

surface of the second part, in FIG. 8 the inner surface of the outer or second part 2 is spaced radially outwardly from the outer surface of the inner or first part 1 and a collar 19 is formed inwardly at the open end 8 of the second part so that it rides on the outer surface of the inner part. This arrangement facilitates the escape of air from within the container as one part is telescoped into the other and also reduces friction between the two parts of the container.

The container is preferably made of polyethylene and is produced by a blow process. In the formation of the container, the two parts can be produced as a single piece and then separated.

While a specific embodiment of the invention has been shown and described in detail to illustrate the application of the inventive principles, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied otherwise without departing from such principles.

What is claimed is:

1. Container of adjustable length for packing elongated objects of variable lengths, comprising a first elongated cylindrically shaped tubular body and a second elongated cylindrically shaped tubular body, each of said first and second bodies being closed at one end and open at the other end, said first and second bodies arranged to be fitted one into the other in a telescoping fashion and said first and second bodies being rotatable relative to one another about their longitudinal axes, wherein the improvement comprises that the open end of said first body fits within the open end of said second body with its outer surface in juxtaposition to the inner surface of said second body, said first body has a first groove formed inwardly into its outer surface and disposed parallel to its longitudinal axis and extending from its open end toward its closed end, a plurality of second grooves formed inwardly from the outer surface of said first body and extending transversely of and opening from said first groove with said second grooves spaced equidistantly apart along said first groove, said first groove having a pair of longitudinally extending sides and a bottom extending between said sides, said second groove each having a pair of sides and a bottom extending between said sides of said second groove and at least one detent projecting inwardly from the inner surface of said second body adjacent the open end thereof and said detent shaped and arranged to pass in sliding relationship through said first groove in said first body when said first and second bodies are fitted together in a telescoping fashion and upon relative rotation of said first and second bodies about their longitudinal axis to pass into one of said second grooves in interlocking engagement therewith for effecting a locking engagement of said first and second bodies so that a variable overall length of the packing container can be provided by selectively engaging said detent of said second body into one of said second grooves of said first body so that the overall length between the closed ends of said first and second bodies corresponds closely to the length of the object to be packaged, means formed in said first body at the openings between said first groove and said second grooves for providing a resistance for the movement of said detent into and out of said second grooves and said sides and bottom of said second grooves having a shape complementary to the shape of said detent for gripping said detent when it is moved into one of said second grooves.

2. Packing container, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first groove extends from the open end to the

closed end of said first body and said second grooves extend transversely from said first groove along the full length of the first groove.

3. Packing container, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first groove has an inlet opening at the open end of said first body and the inlet end has a dovetailed configuration converging inwardly into said first groove.

4. Packing container, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first groove has an inlet opening at the open end of said first body and said first groove at the inlet end thereof has one side disposed parallel to the longitudinal axis of said first body and the opposite side disposed obliquely to said one side and disposed in converging relationship to said one side in the direction toward the closed end of said first body.

5. Packing container, as set forth in claim 1, wherein an annular disk having a central opening therethrough is shaped about its outer circumferential periphery to fit the inner contour of said first body, and said central opening arranged to conform to the lateral configuration of the object to be packed within the container.

6. Packing container, as set forth in claim 1, wherein a plurality of said detents are formed in and project inwardly from said second body with said detents spaced equidistantly apart at the same spacing as said second grooves, said detents arranged in alignment in the axial direction of said second body for passage through said first groove in said first body.

7. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein three said detents are formed in said second body.

8. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the outer surface of said detents extending inwardly from said second body are circular.

9. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein said detents are frusto-conical in the direction projecting inwardly from said second body with the outer surface of said detents converging inwardly toward the longitudinal axis of said second body.

10. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the opening from each of said second grooves to said first groove is not greater than the maximum diameter of said detents.

11. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein at the opening from each of said second grooves into said first groove the surfaces defining the opposite sides of the opening and extending transversely of the longitudinal axis of the first groove converge from the edge of said first groove to an apex directed toward the opposite surface of the same said second groove and then diverge into the portion of said second grooves arranged to hold said detents.

12. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein said second grooves each have an extension from the surface thereof disposed parallel to and spaced laterally from said first groove and width of said extension corresponding to the diameter of said detents so that with said detents located in said first groove upon relative rotation between said first and second bodies said detents enter into said locking grooves and then upon relative longitudinal movement of said first and second bodies said detents enter said extensions whereby relative rotational movement between said first and second bodies is blocked.

13. Packing container, as set forth in claim 6, wherein said second grooves each have an extension from the surface thereof disposed obliquely to said first groove and said extension having a width corresponding to the diameter of said detents so that with said detents located