F. E. PERKINS.

SELF DRAINING SOAP CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 14, 1917.

1,311,666. Patented July 29, 1919.

Fig. 1.

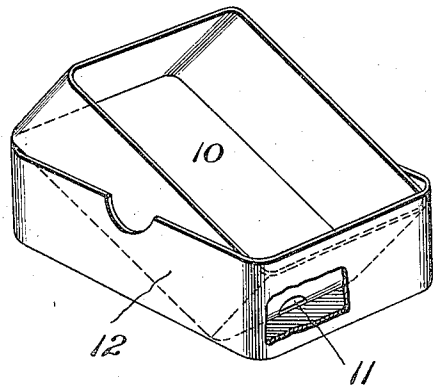


Fig. 4.

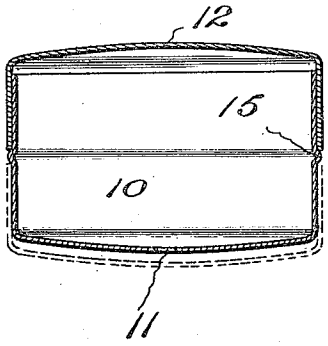


Fig. 2.

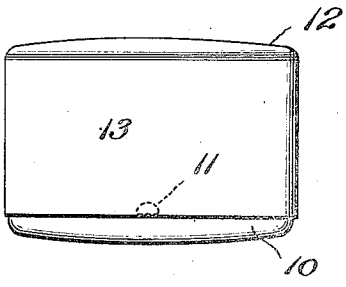
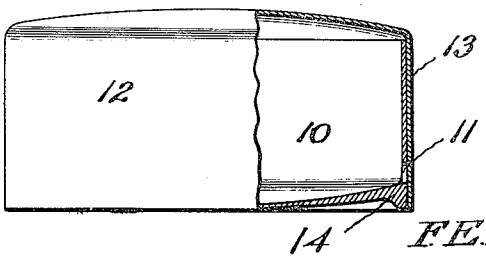


Fig. 3.



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SELF-DRAINING SOAP-CONTAINER.

1,311,666. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 29, 1919.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK E. PERKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Draining Soap-Containers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My present invention relates to an improved, simple container for soap or other articles adapted to be self-draining when placed in an inclined position. In its preferred form, my device comprises a container proper combined with catching basin adapted both to support the container in the inclined position of normal use and to serve as a cover and seal. In this form, therefore, the combination provides an improved traveler's soap container having the advantages of providing efficient drainage of the soap or the like while preventing any leakage of undrained moisture into the contents of the valise or trunk in which it may be packed.

My invention may be embodied in a great variety of forms and the form and position of the draining aperture may be varied indefinitely without departing from the scope of my invention.

Certain preferred forms in which the invention may be embodied are illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred container in normal position for use, the draining aperture being shown through a part broken away; Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same when closed for transportation, the draining aperture being shown in the same manner; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal median section of the same, provided, however, with a modification at one end which is hereinafter fully described; and Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of a modification, with the cover-basin shown in dotted lines in position for use in receiving drainage moisture.

The container proper is shown at 10, and may be made of metal, celluloid, or other appropriate material. While it may have a variety of shapes without departing from my invention, I prefer to make the bottom slightly rounded, as shown, with sides rising straight upward therefrom. The substantially rectangular form shown is appropriate to the usual standard form of a cake of soap.

Substantially at the level where the bottom of the container 10 meets one of the walls, preferably at one end, I provide an opening 11, which may be called the draining aperture. This line of meeting of bottom and wall I term the bottom edge of the container. It will be seen that when the container is placed in an inclined position, as shown in Fig. 1, any moisture which falls from the wet cake of soap within the container, will run out of the aperture 11.

The preferred embodiment of my invention comprises means for supporting the container in an inclined position and catching the water which is drained therefrom. This means takes the form of a catching basin 12 whose sides are adapted to receive and support the container 10 in the inclined position shown.

For the purpose of providing an efficient traveler's soap container, I prefer so to shape the catching basin as to adapt it to form a cover which may be fitted over the top of the container 10. One wall 13 of the cover-basin fits against the exterior of one wall of the container and overlaps the aperture 11, as shown, thereby closing this aperture and preventing leakage from the drained container when packed.

In order to drain the moisture completely from within this form of container, it is desirable that the interior surface of its bottom should be led directly to the bottom of the aperture 11. At the same time, it is also desirable that this aperture should not extend to the extreme bottom line of the exterior surface of the wall of the container, as in such case the closure effected by the cover wall 13 is not certain and secure. These two desirable conditions may be reconciled in a variety of ways, as by a thickening of the bottom toward the aperture, for instance, (see Fig. 3); but I prefer for this purpose to use an extension below the aperture, as also shown in Fig. 3.

Here it will be seen that a lip 14 is provided which forms an extension of the outer face of the wall in which the aperture 11 is found, this extension being below the aperture. The lip or extension may extend only a short distance along the lower edge of the container immediately under

the aperture 11 or it may be as long as the container is wide. In either case its outer face should form a straight continuation of the surface of the wall above it, so that the cover wall 13 may be allowed to fit against the lip and effectually seal the aperture.

When not in use the cake of soap or other article will lie within the container 10, being protected from dust, etc., by the cover 12. When it is desired to make the device available as a soap dish, for instance, in the ordinary way, the cover is removed and placed in the position shown in Fig. 1, the container proper being set into it in an inclined position, as illustrated, with the draining aperture at the lowest point. Any moisture falling from the wet cake of soap after its use at once finds its way to the aperture 11 and runs out into the catching basin formed by the inverted cover; thus keeping the soap or the like dry and preventing the wetting and soiling of surrounding objects.

In Fig. 4 is shown a modification wherein the opening 11 is located in the bottom of the container. A bead 15 is preferably provided against which the cover-basin 12 may abut, either when used as a cover, as shown in full lines or when used as a draining basin, as shown in dotted lines. In the latter position, the form and proportions of the cover and container are such that a space is provided under the container for receiving the moisture of drainage.

Various changes may be made in my improved device without departing from the scope of my invention, and I do not limit myself to the details herein shown and described.

What I claim is:—

1. A container for soap or the like having a bottom and walls rising straight upward therefrom, one of said walls having a draining aperture substantially at one lower edge, in combination with a cover-basin adapted either to cover said container and aperture, or, when inverted, to support the container securely in an inclined draining position.

2. A container for soap or the like of the character set forth in claim 1 hereof wherein the wall having the aperture is extended below said aperture to form an outer surface adapted to fit snugly against one wall of said cover-basin.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK E. PERKINS.