DISPENSER AND PROCESS OF MAKING THE SAME

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Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

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The present invention relates to dispensers adapted for use on various containers, and while it may be employed for many purposes it is particularly adapted to that form of container which is commonly used as a tobacco pouch. The invention has for its object improving upon the dispenser so as to make it more certain of operation, particularly in the opening.

The container shown is preferably made of rubber and provided with a mouth or dispenser which is held closed, but which will open up on the exertion of pressure on the ends of the mouth portion, the container invariably opening by the simple squeezing operation. It has been proposed heretofore to make rubber pouches with a slit or cut in the mouth thereof with the intention that it shall be opened up by pressure, but quite frequently the mouth fails to open, instead the mouth portion will buckle rather than open.

This is obviated by the present invention.

My dispenser will always open for the reason that the mouth portion is made of rubber or equivalent material molded or initially formed so that it will normally stand open, the closing means, which is usually an expanding spring, distorting the mouth from its normal position to bring it into closed position. In former dispensers of this type the mouth is normally closed and the spring merely tends to return the mouth to its normal condition.

The invention will be more fully understood from the description and drawings thereof, it being noted that the invention is illustrated in its best known or preferred form only, changes and modifications being possible in actual embodiments thereof.

In the drawings:

- Figure 1 is a side elevation of the container showing the filling aperture open and without the closure spring in position;
- Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;
- Figure 3 is a view of the mouth as it is normally positioned;
- Figure 4 is a section at the mouth showing the spring in position;
- Figure 5 is a view of the mouth closed, being a section on the line 5—5 of Figure 4;
- Figure 6 is a plan view of the filled pouch;
- Figure 7 is a cross-section on the line 7—7 of Figure 6;
- Figure 8 is a view looking into the filling end of the pouch with the inner flap tucked in place; and
- Figure 9 is a view showing the mouth in open position.

The pouch is made of any suitable material, but for the purposes herein disclosed it may be made wholly of vulcanized rubber. As molded, it consists of the body portion 1 and the inner and outer closure flaps 2 and 3, respectively. The inner flap 2 is the same width as the filling opening, while the outer flap 3 is made slightly wider. This is for the purpose of providing a perfect seal at this end of the pouch as the outer flap, when closed, will overlap the opening on either side. This is shown in Figures 1 and 6. The inner flap 2 is somewhat shorter than the outer flap and is tucked over the contents of the pouch before the outer flap is closed, as shown in Figure 8.

The mouth, which may be integral with the body as shown, or a separate piece fastened therein, is indicated at 4 and is molded in the form shown in Figure 3, that is to say, the rubber is vulcanized with the discharge aperture standing open. The rubber thus tends to return to open position, so that when the expanding force is relaxed the two sides or lips will spread apart to the position in which they were originally formed. By this expedient the mouth will always open up when the spring pressure is released, as by pressing the ends of the mouth together. Any flexible or resilient material may be substituted for the rubber of the mouth portion.

Internally of the mouth are formed the two sockets 5 which are designed to receive the ends of the expansion spring.

In Figures 1 to 3, the pouch is shown in its vulcanized form before the addition of the metallic elements. A button or snap 6 is provided for the filling opening and when the pouch is filled the flaps are overlapped as shown in Figure 7 to seal in the contents.

The closure spring 10 may be a coiled or flat spring. A coiled spring is shown in detail in Figure 5, the central portion being coiled and the ends seated in the sockets 5 where they are held by the metal clips 11. The spring tension is exerted on the two ends of the mouth to stretch it and thus close the mouth by distorting it so that the lips close together. While an expansion spring which closes the mouth by stretching is preferred, any other type of spring may be substituted.

When the mouth of the dispenser is molded as described, the ends are necessarily rounded as shown at 12. In this form it would be impractical to close the ends of the mouth by simply stretching the mouth as the corners would gap open slightly. For this reason the metal clips 11 are provided.
extend over the extremities of the mouth, as shown in Figure 5, thus forcibly closing the mouth at these points and avoiding the objectionable gap which would otherwise be present. The outer edge of the mouth portion may be provided with a bead 14 which covers the clips 11.

The essential distinction of the pouch here shown is that the mouth is distorted from normal open position to bring it to closed or distorted position. In the other forms of devices for this purpose, the mouth is in normal condition when closed. The advantage of the present device is that when the expansive force of the spring is relaxed by pressing the ends of the mouth together, the rubber will return to normal position. This makes a certain and positive opening of the pouch, eliminating all tendency of the mouth merely to buckle when the ends are pressed together.

What is claimed is:
1. A pouch formed of rubber or like elastic material having a mouth molded therein and normally standing in spread or open condition, and a spring stretching the mouth to bring the sides thereof together.
2. A pouch having a mouth formed of vulcanized rubber, which normally stands in open or spread position, and a tension device acting on the ends of the mouth and distorting it by bringing the sides together.
3. A pouch comprising a mouth portion of resilient material which in normal condition stands open, and a spring element tending to distort the mouth toward closed position with the sides in contact.

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