Aug. 5, 1924. 1,504,001

E. SOYEZ

POWDER BOX

Filed Dec. 8, 1923

Fig. 1

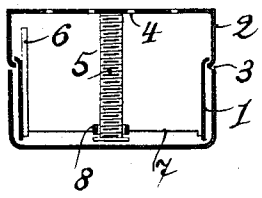


Fig. 2

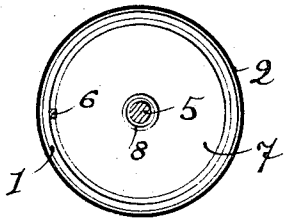
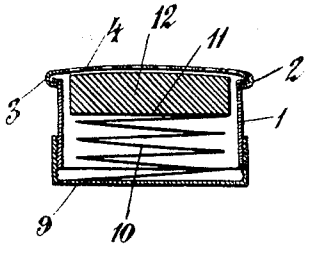


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMILE SOYEZ, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

POWDER BOX.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMILE SOYEZ, a citizen of the French Republic, residing at Paris, 6 Passage des Petites Ecuries, Paris, France, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Powder Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention appertains to that class of toilet articles which are more conventionally known as vanity cases or compacts designed to hold a toilet preparation and to be carried about the person for use at will.

These compacts are usually of two types: one in which the preparation is contained in loose powdered form and from which it is removed by a small pad or puff by a process of tapping the latter upon the powder to cause it to adhere to the surface of the puff, and the other in which the powder in cake or tabloid form is disposed which necessitates a rubbing action over the surface to obtain a supply on the puff for application to the flesh.

In the use of the first form of these articles there is a considerable amount of waste due to the finely comminuted character of the powder, in addition to which the use is attended with a distasteful scattering of the powder upon the garments of the user. This form of the powder gives the most satisfactory results and is therefore the preferable type, but owing to the above mentioned objections and others resort to the cake form has been had. However, to obtain the cake type of powder the manufacturer is required to introduce a foreign substance to obtain adherence of powder particles. This glue or glue-like substance has a detrimental action upon the flesh and imparts a gritty feeling to the preparation.

The problem which this invention has been designed to meet resides in the provision of a toilet article which will handle a finely divided powder in such manner that the quantity dispensed is easily controlled by the user in respect to the desired amount without any waste either incident to the dispensing operation or to the carrying of the compact about the person.

Broadly speaking, my improvements reside in the provision of a container having a compartment for retaining loose powder, said compartment having a relatively movable perforate cover and means to compress the powder against the cover to compact it and normally prevent passage through the perforations until relative movement between the cover and compartment is produced.

According to this invention a powder box comprises two members capable of being rotated relatively to each other, the arrangement being such that on the rotation of one of said members the surface of the powder is scraped, or more strictly speaking displaced.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which Figure 1 is a vertical section of a powder box constructed in accordance with this invention, Figure 2 is a horizontal sectional view on a plane just below the lid, while Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view through a modification.

Referring to Figures 1 and 2, 1 is the side of the box, 2 its lid capable of rotation thereon but not of removal therefrom; this latter being effected, for example, by shaping the edges of the lid and the sides. Lid 2 is provided with perforations 4 whose edges act to remove the powder projected inwardly thereof. Perforations 4 need not be regularly spaced. 5 is a central rod or tube fixed to cover 2 and projecting through the bottom 7 of the box; rod 5 is screw threaded for at least a portion of its length. 6 is an upstanding bar or slide carried by sides 1 and engaging in a recess cut in bottom 7 which is provided with a nut 8 engaging rod 5 an outer bottom closure 9′ is employed to fit over the container 1.

When sides 1 or lid 2 are rotated relatively to each other, then as slide 6 prevents any rotation of bottom 7 relatively to sides 1 bottom 7 will move inwards.

The powder in the box will approach lid 2 and the edges of the perforations 4 will scrape over the surface of the powder and the powder cannot clog; the loose powder pushed forward by the pressure of bottom 7 will pass through perforations 4 and will be taken up by the powder puff which may if desired be contained in a second lid not illustrated.

Referring to Figure 3 the same parts of which are given similar figures of reference, 9 is the bottom of the box having adjustable or threaded connection therewith, 10 a spring carried thereby, while 11 is a cup or plate on which rests the compressed powder 12. The walls of the perforations

4 act in the same manner as in Figures 1 and 2 but in this case the compacted powder mass 12 is automatically brought into contact with lid 2 by the spring 10 in place of by a screw 5.

The whole of the powder in the box is utilized without any waste, and it will be apparent that this type of compact enables a user to use it in any preferred make of powder or a powder of the desired odor. Under present conditions it is usually necessary to take the preparation which is supplied with the article by the manufacturer whereas in this invention, referring to the structure shown in Figure 3, it is only necessary to remove the bottom 9 and fill into the container 1 the powder desired, replacing the bottom with its attached pressure plate 11.

The pressure exerted by the plate 11 compresses the fine powder into a firm, compact mass the particles forming which have a tendency to adhere to each other while under the pressure. Those portions of the powder exposed at the small openings in the cover have no tendency to move therethrough until relative movement of the lid is effected whereupon a small amount comes to the surface of the lid from which it is removed by a powder puff or the like.

It will be obvious that the amount brought to the surface of the lid is proportional to the extent of the relative movement imparted and a nicety of dispensing operation is thus secured.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A toilet article of the class described comprising a powder compartment or container, a perforate closure member therefor movable relative to said container, and means for compressing the powder in said container and holding it constantly against the perforate closure, whereby to normally prevent escape of the powder through the closure by the compacting action until relative movement between the closure and container is effected.

2. A portable toilet case for holding loose powder comprising a body section, a perforate cover section interlockingly connected thereto and freely movable relative to the body section, means within the body section to compress the loose powder into a firm mass and hold it against the cover section to thereby prevent escape of the powder through the perforate cover section in the normal handling of the case, said cover section being movable over the surface of the compacted powder to displace a restricted amount therefrom through the cover openings substantially coextensive with the top surface of the cover section incident to the compressing action of the compressing means.

3. A powder compact of the class described for dispensing toilet powder, comprising a receptacle for holding the loose powder, a perforate cover member rotatably mounted thereon, a powder support within the receptacle, and means acting on said support to compress the loose powder into a firmly compacted mass against the cover member and maintaining it thus throughout the dispensing operation, whereby the powder is prevented from escape through the perforations except when the cover member is turned on the container.

4. A powder compact of the class described for dispensing toilet powder comprising a receptacle for holding loose powder, a perforate cover member on said receptacle, a spring actuated powder support within the receptacle for maintaining compression upon a powder mass and holding the same in compacted condition against the cover member, and a removable bottom for said receptacle adapted to be displaced for refilling purposes.

Dated the 22 day of October 1923.

EMILE SOYEZ.