element, wherein the operating element can be pushed into the tubular element to such extend that it at least partly removes the cap from the tubular element and/or pierces said cap, for opening a passage from the container to a tapping line connected to the operating element.

In a fourth aspect the present invention can be characterized by a beverage container for use in a beverage dispensing assembly as described herein.

The tubular element with the cap can be made integrally, for example by multi component injection moulding, such as 2-K moulding. Alternatively the cap can be mounted to the tubular element in a different manner, for example by press fit or bonding, as long as it can be pushed at least partly away from the tubular element.

The operating element preferably is designed such that once it has been use for pushing the cap at least partly away, it locks in or behind part of the tubular element, such that it is locked in position and cannot be removed, at least not without damage, or reused, whereas it preferably extends at least partly beyond the position in which the cap was fitted, such that the cap cannot be pushed back into a position in which it closes off the tubular element.

In order to further elucidate the present invention, embodiments thereof shall be disclosed and discussed hereafter, with reference to the drawings. Therein shows:

Fig. 1A and B schematically in top and side view respectively an assembly according to the disclosure, with a container enclosed inside the tapping assembly;

Fig. 2 schematically in cross sectional view along the line II - II in fig. 1 an assembly according to the disclosure;

Fig. 3 schematically an assembly of fig. 1 and 2, with a tapping apparatus in open position and a container for insertion therein, showing an operating element with tapping line;

Fig. 4 schematically in cross sectional view a neck region of a container with a closure, prior to opening the container;