April 10, 1945. L. R. DE LAUDER 2,373,551

CONDIMENT SHAKER

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Fig. 1.

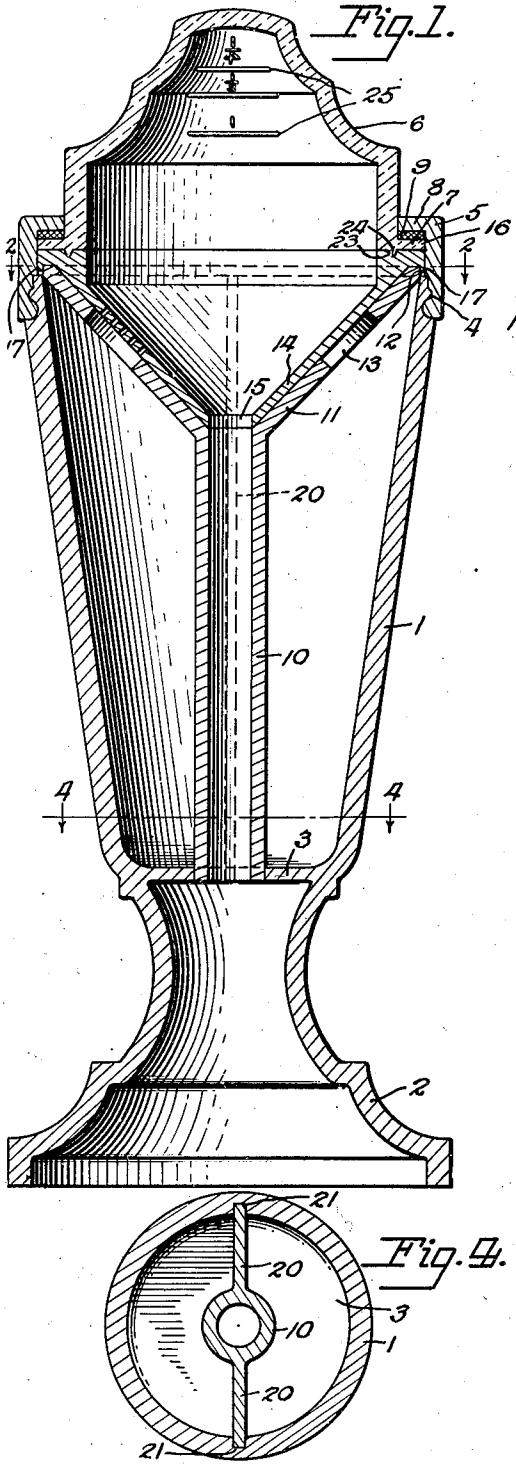


Fig. 2.

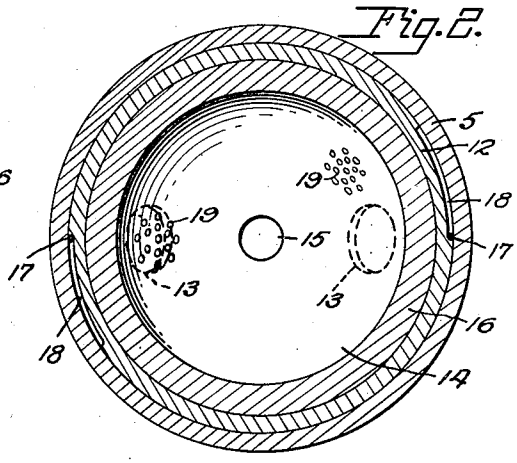


Fig. 3.

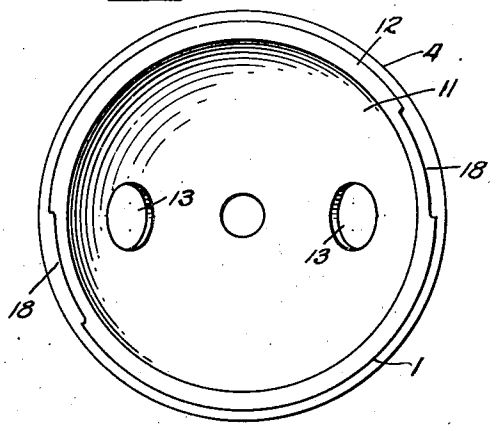


Fig. 4.

Inventor

L. R. DeLauder

By Mason Fenwick & Lawrence

Attorneys

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CONDIMENT SHAKER

Lawson R. De Lauder, Bartow, Fla.

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8 Claims. (Cl. 65—45)

This invention relates to condiment shakers, and more particularly to condiment shakers arranged to accommodate a plurality of different condiments in a common container with means for dispensing one or more, as desired.

An object of the invention is to provide a condiment shaker peculiarly adapted to exclude moisture and protect the contents from the deleterious effects of air.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the character indicated, which closes itself automatically in its normal standing position.

A further object is to provide a device of the character indicated with a mixing compartment in which desired quantities of one or more of the contents can be measured out and intermixed before delivery from the container.

Further objects will more particularly appear in the course of the following detailed description.

The invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and combinations of parts hereinafter more particularly specified and claimed.

One sheet of drawings accompanies this specification as part thereof, in which like reference characters indicate like parts throughout.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a vertical cross-section taken through the improved device;

Figure 2 is a transverse cross-section taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the device, with the cap, sealing ring and valve member removed;

Figure 4 is a transverse cross-section taken on line 4—4 of Figure 1.

