

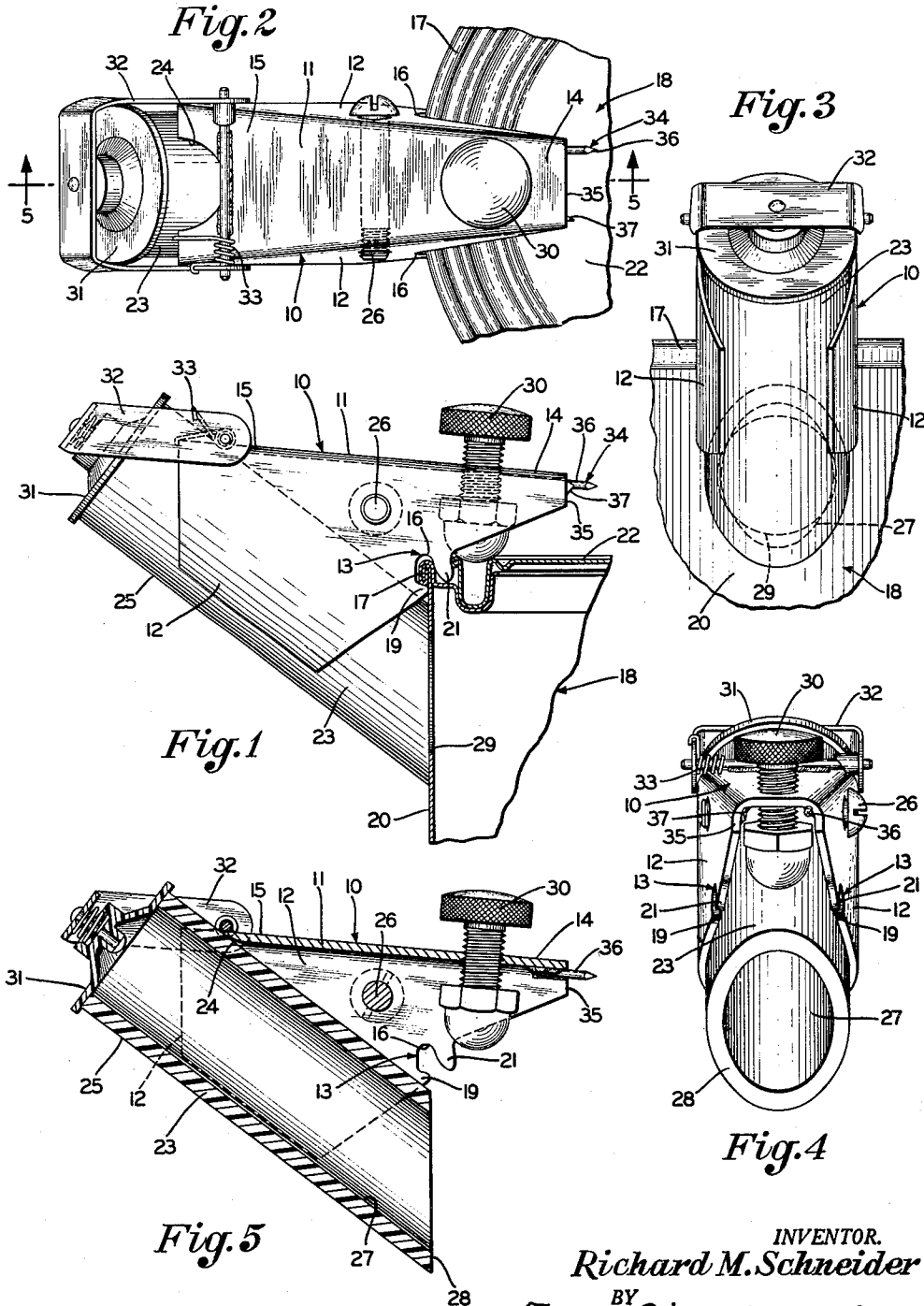
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Pouring Attachments for Cans and the Like

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POURING ATTACHMENTS FOR CANS
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My invention relates to improvements in pouring attachments for cans and the like, and more specifically to an improved can spout construction which may be easily and conveniently attached to cans and the like in operable position. Even more specifically, my invention relates to a can spout construction for attachment to cans and the like which is virtually universally adjustable for being adapted to substantially any conventional form of can.

