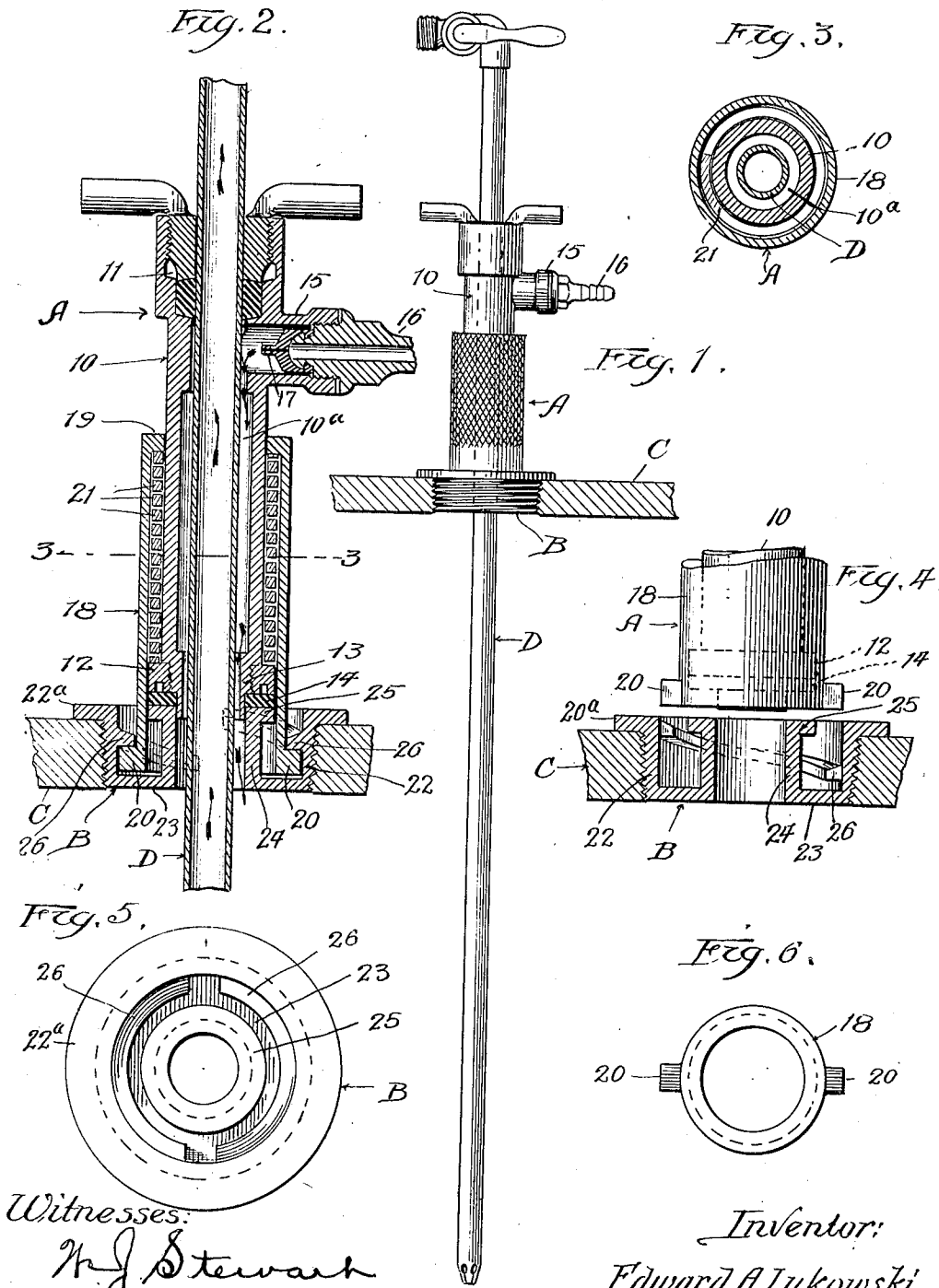


E. A. LUKOWSKI.
BEER TAP.
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1,020,212.

Patented Mar. 12, 1912.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BEER-TAP.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD A. LUKOWSKI, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hammond, in the county of Lake and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Beer-Taps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to beer taps and has for its main object to provide an improved beer tap, capable of being readily inserted in the bushing without the use of a mallet or other device for pounding upon the tap.

Another object is to provide a beer tap in which the danger of leakage is reduced to a minimum.

Other advantages will appear in the course of this specification and with all of said objects and advantages in view, this invention consists in the several novel features of construction, arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter set forth and claimed.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the drawing furnished herewith in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of one form of my improved beer tap showing the same applied to a fragment of a barrel, Fig. 2 is a detail central vertical section thereof, Fig. 3 is a detail horizontal section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, Fig. 4 is a view, partly in side elevation and partly in central, vertical section, of a fragment of the tap and bushing showing the two parts disconnected, Fig. 5 is a plan of the bushing and Fig. 6 is a plan of a certain sleeve forming a part of the device.

In Figs. 1 and 2 of said drawing, the beer tap A, is shown as secured in a bushing B, threaded in a barrel C. As usual, in accordance with the common practice, a long hollow rod or tube D, extends through the tap and projects into the barrel; its lower end contains ports for the admission of beer to the hollow of the rod and its upper end has a valve and suitable connections for a hose or other pipe leading to the faucet.

