Feb. 20, 1962 W. H. HARRIS 3,021,946

LIPSTICK CONTAINER

Filed Feb. 14, 1961

Fig. 2

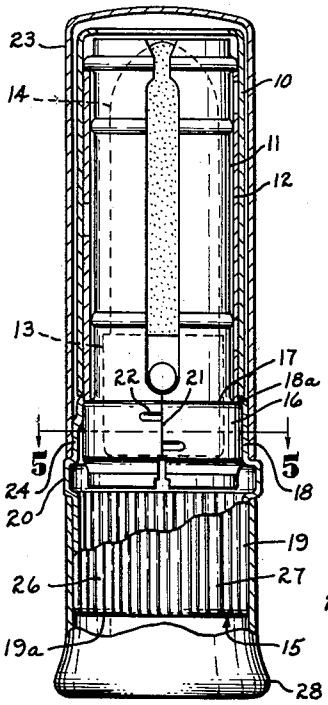


Fig. 1

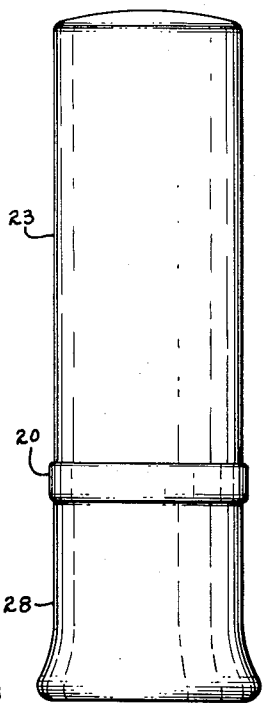


Fig. 3

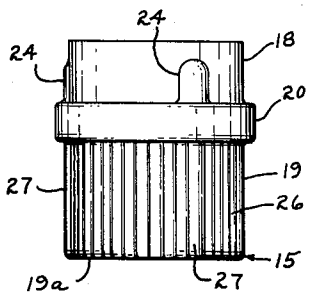


Fig. 4

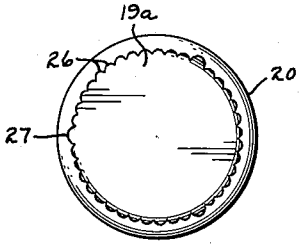
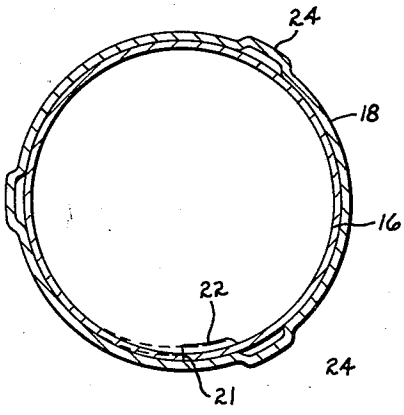


Fig. 5



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LIPSTICK CONTAINER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 206—56)

This invention relates to improvements in a lipstick container and particularly to a swivel-type container.

The recent trend in the lipstick container art has been to make the containers more ornamental in appearance by changing not only the shape of the shells that constitute the exposed parts of the containers, but also to provide a surface ornamentation on said shells which may be in the form of a variety of finishes or decorative designs that will suit the whims of the purchasing public.

Therefore, it is the principal object of my invention to provide a lipstick container to which any of a variety of decorative shells can be detachably assembled, one of which may be the closure cap and the other an ornamental base.

For this purpose, I provide a specially shaped operating head member that is permanently connected to the inside shell of a conventional swivel lipstick container. This head member is constructed with two cylindrical exposed portions divided by a circumferential bead or annulus therebetween, and it is to these exposed portions that the various decorative closure caps and bases may be assembled.

Another object of this invention is to provide a difference in the frictional forces exerted by the two divided cylindrical portions with the respective members that are attached thereto. The frictional engagement between the closure cap and the cylindrical portion adjacent the container will be less than the frictional force exerted by the outermost cylindrical portion and the decorative base applied thereto, so that when the closure cap is being removed from the container, the decorative base will still retain its portion on the head member and the latter may be used to facilitate the operation of the container.

The full nature of this invention, along with other objects and various advantages thereof, will be more apparent from a consideration of the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:

FIG. 1 is a side view of a lipstick container embodying my invention;

FIG. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the same;

FIG. 3 is a side view of the operating head member, per se;

FIG. 4 is a bottom plan view of the same; and

FIG. 5 is a transverse sectional view on a larger scale of the attached head shell and inner shell taken along the line 5—5 of FIG. 2.

This invention pertains to the so-called swivel type lipstick containers with some innovations, as will be explained later, wherein the essential parts consist of an outside casing shell **10** within which is rotatably fitted an inner shell **11** which an interposed helical member **12** therebetween. The helical member **12** is frictionally carried by the outside casing shell **10** in the usual manner or may be formed as an integral part of said casing shell. Slidably operated within the inner shell **11** is a carrier cup **13** for protracting and retracting a stick of cosmetic material **14** within the container.

One of the recent changes in the art of lipstick containers is to make the inside shell from strip material by a rolling operation and attaching an operating head member thereto as a separate part. This method of making the inside shell thus produces a slit throughout the entire

length of said shell and as shown in FIG. 2, the inside shell **11** is formed with an enlarged cylindrical end **16** providing a shoulder **17** between it and the main body of the shell **11**.