Certain prior constructions of can spouts of the general type involved in the present invention have been constructed for reception and dispensing through the top wall of the particular can. Thus, in the use of these prior constructions, it is necessary to completely up-end the can in order to accomplish the dispensing or pouring operation.

These prior forms of construction have been satisfactory for certain uses, such as oil cans and the like, wherein relatively small size cans are involved and the entire contents of the can is removed at one time. It is difficult, however, to use these prior forms of construction when the can is of a large size and relatively great weight, and where only a portion of the contents is to be removed at any one time.

Other prior forms of can spouts of the general nature of the present invention have been provided in an attempt to correct the objections of the foregoing prior constructions. None of these however, have been completely satisfactory for the reason that they have been relatively complex in nature and have required various forms of retaining bands or straps for securing the same to the particular can.

In order to provide a satisfactory pouring attachment for cans and the like and particularly where the cans are relatively large size and only small portions of the contents thereof are to be removed at one time, it is desirable to provide a can spout which is relatively easily attached to the can and dispenses the contents of the can through the side wall thereof, so that the can need not be completely up-ended. Furthermore, the can spout must be universally adaptable to virtually all can constructions, since it is impossible to provide a separate spout attachment for each different can.

Still further, in order to prevent spilling of the contents of the can during the pouring operation, it is necessary that the can spout will seal tightly with the can side wall. Finally, if the spout attachment is to be economically feasible, it must be capable of relatively inexpensive manufacture.

It is, therefore, a general object of the present invention to provide a pouring attachment for cans and the like which overcomes the difficulties of the prior constructions and which satisfies the foregoing requirements.

It is a primary object of the present invention to provide a pouring attachment for cans and the like which may be quickly and conveniently attached to virtually any conventional can and will serve as a pouring spout for removing the contents of the can through the side wall thereof.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a pouring attachment for cans and the like which is adapted for manufacture by mass production and, in view

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of the particular attaching principle incorporated therein, does not require prohibitive production tolerances.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide a pouring attachment for cans and the like which may be formed to incorporate therein a cutting device for cutting a hole through the side wall of the can of predetermined size and perfectly adapted for the spout portion of the attachment.

It is an additional object of the present invention to provide a pouring attachment for cans and the like with which a spout portion thereof will automatically seal tightly over a hole of predetermined size in the can side wall during the attaching process, so that leakage of the material being poured is completely eliminated.

Finally, it is an object of the present invention to provide a pouring attachment for cans and the like which satisfies all of the above objects in a simple and efficient manner.

These and other objects are accomplished by the parts, constructions, arrangements, combinations and subcombinations comprising the present invention, the nature of which is set forth in the following general statement, a preferred embodiment of which—illustrative of the best mode in which applicant has contemplated applying the principles—is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and which is particularly and distinctly pointed out and set forth in the appended claims forming a part hereof.

In general terms, the pouring attachment for cans and the like comprising the present invention may be stated as including, a frame member which is positional overlying the chime flange of a can with an inner end overlying the can top wall and an outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall. Further, the frame member is formed with a downwardly opening hook-like portion intermediate the frame member inner and outer ends, which hook-like portion may be rockably or pivotally engaged over the chime flange.

This hook portion is provided with parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the top wall to resist outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, and also parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon a force being exerted at the inner end of the frame member tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange. These latter hook portion parts will resist upward movement of the attachment frame member which could cause disengagement of the frame member hook portion from the chime flange.

Outward of the chime flange and can side wall, a spout means is operably connected to the frame outer end with this spout means having an inner end registrable with an opening formed in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange, so that this spout means inner end will bear against and tightly seal against the can side wall around the opening upon the exertion of the rocking force on the frame inner end. Finally, the attachment includes selectively adjustable clamping means, preferably in the form of a threaded screw threadably engaged with the frame inner end and adjustable to engage the can top wall for exerting the upward or rocking force on the frame inner end to securely engage the frame hook portion with the chime flange and cause the spout inner end to bear tightly against the can side wall over the opening in the side wall.

