J. G. PATTON

SOAP CONTAINER FOR SHAVING SOAP AND THE LIKE

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ATTORNEYS.

INVENTOR:

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Attorneys.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John G. Patton, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Soap Container for Shaving Soap and the like, of which the following is a specification.

Soap containers of the conventional types now in vogue for shaving soap and the like, which latter is dispensed generally in the form of a cylindrical bar or stick, generally comprise a metallic or other cylinder or body of substantially standard dimensions in length and cross-section, having a cap or closure at one end said body being adapted to have a cylindrical cake or stick of shaving soap loosely fitting in said cylinder or container, so that it can be readily picked out with the fingers or grasped out when the container is inverted.

After the stick of shaving soap has been nearly used up, so that a small piece as a fraction of an inch in length remains, which cannot be readily manipulated in the fingers, this usually has to be thrown away or in some instances has been stuck on the end of a new stick of soap, the latter after being removed from its container being grasped in the fingers of the user during the act of applying soap to the face before shaving.

My present invention embodies the novel feature of an open-ended soap container, whose inner periphery is provided with a plurality, preferably three or more, of internally projecting parallel ribs or ridges, which enter and frictionally engage the outer periphery of the stick or cake of soap to such an extent that the soap cannot be shaken out of the container but can only be manually pushed out by a thumb or finger to the desired extent, my novel container serving the double function (a) of a container for either a new stick of soap or a new stick of soap with a small piece of a partially used stick, and (b) as a handle therefor during the act of applying soap to the face prior to shaving, it being apparent that when the stick of shaving soap is nearly used up or is used to such an extent that only a fraction of an inch remains, it is only necessary in my invention to insert a new stick longitudinally into either end of the container, whereby the parallel, wedge or other shaped internal ribs or ridges will retain both the short nearly used up piece of soap as well as the new stick properly within the container until the short piece is entirely used up, and thus there is no waste under any conditions.

To the above ends, my invention consists of a novel construction of a soap container, comprising a body having internal, parallel, longitudinally extending ribs or ridges, which is preferably open at both ends and provided with caps or closures hinged, screwed or otherwise secured thereto, so that the stick of soap can be manipulated or manually advanced from either end of the container upon removing the cap or closure at that end.

It further consists of other novel features of construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings, one form thereof which is at present preferred by me, since the same will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, although it will be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists may be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a soap container embodying my invention showing the top cover removed.

Figure 2 represents a longitudinal section on line 2—2 of Figure 1, with the top cover in position.

Figure 3 represents a transverse section on line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 represents a sectional view of another embodiment of my invention.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings:—

1 designates my novel construction of a soap container, the same comprising an open-ended body or cylinder 2, which is made slightly longer than the standard container, having the longitudinally extend-
ing, internal ribs or ridges 3, which are preferably triangular in cross-section and preferably arranged in parallelism, so that their apices are adapted to enter and frictionally engage the outer contiguous periphery of a cylindrical cake or stick of shaving or other soap 4.

The frictional contact of the internal retaining ribs or ridges 3 with the outer contiguous periphery of the soap will obviously retain said soap in the desired position as it is manually pushed longitudinally through the container with a portion protruding from the end thereof, and my invention readily lends itself not only to its function of a container or carrier for a new stick of shaving soap or one of full or standard length, but it also enables the user to insert the small unused portion of a partially used stick, as indicated at 5, into either end of the container upon removing either the top or bottom air tight cap or closure, as 6 or 7 respectively.

As will be apparent from Figure 2, the length of the container 2 is preferably made slightly in excess of the length of the standard container, so that room will be afforded for the positioning or replacement of a partly used or a short piece of soap as 5 within the container, and upon the removal of the substantially air tight caps or closures 6 and 7, it will be apparent that the sticks 4 and 5 can be manually advanced or pushed in either direction by the thumb or finger of the user, so that there is no waste under any conditions, and in addition, the container serves as a convenient handle to grasp and manipulate the soap during its application to the face of the user prior to shaving.

It will be apparent that while I have shown the longitudinal internal parallel ribs or ridges 3 as preferably wedge-shaped, I do not care to be limited thereto in every instance, as other shapes of ribs may be employed, and said ribs can be formed upon the inner periphery of the container body 2 in any desired manner, as seen in Figure 3, or they can be pressed from the outer periphery of the container, as indicated at 8 in Figure 4, by means of a suitable die or indenting appliance applied to the exterior periphery of the container seen in Figure 4, which is indicated as 9.

On the side of the body, a short distance from the terminals thereof are annular beads 10 which project outwardly therefrom, and form stops for positioning the caps 6 and 7, leaving terminal unthreaded or smooth neck portions on the body, on which said caps may be slipped conveniently to position them on the body and from which they may be conveniently slipped for removal therefrom, it being seen that as both ends of the body are open, the soap may be supplied to the body at either end thereof and likewise pushed out for use at either end.

It will also be noticed that the necks of the body and the closing caps thereon are each of similar construction and so the caps are interchangeable and adapted to be applied to either neck of the body without requiring any special selection thereof. While I have shown the container body as round, it is evident that it may be of other contour in cross-section, and while I have described the sticks or cakes of soap, as 4 and 5, as being shaving soap, it will of course be apparent that said soap may be utilized for other purposes.

In accordance with my present invention, the shaving stick is practically air sealed within its container, since the covers have a tight fit on the casing, so that in practice the soap does not dry out as has heretofore been the case in devices of this character. Furthermore, the spacing formed by the ribs permits circulation of air between the side wall of the stick and the casing if the stick is of less diameter than the casing. The cakes used for refilling need only to be wrapped in paper, and it is not necessary to wrap them in tinfoil, as has heretofore been the practice.

It will be apparent that if the end of a shaving stick which has been used up is moistened and placed on either end of a new stick and then pushed toward the exposed closure, that said remnant of the original stick will adhere to the new stick so as to form a single continuous stick of shaving soap. The closure against which the stick is pushed will form an abutment so that the proper pressure can be applied to cause the above-mentioned action to take place.

It will now be apparent that I have invented a new and useful soap container for shaving soap and the like, which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have, in the present instance, shown and described a preferred embodiment thereof which will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A container of the character stated, consisting of a cylindrical, hollow body open at both ends, an annular head near each end of said body, the terminals of said body forming smooth necks extending from said beads, a plurality of radially arranged, parallel,
longitudinally disposed sharp, pointed ribs extending throughout the length of said body including said necks upon the internal wall thereof, with which ribs the peripheral, ungrooved surfaces of long and short sticks of material in the body are adapted frictionally to engage to form grooves in the said sticks in their forward movements so as to function as a single stick, and a cap for each end of said body, which caps are interchangeable upon either neck thereof.

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Witnesses:
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