Nov. 19, 1946. LA MAR S. WILLIAMS 2,411,489

COMBINATION SALT AND PEPPER SHAKER

Filed Sept. 28, 1944

Fig. 1.

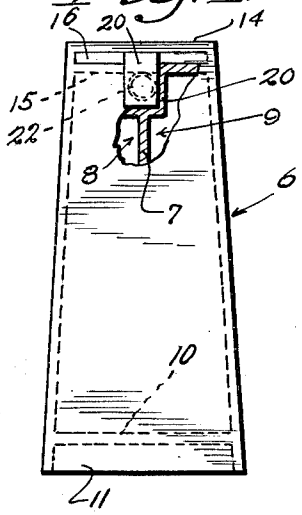


Fig. 2.

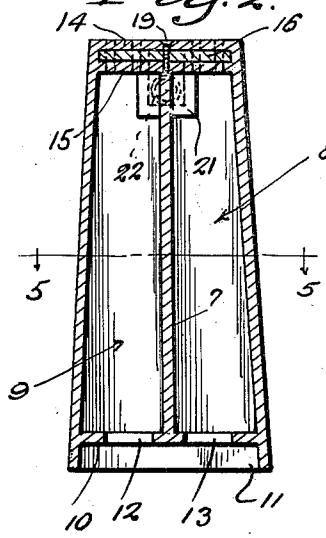


Fig. 3.

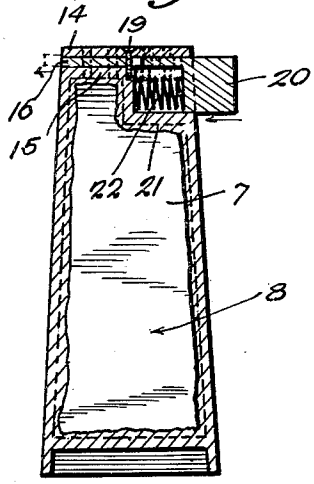


Fig. 5.

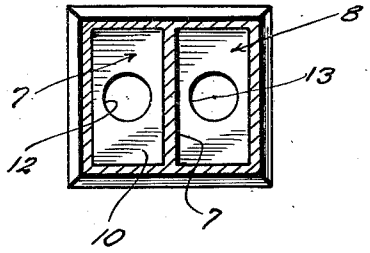
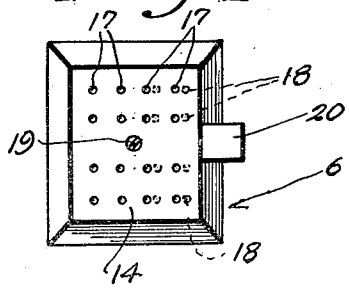


Fig. 4.



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COMBINATION SALT AND PEPPER SHAKER

La Mar S. Williams, Provo, Utah

Application September 28, 1944, Serial No. 556,167

1 Claim. (Cl. 65—45)

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This invention relates to condiment holders and has more specific reference to so-called combination salt and pepper shakers, that is, the type in which a single container is partitioned into individual non-communicating compartments with selectively usable valving means, whereby it is possible to conveniently dispense either salt or pepper, as the case may be.

As implied in the preceding opening and general statement of the invention, I am sufficiently conversant with the state of the art to which the invention pertains to realize that many and varied types of dual salt and pepper shakers have been evolved and produced. Therefore, it is my primary aim to offer a further contribution to the art, this in the form of what is believed to be a novel and improved structure characterized essentially by simple and expedient means for regulating individual discharges of salt or pepper according to needs and requirements.

More specifically, the novelty is predicated on a series of three superimposed plates forming the discharge end of the dual container, two being stationary and the intervening plate slidable, the latter constituting the control valve and being provided with a spring returned, conveniently operable press-button.

Other features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying illustrative drawing.

In the drawing, wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views—

Figure 1 is an elevational view with a portion broken away and shown in section, this to bring out the construction and relative coaction of the details.

Figure 2 is a central vertical sectional view through the structure seen in Figure 1 observing the same in a direction opposite to that seen in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a central vertical sectional view at right angles to Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 4 is a top plan view.

Figure 5 is a cross section on the plane of the line 5—5 of Figure 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the drawing by distinguishing reference numerals, it will be seen that the structure is composed of several parts. The main part is in the form of a suitably proportioned and shaped dual container 6, this of any appropriate or desired material. It is of general rectangular form in cross-sectional shape and tapers upward-

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ly. Interiorly, it is divided by a partition 7 into non-communicating compartments or chambers 8 and 9 for individual charges of salt and pepper. The bottom, as shown in Figure 2, is denoted at 10 and is slightly elevated to define a depending skirt 11, said bottom having filler holes 12 and 13 aligned with the respective chambers 8 and 9 and adapted to accommodate closing corks or plugs (not shown). The flat top 14 is spaced in parallelism above a relatively fixed false top 15, and the two parts 14 and 15 form a guide for the intervening slidable valve plate 16. Thus, as before stated, the top is actually made up of three plates; namely, the two stationary plates 14 and 15, and the intervening valve plate 16. The two plates 14 and 15 are provided with registering orifices or discharge holes 17. The valve plate is provided with individual control holes 18. It follows that the holes 17 in the two plates 14 and 15 are in constant alignment and are in appropriate pairs on opposite sides of the partition 7. The central portion of the slide plate 16 is slotted and a screw 19 passes through the several parts and through the slot and permits the plate 16 to be projected to the dotted line position seen at the left in Fig. 3. The opposite edge of the plate 16 is provided with a block-like push-button 20. This operates in a receptacle-like rectangular guide pocket 21 formed integral with the upper edge portion of the partition 7 and the adjacent portions of the plate 15. This pocket serves not only as a receiver for the push-button, but also as a pocket for an expansion-type coiled spring 22 which serves to return push-button 20 to a fixed position.

The apertures or holes 17 and 18 are so arranged that when the button 20 is projected as seen in Figure 2, the holes over one of the compartments, let us say the salt compartment 8, are in constant alignment. In other words, this particular compartment is open at all times. Consequently, when salt is wanted the shaker is used as is customarily done without adjusting the push-button. When, however, it is desired to discharge pepper, the push-button is shoved in against the tension of the spring and this disaligns and closes the apertures registering with the salt compartment and opens the apertures (previously closed) then in alignment with the pepper compartment 9.

As previously implied, the novelty is herein predicated upon the three plates forming the upper or top structure of the partitioned container, two being stationary and spaced apart and forming a guideway, and the other constituting a slide

valve, this operating between the first two plates. The combination proposed can be changed so as to normally open the salt compartment and simultaneously close the pepper compartment, or vice versa. In any event, one compartment is open and the other is closed at all times to provide the desired alternate slide valve control results.

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 drawing. Therefore, a more lengthy description is regarded as unnecessary.

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

I claim:

A combination salt and pepper shaker of the class described comprising a one piece container provided at its top with a flat apertured outer plate, and inwardly of said outer plate with an inner apertured plate, said plates being integrally connected together along corresponding opposite edges and spaced apart along opposite edges and forming a slideway, a partition in said container dividing it into individual salt and pepper compartments, said partition being provided at its upper end and on one side with a receptacle-like spring and push button accommodation pocket, the outer end of said pocket opening through an adjacent wall of the container and the upper side of said pocket opening through said inner plate, and a third plate slidable between said first-named plates, said third plate forming a valve and being apertured, said third plate being provided on one end with a block-like push button said push button being slidable in said pocket, and a coiled spring arranged in said pocket and engaging said push button in order to maintain the valve in a pre-determined position and the push button normally projected to a position for convenient operation.

LA MAR S. WILLIAMS.