In its preferred form, the attachment may have an inverted generally U-shaped frame member having downwardly extending spaced flanges engaging around a preferable hollow cylindrical spout formed of a resilient material, with the hook portion being formed in each of the frame side flanges to provide spaced hook portions en-

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gageable over the chime flange. Furthermore, a cutter means may be provided preferably at the frame inner end for cutting a hole through the can side wall of predetermined size corresponding to the inner end of the resilient material spout.

By way of example, an embodiment of the improved pouring attachment for cans and the like of the present invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals indicate similar parts throughout the several views, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a side elevation of the pouring attachment of the present invention shown secured to a portion of a representative can, with the portion of the can being illustrated in section;

FIG. 2, a top plan view of the pouring attachment of FIG. 1 and positioned as in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3, an outer end elevation of the pouring attachment of FIG. 1 and positioned as in FIG. 1;

FIG. 4, an inner end elevation of the pouring attachment of FIG. 1, but with the pouring attachment removed from the portion of the can;

FIG. 5, a vertical sectional view, part in elevation, looking in the direction of the arrows 5—5 in FIG. 2, but with the attachment removed from the portion of the can.

Referring to the drawings, the preferred form of the pouring attachment for cans and the like comprising the present invention includes a preferably inverted generally U-shaped frame member, generally indicated at 10, which may be formed of sheet metal and may be provided with a top wall 11 and spaced downwardly extending side flanges 12. Each of the side flanges 12 is formed with a hook portion, generally indicated at 13, at a point intermediate an inner end 14 and an outer end 15 on the frame member 10, with these hook portions opening downwardly and being spaced as a result of the spacing of side flanges 12.

Each of the hook portions 13 is substantially the same and includes a main opening portion 16 for reception over the chime flange 17 of a conventional can, generally indicated at 18. Furthermore, the hook portions are formed with inwardly extending parts 19 at the outer side thereof, engageable beneath the chime flange 17 outward of the can side wall 20, and downwardly extending parts 21 at the inner side thereof, engageable at the inner side of the chime flange 17 overlying the can top wall 22.

Thus, as shown in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings, the frame member 10 may be positioned overlying the can top wall 22 extending outwardly over the chime flange 17 and outward of the can side wall 20, with the frame hook portions 13 engaged over the chime flange 17. In this position, the inwardly extending parts 19 of the hook portions are engageable beneath chime flange 17 and the downwardly extending parts 21 of the hook portions are engageable at the inner side of the chime flange above or overlying the can top wall 22. Furthermore, an upward force against the inner end 14 of frame member 10 will cause the frame member to rock or pivot over the chime flange 17 and will thereby cause the inwardly extending parts 19 of hook portions 13 to engage beneath the chime flange, while the downwardly extending parts 21 of the hook portions will prevent outward movement or shifting of the frame member relative to the chime flange.

A hollow preferably generally cylindrical resilient material spout 23 is secured to the frame member 10 extending generally outwardly from the can side wall 20. This spout 23 is preferably mounted in an upwardly angled position, received in an outwardly opening recess 24 formed in the frame top wall 11 at the frame outer end 15, and is engaged by the frame side flanges 12.

For this purpose, side flanges 12 may be curved inwardly at the spout 23 to generally conform with the outer arcuate surface 25 of the spout, with these frame

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side flanges being clamped together to tightly engage the spout outer surface by the screw 26.

In view of the angled positioning of the spout 23 relative to the can side wall 20, the spout inner opening 27 extending the length thereof is generally oval shape at the spout inner end 28, as best seen in FIG. 4. For this reason an opening 29 is formed through the can side wall 20 having a maximum diameter not greater than the minimum diameter or dimension of opening 27 at the spout inner end 28.

Thus, with the spout inner end 28 positioned registering with an opening 29 formed in the can side wall 20, and with the frame member 10 rockably engaged through the hook portions 13 over the chime flange 17 as previously described, the upward force on the frame inner end 14 will not only properly engage the hook portion parts 19 and 21 with the chime flange, but will also force the inner end 28 of spout 23 to tightly engage against the can side wall 20. This sealing of the spout inner end 28 against the can side wall 20 is even more completely assured with the spout 23 being formed of at least a slightly resilient material which will more perfectly conform to the can side wall.

