A. J. BENNETT.

CONDIMENT HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 19, 1909.

924,959. Patented June 15, 1909.

Fig. 1.

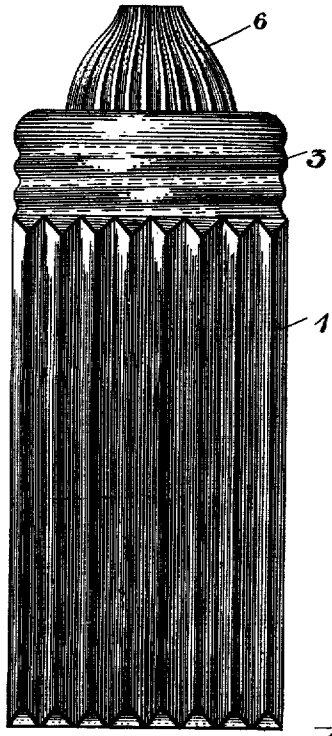


Fig. 2.

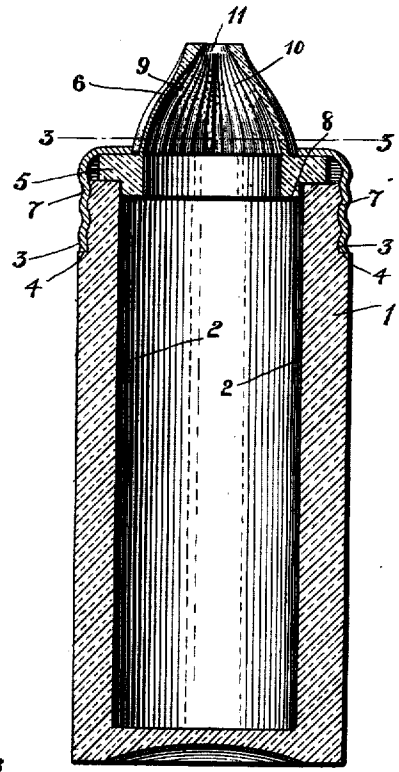
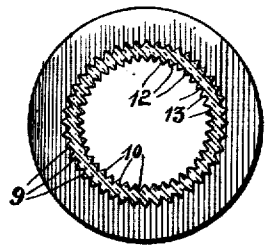


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR JAMES BENNETT, OF CAMBRIDGE, OHIO.

CONDIMENT-HOLDER.

No. 924,959. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 15, 1909.

Application filed April 19, 1909. Serial No. 490,907.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR J. BENNETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cambridge, in the county of Guernsey and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Condiment-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the class of dispensing receptacles or condiment holders, and particularly those which are used to supply powdered or comminuted substances, such as salt and pepper.

It is well known that finely divided substances, particularly salt, have a tendency to become massed and lumpy under unfavorable conditions, as in damp weather, and in such condition to render their dispensing cans or containers practically useless, either by forming lumps or sticking to and clogging the openings in the top. As is also well known, lump-breakers of various forms have been employed, but these have always comprised extra parts inserted in the receptacle, and have been found generally inconvenient in that they take up a large part of the interior of the vessel, the material clogs about the breakers as well as lumping of itself, and there is always the annoying rattle of the breaker against the sides and top of the shaker.

It is my object to improve the general structure of this class of articles, and to provide a lump-breaker and dispenser which will not involve the use of an extra part, thereby increasing the vessel's capacity, while also insuring a good feed to the dispensing mouth.

A further object is to provide a lump-breaker which will act with a grinding and cutting action on lumps, thereby wearing away gradually hard lumps which will not break by striking against the breaker or disintegrater.

It is also an object to construct a dispenser which combines with an integral breaker, a formation which will permit a certain graduated feed from the dispensing mouth, thereby avoiding the too rapid discharge of material which usually attends the operation of a salt holder.

With the above objects in view, my improved dispensing receptacle will now be more full described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings which form a part thereof, and in which:—

Figure 1, is a side elevation of the shaker, Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view thereof, and Fig. 3, is a sectional view through the dispensing portion of said shaker, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

In said drawings, 1 indicates the body of the shaker, which may, with equal applicability, be square or round or of any other conformation; and may be of any material, as glass or composition. Said body 1 is formed with a substantially cylindrical interior, the annular surface 2 thereof extending uninterruptedly from top to bottom of the body. At its upper end said body 1 is provided with an external screw thread 3, whose function will hereinafter appear, and which is preferably cut deeply enough into the said body to form a slight annular shoulder 4.

