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F. ROSENTHAL
CAN DRINKING SPOUT
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Fig. 1.

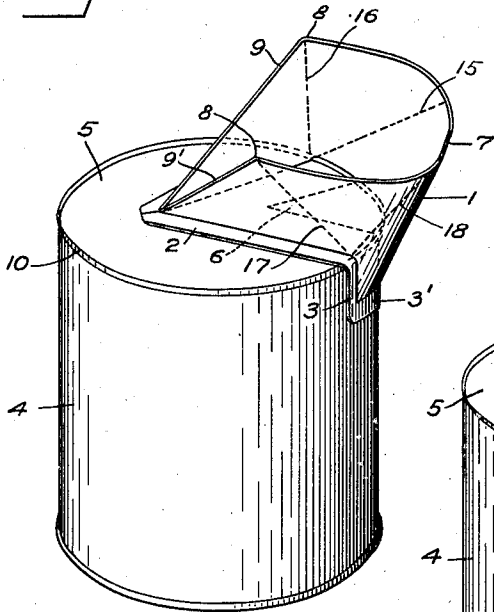


Fig. 4.

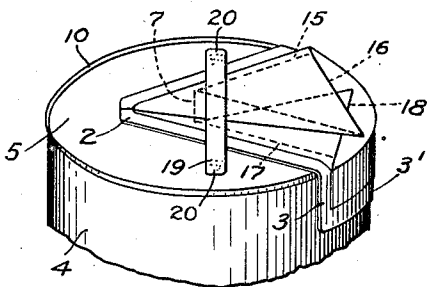
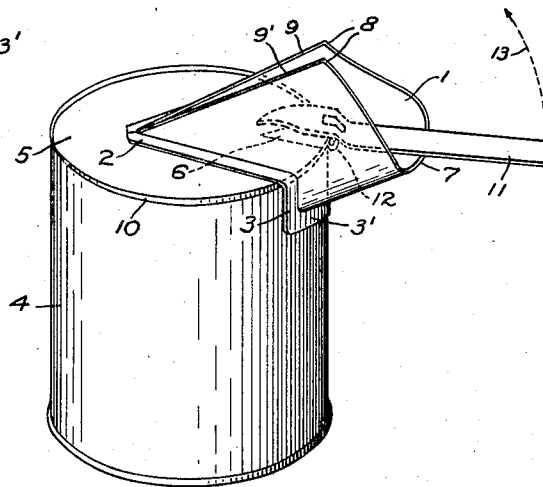


Fig. 2.

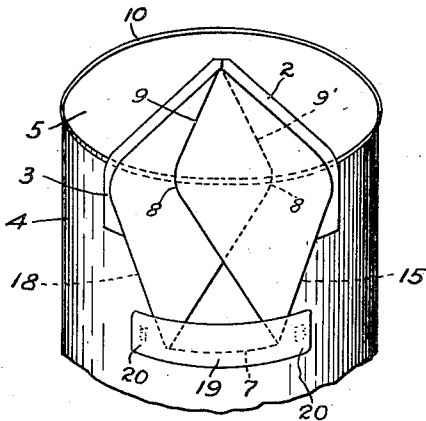


Fig. 3.

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CAN DRINKING SPOUT

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6 Claims. (Cl. 221-11)

This invention relates to beverages packed in tin cans and to spout means to facilitate drinking the contents direct from the can.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a cheap foldable spout of paper, cellophane, or other cheap flexible material which is preferably attached to the can by the packer and is so formed as to permit the manipulation of a can opener within the spout area to puncture the can. A further object is to provide such a foldable paper spout which when folded will cover the can area subsequently to be punctured so that the part of the can over which the beverage flows when drinking from the spout will have been kept in a clean, sanitary condition. A further object is to provide a foldable paper drinking spout for a can in which the lip rim is kept covered and protected against contamination.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a drinking spout of this kind which will not interfere with the nose of the person drinking therefrom.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description and accompanying drawing.

In the drawing Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a tin can with my improved paper drinking spout in place and outfolded ready to drink from.

Fig. 2 shows in perspective the upper end of a can with the paper spout of Fig. 1 folded over against the upper end wall or head of the can.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to that of Fig. 2 but shows the spout folded to bring most of it down over the outer side of the can.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a can fitted with one of my foldable drinking spouts as it would appear partially outfolded to permit the insertion of a can opener, as shown, for puncturing the can within the spout area.

