

W. A. SCHMIDT,
OIL CAN TOP.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 5, 1919.

1,320,932.

Patented Nov. 4, 1919.

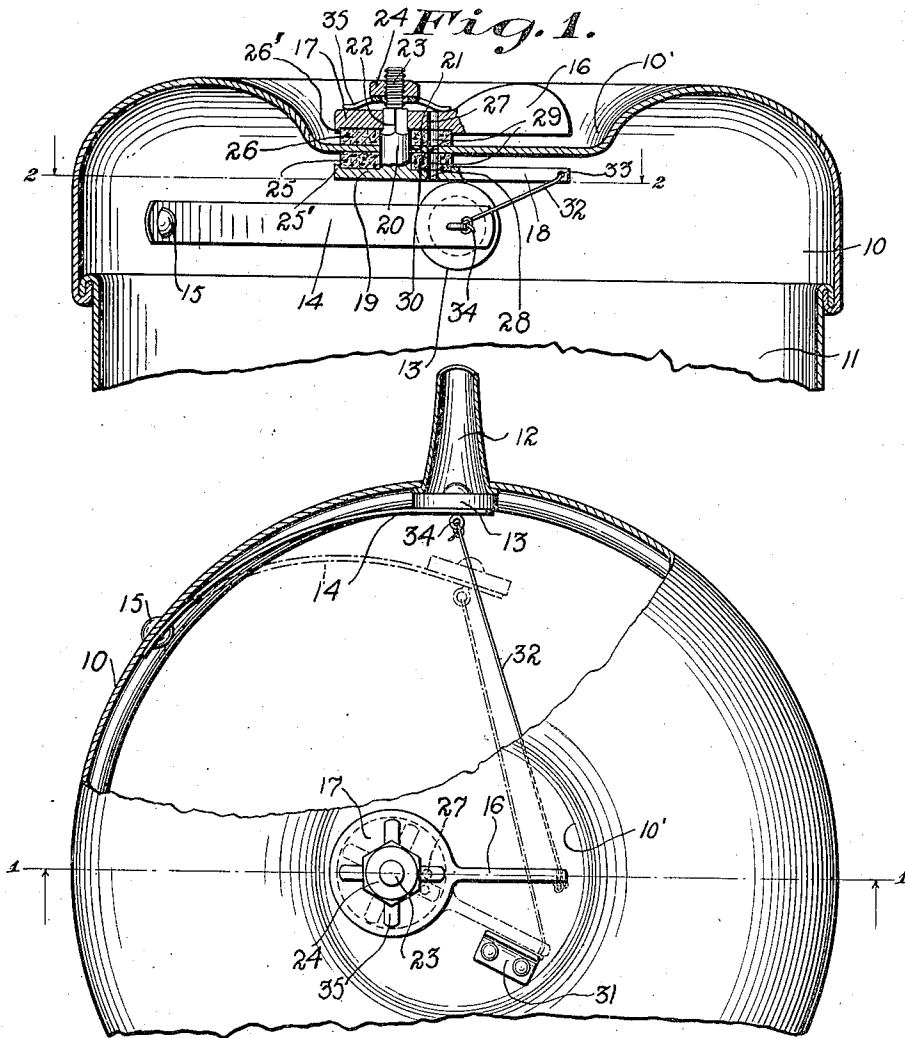


Fig. 2.

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WILLIAM AUGUST SCHMIDT, OF LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

OIL-CAN TOP.

1,320,932.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 4, 1919.

Application filed June 5, 1919. Serial No. 301,875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM AUGUST SCHMIDT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Lewistown, in the county of Fergus and State of Montana, have invented a new and Improved Oil-Can Top, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to receptacles and has particular reference to receptacles for dispensing liquids such as oil cans.

This invention constitutes an improvement over that covered by Letters Patent of the United States, No. 1,195,102, issued to me on the 15th day of August, 1916.

Among the objects of the present improvement is to improve the arrangement and control of the pour-out valve so as to make the same more reliable in practice and more easily manipulated.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for easily and delicately controlling the frictional adjustment of the valve actuating means.

With the foregoing and other objects in view the invention consists in the arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed, and while the invention is not restricted to the exact details of construction disclosed or suggested herein, still for the purpose of illustrating a practical embodiment thereof reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which like reference characters designate the same parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical transverse section on the line 1—1 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary plan view partly in horizontal section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring now more specifically to the drawings I show my invention as comprising a top 10 applied to a receptacle 11 of any suitable size, design or construction. For the purposes of this description it may be assumed that the receptacle is intended for kerosene oil from which lamps are to be filled periodically through a pour-out spout 12, although it is to be distinctly understood that the device has a broader field of usefulness.

