Dec. 31, 1929. C. S. McNALLY 1,741,326

DISPENSER

Filed Oct. 25, 1928

Fig. 1.

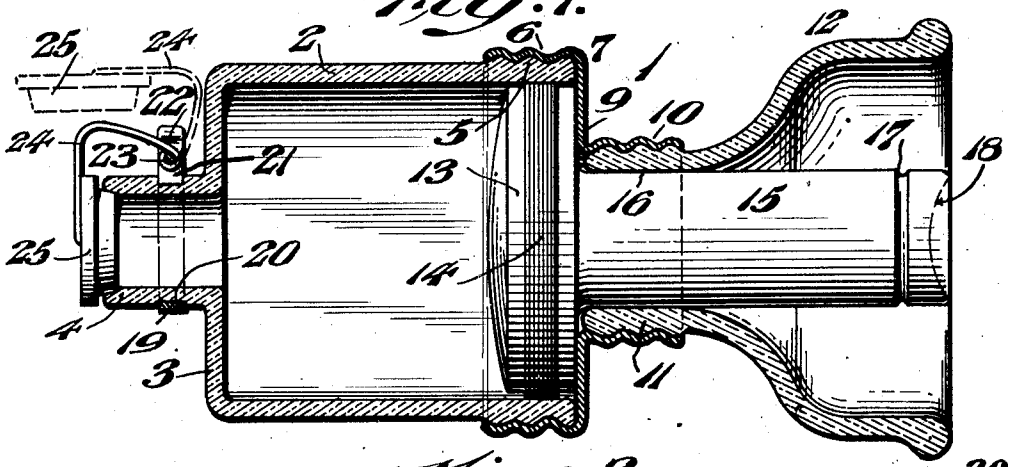


Fig. 3.

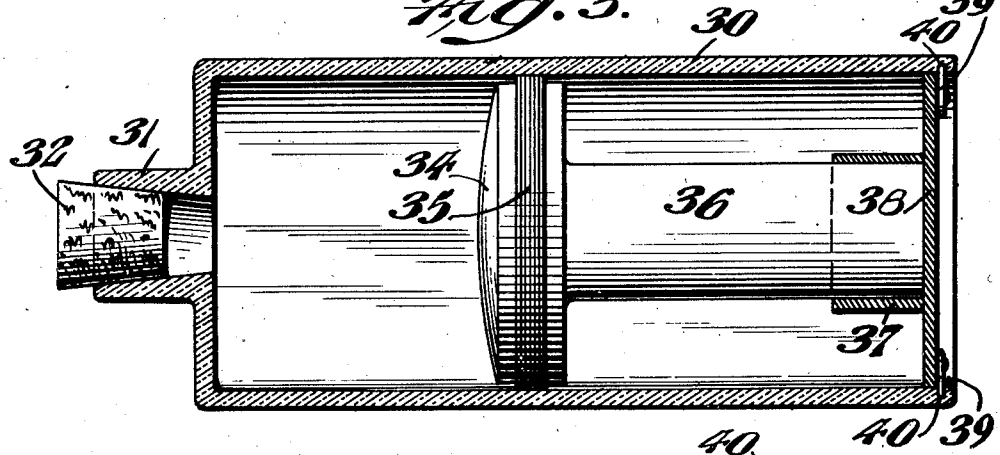


Fig. 2.

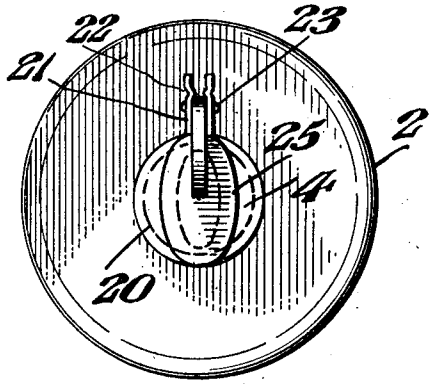
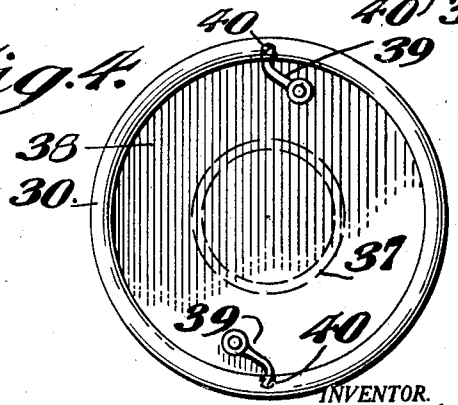


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DISPENSER

Application filed October 25, 1928. Serial No. 314,854.

