C. A. CONGER.

SALT AND PEPPER SHAKER.

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1,102,978. Patented July 7, 1914.

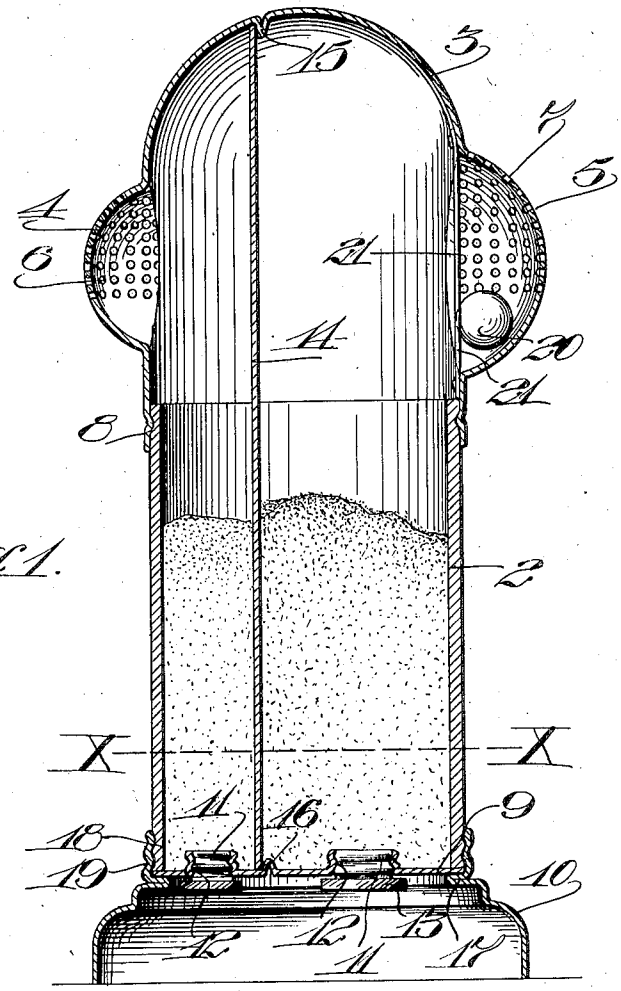

Fig. 1.

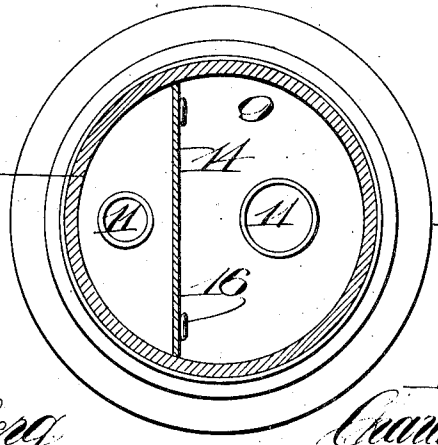

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. CONGER, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN P. CLARK, OF ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA.

SALT AND PEPPER SHAKER.

1,102,978. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 7, 1914.

Continuation of application Serial No. 634,207, filed June 20, 1911. This application filed August 12, 1911. Serial No. 643,643.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. CONGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oakland, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Salt and Pepper Shakers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to receptacles of the class designed to contain various condiments, and particularly to a salt and pepper shaker.

The object of the present invention is to provide an article of the kind specified, which may be manufactured at a small expense by using elements which may be in part formed by stamping or otherwise, and utilizing as a body portion standard material of suitable proportions, such for instance, as cylindrical sections of glass, to which the top and bottom of the shaker may be readily attached; to provide a salt and pepper shaker of such peculiar design and construction that one of a plurality of materials in the container may be obtained without danger of mixing the other materials; and particularly to provide a salt and pepper container divided into compartments of greatly different size, so that when the condiments are placed within the container their relative proportions in their separate chambers will be such that the quantity of salt, which latter is used in much greater quantities than pepper, will last ordinarily as long as the pepper in the shaker.

The invention consists of the parts and the construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed, having reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a central vertical section through the shaker. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on line X—X, Fig. 1.

In the illustrated embodiment of my invention, I employ a central body section 2, which may be of glass or any other suitable material of proper proportions. By employing sections of glass tubing the article can be manufactured at relatively small expense by purchasing the tubular body portion in large quantities of desired proportion or length.

Upon the upper end of the cylindrical body portion 2 is appropriately secured a crown or top portion 3, which may be made of stamped aluminum or other appropriate material, and which has upon opposite sides hemispherical protuberances 4 and 5, preferably of differing sizes; the small protuberance 4 being provided in its upper area with a plurality of perforations 6 through which condiment from one side of the container may be sifted, and the other protuberance, as 5, being provided with a plurality of perforations at 7, which may be of larger diameter than the perforations 6 on the other side.

