Sept. 23, 1958 O. UXA 2,853,206

DISPENSING TABLET CONTAINER

Filed Oct. 23, 1953

Fig. 1

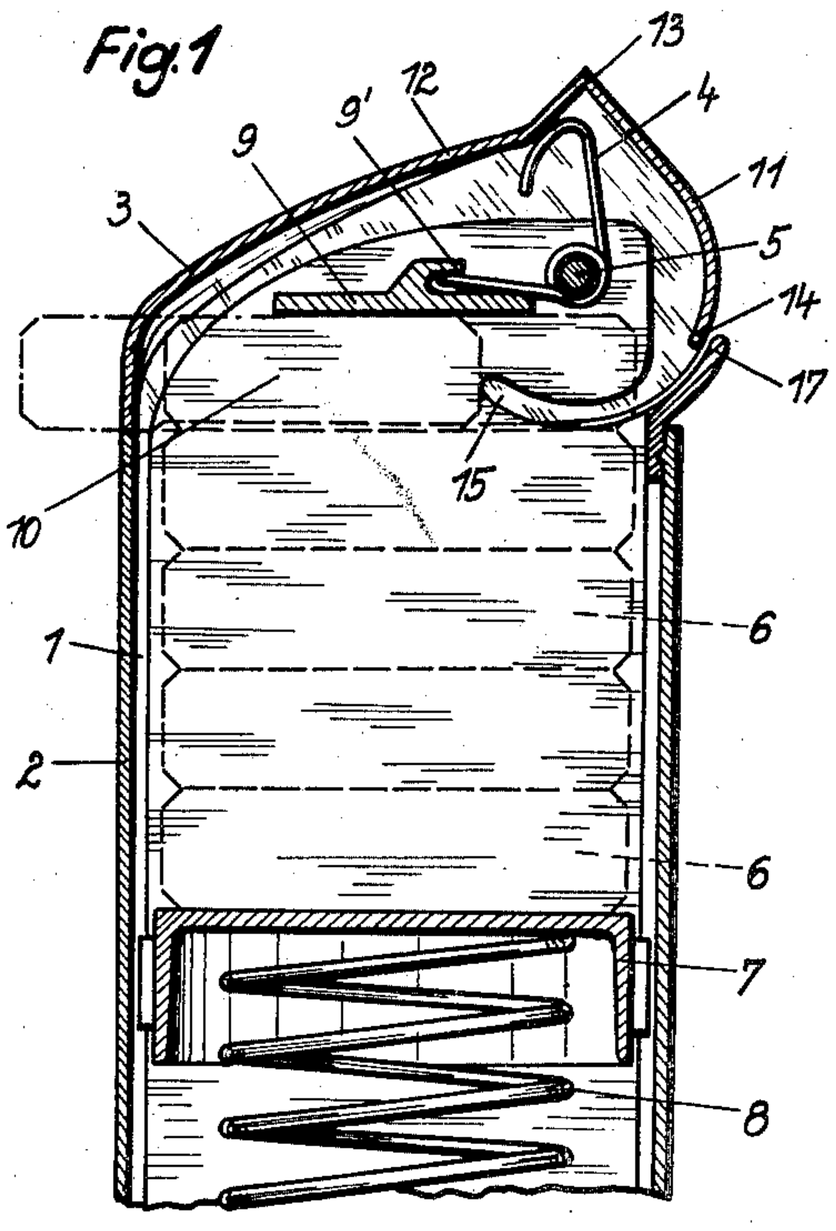
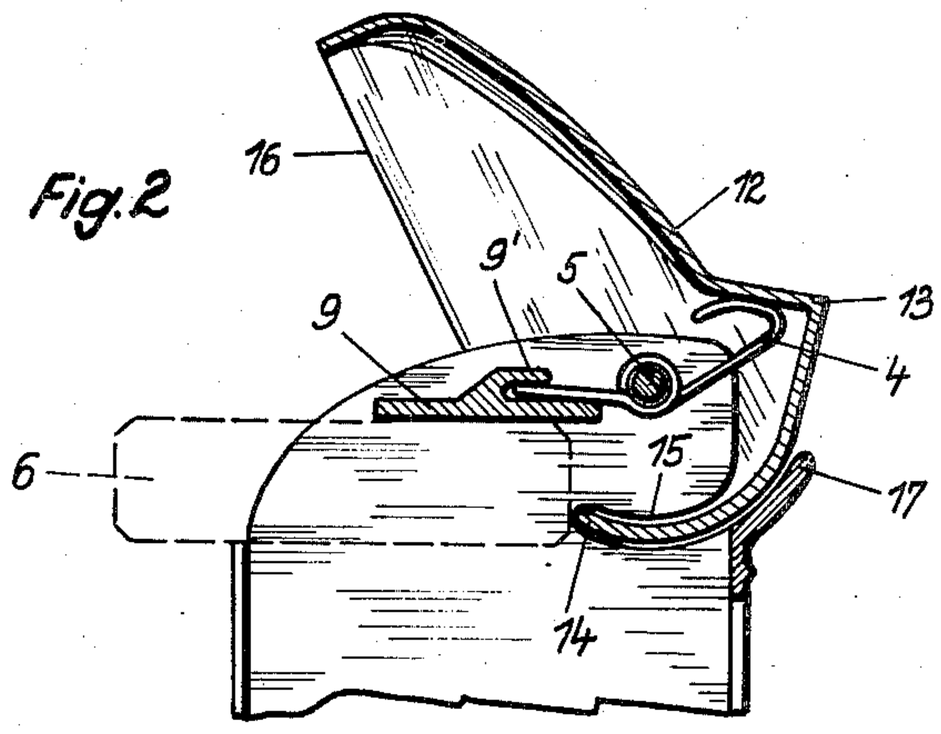