My invention relates to a new and useful dispenser adapted for use at tables in public restaurants or at home for conveniently and expeditiously spreading a desired quantity of condiments such as mustard, mayonnaise, or the like over a sandwich or other point of use in a sanitary manner.

Dispensers of this character known and used heretofore consisted generally of a cup or jar having a cover with a notch in the edge thereof, and a wooden spoon or similar applicator, the handle of which projects through the notch in said cover. In these constructions, it was necessary to remove the cover (which was usually heavily besmeared and therefore not adapted to be set on the table cloth), and hold it while the content of the jar was applied by means of an applicator which carried a small quantity at a time so that it required several daubings before the desired quantity was spread on the sandwich or deposited on the edge of the plate as desired. The cover was frequently omitted, thus exposing the contents of the jar or cup to dust and dirt. Another disadvantage of these conventional constructions resided in the fact that if an attempt were made fully to load the applicator or spoon with a view to dispatch, there was always the risk of dropping the material on the table cloth or into the lap of the user with undesired results.

It is the object of my invention to eliminate these disadvantages and to provide a dispenser the contents of which are protected from dust and dirt and wherein the use of a spoon or other applicator is dispensed with entirely, my novel device serving both as a clean, sanitary container and as an effective spreader or applicator.

To the above ends my invention consists of a suitable hollow stand, an inverted cup shaped member, means for detachably securing said cup to said stand, a plunger adapted to travel within said cup-shaped member, there being a nozzle on the outer or upper end of said cup for the exit of the contents thereof, a hinged closure for said nozzle, and the bottom of said stand being hollow to afford access to and for operating said plunger.

My invention further consists of a one-piece dispenser comprising a cylindrical casing having one end thereof open and the other end closed, a plunger adapted to reciprocate therein, a nozzle at the closed end of said casing, a closure for said nozzle, and a closure for the opposite open end of said casing, forming a guide for the outer end of the stem for operating said plunger.

My invention further consists of various other novel features of construction and advantage all as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention I have shown in the accompanying drawings forms thereof which are at present preferred by me, since the same have been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1, represents a vertical sectional view of a dispenser embodying my invention, certain parts being shown in elevation.

Figure 2, represents a top plan view of Figure 1.

Figure 3, represents a view similar to Figure 1 of a modified form of my invention.

Figure 4, represents an end view of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings and particularly to Figure 1, 1 designates a dispenser embodying my invention comprising the inverted cup-shaped member 2 having the top 3 which merges into the nozzle or outlet 4. The cup 2 is threaded at its lower end 5 and is adapted to be engaged by the upper portion 6 of the coupling collar 7, and to rest on or abut against the horizontal flange 9 which merges into the pendant threaded collar portion 10 which engages the upper threaded portion 11 of the hollow glass stand or base 12.

13 designates a plunger provided with the packing ring 14 and having the integral stem 15 which is guided in the straight bearing

portion 16 of the base 12, the lower end of said stem being grooved or notched at 17 whereby the same may be gripped to prevent slipping when the device is being dismantled for purposes of cleaning or refilling. The stem 15 is further provided with the concavity or seat 18 to receive the thumb or finger of the operator when the plunger is pushed or moved upwardly within the cup 2.

