Oct. 30, 1928. 1,689,979

H. E. TATE ET AL

GAS TANK CAP

Filed Feb. 14, 1928

Fig. 2.

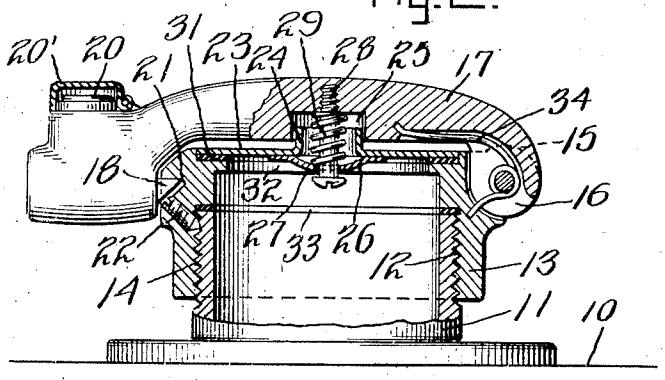
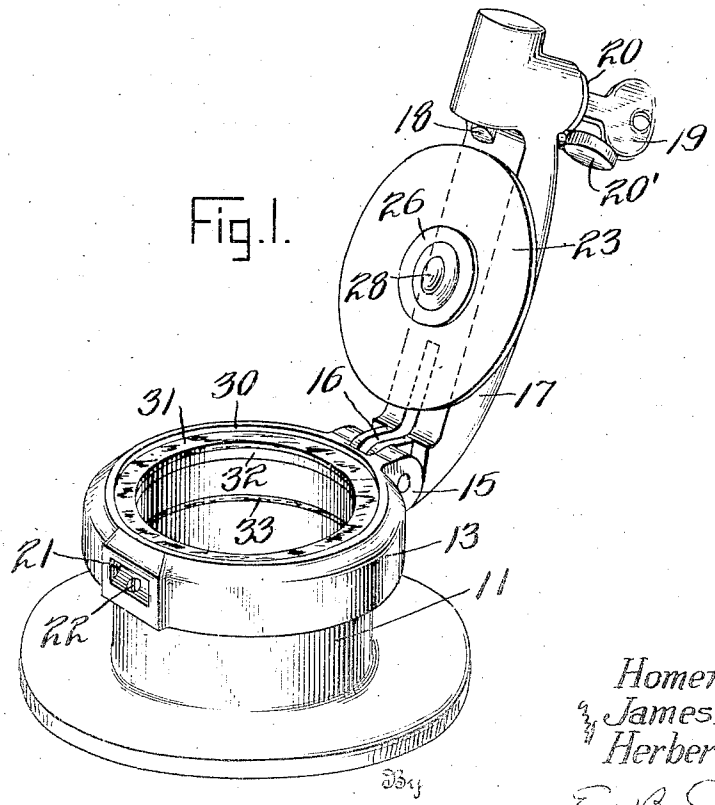


Fig. 1.



Inventors
Homer E. Tate
James E. King
Herbert Barber
Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER E. TATE, JAMES E. KING, AND HERBERT BARBER, OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY.

GAS-TANK CAP.

Application filed February 14, 1928. Serial No. 254,310.

Our invention relates to a closure or cap for a gasoline tank of an automobile, and it is an object of the invention to provide a device of this character with means for locking the same against unauthorized removal so that it cannot be stolen or access had to the tank by an unauthorized person, all as will be hereinafter more particularly described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings which are made a part hereon and on which similar reference characters indicate similar parts,

Figure 1 is a perspective showing the device in position for filling the tank with gasoline, and

Figure 2, a vertical section.

In the drawings reference character 10 indicates a tank of conventional construction having an upstanding neck 11 externally threaded at 12 for the reception of a cap or cover.

Caps of ordinary construction are threaded onto an extension of this kind and in filling the tank the cap is screwed off and replaced after the filling operation.

In lieu of the conventional cap, we provide a cap with a body 13 having internal threads 14 formed complementarily with the threads on the neck 11 so that our device may be used to replace the conventional cap. The body 13 is provided with a pair of spaced ears 15 between which is pivoted the hinge lug 16 of an arm 17 which extends diametrically across the body 13 and is provided with an inwardly projecting bolt 18 controlled by a key 19 and a lock 20. A cap 20′ normally covers the lock 20 and excludes rain and the like therefrom. The bolt 18 projects into a depression 21 in the body 13 and when in locked position prevents the arm 17 from being raised until the key is used. The recess or depression 21 is provided with a set screw 22 by means of which the body may be fastened in position so that it cannot be unscrewed until the set screw is removed, the set screw being concealed in the depression for the locking bolt and access to the same cannot be had when the locking bolt is in the said recess.

A lid or cover plate 23 is provided for closing the upper end of the body 13, such lid having a central upwardly projecting sleeve or nipple 24 which extends for a short distance into a recess 25 in the arm 17 so that water may not find its way through the cap.

A central disk 26 is secured beneath the under side of the lid and is provided with a perforation 27 disposed concentrically with the sleeve or projection in the same and a screw 28 extends through the said disk into the arm 17, a spring 29 being disposed around the screw between the lid and the arm for yieldingly pressing the lid away from the arm whereby the lid will be at all times when the cap is in closed position resiliently held on its seat.

The upper portion of the body 13 is preferably provided with a recess 30 to accommodate the lid 23 and a gasket 31 may be disposed in said recess to seal the joint. Also to form a broader seat an internal flange 32 is also provided. A gasket 33 is placed between the neck 11 and the cap 13.

In order that observation of the device will readily disclose whether or not the cap is locked in position, we provide a spring 34 which extends around the pivot between the sections of the hinge and maintains the cap elevated out of locked position and which is held under compression when the device is locked.

It will be readily apparent that we have provided a cap for the gas tank of an automobile that may be readily applied or removed, which when locked will prevent the theft of the cap or gasoline from the tank and which will exclude water or the like from the tank but will afford the necessary ventilation.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in our device without departing from the spirit of the invention and we, therefore, do not limit ourselves to what is shown in the drawings and described in the specification, but only as set forth in the appended claims.

Having thus fully described our said invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A cap for a gas tank comprising a hollow body, an arm pivoted to said body and extending across the same, a depression beneath the free end of said arm, a locking bolt carried by said arm for engagement with said depression, a set screw extending through said body and having its head located in said depression whereby the locking bolt will conceal said head, and a lid for said body resiliently carried by said arm, substantially as set forth.

2. A cap for the gas tank of an automobile comprising a sleeve having means at one end for attachment to the gas tank, a lid pivoted on the other end of the sleeve for closing the same and having a member extending across the sleeve, a locking bolt carried by said member, a depression in the sleeve for the reception of the locking bolt whereby the lid may be held in position, and a set screw extending from said depression through the said sleeve for locking the sleeve in position on the tank so that access may not be had to the set screw when the locking bolt is in the depression, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands at Ashland, Kentucky, this eleventh day of February, A. D. nineteen hundred and twenty-eight.

HOMER E. TATE.
JAMES E. KING.
HERBERT BARBER.