July 20, 1943. F. M. GROEDEL 2,324,575

PASTE TUBE HOLDER AND CLOSURE

Filed July 11, 1941

Fig. 1.

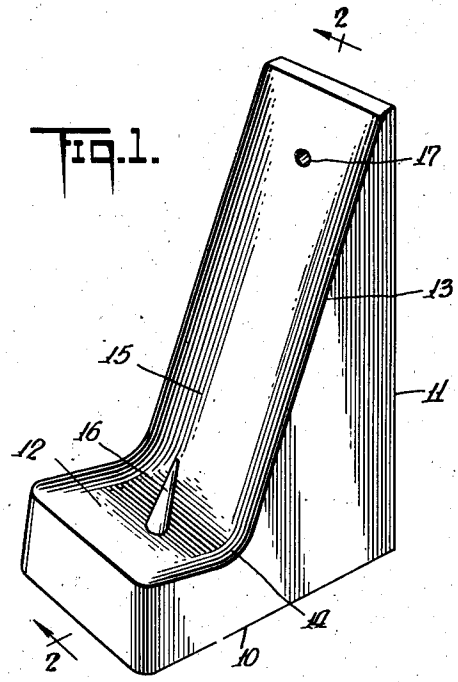


Fig. 2.

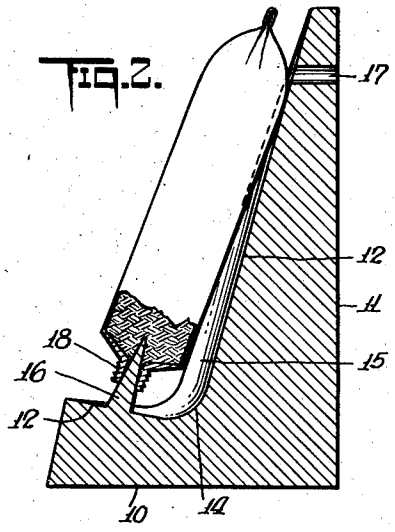


Fig. 3.

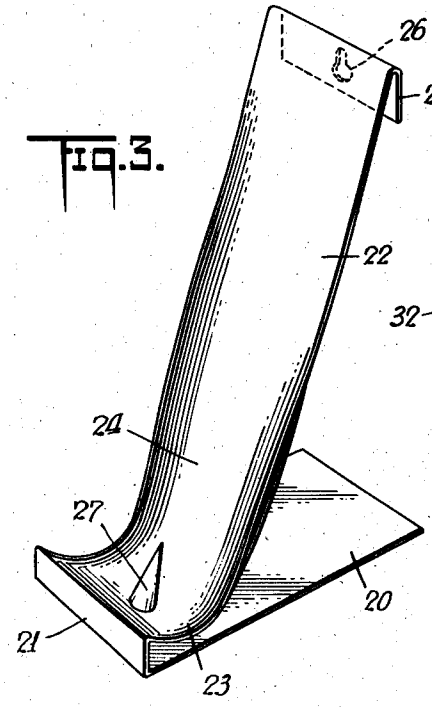
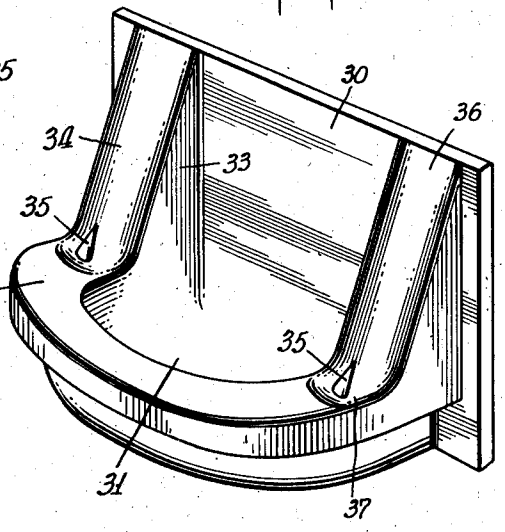


Fig. 4.



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PASTE TUBE HOLDER AND CLOSURE

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5 Claims. (Cl. 45—28)

The present invention is concerned more especially with paste tubes such as tubes for toothpaste, shaving cream, cold cream, ointment and the like.

There are many objections to the screw cap commonly used on such paste tubes. Such screw cap is frequently dropped and sometimes is lost in the drain of the wash basin; commonly the thread on the tube becomes stripped when the cap is forcefully applied by the mechanically unskilled user, so that it does not seal the contents effectively, and at best the application and removal of the screw cap even by a deft fingered or mechanically skilled person is somewhat time consuming; moreover the tube takes up valuable space in a cramped medicine chest.

Among the objects of the invention are to obviate all of the foregoing common difficulties and in particular to dispense with the need for the cap, once a fresh tube is put into use; and to render possible instant and effective closure of the tube, and instant opening thereof, without the need for any screwing or threading operation and to render the paste tube more readily accessible for use without taking up the valuable shelf space used up by a paste tube when laid in a medicine chest.

In the accompanying drawing in which are shown one or more various possible embodiments of the several features of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 2 is a view in longitudinal cross-section thereof taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1 and showing a paste tube mounted in place thereon,

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of another embembodiment, and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the invention as incorporated as a unitary part of a bathroom tile.

Referring now to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing, there is illustratively shown a unitary combined paste tube holder and closure which may illustratively be of molded composition such as ceramic, glassware, or synthetic resin such as "Bakelite," vulcanite, "Beetleware" or the like. The unit is shown generally angle-shaped with a base having a horizontal bottom 10 and a back wall having a vertical rear face 11. The top 12 of the base illustratively slopes downward from the front and merges with the face 13 of the back wall which slopes up rearwardly from the base. Desirably the unit is rounded as at 14 at the junction between the top of the base and the face of the back. The face of the back wall may be cylindrically concave as at 15.

