

## DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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## (54) CONTAINERS

(71) We, THE METAL BOX COMPANY LIMITED, of 37 Baker Street, London, W1A 1AN, a British Company, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a metallic snap-opening container of the kind comprising an open-topped receptacle having a generally-cylindrical wall, and a separate lid provided with locating means arranged by co-operation with complementary locating means provided on the bottom of another like container to locate the container relative to said other like container resting on and above it in a stack and a generally-cylindrical skirt arranged sealably to engage the receptacle wall in the closed condition of the container to support the lid on the receptacle wall, the receptacle wall being adapted to allow the lid to rock to an open position thereof relative to the receptacle when downward pressure is applied to a pressure point at or near the circumference of the lid. Such a container will be referred to below and in the appended claims as "a container of the kind described".

According to the invention there is provided a container of the kind described wherein the skirt includes an arcuate portion of greater and lesser diameters connected by a substantially flat radially extending ledge which in the closed condition of the container rests on the rim of the receptacle, wherein the ends of said ledge are located on opposite sides of said pressure point, and wherein the locating means is arranged to prevent the escape of the lid on rocking thereof to said open position.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood one embodiment thereof will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:

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Figure 1 is a perspective view of a container according to the invention, in the closed condition thereof;

Figure 2 is a transverse section of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a section of the left-hand part of Figure 2 and shows the container with the lid in an open condition of the container.

Referring to the drawings, the container therein illustrated is a snap-opening tin arranged, for example to contain polish. The container comprises an open-topped receptacle 10, and a separate lid 11 having a flat top 12 and a generally cylindrical skirt 13 the free extremity 14 of which is formed as an external curl.

The wall of the receptacle 10 comprises a cylindrical portion 15 upstanding from the bottom 16 of the receptacle and a generally-cylindrical portion 17 of substantially S-section which extends upwards from the cylindrical portion 16 to the rim 18 of the receptacle which is formed by an intumed curl. The bottom 16 is provided with a bead 19 concentric with and spaced inwardly from the cylindrical wall portion 15.

The top 12 of the lid 11 is provided with a groove 20 which forms on the underside of the top of the lid a bead 21 which is coaxial with and spaced radially-inwardly from the skirt 13. When two like containers are stacked one on the other the bead 19 of the upper container is located in the groove 20 of the lower container.

The skirt 13 includes an arcuate portion of greater and lesser diameters connected by a substantially flat radially extending ledge 22. The ends 23, 24 of the arcuate portion, and thus of the ledge 22, are located on opposite sides of a pressure point located in a zone 25 of the top 12 of the lid. In the closed condition of the container, Figure 2, the ledge 22 rests on the rim 18 of the receptacle and the skirt 13 is arranged sealably to engage the receptacle wall.

The axial length of the skirt 13 is such that when the lid is rocked about the ends 23, 24 of the ledge 22 to an open position of the lid. Figure 3, by downward pressure 5 applied to a pressure point at or near the circumference of the lid in the zone 25 the portion of the free extremity of the skirt beneath the zone 25 rides down the portion 17 of the receptacle wall until it is engaged 10 with the cylindrical portion 15 and the rim 18 is engaged by the bead 21. The upper portion of the receptacle wall is now trapped between the free extremity 14 of the skirt 13 and the bead 21 and so prevents the 15 escape of the lid. The lid can now be lifted from the receptacle. During rocking of the lid to the said open position thereof the portion of the free extremity of the skirt which is diametrically opposite the position at 20 which pressure is applied to the zone 25 rides up the portion 17 of the receptacle wall with which it engages.

If desired, an indentation, or other suitable means 26, Figure 1 can be provided on the 25 top 12 of the lid to indicate the pressure point.

#### WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A container of the kind described wherein the skirt includes an arcuate portion 30 of greater and lesser diameters connected by a substantially flat radially extending ledge which in the closed condition of the container rests on the rim of the receptacle, wherein the ends of said ledge are located on oppos- 35 ite sides of said pressure point, and wherein

the locating means is arranged to prevent the escape of the lid on rocking thereof to said open position.

2. A container according to Claim 1, wherein the locating means consists of a 40 groove formed in the top of the lid to define on the underside of the lid a bead co-axial with and spaced radially inwardly from the skirt, and the length of the skirt is such that when the lid is rocked to said open position 45 a portion of the receptacle wall extending from the rim of the receptacle towards the bottom thereof is trapped between the free extremity of the skirt and the bead.

3. A container according to Claim 2, 50 wherein the wall of the receptacle comprises a cylindrical portion upstanding from the bottom of the receptacle and a generally-cylindrical portion of substantially S-section which extends upwards from the cylindrical 55 portion to the rim, and wherein the length of the skirt is such that when the lid is rocked to said open position the free extremity of the skirt is engaged with the 60 cylindrical portion.

4. A container of the kind described constructed and arranged to operate substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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