Oct. 20, 1953 J. BREEZE 2,656,065

CONTAINER KEY

Filed Feb. 9, 1952

Fig. 1

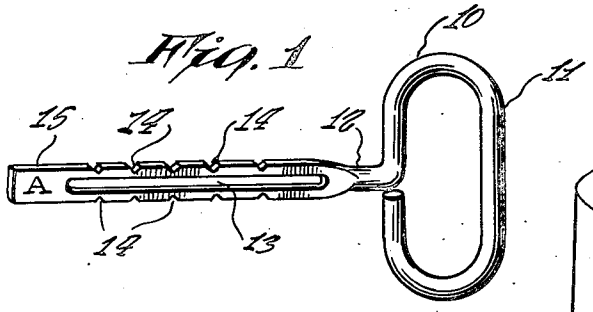


Fig. 3

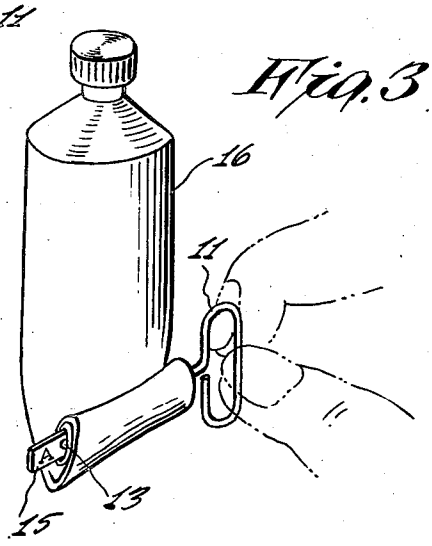


Fig. 2

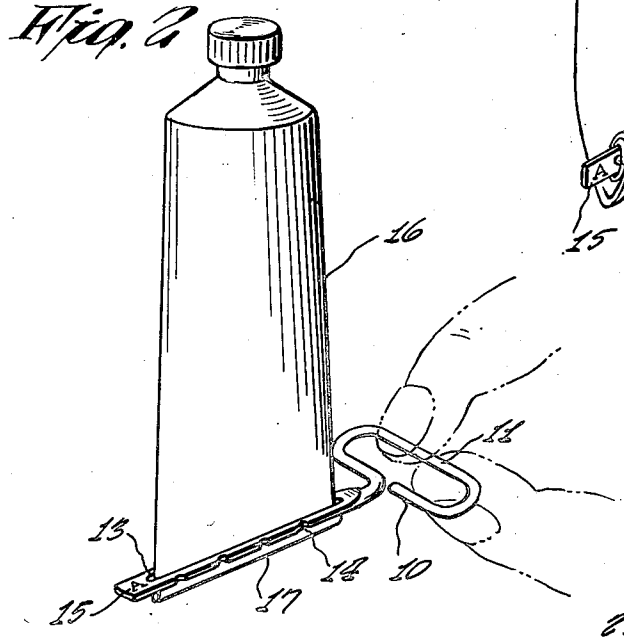


Fig. 5

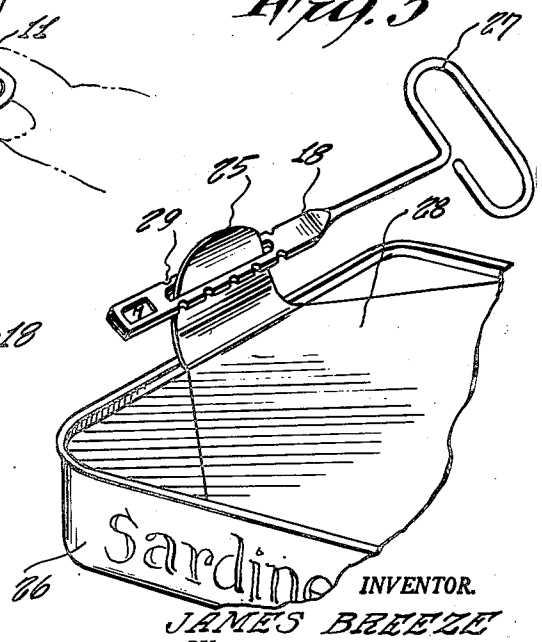
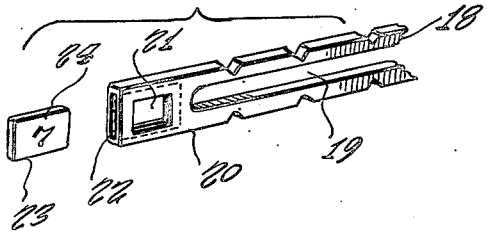