In accordance with the present invention a container 1 which may be constructed of metal or other suitable material and in any desirable ornamental urn-like shape, is provided, having a suitable hollow base 2 and an intermediate bottom wall 3. The container wall is exteriorly threaded adjacent its upper open end as at 4, to receive a correspondingly threaded securing ring 5 having an inturned annular flange 8 adapted to engage an outwardly directed flange 7 formed on a cap member 6 which is preferably formed of glass or other transparent material. A gasket 9 may be positioned between the flanges 7 and 8 to provide a close engagement.

Within the main body of container 1 is positioned a tubular member 10 which passes through a central orifice in the bottom 3 and is provided on its upper end with a conical extension 11 providing an upper end wall for the container. The conical extension 11 is provided on its periphery with an outwardly directed flange 12 having oppositely disposed annular slots 18 adapted to receive studs 17 projecting downwardly from the annular flange 16 of a conical valve member 14 which is formed to nest in the conical member 11 and to have a limited rotary movement with respect thereto.

The conical member 11 is provided with a plurality of ports 13—13 and the conical valve member 14 is provided with similar ports but preferably in the form of circular groups of small perforations as indicated at 19 angularly offset with respect to the line connecting ports 13—13 so that by rotation of valve member 14 either one of the ports 19—19 or a substantial portion of both of the ports 19—19 may be brought into registry with the port 13 as desired. The conical valve 14 is provided with a central orifice 15 adapted to constantly register with the bore of tube 10. The upper face of its annular flange 16 is also provided with oppositely disposed detents 23 adapted to receive corresponding projections 24 formed on the bottom of the flange 7 of the cap 6 to secure rotation of the valve member 14 upon the rotation of the cap member 6.

As illustrated herein, the tubular member 10 is provided with oppositely disposed lateral flanges 20, the outer edges of which conform with the shape of the container 1, which latter is provided on opposite sides with grooves 21—21 within which the flanges 20 seat and thus divide the main body of container 1 between the bottom wall 3 and the upper conical wall 11 into a plurality of longitudinal storage compartments.

The cap 6 may conveniently be provided with vertically spaced indicia lines 25 which indicate in the inverted position of the container the amount of condiment in the cap.

In operation, the cap 6 and valve 14 are removed by removing the securing ring 5, whereupon the desired condiments such as salt and pepper, for instance, can be successfully inserted into the storage compartments of container 1 through their respective ports 13. With the storage compartments filled, the valve 14 will be placed in position and the cap reassembled, whereupon it being desired in cookery, for instance, to use a substantial quantity of either salt or pepper, say a quarter teaspoonful or a half teaspoonful, the cap 6 will be rotated until a port 19 coincides with the port 13 of the particular condiment compartment desired and the entire device will then be inverted and that con-

diment sifted through the aligned ports 13 and 19 until a sufficient quantity has sifted into the inverted cap to reach the indicia line corresponding to the amount desired. Thereupon, the container will be again inverted to its normal position and the contents of the cap will be projected through tube 10 and out of the base 2. Where a substantial amount of both ingredients is desired, the cap 6 can be rotated after a sufficient quantity of one ingredient has been sifted into the cap without inverting, until the opposite ports register, and thereupon, an additional quantity of the second condiment can be sifted through until the proper level is reached. Where it is desired to sift a small quantity of one or both condiments, as on food at a meal, the desired port or ports will be brought into register and the device shaken in its normal erect position, which will result in relatively small portions of the condiments being sifted up into the cap and immediately falling down through tube 1 and onto the article being seasoned.

From the foregoing, it will appear that with this improved device several condiments can be kept in a single container and selectively removed in large or small quantities alone or conjointly and that when not in use the container itself will effectively seal the compartments without other or additional closures, stoppers or the like.

Various modifications in the precise construction and arrangement of the parts will readily suggest themselves to those skilled in the art, but all within the scope of the present invention as illustrated.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A shaker comprising a container having a plurality of storage compartments, a mixing compartment, adjustable communication ports between the storage compartments and the mixing compartment and a discharge duct from the mixing compartment through the storage compartments to the exterior of the container.

2. A shaker comprising a container divided longitudinally into a plurality of storage compartments intermediate spaced end walls, a closure for the container forming in conjunction with the adjacent end wall a mixing compartment, a tube connecting the end walls and affording communication from the mixing compartment and the exterior of the container, and valve controlled ports between the storage compartments and the mixing compartment.

3. A shaker comprising a container divided longitudinally into a plurality of storage compartments intermediate spaced end walls, a rotary cap forming in conjunction with the adjacent end wall a mixing compartment, a tube connecting the end walls affording communication from the mixing compartment and the exterior of the container, ports in the end wall between the storage compartments and the mixing compartment and a valve member operatively associated with the cap and having a port continuously in register with the tube and other ports arranged to register selectively by rotation of the cap with one or more of the storage compartment ports.

4. A device as specified in claim 3, in which the cap is transparent.

5. The device of claim 3, in which the valve member and adjacent wall are conical in shape and nested.

6. The device of claim 3, in which the valve member and adjacent wall are formed with interlocking parts adapted to limit the rotary movement of the valve member with respect to the adjacent wall.

7. The device of claim 3, in which the valve member and adjacent wall are conical in shape and nested with interlocking means limiting the relative rotary movement of these parts.

8. A shaker comprising a container having spaced transverse walls with aligned orifices, the upper of which walls is conical, a discharge tube associating the said orifices, said tube provided with laterally directed flanges, the outer edges of which engage the inner wall of the container, a conical valve member adapted to seat in the upper conical wall having an orifice registering with the bore of the tube, said conical wall and valve member provided with angularly offset orifices adapted to register selectively upon rotation of the valve member, a transparent cap for the container forming with the conical valve member a mixing chamber, interlocking means on the conical wall and valve members respectively to limit their relative rotary movement and means removably securing the cap and rotary valve member to the container.

LAWSON R. DE LAUDER.