Considering now the details of the operating head member **15** which consists of an upper cylindrical section **18** and a lower cylindrical section **19** having a closed base **19***a*. The upper and lower sections **18** and **19** are separated by a circumferentially raised bead or annulus **20** of sufficient width to harmonize with the overall appearance of the finished container. In making the permanent assembly between the inside shell **11** and the head member **15**, the enlarged end **16** is dimensioned to have a forced telescopic fit into the upper section **18** of said head member and is pressed into the upper section **18** to a stop position as determined by the assembly tools. In its stop position, the shoulder **17** will be disposed slightly below the upper raw edge of the upper section **18** after which said upper section may be formed or spun inwardly over said shoulder **18***a* as an added anchorage means.

One of the faults inherent in the above type of inside shell construction, resulting because said inside shell **11** was slit throughout its entire length, was the possibility of the edges of the slit overlapping each other when the inside shell was pressed into the head member **15**. This occurred particularly where the slit extended across the enlarged end **16** of said inside shell causing the slit ends of said enlarged section to be forced out of abutting engagement, as shown in dotted outline in FIG. 5, so that the necessary binding engagement required by the force fit of the enlarged end **16** within the head member **15** would be lost. To overcome this fault, a pair of inwardly formed ribs **22** extending transversely from the edges of the slit **21** are formed in the enlarged end **16**, one on each side of said slit. Thus, it will be obvious that any tendency of the edges of the enlarged end at the slit **21** to overlap each other will be prevented by these ribs, thus always assuring a tight fit between the inner shell **11** and the head member **15**.

A closure cap **23** is provided for covering the entire length of the container and is adapted to fit over the upper section **18** of the head member **15** until its open end abuts the bead **20** as a stop. The cap **23** is frictionally held in place by friction ribs **24** (3 in this instance) spaced about and formed outwardly of the upper section **18**. It is to be noted that by reason of the above frictional fit between the head member **15** and the closure cap **23**, the latter does not have any contact with the casing shell **10**, thus placing this device in a class of free-wheeling lipstick containers.

As best seen in FIGS. 3 and 4, the lower section **19** of the head member is formed with a series of closely arranged longitudinal reeds **26** extending the entire length of said section and conjoined with said reeds are three longitudinal ribs **27** formed outwardly of said lower section with their crest portions extending radially outwardly beyond the crest portions of said reeds for reasons as will appear later. This reeding of the head member, aside from adding to the decorative appearance of the container, serves to provide a better gripping surface to the head shell for operating the container and also provides strength to the lower section, thus giving a greater support to the longitudinal ribs for reasons as will appear.

Up to this point, it is to be noted that a complete lipstick container with cover cap has been described and can be sold as such. Now, if it is desired to further embellish the lipstick container, a decorative or ornamental base **28** may be provided and adapted to have a slip fit over the lower section of the head shell. This decorative base **28** may have any particular shape and/or covered with artistic motifs in harmony with the closure

cap or any exposed portion of the head member. The decorative base 28 is constructed to have a frictional engagement over the longitudinal ribs 27 of the lower section and this frictional engagement should be substantially greater than the frictional engagement between the closure cap and the ribs 24 on the upper section so as to permit the closure cap to be removed without disturbing the assembled position of the decorative cap. One of the means by which the above differential friction may be obtained is by making the ribs 27 on the lower section 19 relatively narrow in width and extending the full length of said lower section, while the ribs 24 on the upper section 18 should be considerably wider than the ribs 27 and extend only part way of the length of said upper section.

It is considered that the invention and many of its attendant advantages will be understood from the foregoing description and it will be apparent that various changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A lipstick container of the swivel type comprising an exterior casing and an interior shell rotatably mounted in said casing, an operating head member connected to said interior shell and located entirely outside of said casing, said head member being divided with upper and lower sections and an intermediate circumferential raised annulus therebetween, the upper and lower sections each having a plurality of elongated ribs arranged longitudinal of and equally positioned about said sections, an elongated cover cap of sufficient length to slip over the exterior casing and be frictionally received on the ribs of said upper section, and an ornamental base telescopically fitted over the lower section and having frictional engagement upon the ribs of said lower section, the frictional engagement between the ornamental base and the ribs of the lower section being sufficiently greater than the frictional engagement between the ribs of the upper section and the cover cap to permit the latter to be withdrawn without disturbing the telescopic frictional fit of said ornamental base on said lower section.

2. A lipstick container as defined in claim 1 wherein the lower section of the operating head member is formed with a series of strengthening longitudinal reeds, and the height of said longitudinal ribs on said lower section is greater than the height of said reeds.

3. A lipstick container as defined in claim 1 wherein the ribs on the upper section of said head member extend only part way of the length of said upper section and said ribs on said lower section extend the full length thereof.

4. A lipstick container as defined in claim 3 wherein the ribs on the upper section are substantially wider than the ribs on the lower section.

5. A lipstick container of the swivel type comprising an exterior casing, a spiral element carried by said casing, an interior shell rotatably mounted in said spiral element, a carrier cup slidably mounted in said casing, said shell having an enlarged end portion below said casing and spiral element, said shell having a longitudinal slot to accommodate the operating pin on said carrier cup and a slit extending from said slot across said enlarged portion, an operating head member having a reduced neck portion fitted on said enlarged portion with a drive fit, and inwardly formed ribs on said enlarged portion extending from the slit, there being at least one such rib on each side of said slit for the purpose of preventing the edges of enlarged portion at the slit from overlapping each other due to the confining pressure of said enlarged portion in said reduced neck portion.

No references cited.