May 31, 1932. B. DUNELL 1,860,662

COLLAPSIBLE TUBE HOLDER

Filed April 6, 1931

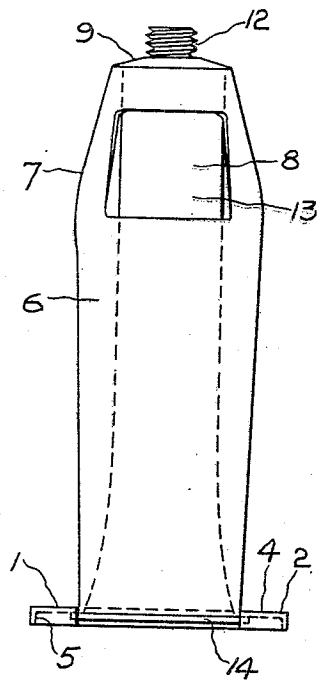


Fig. 1

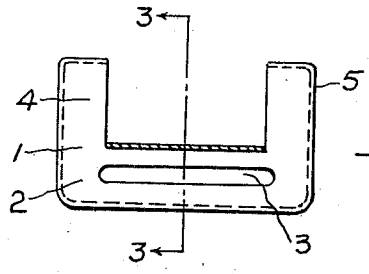


Fig. 2

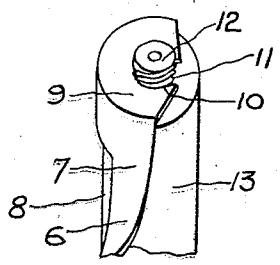


Fig. 4

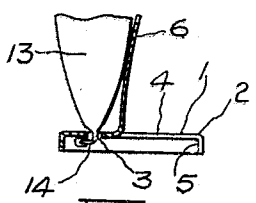


Fig. 3

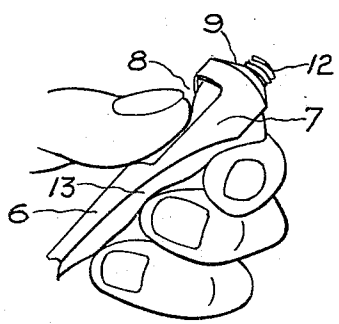


Fig. 5

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COLLAPSIBLE TUBE HOLDER

Application filed April 6, 1931. Serial No. 527,865.

My invention relates to improvements in collapsible tube holders which are particularly adapted for supporting tubes of tooth paste and the like that the paste may be conveniently expressed from the tube by one hand and the tube supported when not in use in a convenient position, so that it is not necessary to use the cap with which the tube is usually fitted.

The invention consists essentially of a base having a vertical member capable of engaging the extremities of the tube to support said tube with its mouth uppermost and an aperture adjacent the upper extremity of the support affording access to the thumb or index finger for collapsing the end of the tube adjacent its upper end, as will be more fully described in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a rear view of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of its base.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the base taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view looking down upon the holder.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing the manner of gripping the holder and tube to express the final residue of paste from the tube.

In the drawings like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each figure.

The holder consists of a base generally indicated by the numeral 1, which is preferably formed from a sheet of stamping material having a main portion 2 having an elongated slot 3 and a pair of spaced extensions 4, the edges of the main portion and of the extensions are downwardly turned as at 5 as a stiffener for the base.

The portion extending between the extensions 4 is upwardly bent to form a substantially vertical member 6, the sides of which adjacent its upper extremity are curved as at 7 to conform to a substantially semi-cylindrical shape. Between the curved sides 7 an aperture 8 approximately equal in extent to the diameter of the tube to be supported is formed, the purpose of which will hereinafter appear.

The vertical member 6 is surmounted with a substantially U-shaped cap 9, see Figures 1 and 4, the inner peripheral edges being extended to slightly more than a semicircle 10 so as to provide a throat 11 through which the nipple 12 of a tube 13 is forced that the tube may be firmly supported in position. The seam 14 at the lower end of the tube is inserted through the slot 3 in the base 1 and is bent at right angles to the longitudinal axis of said tube, thereby causing the tube to be firmly secured at opposite ends and in virtual contact with the upstanding member 6.

In use the holder with a tube secured thereto as above described is lightly gripped with one hand and a pressure first exerted at the base of the tube to collapse it against the upstanding member 6, thus expressing the paste contents of the tube as required through the nipple 12. When the lower portion of the tube has been collapsed and the remainder of the paste is held in the upper portion adjacent the aperture 8, an intimate contact is made on both sides of the tube by the thumb and fingers, the thumb preferably being so placed as to extend through the aperture 8 as shown in Figure 5.

The pressure as applied to the upper end of the tube by allowing the thumb or finger tips to pass through the aperture 8 enables the side walls to be brought into approximate alignment with the longitudinal axis of the tube, so that there is no tendency for the tube to be disaligned or the nipple 12 from being displaced from the throat 11.

When the entire contents of the tube have been used, it suffices to withdraw the nipple 12 from the throat 11 and move the collapsed tube into a horizontal position, when its seam 14 may be lifted out of the slot 3.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A collapsible tube holder comprising a base, an upstanding member and means on the member for supporting a tube adjacent its upper end with one side of said tube in close proximity to said member, said member having an aperture adjacent its upper end

affording access to the finger tips whereby the upper end of the tube is accessible to collapsing pressure of the fingers from its exposed side and through the aperture of the upstanding member.

2. A collapsible tube holder comprising a base, an upstanding member and means on the member for supporting a tube adjacent its upper end with one side of said tube in close proximity to said member, said member having an aperture adjacent its upper end affording access to the finger tips whereby the upper end of the tube is accessible to collapsing pressure of the fingers from its exposed side and through the aperture of the upstanding member, and means for securing the lower end of the tube to the base.

3. A collapsible tube holder comprising a blank of sheet material having one end split on opposite sides and bent to form a U-shaped base and an upstanding member, said U-shaped base having spaced legs and a connecting portion therefor from which portion the upstanding member extends, said blank having its opposite end bent to overhang the connecting portion of the U-shaped base and provided with a slot for receiving the nipple of a tube.

Dated at Vancouver, B. C., this 19th day of March, 1931.

BERNARD DUNELL.