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2,259,240

POWDER DISPENSER

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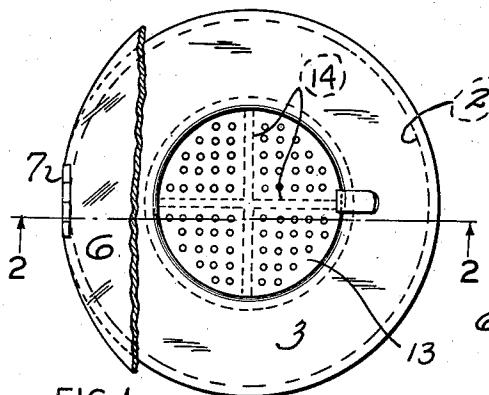


FIG. 1.

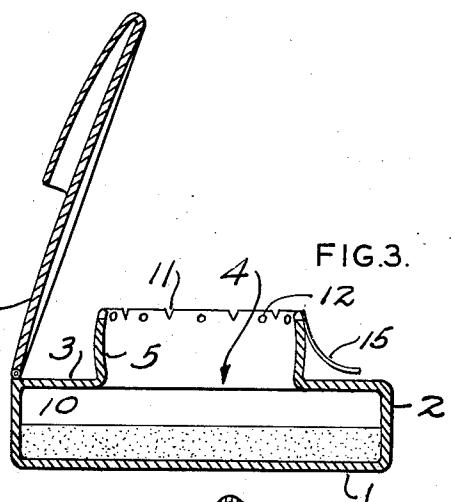


FIG. 3.

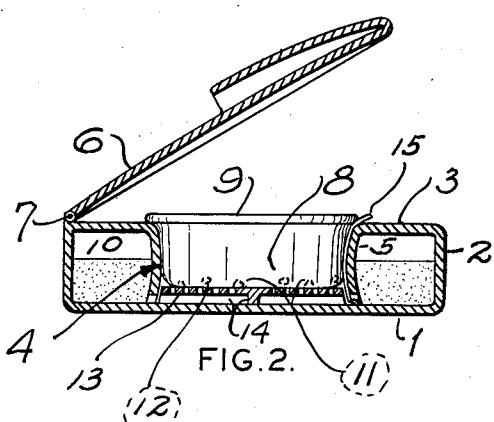


FIG. 2.

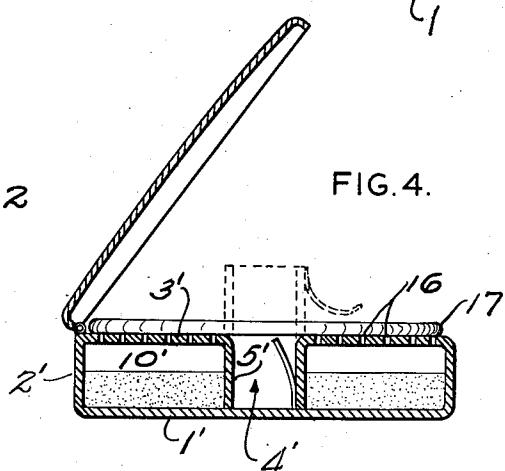


FIG. 4.

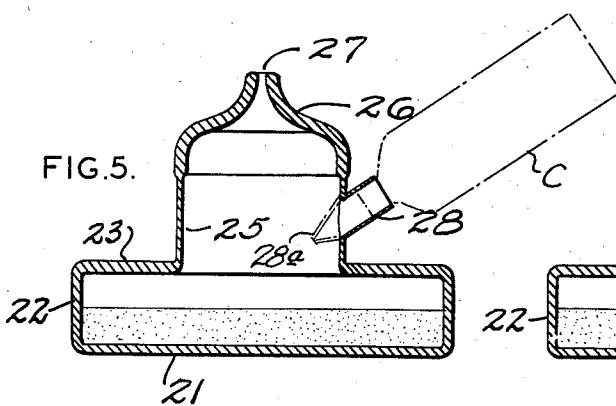


FIG. 5.

