Jan. 18, 1927. 1,615,150

E. VALLENS

BREAKER AND STOPPER EXTRACTOR

Filed Feb. 24, 1923

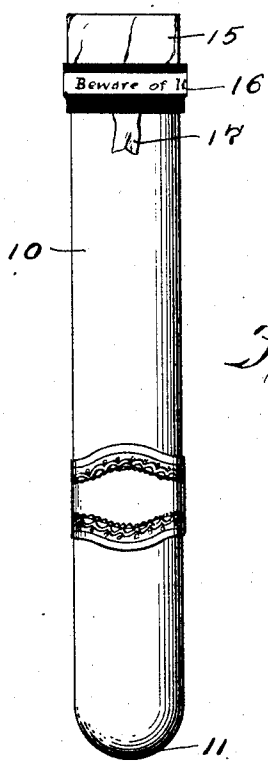


Fig. 1.

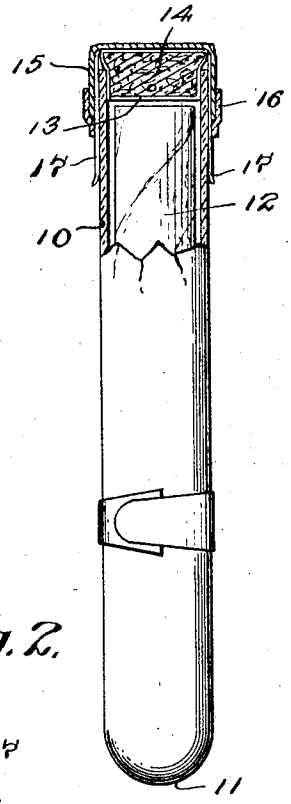


Fig. 2.

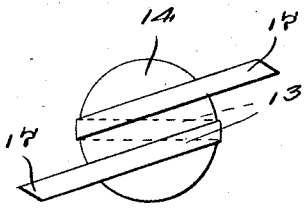


Fig. 5.

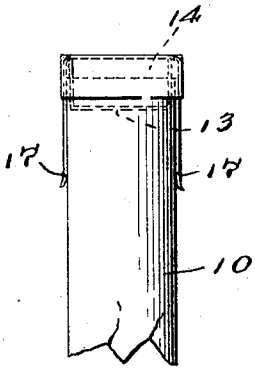


Fig. 3.

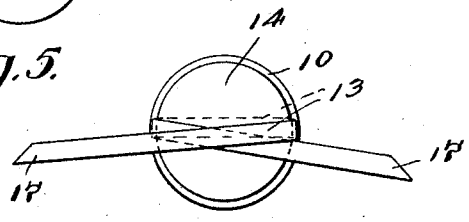


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE VALLENS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BREAKER AND STOPPER EXTRACTOR.

Application filed February 24, 1923. Serial No. 620,934.

The invention has for an object to effect an improvement in seals for cigar containers, and particularly of that type employed in sealing a cigar in a glass tube. It has for an object to provide a satisfactory means for hermetically sealing such a tube in a simple and economical manner, while yet enabling ready removal of the sealing device. It is a further important aim to provide an extractor for a cork stopper inserted in such a tube in the form of a ribbon inserted under the cork. It is a further important aim of the invention to provide means for protecting the ribbon against disturbance after the stoppered end of the tube has been dipped in paraffine, to the end that in handling, shipment, or otherwise, movement of the ribbon adjacent the mouth of the bottle will not occur, which would fracture the paraffine thereon and thereadjacent, by which the tube is sealed, and the hermetic quality of the seal thus impaired.

It is a further important aim of this invention to provide an arrangement whereby a combined seal breaker and cork extractor is provided in one element, so that where a covering seal or cap is placed over the end of the tube after sealing with the stopper and paraffine, it will not be necessary for the person desiring to use the contents of the tube to use his fingernails or an instrument for the breaking of the cap ordinarily employed in this way.

I am aware of the familiar practice of closing cigars in tubes with a stopper, and I am also aware of the practice of providing for the extraction of stoppers from bottles and jars by confining within the stopper a tape or the like, which projects beside the stopper and may be grasped for its withdrawal.

