Oct. 30, 1934. N. P. COURTNEY 1,978,487

RECEPTACLE OPENER

Filed Aug. 3, 1931

Fig. 1.

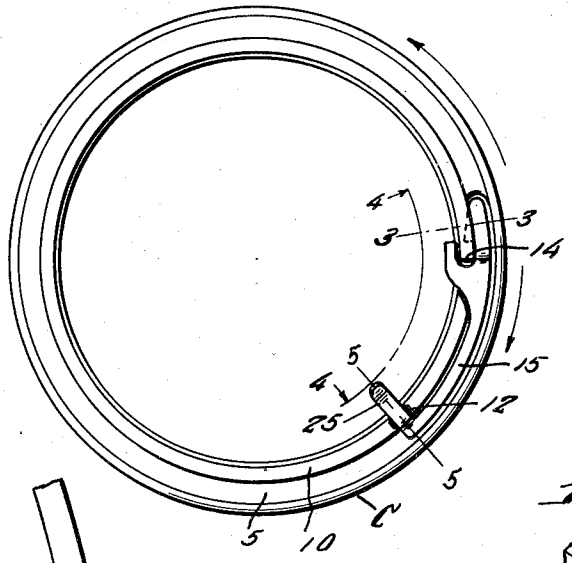


Fig. 2.

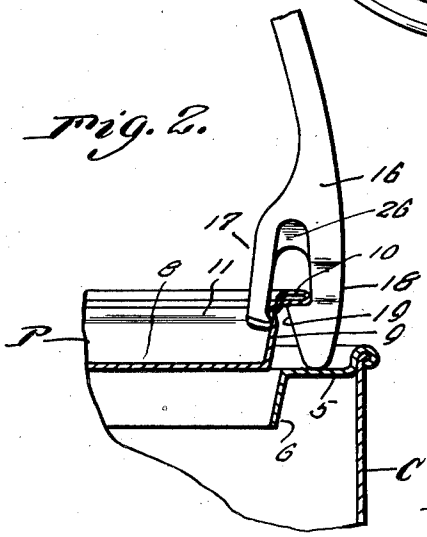


Fig. 3.

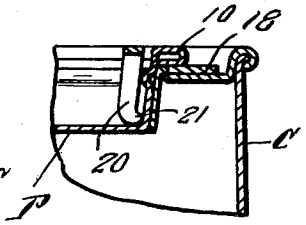


Fig. 6.

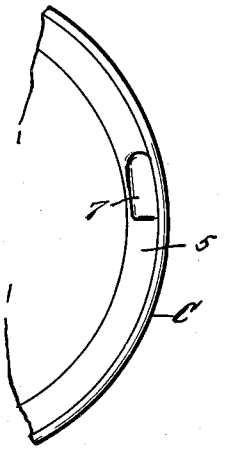
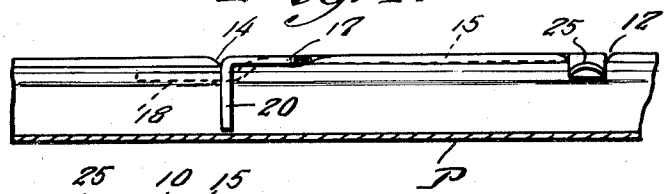


Fig. 4.



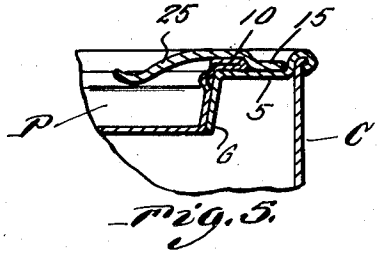


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,978,487

RECEPTACLE OPENER

Nicholas P. Courtney, Passaic, N. J.

Application August 3, 1931, Serial No. 554,914

5 Claims. (Cl. 220—52)

This invention appertains generally to the art of receptacle openers and has for its object to provide simple and efficient means for prying open a plug in a can or the like wherein said means is movable in either direction about the plug and can or the like.

With the above and other objects in view as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in certain novel features of construction, and in the combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the receptacle showing my device in place ready for use.

Figure 2 is a sectional view through a portion of the receptacle showing the device in a raised position.

Figure 3 is a detail section taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a detail section taken substantially on the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary top plan view of the can.

Referring to the drawing in detail, it will be seen that the letter P denotes generally a plug and the letter C a can. The can C is formed with the usual inwardly directed annular ledge 5 terminating at its inner edge in a depending inverted frusto-conical skirt 6. In the ledge 5 there is formed a depression or pocket 7. The plug P comprises a disk 8 with an inverted frusto-conical rim 9 rising from the edge thereof and terminating in an outwardly directed annular bead 10. An internal bead 11 is formed in the rim 9 adjacent its juncture with the bead 10. The bead is meshed downwardly at the top at two spaced points as indicated at 12 and 14 to form notches.