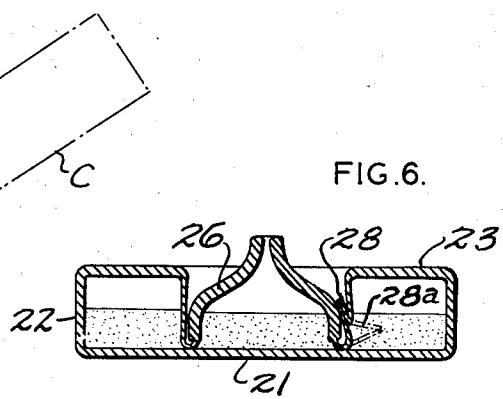


FIG. 6.

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POWDER DISPENSER

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9 Claims. (Cl. 132—82)

This invention relates to powder containers and dispensers; more specifically it relates to small items of this type commonly employed by women and frequently termed "compacts," although use of the invention is not limited to this field.

It is the principal object of this invention to render a powder dispenser readily refillable and capable of dispensing powder in limited and controlled amounts.

Another object is to provide a dispenser body or housing with a supply chamber surrounding a well-like discharge chamber, the latter being formed within the former preferably by a neck member extending inwardly from the top of the housing.

In its preferred form the invention consists, except for the lid, of a one-piece flexible structure having a central well for receiving a powder puff and an annular storage chamber surrounding said well capable of receiving a supply of powder to be discharged into the central well as desired. The central well is preferably partitioned off from the supply chamber by means of a neck member extending inwardly from the top of the container and reaching substantially to the floor thereof. The neck member is capable of having its direction reversed so that it extends outwardly from the container rather than into it. In placing a supply of powder in the storage chamber, the neck is turned to the outwardly extended position and the powder is introduced through the neck as a funnel. After filling, the neck is returned to the inwardly extending position to form the central well for a restricted quantity of powder.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating the invention and forming a part of this specification—

Figure 1 is a top view of one form of the invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the same and shows a powder duster in the central well.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross-sectional view similar to Figure 2 except that the powder duster is omitted and the neck member which forms the central well in Figure 2 is shown protruding outwardly from the top of the housing.

Figure 4 is a vertical cross section of another form of the invention.

Figures 5 and 6 are vertical cross sections of another form of the invention, the former showing the neck member in the outwardly extending position.

Referring to Figures 1 to 3, inclusive, the housing consists of a bottom or floor member 1, side walls 2, and a top plate 3 having a substantial opening or well 4 in the central portion thereof. A neck member 5 is preferably formed integrally with top plate 3. In fact, it is considered preferable to form the entire structure thus far described in one integral unit; this construction is not essential, however, for the various parts of the housing may be formed separately and assembled. Neck 5 may be turned downwardly, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, or may be turned upwardly, as shown in Figure 3. When turned downwardly, the neck rim is yieldingly thrust against the base. A tab 15 may be attached to the neck 5 to facilitate reversing the direction of the said neck 5 when filling the supply chamber 10.

A lid 6, attached by the hinge 7, is optional and will be included or not depending upon the use to which the dispenser is to be put. The lid may include a pocket P for a handkerchief, comb, lipstick, or other accessory.

A powder duster 8 has a handle portion 9 which fits snugly into the well 4 being seated partially at least on neck 5.

The powder from the supply chamber 10 is controllably expelled onto the floor of the well 4 by slightly compressing the housing; this operation tends to reduce the volume of the chamber 10 and hence to force a limited amount of powder out between the free end of the neck 5 and the inner surface of the floor 1 of the housing or through notches 11 or apertures 12 or other adequate openings in the edge of the neck.

A perforated disk 13 is shown spaced from the floor of the well 4 by cross bars 14 on its lower face. Disk 13 serves to sift the quantity of powder dispensed and the cross bars 14, upon slight rotation or other movement of disk 13, act to abrade and break up any powder cakes which may have been formed. The abrading disk 13 is readily removable for cleaning the same, and when it is removed the entire interior of the dispenser may be thoroughly cleaned.

The species illustrated in Figure 4 consists of a housing having a bottom 1', side walls 2' and a top plate 3' and generally simulates the construction shown in Figures 1 to 3 except that the opening in the central portion of top plate 3' is much smaller, reducing the size of well 4'. The flexible neck 5' is reversible, as in previous structures, to enable filling the supply chamber 10'. In the present structure, however, the powder is dispensed primarily through perforations

16 in the top plate 3' of the housing to a pad or puff 17.