The upward or rocking force at the inner end 14 of the frame member 10 is accomplished by the clamping adjusting screw 30, which is threadably received through the frame top wall 11 extending downwardly between the frame side flanges 12 at the frame inner end 14 and inwardly of the hook portions 13. As shown in the drawings, the clamping screw 30 may be selectively adjusted downwardly to abut the can top wall 22 and will force the frame inner end 14 upwardly, thereby rocking the frame member 10 over the chime flange 17. This rocking movement, as before discussed, securely engages the frame hook portions 13 with chime flange 17 and forces the spout inner end 28 tightly against the can side wall 20, sealing around the opening 29 formed through this can side wall. In this manner, the attachment is secured to the can and will remain so until the clamping screw 30 is released.

An end closure 31 is preferably provided at the outer end of spout 23 for selectively sealing off the spout inner opening 27. As shown, end closure 31 may be hingedly mounted on the frame top wall 11 through the generally U-shaped hinge member 32, with spring 33 being arranged connected to frame member 10 and hinge member 32 to urge the end closure 31 into its closed or sealing position.

In view of the fact that it is of extreme importance to provide the opening 29 in the can side wall 20 of a predetermined maximum size in order that the spout inner end 28 will seal against the can side wall 20 and around opening 29, a cutter generally indicated at 34 is formed at the inner end surface 35 of the frame inner end 14, which cutter will form the proper size opening 29.

One portion of cutter 34 is formed by a sharp center pin 36, preferably mounted at the juncture of the frame top wall 11 and one of the frame side flanges 12, with center pin 36 projecting inwardly from the end surface 35 of the frame inner end 14. The other portion of cutter 34 is formed by a cutting blade 37 mounted at the opposite juncture of the frame top wall 11 and the opposite side flange 12, also projecting inwardly from the end surface 35 of the frame inner end 14. This cutting blade 37 may be formed of any suitable cutting material upon which a cutting edge may be provided, such as hardened steel and the like.

With the cutter 34 constructed as described, the opening 29 through the can side wall 20 may be formed by first puncturing the can side wall 20 with the center pin 36, after which, by rotating frame member 10 with the cutting blade 37 bearing against the can side wall, a circular hole of predetermined size is cut. In order that minute measurement for the center of opening 29 is not necessary, it is preferred that the distance between the cutter center pin 36 and cutting blade 37 which, of course,

will determine the radius of opening 29, is an amount less than the maximum opening radius permitted by the size of the spout inner end 23, yet is sufficiently large to readily dispense material from can 18 through spout 23 as desired.

Thus, according to the principles of the present invention, a pouring attachment for cans and the like is provided which is relatively easily attached to virtually any can 18 and will provide removal of the contents of the can through the side wall 20 thereof so that the can need not be completely up-ended. Furthermore, the pouring attachment construction provides secure sealing of the spout 23 thereof against the can side wall 20 and around the opening 29 through which the contents of the can 18 is dispensed, and this sealing of spout 23 is accomplished automatically through the hook-like attaching portion and cooperating attaching or clamping screw 30.

Still further, in view of the particular formation of the hook-like attaching portion formed by the preferably spaced hook portions 13 and the unique cooperation thereof with the adjusting or clamping screw 30, once the attachment is secured to the can 18 with the spout 23 properly sealed against the can side wall 20 and around the opening 29, it is virtually impossible for the attachment to become accidentally loosened. Finally, by providing a cutter 34 mounted directly on the attachment for cutting the opening 29 through the can side wall 20 of proper relative size, as determined by the size of the spout 23, close measurements for forming opening 29 are not required and the opening 29 may be formed and the attachment secured to can 18 in proper position in a short period of time without special skill being required.

In the foregoing description, certain terms have been used for brevity, clearness and understanding but no unnecessary limitations are to be implied therefrom, because such words are used for descriptive purposes herein and are intended to be broadly construed.

Moreover, the embodiment of the improved construction illustrated and described herein is by way of example and the scope of the present invention is not limited to the exact details of construction shown.