Rising from the middle of the base 12 is a rigid stud 16 desirably tapering upward and sloping rearward somewhat by extending generally at right angles to the rearwardly inclined base. The unit may be stood upon a shelf or if desired attached to the wall by a nail or other suitable fastener (not shown) extending through an aperture 17 near the thinned upper edge of the unit.

In use the cap of the fresh paste tube may be discarded and the mouth 18 of the tube simply telescoped over the stud 16 as best shown in Fig. 2. Said stud will thus snugly plug the bore of the tube opening and seal the same to prevent escape of the contents or entry of foreign matter. The tube by its frictional hold upon the stud is supported in inverted position and the length thereof accommodated by the generally cylindrical concavity 15 of the back 13. The tube is instantly available for use by merely lifting it off the stud 16, and after use it may be conveniently closed and held in place by simply telescoping its mouth over the stud 16. Added shelf space is thus made available and the nuisance of manipulating or dropping the screw cap or of stripping the thread of the tube are obviated.

Fig. 3 shows an embodiment of the construction as made of a unitary strip of sheet metal bent to form a supporting base 20, a narrow upstanding forward ledge 21 and a back member 22, the root 23 of which curves downward from the front ledge 21 and thence upward into a generally cylindrical concave stem 24. The upper extremity of the back has a short downwardly extending flange 25 with a key aperture 26 therethrough from which the same may be mounted on the wall by means of a suitable headed fastener (not shown) if desired, although it may be rested upon its base 20.

Unitary with the curved root 23 or if desired attached thereto by welding or soldering in place is the tapered stud 27.

The ceramic unit might, if desired, be of the face dimensions of a bathroom tile so that it may be embodied as part of the standard equipment of the bathroom. Since such tiles generally are broader than the embodiment of Fig. 1 as for instance shown in the tile 30 of Fig. 4 the base thereof would ordinarily be equipped with two or more of the upstanding studs for accommodating toothpaste, shaving cream, ointment or the like in conveniently accessible relation. The unit in any of its embodiments might of course be provided with two or more suitably spaced studs for

mounting a corresponding number of paste tubes of the type commonly used in bathrooms.

In the embodiment of Fig. 4, a bathroom tile **30** is shown with a unitary more or less conventional soap tray **31** formed as a unit therewith. The soap tray is shown with a relatively broad rim **32** which rim illustratively has lateral risers **33** the faces **34** of which slope rearwardly to the upper edge of the tile. Spaced somewhat from the bases of the risers, the unitary tapered studs **35** rise therefrom. Desirably the rim of the tray slopes rearward slightly near the risers, as at **37**, and the studs are at right angles thereto and accordingly slope rearward substantially parallel with the face **34** of the risers. It will be understood that the mouth of the paste tubes telescoped over the studs **35** in the manner shown in Fig. 2 would extend upward along the faces of the risers. The riser face may be cylindrically concave as at **36** for accommodating the curvature of the tube.

It will be understood, that while the studs in most embodiments are made as a unitary integral part of the combined tube support and closure, it is within the scope of the invention to make such studs of a separate piece of metal or the like permanently affixed within the support.

While the invention finds its preferred application for paste tubes of the type used for cosmetic or toilet purposes it will be understood that the invention is by no means limited to such use. The invention could be applied to a horizontal bracket for use in a kitchen refrigerator to accommodate food paste tubes such as anchovie paste, sandwich paste spreads, etc.

As many changes could be made in the above construction and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope of the claims, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

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

1. A combined paste tube closure and support, comprising a generally angle-shaped molded bracket including a horizontal base having an upper surface inclined downward from the front, a vertical back unitary therewith and extending upwardly from the rear of said base for the height of the paste tube and having an inclined front wall, said base having an upwardly inclined tapered stud molded as a unit therewith and rising therefrom with its axis generally parallel to the front wall of said back, whereby the mouth of a paste tube may be telescoped over said stud for closing the same and supporting the tube in inclined position extending generally upward along said back.

2. A combined paste tube closure and support, comprising a unitary bracket shaped member having a horizontal base and a back wall unitary therewith, the upper face of said base sloping downward toward the back wall, the forward face of said rear wall sloping rearward from the bottom to the top thereof, said base having a tapered stud rigid therewith rising from the middle thereof at right angles to the upper face of said base, with its axis extending generally parallel to the front wall of said back, whereby the mouth of a paste tube may be telescoped over said stud for closing the same and supporting the tube in inclined position and extending generally upward along said back, said bracket-shaped member including a vertical portion at the upper end of its back from which it may be suspended from a wall.

3. A combined paste tube holder and closure comprising a unitary sheet metal bracket shaped member including a horizontal base, an upstanding wall inclined to the vertical rising from the front of said base and curved at its lower end, a unitary tapered stud rising from said curved forward end, the upstanding wall having a short downwardly extending flange with a key aperture therethrough from which the holder may be mounted on the wall by means of a suitably headed fastener.

4. A combined paste tube holder and closure comprising a bathroom tile having unitary therewith an upwardly sloping protruding ledge, and an upwardly tapering stud unitary with said ledge and at right angles thereto and over which the open mouth of a paste tube may be telescoped for supporting the same in position, said tile presenting a concavity lengthwise of and serving to accommodate the curvature of the tube.

5. As an article of manufacture, a bathroom tile having unitary therewith a forwardly protruding ceramic soap tray presenting a broad rim sloping downwardly from front to rear and risers extending upward and inclined rearward from the rear of said rim, said rim having upstanding rearwardly inclined tapered studs near said risers and adapted to have telescoped thereover the open mouths of paste tubes, said risers being concave to accommodate the curvature of the tubes.

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