Fig. 2




INVENTOR.
OSKAR UXA
BY Manuel E. Spanos
ATTORNEY

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# DISPENSING TABLET CONTAINER

Oskar Uxa, Vienna, Austria

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Claims priority, application Austria October 27, 1952
2 Claims. (Cl. 221—229)

This invention relates to a pocket container provided with a tilting cover and intended for dispensing individual tablets superimposed in the container, the uppermost tablet being held by a stop provided at the upper part of the container periphery, and the cover having a pushing member which as the cover is opened is pressed laterally against the uppermost tablet to push it out. Containers of that type have been disclosed already. In these known containers, which for inexpensive manufacture are mass-produced by injection molding from thermoplastic synthetic materials, the pushing member forms a more or less freely projecting lug, whose manufacture somewhat delays the molding step and sometimes causes rejects. Further that lug requires a corresponding opening in the casing wall opposite to the dispensing opening of the casing; this arrangement is adverse to the good seal of the container.

To avoid these disadvantages the present invention suggests to form the pushing member by that wall of the tilting cover which is opposite to the tilting cover portion closing the dispensing opening. That wall may be of various shapes. The essential requirement is only that its edge opposite to the dispensing opening be in such relation to the cover part normally closing the dispensing opening that the pushing operation commences after the cover has been lifted sufficiently, and that the follow-up of the following tablet is sufficiently prevented. It is desirable, however, to shape the wall portion of the tilting cover opposite to the dispensing opening accordingly to a cylinder the axis of which coincides with the pivotal axis. That construction according to the invention does not only afford manufacturing advantages but also permits of the provision of a container giving a better seal when out of use. In addition this leads to a shape which is of an appearance superior to that of the known devices and which can be manufactured with simpler injection molds. This applies also to the manufacture of the present container from metal.

The diagrammatic drawing shows in vertical section only the upper part of the container forming the subject of the invention, in the two extreme positions of the cover, with a cover having a pushing wall formed according to a circular cylinder.

In Figs. 1 and 2, **1** is the inner part of the casing accommodating the tablets, **2** the outer part, which can be pulled from the inner part for filling the latter, **3** the cover with closing spring **4** and pivot pin **5**, **6** the tablets or other filling elements, **7** the bottom part and **8** the follow-up spring urging the stack of tablets against the stop **9**, as is well known. Normally the cover **3** closes the dispensing opening of the container, which is formed between the stop **9** and the side walls **10**. The wall part **11** of the tilting cover opposite to that dispensing opening is formed internally as a pushing finger. Together with the upper wall **12** of the cover that wall **11** forms a ridge **13** which facilitates the opening operation because that ridge forms an abutment for the opening finger of the hand holding the container. At the same time the ridge portion **13** internally serves as an abutment for the closing spring **4**.

As is evident particularly from Fig. 2, opening the cover will cause the end **14** of wall part **11** to push the uppermost tablet into the dispensing opening. Obviously the container wall must not interfere with that cover



movement. In the example shown each of the container walls of the inner part **2** of the casing has a slot **15** shaped according to an arc of a circle. The effective portion of part **11** is also shaped like an arc of a circle centered on to pin **5**. If part **14** were not shaped according to a circular cylinder, the slot **15** would have to be enlarged correspondingly. The end of slot **15** forms a stop limiting the rotation of cover **3**. In open position, Fig. 2, the follow-up of the following tablet is prevented by that portion of the pushing wall **11** which has entered the slot **15**, as is known per se. In the example shown the edges of the side walls of the cover are visible at **16**; these side walls together with the parts **11**, **12** form a trough- or tub-like member of uniform wall thickness, which is of advantage also from the manufacturing aspect. When the container is closed, the slots **15** are completely covered by said side walls, see Fig. 1. Part **17** provided on the inner part **1** of the casing forms a stop for the outer part **2** and when the cover is closed terminates above the end **14** of the pushing wall portion **11** of the cover. This measure serves to provide a container which may be considered practically dust-tight.

The empty container may be refilled in any known manner. This measure, as well as the manner in which the filling elements are pushed upwardly, has no specific bearing on the subject of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A container adapted to receive a stack of tablets or the like and individually to dispense same, comprising an elongated casing having a front opening near its top accommodating a single item to be dispensed, means for pushing a stack of such items within said casing toward said top, said casing having a pair of opposite sidewalls formed with extensions projecting above said opening, pivot means on said extensions disposed parallel to said opening, and a cap-shaped cover swingably mounted on said pivot means, said cover having a front flange completely sealing said opening in a normal closure position thereof, side flanges embracing said extensions, and a rear flange formed with a depending circularly cylindrical portion spanning said side flanges and centered on the axis of said pivot means, said portion having an edge engageable with the uppermost item of said stack for ejecting same through said opening upon pivotal movement of said cover from said normal position to a dispensing position, said extensions being provided with arcuate slots undercutting said pivot means and accommodating said edge upon said pivotal movement, said casing having a rear wall formed with an arcuate upward extension concentric with said depending portion and externally overlying same in every cover position, said cover obstructing said slots with its said side flanges and forming a substantially dust-proof enclosure with said casing in said normal position.

2. A container according to claim 1, wherein said cover is formed with an internal recess and a corresponding external ridge at the onset of said rear flange accommodating the finger of the user for swinging said cover around said pivot means, further including spring means anchored on said pivot means and bearing internally upon said cover at said recess for normally maintaining same in said closure position.

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