Fig. 4



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CONTAINER KEY

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1 Claim. (Cl. 220—52)

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This invention relates to keys with particular reference to the variety used in connection with the act of rolling up thin metallic articles.

Many useful products today appear on the market in dispensing tubes wherein the tube contents are extruded from the tube interior by applying pressure to the tube exterior. When the quantity of material remaining in a tube becomes depleted, it becomes necessary to increase the pressure application by rolling the tube together spirally beginning with the end remote from the dispensing end, no doubt a process familiar to most of the civilized world. To accomplish this rolling-up process by the use of one's hands alone, is quite awkward, thus the instant invention is offered as an efficient solution to the above problem.

Consequently, one of the objectives of this invention relates to the provision of a key for rolling up a dispensing tube containing such materials as toothpaste, mucilage, paint, etc.

When a dispensing tube has been rolled up substantially, the label identifying the contents becomes obscured, causing confusion when the user has a plurality of such tubes with different contents. To eliminate such confusion, the key means are provided with identification means. Therefore, another important object of this invention relates to the provision of individual identification means for the said keys.

A further objective of this invention relates to the provision of an improved means for rolling up thin metallic covers such as occur in sardine cans and the like.

A still further objective of this invention relates to the provision of removable indentification means for keys of the above type.

Other objects and structural details will be apparent from the subjoined description taken in connection with the drawings forming a part of this specification and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention.

Figure 2 shows an application thereof to a paste dispensing tube.

Figure 3 is a similar view showing the tube after being partially rolled up.

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of a modified form of the invention.

Figure 5 shows the application of the modified form of the invention to the opening of a sardine can or the like.

Referring to the drawings, the pressure key 10 of Figure 1 is shown to comprise the operating handle 11 having the extension 12 provided with the slot 13 and formed peripherally on both sides of the slot with the teeth 14. Identification means 15 is provided on the key end remote from the handle 11.

In Figure 2, the key 10 is shown in operation in connection with paste dispensing tube 16. The end of the tube 17 is inserted into the slot 13 and the handle 11 is rotated, causing the tube 10 to

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be rolled-up as shown in Figure 3. The teeth 14 bite into the tube exterior, thereby preventing slippage and resulting in a tightly wound tube. Obviously the amount of material extruded from the tube increases with the compactness of the rolled tube convolutions. Thus the teeth 14 ultimately result in the extrusion of more paste from the tube. The symbol 15 extending away from the tube is clearly visible whereby the tube contents can easily be identified.

A preferred key form is depicted in Figure 4 wherein the key extension 18 is centrally formed with the slot 19 and the end 20 with the perforated slot 21 having the opening 22 for the insertion of the removable indentification means 23 having the symbol 24. In operation as seen in Figure 5, the starting tab 25 of the sardine can 26 is inserted into the slot 19 of the key 18 and the handle 27 is rotated to wind up the cover 28 about the key 18. As in the preceding form the teeth 29 bite into the cover 28, preventing slippage whereby the manual effort expended is greatly reduced. Obviously the key 18 can be also used with dispensing tubes, the removable identification means in such an environment being extremely convenient. By merely inserting a symbol into the slot 21, the particular product in the tube can easily be ascertained. Moreover, the same key can be used repeatedly with various pastes by merely changing the symbol.

It is desired that it be understood that numerous changes in shape, size and material may be resorted to within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claim.

Having thus set forth and disclosed the nature of this invention, what is claimed is:

A pressure key comprising an operating handle and a winding tool, said tool comprising an elongated shank having parallel side edges and an end face and a centrally located longitudinal slot between said edges, the said edges of the said shank being notched substantially throughout their length to form gripping means, and the shank end remote from said handle being provided with an opening in the said end face removably receiving identification means.

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