The crown or cap 3 may be secured to the upper end of the body 2 of the shaker by any appropriate means or devices, and if desired, the means of fastening may be by forming threads, as 8, at the upper end of the body 2 adapted to be engaged by threads in the flange of the cap 3. The lower end of the body 2, which may be of any shape, is closed by a substantially disk-shaped plate 9 which is of such diameter as to make a snug fit upon the transverse end of the body 2 and may be held in close engagement therewith by a suitable ferrule or ring 10. The disk 9 is shown as provided with apertures 11, the sides of which may be formed with screw threads 12 adapted to receive removable closures or plugs 13, there being two of the latter, one disposed on each side of the central dividing wall or diaphragm 14. This is snugly held in place longitudinally between the cap 3 and the disk 9 by suitable lugs or spurs, as 15 in the cap and 16 in the bottom disk 9.

One of the special features of my present invention is in so designing the shaker that it can be constructed at a minimum expense and it is to this end that the diaphragm 14 is shown as substantially a separate piece from the other elements and may be inserted in the body 2 when the latter is inverted after the cap 3 has been secured in place. The diaphragm 14 may then be adjusted against the spur 15 when the disk 9 may be placed over the end of the shaker body 2 until the spur 16 engages the end of the diaphragm 14.

The eccentric position of the diaphragm relative to the cylindrical body 2 and the locking devices 15 and 16 insures the positive position of the diaphragm after it has

once been inserted; and the disk or bottom 9 may be permanently or detachably held in position by the ferrule 10, which is shown as provided with the inturned bead, flange or shoulder 17 of such diameter as to engage beneath the edge of the disk 9 and force the latter against the end of the body portion 2 with sufficient pressure to make a tight joint therewith. Any suitable means may be employed for securing the ferrule 10 to the body 2, and the latter may be provided with screw threads 18 to engage complementary threads 19 on the ferrule 10.

The peculiar design of the ferrule 10 is such that it may be utilized as a funnel or filling device to aid in the filling of the inverted shaker 2 when the material with which the shaker 2 is to be charged is poured rapidly into the cup-like ferrule after one or the other of the closures 13 have been removed from their respective apertures 11. By this funnel-like formation of the ferrule 10 the material will rapidly flow into the body 2 through one or the other of the apertures 11, as determined by the nature of the material. As greater quantities of salt are used than pepper, I prefer to locate the diaphragm 14 considerably to one side of the center of the shaker so as to afford capacities for volumes of approximately four to one on opposite sides of the diaphragm. The larger chamber may be filled with salt or some other material which may be used in large quantities, and the smaller chamber may be filled with some material such as pepper, of which a less quantity is used.

It will thus be seen that by the present design of the elements of this invention I am able to manufacture the shaker at relatively small cost, since the several parts may be made by stamping and drawing or by simply spinning, which operations are well known to be very cheap. The diaphragm 14 may be stamped out of sheet metal or other material very inexpensively, and is retained in position by the spurs 15 and 16, or if desired, may be permanently attached to the cap 3 or the disk 9 as the case may be.

The device is useful in dining-rooms, cafés, cafeterias, restaurants or kitchens and may be of silver or other material as the manufacturer desires.

While I have shown the filling device as formed in the bottom of the shaker, it is manifest that I may arrange the closures and filling device in the upper portion of the cap 3, if desired. In some certain services, such as maritime and certain climates where there is much humidity in the atmosphere, the salt is likely to clog in the discharge portion, so I have shown at 20 a movable device, as a ball, which is limited in its movement in the hemispherical portion 5 by a guard 21, so that it cannot fall back into the body of the shaker. In the event that the salt should clog, at each movement of the shaker the ball 20 will move violently and thus dislodge the clogged material from the orifices 7 and thus clear the latter.

It will be seen that the container has vertical walls and a dome-shaped closing top or crown, the latter being imperforate; and that the protuberances, constituting the sifting heads, are below the imperforate top of the article and extend laterally from the vertical side walls of the container, the openings between the compartments of the container and the said heads or protuberances being wholly in the said vertical walls.

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

A container for condiments divided into compartments by a vertical partition and having substantially vertical side walls, an imperforate top, and semi-spherical protuberances upon the side walls, which protuberances are perforated in their upper portions but imperforate in their lower portions, and communicate respectively with the compartments of the container through openings in the side walls thereof.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES A. CONGER.

Witnesses:
CHARLES EDELMAN,
JOHN H. HERRING.