J. G. FITCHETT.

COLLAPSIBLE TUBE CONTAINER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 14, 1914.

1,122,096.

Patented Dec. 22, 1914.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

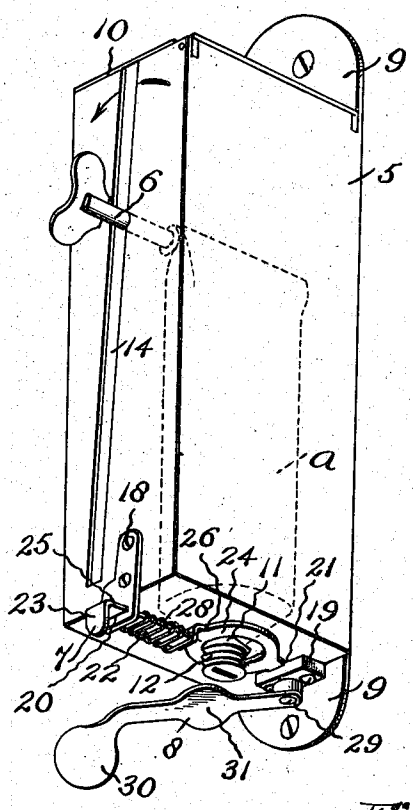


Fig. 2.

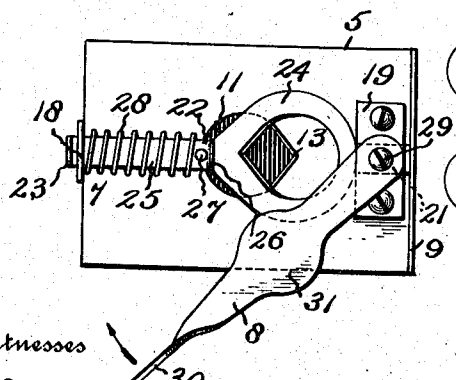
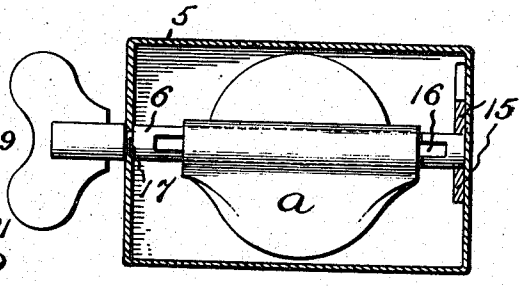


Fig. 3



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

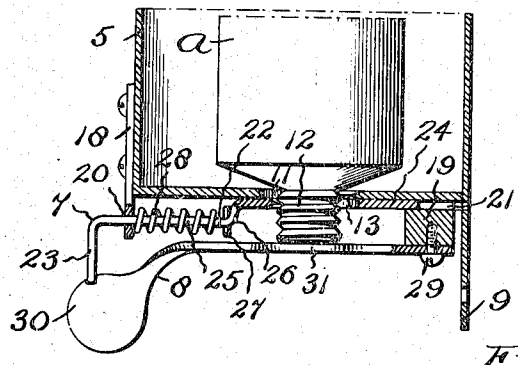


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

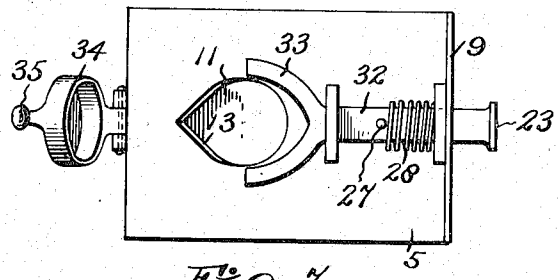


Fig. 7

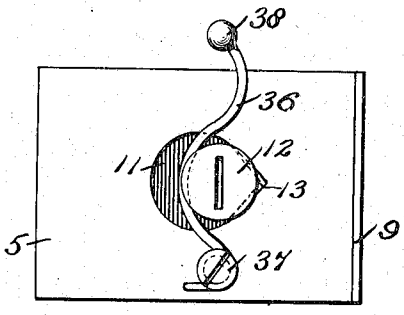


Fig. 8.

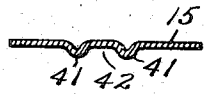
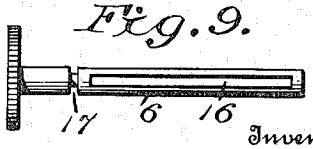
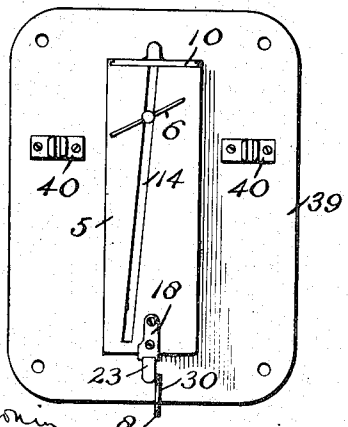


Fig. 9.





Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COLLAPSIBLE-TUBE CONTAINER.

1,122,096. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 22, 1914.

Application filed April 14, 1914. Serial No. 831,857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES G. FITCHETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Collapsible-Tube Containers, of which the following is a specification.

The general object of this invention is the provision of a holder for that form of toilet commodities which are usually packed in collapsible tubes, and having the holder adapted so that the tube may be collapsed for ejecting therefrom the contents of the tubes in desired quantities.

It is well-known that many toilet commodities such as tooth paste, shaving creams, vaseline and the like, are sold in collapsible tubes, which tubes are made of a flexible sheet material and are adapted to be compressed so as to eject the contents from a nozzle provided thereon. It frequently occurs that a person unaccustomed to using these tubes, compresses the same at the middle thereof, and the result is that the contents not only is ejected from the nozzle but is also directed through fractures which occur in the body of the tube, by virtue of the internal pressure; thus the paste easily becomes unfit for use. Another disagreeable feature by the use of collapsible tubes, is that the cap thereof often becomes lost, and the uncovered paste usually becomes contaminated.

The above described disagreeable features are obviated by my invention which consists of a container or holder which may be secured to a wall or suitable support, and is adapted to securely hold a tube of toilet cream or the like, and further, is provided with a handle or key for winding up the tube so that the contents thereof will be ejected from the bottom or nozzle, and further is provided with means for capping the tube when not in use.

Other objects will appear and be better understood from that embodiment of my invention of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the device. Fig. 3 is a horizontal cross-sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of the lower portion of the device. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of a modified form of the invention. Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of a further modification. Fig. 7 is a front elevational view of another modification. Fig. 8 is a horizontal cross sectional view of a modified form of guide. Fig. 9 is a plan view of a key upon which the collapsible tube is wound.

As shown in the drawings, the device is composed of the casing 5 for receiving the tube *a*, the key 6 for engaging with the tube, the means 7 for engaging with the end of the tube for holding the same in position and the cap 8 which is pivotally secured to the casing.

The casing 5 may be made of any suitable material and is of such size as to readily receive any of the usual sizes of tubes now on the market. Arranged at the ends of the casing or at any other suitable location thereon are the attaching portions 9—9 which are pierced so as to be fastened by screws or the like, to a suitable support. At one end, preferably the upper end, the casing is provided with a cover 10 which allows of the positioning of the tube within the casing and remains normally closed so that no dirt or foreign matter may enter the interior of the casing. The casing is also provided at its opposite or lower end with a suitable opening 11, which is sufficiently large to allow the projection therethrough of the nozzle 12 of the tube, and is provided with a substantial knife edge 13, the function of which will be hereinafter explained.

In order to allow the progressive movement of the key 6 upon which the end of the collapsible tube is wound, the casing is provided with an obliquely disposed slot 14, which alines with guide strips 15 secured to the interior of the opposite end of the casing, as shown in Fig. 3. The key 6 is provided with a longitudinal slot 16 for the reception of the flat end of the tube *a*, and is also provided with an annular guide slot 17, which receives the edges of the slot 14 in the casing. It will be seen therefore, by virtue of the key being positioned in the slots 14 and 15, that the key will travel obliquely as it is rotated, and will wind upon itself the end of the tube *a*, thus squeezing the contents out through the nozzle 12 onto a brush or the like, as desired. The reason for positioning the slot and guide strips obliquely on the casing, is to prevent the constantly enlarging wound

end portion of the tube from becoming jammed within the casing and thus causing annoying operations, but, by virtue of the key traveling in an oblique direction, the wound up end will be always centered on the tube and consequently the contents will be ejected with an even pressure. As shown in Fig. 1, an arrow is provided on the front of the casing adjacent to the slot 14, so as to denote the correct direction in which to wind the key.