Resting in the mouth of the body 1, and closing the cylindrical interior is an annular member 5, which is surrounded by a dome 6. Said member 5, comprises an annulus which rests on the upper edge of the body 1 and a depending flange, preferably formed as a part of said annulus, which depends within and fits against the surface 2, thereby serving to center the same. Said member 5 is positioned and maintained on its seat by means of a sleeve 7, which is interiorly threaded to coact with the aforesaid threads 3, formed on the body 1, and has an inwardly extending flange 8 which bears against the upper surface of the member 5, the lower edge of the sleeve 7, when in this latter position, bearing against the shoulder 4, thereby giving a completed or finished appearance to the article. Said dome 6, is cone-shaped and is mounted on said member 5 substantially at the inner annular edge thereof, so that the interior of the dome is flush and practically one with the inner surface of said member 5. On its exterior and interior surfaces said cone-shaped dome is provided with corrugations or flutes 9 and 10, said flutes being wider at the base of said dome, and tapering and converging toward a dispensing mouth or aperture 11 at the upper end of said dome. The interior flutes 10 are formed to project beyond the annular surface of the member 5, thereby presenting points in the path of substances contained in the receptacle, and the upstanding edges 12 (Fig. 3) of flutes 10 are

substantially knife-edged throughout their lengths.

It is evident from the above that lumps of salt or other material, upon being shaken down into the dome 6, and subjected to the usual shaking given to a salt shaker in operation, will be thrown against said points and edges 12, and subjected to an abrading and cutting action, thereby gradually and effectively wearing away the lumps with sufficient rapidity to afford a substantial supply. It is also evident that said flutes, by reason of their convergence, provide a series of channels 13 which all lead to the aperture 11. Thus, when it is desired to supply only a very small amount of the contained substance, these channels act as feeders, separating the said substance into several streams, and directing it in manageable quantities toward the opening or aperture 11. Otherwise, the substance would issue toward said aperture 9 in a heavy unregulable body, and either supply too large a quantity or none at all.

It is obvious from the above that my improved device is well adapted to serve the purpose previously set forth, and it is also evident that there are details of construction, as the conformation of the body and the particular shape of the dome which may be varied while still keeping within the scope of my invention.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:—

1. A condiment shaker, comprising in combination with a hollow body, a cap rigidly secured to said body, said cap comprising a hollow cone having an opening at its apex, and having a series of ridges formed around its interior, said ridges projecting into the path of the contents of the body, and comprising sharpened projections which converge toward said opening to abrade lumped substances.

2. A condiment shaker, comprising in combination with a hollow body, a cap rigidly secured to said body, said cap comprising a hollow cone having an opening at its apex, and having a series of alternate projecting edges and channels, the former serving to abrade lumps and the latter serving to feed comminuted substance to said opening.

3. A condiment shaker, comprising, in combination with a hollow body, a cap seated on said body and means for securing said cap to said body, said cap comprising an annulus resting on the upper edge of said body, a depending flange formed on said annulus to fit within said body to center said annulus, a cone formed on said annulus and having an opening at its apex, and a series of ridges forming abrading edges and feed channels formed in said cone, and said securing means comprising a sleeve threaded on said body and having an inwardly projecting flange which engages and retains said annulus when said sleeve is screwed on said body.

4. A condiment shaker, comprising in combination with a hollow body, a cap, said cap comprising an annulus adapted to seat upon the upper edge of said body, a depending flange formed around the inner lower edge of said annulus and adapted to bear against the inner surface of said body, and a cone formed on the upper face of said annulus, and a sleeve for retaining said cap, said sleeve comprising a threaded portion adapted to screw on said body and an inwardly extended flange adapted to bear on said upper face of said annulus and closely surround the base of said cone.

5. A condiment shaker comprising in combination with a hollow body, a cap, said cap comprising an annulus adapted to seat upon the upper edge of said body, a depending flange formed around the inner lower edge of said annulus and adapted to bear against the inner surface of said body, and a cone formed on the upper face of said annulus, said cone having a single distributing opening at its apex, and means for securing said cap in place, comprising a threaded sleeve adapted to screw on said body, and an inwardly extended flange adapted to bear on the upper surface of said annulus and closely embrace the base of said cone, whereby to secure said cap and prevent sidewise movement thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ARTHUR JAMES BENNETT.

Witnesses:
MARGARET E. MAFFETT,
CHAS. S. TURNBAUGH.