Additional objects, advantages and features of invention may become apparent from the construction, arrangement and combination of the parts, as will be more readily understood from the following description and accompanying drawings, wherein,

Figure 1 is an elevational view of a tube sealed and having my invention applied thereon,

Fig. 2 is a similar view at right angles to Fig. 1, partly in section,

Fig. 3 is a detail of the sealed end of the tube before emplacement of the final seal or cap,

Fig. 4 is a top view of the tube showing the arrangement of the fracture ribbon before emplacement of the cap.

Figure 5 is a top view of the cork corresponding to Figure 4, showing a preferable arrangement of the ribbon ends.

There is illustrated a tube 10, which may be, or which may closely resemble, a test tube, the closed end 11 thereof being rounded or of any other suitable form, while the opposite end is finished smoothly with an edge in a plane at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the tube.

A cigar 12 is shown in the tube. After emplacement of the cigar, the ribbon 13 is laid across the end of the tube with its end portions projecting equally on each side thereof, and a stopper 14 then inserted in the tube, pressing the ribbon downwardly, the ribbon being located close to or on a diametrical line across the inner end of the stopper. The ends of the ribbon are then folded inwardly across the outer end of the stopper 14 and drawn longitudinally inward beside the tube 10, as shown in Fig. 2, and held in this manner while the tube is dipped in paraffine. An ornamental cap or seal 15 is then placed over the stoppered end of the tube, extending a distance longitudinally upon the tube, but less than the length of the end portions of the ribbon beside the tube. The cap 15 is formed of a material of suitable strength to protect the paraffine against abrasion casually in the ordinary course of use in shipment or storage. The inner edge portion of the cap 15 is then firmly secured by means of a band 16, also of ornamental form, which is extended around the inturned portion of the cap and secured by adhesives or otherwise.

In practice, the cap 15 is formed of paper and the band 16 also. As it is necessary for the band to be of sufficient strength to prevent loosening of the cap 15 and casual disturbance of the ribbon 13 as well, it is desirable that this also be of ample strength. The cap 15 is ordinarily covered with gold foil.

In applying the band 16, the cap 15 is trimmed first to a good edge, or the cap is pre-formed in such manner that when engaged over the end of a tube and closely against the sides thereof, it will have an edge nearly uniform and in a plane at right angles to the axis of the tube. The band 16

is gummed upon the inner side and is applied to the package extending a distance against the surface of the tube 10 and also over the edge portion of the cap 15, so that casual disengagement of the cap 15 is thoroughly guarded against.

In the use of the package, for the removal of a cigar, it is only necessary to grasp the projecting ribbon end or ends 17 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, drawing them outwardly at right angles to the tube one after the other and then longitudinally outward from the tube, this serving to thoroughly break up the cap 15 across the end of the tube, so that then by grasping the two end portions of the ribbon together and drawing them longitudinally outward from the tube, the stopper 14 is easily removed.

It will be seen that a very simple expedient is provided for performing the function of a combined stopper extractor and seal breaker which may be embodied at a low cost.

It is preferable that the ends of the ribbon be laid parallel across the top of the stopper and spaced apart, as shown in Fig. 5, so that in the drawing of the ends outward each will break off separate large parts of the cap, and thus facilitate the passage of the stopper from the end of the tube. It is insufficient in such devices to break the cap portion only at opposite sides, leaving portions intervening unbroken and extending integrally to the top part of the cap, as these would still prevent withdrawal of the stopper, the securing band being glued to the tube and cap continuously. By the arrangement insuring breakage of the major portion of the end of the cap, parts tending to obstruct the withdrawal of the cap are eliminated.

What is claimed is:—

In a device of the character described, a receptacle, having an opening and a stopper fitted snugly therein, a flexible extractor member having a medial portion confined in the opening by said stopper, its end portions being laid across the stopper in spaced relation and then extended beside the receptacle a distance, a frangible hermetical sealing material intimately adhering and forming a coating over the stopper, superposed parts of the extractor and adjacent surfaces of the receptacle, and a breakable cap engaged over the stopper, and extractor, surrounding the adjacent parts of the receptacle and secured thereto, but stopping short of the extremities of the extractor.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

EUGENE VALLENS.