A ring or collar 19 is seated in and engages the annular groove 20 in the nozzle 4 and is provided with the terminal spring arms 21 notched at 22 and secured to each other by the bolt or rivet 23. Pivoted to the bolt 23 is the arm 24 of any suitable shape which carries at its free end the stopper or closure 25 of any desired construction, to close or open the nozzle 4 at will. The arm 24 is pivoted between the terminal spring arms 21 and is held in the closed or open positions by the notches 22 in a manner which will be understood from Figure 2, it being understood that any other spring or toggle arrangement which will retain the closure 25 in either of its positions shown in Figure 1 may be employed, the object being to secure a closure for the nozzle 4 which will "snap" into the closed position shown in full lines or "snap" into the open position shown in dotted lines in Figure 1, depending upon whether or not it is desired to open or close the nozzle 4. It will be noted that when the closure 25 is in the position shown in dotted lines, that is, when the nozzle 4 is opened and the contents of the dispenser are being ejected therethrough, the closure 25 occupies an out of the way position which will not interfere with the exit of the contents of the dispenser through said nozzle.

The operation is as follows: The apparatus is first dismantled and the cup 2 is filled with the desired condiment such as mustard. The plunger 13 is then positioned within the bottom of the inverted cup 2 and the upper portion 6 of the collar 7 is screwed onto the bottom of said cup. The stand 12 is then screwed to the lower portion 10 of the collar 7. When it is desired to squeeze out some mustard onto a sandwich or the edge of a plate, the stopper 25 is moved into the position seen in dotted lines in Figure 1 to open the nozzle 4 which is then directed to the desired point, and the plunger 13 is moved up within the cup 2 by pressure on the outer end of the stem 15, after which the stopper 25 is replaced to close the nozzle 4 until it is again desired to use the mustard or other content of the cup 2. With the nozzle 4 tightly closed, the mustard or other condiment within the cup 2 is protected against dust and dirt and is kept in an air tight manner and thus protected against drying and deterioration, with obvious advantages in economy, sanitation and convenience.

In Figure 3 I have shown a one piece dispenser composed of the cylindrical casing 30 having the nozzle 31 provided with any suitable stopper 32. Within the casing 30 reciprocates the plunger 34 having the packing ring 35 and the stem 36, the outer end of which is secured in and guided by the collar 37 which is formed integral with the closure 38. The closure 38 is secured to the lower end of the casing 30 by means of the offset hooks 39 which engage the slots or seats 40. When the dispenser is filled with condiment, that is, when it is in the condition in which it is offered for sale, it appears as shown in Figures 3 and 4. When the dispenser is purchased, the consumer removes the hooks 39 thus permitting the plunger 34 to slide or move within the casing 30. When it is desired to use the contents of the dispenser such as mayonnaise, the plunger is pushed upwardly by pressure applied to the bottom closure 38, thus squeezing or ejecting the desired quantity of condiment out through the nozzle 31 from which the stopper 32 has been removed. The bottom closure 38, having its annular circumferential periphery in contact with the inner wall or circumferential periphery of the casing 30 acts as a guide for the stem 36 of the plunger 34. When it is desired to refill this dispenser it is merely necessary to withdraw the closure 38, and the plunger 34 through the bottom open end of the casing 30, and to fill the latter to the desired extent with the desired condiment, after which the plunger is replaced and the dispenser is ready for further use.

In this construction it will be noted that there is a minimum number of parts, arranged in a very simple way, and the dispenser thus formed is easy to clean and refill.

I am aware that the invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire the present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a device of the character stated, an open ended cup, an open ended hollow stand adapted to serve as a handle and comprising a bottom enlarged portion and a top reduced neck portion, a coupling collar having one end thereof threaded to one end of said cup and the other end thereof to said neck portion, a nozzle on the other end of said cup, spring means for closing said nozzle, a plunger adapted to travel within said cup, and a stem for said plunger extending into said hollow stand the reduced neck portion of said stand forming a guide for said stem.

2. In a device of the character stated, an

open ended cup, an open ended hollow stand adapted to serve as a handle and comprising an enlarged bottom portion and a top reduced neck portion, a coupling collar having one end thereof threaded to one end of said cup and the other end thereof to said neck portion, a nozzle on the other end of said cup, spring means for closing and opening said nozzle, a plunger adapted to travel within said cup, and a stem for said plunger extending into said hollow stand and having its outer end notched, the reduced neck portion of said stand forming a guide for said stem.

CHARLES S. McNALLY.