Briefly described the invention comprises a paper or light cardboard spout 1 formed with flanges 2, 3, for pasting it to a tin can 4 in overlying relation to parts of the end and side walls of the can so that when the end wall 5 of the can is subsequently punctured as at 6, the can contents may be poured from the spout or drunk from its edge 7. The drinking edge of the outfolded spout is extended and made wide enough to be received between the lips, while the other portions recede in a manner to avoid any interference with the nose of the drinker. The spout may be folded down against the outer convex side of the can as shown in Fig. 3, or preferably it is folded down against the upper end 5 of the can as shown in Fig. 2 to thereby cover that

area of the can which is to be punctured and thereby form a sanitary covering for that area and also in a manner as indicated in Fig. 2 to cover and protect the drinking edge (7) of the spout itself from contamination. Thus, both the can and the operative portions of the spout over which any of the liquid flows was never exposed to sources of contamination such as flies, dust, etc.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing the general form of the outfolded paper spout is clearly shown, its drinking edge 7 forming a U-shaped curve to the corners 8 from which it slants downward rearwardly as at 9 and 9' to the can top 5. This slantingly cutting away of the spout walls also leaves a wide space between them which clears a person's nose drinking from the forward elevated edge 7. The securing flanges or margins 2, 3 and 3' in the figures preferably project outwardly and are pasted, glued, or cemented to the metal of the can, and it should be noted that appreciable distance below the upper beaded or rolled marginal rim 10 of the can and that the front wall 1 of the spout therefore only strikes the can at a point well below the bead 10 where it joins the margin 3'. This is very important when the can is subsequently to be punctured with the type of can puncturing device shown in Fig. 4 which is provided with an upwardly directed hook or hooks 12 to engage under the can bead 10 and cut a large triangular opening 6 in the end of the can by forcing a tin flap downward into the can when the handle 11 is swung upward along the line 13.

When applying this or similar type of can opener for puncturing the can the foldable spout assumes a partially outfolded position as shown in Fig. 4, though it is evident that the puncture may be made with any desired instrumentality forced in from above when the spout is entirely outfolded as in Fig. 1.

In the two optional folded positions of the spout as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 the several portions are clearly indicated by the same numerals used in Fig. 1 so the relation of the parts and folds will easily be followed. It is, of course, presumed that the walls of the spout will be precreased, as indicated at 15, 16, 17, 18, to facilitate the fold desired, and while it will generally wrinkle some adjacent the rim of the can when folded, on account of the curve of the can, this is of no practical disadvantage. The folded spout is in either way of folding, preferably temporarily held down in place for shipping by means of a narrow band of paper 19 gummed at the ends to

the can 4 as at 20, or by means of a strip of pressure-sensitive, sticky tape, or otherwise.

The pasting flanges 3 and 3' may of course be extended to any degree, so much in fact as to give plenty of room for printing on to serve as the label for the can if desired.

If the beverage in the can is one which is drunk slowly rather than at once, it is desirable that the spout paper be varnished or otherwise impregnated to resist moisture so that it will not unduly soften, or a waterproof cellophane or similar flexible material may be used instead of paper.

It is also contemplated that the paper spout be furnished either flat or folded separate from the can but with gummed margins so that those wishing to drink from the can may quickly apply the device, either before or after puncturing the can.

It is of course apparent that the spout may be made of various sizes to suit particular requirements.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

- 25 1. A foldable can spout of flexible sheet material provided with margin for gumming to the outside of a sealed tin can and formed to embrace a portion of the side wall as well as the end of the can.
- 30 2. A foldable can spout of flexible sheet material provided with margin for gumming to the outside of a sealed tin can and formed to em-

brace a portion of the side wall as well as the end of the can, and to fold against the can top to cover the area of the spout.

3. A foldable can spout of flexible sheet material provided with margin for gumming to the outside of a sealed tin can and formed to embrace a portion of the side wall as well as the end of the can, said spout when in place preserving the corner bead rim of the can within it clear for engaging with a can opener.

4. A foldable can spout of flexible sheet material provided with margins for gumming to the top of a tin can, said spout provided with a front wall with a pouring or drinking edge and side walls connected therewith creased to fold over the front wall against the can and cover the front wall and drinking edge for protecting the same from contamination.

5. A foldable can spout of flexible sheet material provided with margins for gumming to the top of a tin can, said spout provided with a front wall with a pouring or drinking edge and side walls connected therewith creased to fold the spout against the can, said margins extending outwardly from the spout and being of a size to function as a label.

6. The combination of a round tin can with a foldable paper spout gummed at its margins to the end of the can, folded over against the can and thus held in place by a strip of tape gummed lightly to the can.

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