Having now described the invention, the construction, operation and use of a preferred embodiment thereof, and the advantageous new and useful results obtained thereby, the new and useful construction and reasonable mechanical equivalents thereof obvious to those skilled in the art are set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including a frame member having inner and outer ends, generally downwardly opening hook means formed in the frame member intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable means operably connected to the frame inner end and adjustable to engage

the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

2. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including a frame member having inner and outer ends, generally downwardly opening hook means formed in the frame member intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending resilient material spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable means operably connected to the frame inner end and adjustable to engage the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

3. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including a frame member having inner and outer ends, generally downwardly opening hook means formed in the frame member intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable clamping screw means threadably connected to the frame inner end and threadably adjustable to engage and bear against the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

4. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including an inverted U-shaped frame member having inner and outer ends and spaced downwardly extending side flanges, a generally downwardly opening hook means formed in each of the frame side flanges intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, each of the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, each of the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall

upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable means operably connected to the frame inner end and adjustable to engage the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

5. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including an inverted U-shaped frame member having inner and outer ends and spaced downwardly extending side flanges, a generally downwardly opening hook means formed in each of the frame side flanges intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, each of the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, each of the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending spout means positioned secured between the frame side flanges extending outward of the can side wall and having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable means operably connected to the frame inner end and adjustable to engage the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

6. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including a frame member having inner and outer ends, generally downwardly opening hook means formed in the frame member intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending from the can side wall, the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, selectively adjustable means operably connected to the frame inner end and adjustable to engage the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end, the spout inner end having an opening, and selectively operable cutter means on the frame member operable when the attachment is otherwise disengaged from a can for cutting a hole through the can side wall of a size at least as small as the opening in the spout inner end.

7. The attachment as defined in claim 6 in which the

cutter means is at an inner extremity of the frame inner end; and in which the cutter means includes a center pin, and a cutting edge spaced from the center pin for cutting a round hole through the can side wall upon rotation of the attachment about the center pin causing a rotation of the cutting edge around the center pin.

8. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including a frame member having inner and outer ends, generally downwardly opening hook means formed in the frame member intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending resilient material spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable clamping screw means threadably connected to the frame inner end and threadably adjustable to engage and bear against the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

9. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including an inverted U-shaped frame member having inner and outer ends and spaced downwardly extending side flanges, a generally downwardly opening hook means formed in each of the frame side flanges intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, each of the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, each of the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending resilient material spout means operably connected to the frame member having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable means operably connected to the frame inner end and adjustable to engage the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

10. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including an inverted U-shaped frame member having inner and outer ends and spaced downwardly extending side flanges, a generally downwardly opening hook means formed in each of the frame side flanges intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can

with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, each of the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, each of the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending resilient material spout means positioned secured between the frame side flanges extending outward of the can side wall and having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, and selectively adjustable clamping screw means threadably connected to the frame inner end and threadably adjustable to engage and bear against the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end.

11. A pouring attachment for selective mounting over the upstanding and outwardly extending chime flange of a can having can side and top walls and an opening formed through the side wall spaced below the chime flange; the attachment including an inverted U-shaped frame member having inner and outer ends and spaced downwardly extending side flanges, a generally downwardly opening hook means formed in each of the frame side flanges intermediate the frame inner and outer ends for rockable engagement over the chime flange of a can with the frame inner end overlying the can top wall and the frame outer end extending outwardly from the can side wall, each of the hook means having parts engageable against an inner side of the chime flange overlying the can top wall and resisting outward movement of the frame member relative to the chime flange, each of the hook means having parts engageable beneath the chime

flange outward of the can side wall upon an upward force on the frame inner end tending to rock the frame member over the chime flange and resisting upward disengagement of the frame hook means from the chime flange, outwardly extending resilient material spout means positioned secured between the frame side flanges extending outward of the can side wall and having an inner end registrable with an opening in the can side wall spaced below the chime flange and bearing against the can side wall upon exertion of said upward force on said frame inner end, selectively adjustable clamping screw means threadably connected to the frame inner end threadably adjustable to engage and bear against the can top wall for exerting said upward force on said frame inner end, the spout inner end having an opening, and selectively operable cutter means on the frame member operable when the attachment is otherwise disengaged from a can for cutting a hole through the can side wall of a size at least as small as the opening in the spout inner end.

12. The attachment as defined in claim 11 in which the spout means is a hollow cylindrical spout; in which the frame side flanges are arcuately shaped at the location of the spout means to conform generally to the spout means; in which the cutter means is at an inner extremity of the frame inner end; and in which the cutter means includes a center pin, and a cutting edge spaced from the center pin for cutting a round hole through the can side wall upon rotation of the attachment about the center pin causing a rotation of the cutting edge around the center pin.

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