The numeral 15 denotes an elongated curved shank terminating at one end in a head 16 in the form of a fork provided with two prongs 17 and 18. The prong 18 at its end is enlarged inwardly in width to provide a shoulder 19 for engagement under the bead 10. The prong 17 is formed with an angular extension 20 the extremity of which is directed slightly inwardly as at 21 to engage with the bead 11 to prevent accidental removal of the device from the plug. It will be noted that these prongs 17 and 18 straddle the rim 9 and when the shank 15 is swung upwardly from the position shown in Figure 1 to the position shown in Figure 2 the shoulder 9 raises a portion of the plug and then the device may be moved about the plug and pried open at different points. A finger extension 25 is formed on the other end of the shank 15 and is directed inwardly. When the shank 15 is in the position shown in Figures 1 and 4 it will be seen that the same is flush with the uppermost portions of the plug and the can while the crotch of the head 16 is cut away as at 26 so as to seat in the notch 14, the prong 18 being seated in the pocket 7 and the finger piece 25 being seated in the notch 12. This permits one can to be piled on another.

It is thought that the construction, utility, operation and advantages of the preferred embodiment of the invention disclosed herein will be readily understood and it will further be apparent that changes in the details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new is:—

1. In combination, a can formed with an inwardly directed annular ledge terminating in a depending inverted frusto-conical skirt, a plug comprising a disk having an inverted frusto-conical rim rising from its edge and formed with an inwardly directed bead and terminating in an outwardly directed bead the latter adapted to rest on the ledge when the rim is telescoped into the skirt, of an opening device comprising an elongated shank having a pair of prongs at one end straddling said latter bead and said rim, one of the prongs having means to engage the first mentioned bead to prevent the removal of the device and the other prong being formed with a shoulder to engage under the second mentioned bead, said ledge being formed with a pocket to receive the last mentioned prong when the shank is in flatwise position with respect to the plug and can.

2. In combination, a can formed with an inwardly directed annular ledge terminating in a depending inverted frusto-conical skirt, a plug comprising a disk having an inverted frusto-conical rim rising from its edge and formed with an inwardly directed bead and terminating in an outwardly directed bead the latter adapted to rest on the ledge when the rim is telescoped into the skirt, of an opening device comprising an elongated shank having a pair of prongs at one end straddling said latter bead and said rim, one of the prongs having means to engage the first mentioned bead to prevent the removal of the device and the other prong being formed with a shoulder to engage under the second mentioned bead, said ledge being formed with a pocket to receive the last mentioned prong when the shank is in flat-

wise position with respect to the plug and can, the second mentioned bead being formed with a notch to receive the juncture of the prong thereby permitting the device to lie flush with the uppermost portions of the plug and can.

3. In combination, a can formed with an inwardly directed annular ledge terminating in a depending inverted frusto-conical skirt, a plug comprising a disk having an inverted frusto-conical rim rising from its edge and formed with an inwardly directed bead and terminating in an outwardly directed bead the latter adapted to rest on the ledge when the rim is telescoped into the skirt, of an opening device comprising an elongated shank having a pair of prongs at one end straddling said latter bead and said rim, one of the prongs having means to engage the first mentioned bead to prevent the removal of the device and the other prong being formed with a shoulder to engage under the second mentioned bead, said ledge being formed with a pocket to receive the last mentioned prong when the shank is in flatwise position with respect to the plug and can, the second mentioned bead being formed with a notch to receive the juncture of the prong thereby permitting the device to lie flush with the uppermost portions of the plug and can, said shank being formed at its other end with an inwardly directed resting finger and said second mentioned bead being formed with a notch in which this finger member may rest when the shank is in flatwise position.

4. In combination, a can formed with an opening, a plug to close said opening comprising a disk having a rim rising from its edge and formed with an inwardly directed bead and terminating in an outwardly directed portion, of a movable opening device having a pair of prongs formed with inward projections to engage one under the bead and the other under said outwardly directed portion to hinge the opening device to the plug, the hinge acting to retain the opening device on the plug and permit it to be moved about the lid for prying purposes at different points.

5. In combination, a can formed with an inwardly directed annular ledge, a plug for closing the can comprising a disk having a rim rising from its edge and formed with both an inwardly directed bead and an outwardly directed portion, the latter adapted to rest on the ledge when the rim is closed on the can, of a movable opening device comprising an elongated shank having a pair of prongs at one end straddling said rim and having projections to engage under the bead, one of the prongs being adapted to engage the ledge, said ledge being formed with a pocket to receive the last mentioned prong when the shank is in flatwise position with respect to the plug and can.

NICHOLAS P. COURTNEY.