a vessel or container produced from a lemon and treated to withstand wear and to arrest decay, such vessel containing snuff.

The invention also resides in certain novel features of combination, form and arrangement of the various parts and in the method of making, in addition to the novel composition of matter and the device itself as a novel article of manufacture.

The drawing illustrates what now appears to be a preferred embodiment of the invention,—or rather the portion thereof which is susceptible of illustration and will be readily understood by those skilled in the art upon reading the detailed description and explanation to follow. It is understood, of course, that the invention is susceptible of considerable change and modification within the spirit and scope of the subject matter claimed hereinafter,—the example of the invention disclosed and described herein being taken merely as illustrative, rather than limitative.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the first step in the operation of producing the container from a lemon;

Figure 2 is a group perspective view of the partially completed container;

Figure 3 is a central vertical sectional view through the container; and,

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the completed container.

Referring specifically to the drawing, the process or method of producing the novel snuff container is preferably carried out in a manner which will now be described. I take a lemon which preferably has been partially dried out, first cutting off the top of the lemon 1, as indicated at 2.

The next step is to cut or scrape out the pulp, after which the lemon is turned inside out and shaped to define a container having a substantially oval cross section. In order to constrict the upper end of the lemon adjacent the cut-off portion 2, a number of V-shaped cutouts 3 may be made from the cut-off end 2 and extending longitudinally of the lemon with the walls converging inwardly. This step may not be necessary in a great many instances as lemons are of varying shape,—some being relatively elongated, while others are quite short.

The shaping of the lemon is effected with the hands assisted by a sand filler which is put into the lemon. The walls of the cutouts 3 are brought together so as to provide the neck 4 into which is fitted the screw plug 5 having the flange 6 and the finger piece 7. Of course, the rind of the lemon is sufficiently soft so that the threads of the plug will cut threads in the neck 4 after the fashion of a tap.

A strip of lemon rind 8 is placed around the neck to cover the edges of the cutouts and is adhesively secured to the neck by shellac or glue.

The lemon is allowed to dry thoroughly with the sand filler and after the drying has completed the entire exterior of the container 1 is given a number of coats of shellac, which serves to protect the rind from wear and against the attack of insects or the elements which might effect a rotting or decomposition of the rind.

The shellac serves the purpose of filling all of the pores in the rind and any cracks

or crevices that may appear. The neck covering strip 8 is scarcely discernible as such when the device has been completed. In fact the finished product is in nowise suggestive
5 of its origin,—namely a lemon.

Having completed the article, as aforesaid, the plug 5 is removed and the sand poured out after which the interior is filled with snuff through the neck. It is a well known
10 fact that the rind of citrus fruit, particularly a lemon, contains a fragrant essential oil. The snuff is impregnated,—so as to speak,—with the essence of lemon contained in the rind,—the result being the production of a
15 very efficient snuffing composition.

While I have illustrated herein what now appears to be a preferred example of the invention, yet it is to be understood that the same is capable of other mechanical expressions,—it being obvious that other citrus
20 fruits could be used in lieu of a lemon without a departure from the invention claimed hereinafter.

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

1. As an article of manufacture, a container formed from and consisting of the rind of a citrus fruit, said container having a constricted neck, and a closure insertible in said
30 neck, whereby the fragrance of the rind is imparted to the contents of the container.

2. The combination set forth in claim 1, and said closure comprising a threaded plug, the neck having a tap therein produced by
35 said plug, and the exterior surface of the rind forming the interior surface of the container.

3. As an article of manufacture, a container formed from and consisting of the rind of a citrus fruit, said container having a constricted neck, and a closure insertible in said neck, and a wear resisting and decay preventing coating applied to the exterior of
45 said rind, whereby the fragrance of the rind is imparted to the contents of the container.

4. The combination set forth in claim 1, and said closure comprising a threaded plug, the neck having a tap therein produced by
50 said plug, and a wear resisting and decay preventing coating applied to the exterior of said rind.

5. The method of producing a container comprising the turning inside out of substantially a whole lemon rind after the contents have been cleaned out, shaping the rind to a desired shape, constricting a portion of the rind to provide a neck, fitting a plug cap
60 in said neck to support the same; permitting the lemon to fully dry; and then coating the exterior of the lemon with a wear resisting material.

6. A process of making normally closed
65 containers from fruit skins containing essen-

tial oils, comprising deforming the skin into a container so that the outer side of the skin forms the inner side of the container, and coating the outer side of the container to seal the pores of the skin so that the oil fumes
70 can only exude from the inner side of the container.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
FEDELE RICCA.

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