

While we have shown and described the preferred embodiment of our invention, we desire it to be understood that we do not limit ourselves to the constructional details disclosed by way of illustration, as it is apparent that these may be changed and modified by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of our invention or exceeding the scope of the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A receptacle for the storage of solid material articles therein, comprising a pair of spaced, rigid, tubular, telescoping members, each completely open at one end and closed at the opposite end, and a deformable, annular gasket interposed between said members and forming therewith an air-tight seal; said gasket being permanently attached at its outer edge to one of said rigid members, and slidingly contacting said other rigid member at the periphery of its inner edge, to form therewith an air-tight running seal; said members telescoping non-contactingly to form, without deformation and with said gasket, a hermetically sealed storage chamber, when assembled in closed position; said members and gasket also by such assembly compressing the air entrapped in said chamber and thus producing a selected super-atmospheric air pressure while so assembled.

2. A receptacle according to claim 1, having resilient metal means for snap-fastening said members in a selected, fixed, telescopic position, relative to each other, whereby a selected gas pressure is maintained in said storage chamber while said members are in assembled position.

3. A receptacle according to claim 2, wherein said members are of substantially the same length and said fastening means engages and holds said members in such relative position that said inner member is telescoped within said outer member a distance substantially equal to the length of the former.

4. A receptacle according to claim 3, wherein said fastening means comprises a plurality of resilient elements, attached to one of said members; which automatically engage a rigid element on said other member, and thus lock said members in a selected relative position, when said members are telescoped to a selected extent.

5. A receptacle according to claim 1, wherein the inner member is provided with a groove which engages the contacting portion of said gasket and automatically breaks its air-tight seal when said members are moved to disassembled position.

6. A receptacle according to claim 5, wherein said gasket when undeformed has a cross section which is thicker at its outer peripheral portion than at its inner peripheral portion and is attached, at its outer portion, to said outer member, while its inner portion slidingly contacts said inner member with a running, air-tight seal and engages in said groove, when said members are disassembled, whereby said seal is broken.

7. A receptacle according to claim 6, wherein said gasket is inclined toward the longitudinal axis of said inner member, when said members are in assembled position, and said inclination is reversed by said groove when said inner member is moved toward disassembled position, thereby breaking the seal of said gasket.

8. A receptacle according to claim 7, wherein said groove is so situated on said inner member that the breaking of said seal occurs shortly after the commencement of

movement of said inner member toward disassembled position.

9. A portable hermetic container for solid material articles requiring to be kept in an atmosphere at super-atmospheric pressure, comprising: a container body closed at one end and open at the other end, and a closure member of substantially equal length, similarly closed at one end and open at the other end, said container body and closure member being, in the closed condition of the container, telescoped one into the other with their closed ends at opposite ends of the container, and with an air space completely separating said body from said member; hermetic sealing means for the container, carried upon one of the parts and effective to seal the container both in the closed condition thereof and also during the process of closing the container, which process involves relative telescoping movement of the container body and the closure member through a distance equal to the length of the latter, with resulting substantial reduction of the volume of the container and corresponding substantial increase of the air pressure therein; said sealing means comprising a ring of resiliently flexible material attached at one of its peripheries to said closure member and contacting said body at its other periphery, with a pressure proportional to said entrapped air pressure, the general plane of said ring being transverse to the path of relative movement of the parts to and from the container-closed positions thereof; said ring being of a diameter at its inner periphery less than the external diameter of said body, with the result that as said body is telescoped into said closure member, said ring is forced to assume, against the progressively increasing pressure of the container, an axially distorted condition in which its inner periphery is out of contact with said closure member and is directed towards the inner end of said closure member, which condition continues upon the parts of the container reaching their fully closed positions until such time as the container is opened, the form of said closure member in the neighborhood of said ring being such as to afford to the ring a freedom for such distortion; and an annular groove in the outer periphery of said body, which engages the inner periphery of said ring, during the outward movement of said body relatively to said closure member, and reverses the direction of axial distortion of said ring, thereby breaking the seal.

10. A portable hermetic container as in claim 9 wherein the groove is so situated along the container body that the breaking of the seal occurs soon after commencement of said outward movement.

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