A valve 13 coöperates with the inner end of the spout 12 and is held resiliently against the same for closing it, by virtue of a long leaf spring 14 whose opposite end is secured at 15 at one side of the top 10. By arrang-

ing the spring thus in a substantial horizontal plane the spring may be made much longer than in the previous device, and consequently the valve 13 may be manipulated to its final position with less effort than if the spring were shortened.

At any convenient or desired part of the top 10 I mount the valve actuating means preferably in or in connection with a depression 10' formed in the top. This produces a neater construction and affords a shroud or guard preventing damage to the actuating means that might result from objects being set upon the can or otherwise coming into contact with the moving parts. The actuating means include a finger piece or actuator 16 including a disk 17. A lever 18 likewise is preferably formed integral with a disk 19 having a stud 20 projecting through a bearing hole 21 formed in the top. The stud 20 includes a cylindrical bearing portion fitted directly in the hole 21 and provided above the bearing portion with a polygonal shoulder 22 and having extending upward from that a reduced threaded portion 23. The shoulder 22 is fitted in a correspondingly formed hole in the center of the disk 17, these parts being held together firmly by means of a nut 24 fitted on the threaded end 23 of the stud. Since the actuator is thus locked from rotation with respect to the lever 18 the movement of either the actuator or the lever will cause a similar movement of the other around the axis of the stud 20.

The upper face of the disk 19 and the lower face of the disk 17 may have any suitable character or relation to the flat bottom portion of the depression 10', but I show said faces of the disks as countersunk forming pits for gasket members such as corks 25 and 26 fitted snugly in said pits and held from rotation by any suitable means such as the friction of the surrounding flanges 25' and 26' in connection with the friction between the gaskets and the stud 20 so that the gaskets are caused to rotate with the actuator and lever and remain stationary when these parts are stationary.

The disks 17 and 19 are provided with registering ports 27 and 28 and the gaskets 25 and 26 are similarly provided with ports 29 registering with the disk ports. The flat bottom of the depression 10' is provided with an air port or vent 30, the same being normally closed or sealed by the gaskets 25

and 26 when the valve 13 is held closed by its spring 14 but so located that when the actuator is moved in a clockwise direction as shown in Fig. 2 to its dotted line position against a stop 31 all of the aforesaid ports register giving free admission of air to allow the free outflow of the oil through the spout 12. The lever 18 is connected by means of a link 32 with valve 13, said link of any suitable material being connected in an eye 33 at the end of the lever and in an eye 34 constituting a part of the means fixing the valve 13 to the spring 14. The correlation between the actuator 16 and the stop 31 provides for easy control of the valve during the out-pouring action. In other words while the handle or bail of the can is employed by one hand for holding the can during the process of pouring, one finger of the same hand will be employed in holding the actuator against the stop 31, the hand serving at the same time as a means for controlling the tilting of the can, three fingers grasping the bail. This pressing back of the actuator by the finger is an easy natural action requiring a minimum amount of force. The bail on this can is made somewhat shorter than common and the actuator may be placed toward the side of the can top opposite to the pour out spout. The other hand grasps the flange at the bottom of the can. When the actuator is released the spring 14 promptly reseats the valve 13 and returns the actuating devices to the position in which the port 30 is closed excluding dirt or dust and preventing evaporation of the contents of the can. Suitable tension between the gaskets 25 and 26 and the can top may be maintained by means of a spring 35 located between the nut 24 and the actuator disk 17. This spring is shown in the form of a cross having a central hole and four arms diverging from the central portion.

I claim:

1. In an oil can top having a pour-out nozzle, the combination with a valve to nor-

mally close the nozzle and a spring supporting the valve controlling its position, of actuator means for the valve comprising a disk within the can top and a lever connected to the disk, connecting means between the lever and the valve, said disk having a stud journaled in and projecting upward through a hole in the can top, and a finger piece having rigid connection with the upper end of the stud.

2. In a device of the class set forth, the combination with a can top having a pour-out nozzle, a valve for the nozzle and a spring carrying the valve tending to close the valve and hold it closed, of actuating means for the valve comprising a lever within the can top, a member to which the lever is connected and an integral stud projecting upward through the top and adapted to be rotated around the axis of the stud, a finger piece fixed to the upper end of the stud parallel to the lever whereby the lever may be turned through an arc of circle around its pivot, and a stop member to limit the movement of the finger piece.

3. In a device of the character set forth, a can top having a bearing hole and a vent hole adjacent thereto, a disk within the top, a bearing stud integral with the disk projecting upward through the bearing hole and having a reduced polygonal shoulder, a finger piece having a correspondingly formed socket fixed upon the shoulder above the top, gasket means located around the stud between the disk and finger piece, said finger piece, disk and gasket means being provided with registering air holes, the air vent aforesaid being normally held closed by the gasket means but being so located that when the finger piece is operated said vent hole will be brought into registry with the other air holes, and means coöperating with the upper end of the stud to force the finger piece resiliently toward the disk and so maintain the gasket means under proper tension.

WILLIAM AUGUST SCHMIDT.