The species illustrated in Figures 5 and 6 has a bottom 21, side walls 22 and top plate 23. The neck member 25 is shown as being of thinner material than other parts of the structure; this is not essential but it is necessary that a substantial portion of the neck be sufficiently flexible to enable its direction to be reversed. The neck includes a nozzle 26. It may be desirable that the nozzle 26, or other member from which the powder is emitted at 27, and the main body of the housing, be of a more rigid material. This dispenser may be filled through an auxiliary valve 28 in the neck. This valve may comprise an elastic tube which may be turned outwardly and stretched over the mouth of a supply container C for filling or may be turned inwardly, as indicated in dotted lines at 28a, and the elasticity of the free end of the tube will resist discharge 15 of powder therethrough particularly in view of the blocking of the base of the tube by the seating of nozzle 26 in the central well, as shown in Figure 6.

While rubber may be the preferred material in fabricating these dispensers, it is not the only material which serves satisfactorily. Different parts of a given structure may be formed from metal, wood, plastics or other materials. It may be desirable to have at least a portion of the housing formed of transparent or translucent material to permit the user to see the amount of powder in the supply chamber.

The invention is capable of being put to a number of uses. For example, the forms illustrated in Figures 1 to 4 are adapted to being used either as dresser powder boxes or as compact units to be carried on the person. The form illustrated in Figures 5 and 6 serves very well as a dispenser for sprinkling powder wherever desired.

While certain embodiments of the invention have been described specifically for illustrative purposes, other modifications will become obvious to persons skilled in the art, and the exclusive use of such modifications as come within the scope of the claims is contemplated.

What is claimed is:

1. A powder dispenser comprising a housing and having spaced apart walls, there being an opening in one of said walls, a tubular neck member of flexible material with one end communicating with the interior of said housing, said neck member being extensible outwardly from its inner end through said opening to facilitate the filling of said housing and being reversible to extend from said inner end into said housing to form a closed annular reservoir around the member.

2. A dispenser as described in claim 1 in which

substantially the entire structure is formed integrally from rubber or like material, the housing being of relatively stiff material and the neck member being of relatively flexible material to facilitate its reversal.

3. A dispenser as described in claim 1 which includes a separate pad fitted in the neck member, when the latter is in its inwardly extending position, and removable therefrom for applying the powder to the desired surface.

4. A dispenser as described in claim 1 in which a tab-like element is provided on the neck member to be grasped by the fingers to facilitate reversing the extension of the neck member.

5. A dispenser as described in claim 1 in which the neck member is provided with apertures near its rim to facilitate the passage of powder from the reservoir into the well defined by the neck member when it extends inwardly, as described.

6. A powder dispenser comprising a housing forming a reservoir and having a bottom wall and a top wall with an opening, a perforated disk spaced above said bottom wall and of substantially smaller area, a neck member of flexible material connected at one end to the edge of said opening and being capable of extending outwardly from said top wall to form a spout through which the reservoir may be filled or to extend inwardly into said housing with its free end surrounding said disk to form a central well, a removable puff-like member overlying said disk, and a cover secured to the housing and fitting over said pad.

7. A powder dispenser comprising a housing 35 forming a reservoir and having a top wall with an opening, a neck member of flexible material connected at one end to the edge of said opening and being capable of extending outwardly from said top wall and provided with a nozzle at its free end, said nozzle being of less diameter than 40 said opening whereby the neck member may be doubled upon itself and the nozzle received through said opening into the interior of the housing.

8. A dispenser as described in claim 1 which includes a cover mounted on the upper wall and, when closed, overlying the opening in the upper wall and the neck member extending inwardly therefrom.

9. A dispenser of the class described comprising a housing having spaced apart walls, there being an opening in one of said walls, a flexible neck member communicating with the interior of the housing through said opening, said neck member being selectively reversible to extend outwardly 55 of the housing from said opening to form a filling spout and to be projected inwardly of the housing from said opening with its inwardly projecting portion in contact with the other of said walls.

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