The tap A, has a tubular body portion 10, containing a stuffing box 11, at its upper end for making an air and water tight seal around the rod D, to prevent leakage at this point. Said body 10, has a flange or head upon its lower end that may comprise a collar 12, threaded upon a reduced neck 13, projecting down from the lower end of the body. As shown in the drawing, the

collar abuts against a shouldered portion at the base of the neck and below said collar is an elastic washer 14, surrounding the neck and held thereon by friction. The washer serves to make an air and water tight seal between the tap and bushing, as will be hereafter more fully set forth. The cavity in the body 10, is of a larger diameter than the rod D, whereby an air space 10^a, is provided between said rod and body, and said air space opens at its lower end into the barrel and at its upper end into a passage formed in a boss 15, projecting out from the side of the body 10. A nipple 16, arranged to be connected with a tube leading from a pump (not shown) is secured on the boss 15, and has a rubber check valve 17, of the ordinary form upon its inner end that opens toward the air chamber 10^a. Surrounding said body 10, and slidably and rotatively mounted thereon is a sleeve 18, having an inturned flange 19, at its upper end and outwardly projecting lugs 20, upon its lower end. Between the flange 19, and collar 12, is confined a coiled spring 21, which is held under compression between said flange and collar, said spring acting to tightly seat the washer 14, upon the bushing to prevent leakage between the body and bushing. Fig. 2 shows the tap connected to the bushing, but when the two are disconnected, the spring moves the sleeve up until it strikes the boss 15.

The bushing B, has a threaded annular wall 22, that screws into the barrel and if desired may be formed with a flange 22^a, that bears against the side or head of the barrel.

Extending inward from the lower end of the wall 22, is a web 23, having an upturned neck 24, concentrically arranged with respect to the wall 22; its upper end encircles the lower end of the neck 13, and bears against the washer 14. The upper end of the neck 24, is preferably formed with an outwardly projecting flange 25, to form a seat for the washer 14. Projecting in from the screw threaded wall 22, are a pair of locking members 26, that are arranged to co-act with the lugs 20, on the sleeve 18, for locking the body to the bushing. Said locking members are here shown in the form of oppositely arranged inclined ribs or flanges that extend around the inner face of the wall 22, each rib being slightly less than a semicircle in extent, and the

lugs 20, are arranged to be inserted underneath said ribs at their highest point, so that by turning the sleeve in the right direction, said lugs will be caused to move down under the inclines, thereby pulling down the sleeve, compressing the spring 21, and firmly seating the head of the body 10, and its washer upon the flange 25, of the bushing.

10 In operation, the tap A, is placed upon the bushing with the washer resting upon the seat 25; the sleeve is forced down into the hollow of the bushing between the neck 24, and annular wall 22, until the lugs 20, pass the high ends of the ribs or locking devices 26, whereupon the bushing is turned toward the right to bring the lugs into contact with the lower sides of said ribs. The sleeve should be turned sufficiently to bring 20 the lugs 20, down near the lower ends of the ribs 26, so as to insure a heavy pressure of the spring upon the head 12, in order that there may be no danger of leakage at the joint between the body and the bushing. 25 The rod D, is then thrust through the hollow of the body 10, and down upon the cork (which up to this time remains in the opening of the neck in the bushing) and the cork is pushed in by the rod, the latter being lowered in the barrel to the desired position, after which the gland of the stuffing box is screwed down to make a tight joint around the rod at the top. The tap is now ready for use and the hose or other 30 connection from the faucet may be secured upon the fitting at the top of the rod and the valve opened. Beer may then be drawn off in the usual manner. When the pressure in the barrel becomes low, air may be forced in through the nipple 16, the air chamber 10^a, and down into the barrel.

I realize that various alterations and modifications of this device are possible without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I do not therefore desire to 45 limit myself to the exact form of construction shown and described.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

50 1. In a beer tap, the combination with a hollow, detachable tap body arranged to receive a hollow rod, and having one flanged end arranged to seat upon a bushing and beyond said flanged end a reduced neck encircled by an elastic washer, of a 55 bushing arranged to be secured in a barrel, said bushing having inclined locking members, and having an upstanding neck forming a seat for said hollow body, and a

tubular locking member surrounding and connected with said hollow tap body, and having means cooperating with said locking members of the bushing, for clamping said body upon said seat of the bushing with the elastic washer interposed therebetween.

2. In a beer tap, the combination with a hollow, detachable tap body having a flanged end, of a bushing arranged to be secured in a barrel, said bushing having an upstanding flanged neck, and inclined locking ribs, a sleeve surrounding said hollow tap body and having an inturned flange at its upper end and lugs on its lower end arranged to engage the underside of said locking ribs, and a coiled spring confined under compression between the inturned flange of said sleeve and said flanged end of the hollow tap body for holding said body upon the seat of the bushing.

3. In a beer tap, the combination with a hollow, detachable tap body arranged to receive a hollow rod, a sleeve surrounding said hollow body and having a pair of outwardly projecting lugs on its lower end and a coiled spring held under compression between said body and sleeve, of a bushing having an upturned neck forming a seat for the end of the hollow body, said bushing having a pair of oppositely disposed, inclined, locking members arranged to engage said lugs upon the sleeve to hold the spring in compression and seat the hollow body upon the neck of the bushing.

4. In a beer tap, the combination with a hollow, detachable tap body having a flanged end, a sleeve surrounding said body and formed with an inturned flange at its upper end and with outwardly projecting lugs on its lower end, and a coiled spring confined under compression between said flanged end of the tap body and the inturned flange on the sleeve, of a bushing arranged to be secured in a barrel, said bushing having an annular seat arranged to receive the flanged end of the tap body, and having inclined locking ribs arranged to engage the lugs of the sleeve to hold the said spring under compression and thereby seat the flanged end of the tap body upon the seat of the bushing.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name at Hammond, Lake county Indiana, this 17th day of October 1911.

EDWARD A. LUKOWSKI.

Witnesses:

PAUL B. LIPINSKI,
MICHAEL LUKOWSKI.