Secured to the lower end of the casing are lugs 18 and 19, which are provided respectively, with slots 20 and 21 as shown in Fig. 4, for the purpose of slidably carrying the arm 22. This arm 22 is provided at one end with an angular portion 23, which functions as a handle for the arm, and provided at its opposite end is an enlarged eyelet 24, which has a portion of its inner periphery beveled so as to form a substantial knife-edge, which is arranged opposingly to the knife-edge 13 of the casing opening 11, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4. The shank portion 25 of the arm is offset as shown at 26 in Fig. 4, and is provided with a pin 27 which retains in position a coil spring 28 wound around the shank. It will be seen that by virtue of the spring bearing between the pin 27 and the lug 18, the arm 22 will be normally directed inwardly, and thus the opposing knife-edges of the opening 11 and the eyelet 24 will bind between them the screw-threaded nozzle 12 of the tube as shown in Figs. 1 and 4. And in order to disengage the tube, the arm 22 is released from engagement with the nozzle of the tube and the latter may be withdrawn from the casing. The lug 19 also acts as a bearing for a closure arm 8 which is pivotally secured thereto by means of the screw 29. The arm is provided with a bent-over end portion 30 which provides a finger-gripping portion for the operation thereof, and is also provided with an enlarged portion 31, which is adapted to be positioned flush on the end of the nozzle 12 and to function as a closure therefor when the tube is not in use. It will also be noted that by reason of the closure-arm contacting with the nozzle, the contents of the tube may be covered and so be secured against contamination from exposure. It will also be noted here that any surplus cream or paste oozing from the nozzle may be withdrawn into the tube by giving the key a slight reverse turn; this creates a vacuum within the tube and obviously withdraws the surplus back into the tube, as stated.

In the modification shown in Fig. 5, the arm 32 is similar to the previously described arm but instead of having an eyelet end portion, the arm 32 has a yoked end 33 as shown, which thus binds the nozzle of the tube between the yoke and the knife-edge of the opening 11. In this form of the invention a cupped cap 34 is provided, which is hingedly connected to the casing and is adapted to be swung over and onto the end of the nozzle, thus inclosing the same, and for the purpose of readily grasping the cap a knob 35 is provided thereon, as shown.

In the modification shown in Fig. 6, the sliding arm is dispensed with, and a spring arm 36 is provided as shown. This arm is substantially S-shaped, and is pivotally connected at one end to the casing 5 by means of the screw or stud 37, and for the purpose of providing a finger gripping portion for the operation of the same, a knob or handle 38 is mounted on the end thereof. As shown, the curved portion of the arm bears against the nozzle, and by virtue of its inherent resiliency binds the nozzle against the knife-edged opening 11 and securely holds the same in position.

A further modification is shown in Fig. 7, which consists of the device being mounted on a suitable base 39, which may be secured to a wall or suitable support by any suitable means; this base may be provided with brackets 40 for the purpose of holding tooth-brushes, shaving brushes and the like, and may be further elaborated to retain other toilet articles if desired.

By referring to Fig. 8, it will be seen that the guide slot 15 may be also formed as shown, such as by providing a pair of longitudinal oblique ribs 41, which coöperate to form a slot 42, for the end of the key 6.

It is obvious that those skilled in the art may vary the details of construction and arrangements of parts without departing from the spirit of my invention and therefore I do not wish to be limited to such features except as may be required by the claims.

What is claimed as new is:

1. In a device for holding collapsible tubes, a casing having an open end and a perforated closed end for allowing the projection therethrough of the nozzle of the tube, said perforation being provided with a beveled edge portion for engaging with the nozzle, the casing being further provided with obliquely arranged guide slots at the sides thereof, means operating in the slots for collapsing the tube, spring-pressed means carried by the casing for binding the nozzle of the tube against the beveled edge portion of the perforation, and a closure for the nozzle carried by the casing, substantially as described.

2. In a device for holding collapsible tubes, a casing having oblique guide-slots located therein, and further provided with an open end and a closed end, said closed end being provided with a perforation having a beveled-edge portion for allowing the projection of the nozzle of the tube and engaging with the same, a cover for the open

end of the casing, spring-pressed means slidably mounted on the casing for binding the nozzle against the said beveled edge portion of the opening, a key operating within the slots for collapsing the tube and a closure pivotally mounted on the casing and arranged for closing the end of the tube substantially as described.

3. In a device for holding collapsible tubes, a casing having obliquely arranged guide slots at opposite sides thereof, and further provided with a beveled edged perforation for allowing the projection therethrough of the nozzle of the tube, a key positioned transversely in said guide and operating longitudinally therein for collapsing the tube, spring-pressed means slidably carried by the casing and provided with a beveled-edge portion for coöperating with the beveled-edged perforation for securing the nozzle in position, and a closure pivotally mounted on the casing and arranged for closing the end of the tube substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I, affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES G. FITCHETT.

Witnesses:

ALFRED BAILEY,

BENJAMIN THOMPSON.