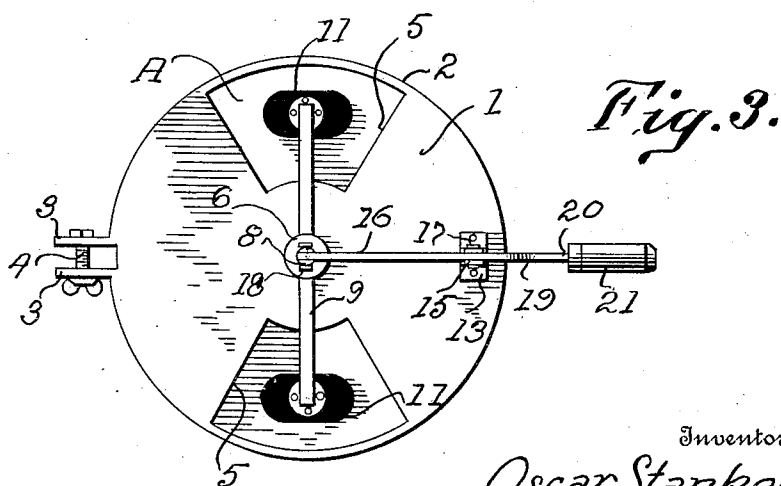
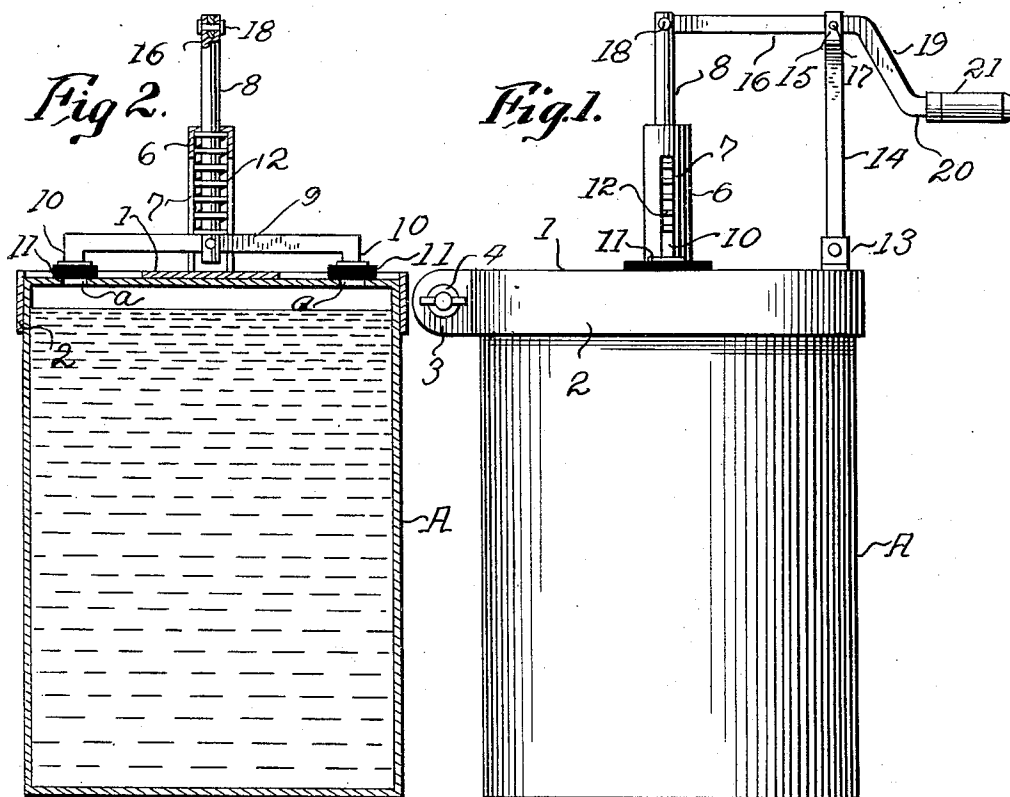


O. STANKEY.
 TEMPORARY COVER FOR CANS.
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1,050,309.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.



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OSCAR STANKEY, OF EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS.

TEMPORARY COVER FOR CANS.

1,050,309.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

Application filed September 20, 1912. Serial No. 721,395.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR STANKEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at East St. Louis, in the county of St. Clair and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Temporary Covers for Cans, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to temporary covers to close the openings made in condensed milk cans and the like, to prevent dust and germs from entering the can to sour the milk, and has for its object the provision of a device of the character described comprising a cap adapted to be clamped upon the top of the can and having a spring propelled plunger provided with valves adapted to seat upon the holes made in the can for the egress of the milk and to vent the can.

My invention will be described in detail hereinafter and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a side view in elevation of my improved cover shown in position on a can; Fig. 2, a horizontal sectional view; and Fig. 3, a top plan view.

In the drawings similar reference characters will be used to designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

A indicates a can of the ordinary structure used for the shipment of condensed milk and the like products in which it is customary to form openings *a* one of which may be used for pouring the milk from the can and the other for venting the can, and as stated above, my invention contemplates the provision of a cover that is adapted to temporarily close the openings *a* when the milk is not being poured from the can.

My improved cover consists of a plate 1 being of substantially the same size and shape as the top of the can and having a downwardly extending flange 2 extending around its outer edge with laterally extending lugs or projections 3 that are connected by means of a screw bolt 4 to be used in tightening the flange on the sides of the can to hold the cover in position. The plate 1 is provided with cut-out portions 5 on opposite sides thereof to seat over the openings *a* heretofore described to permit the valves that will be hereinafter described to cover said holes.

Mounted on the central portion of the plate 1 is a tubular casing 6 having vertical

slots 7 on opposite sides thereof. 8 indicates a plunger slidably mounted in said casing 6 and extending above its upper end and secured to the lower terminal of said plunger 8 is a transverse rod 9 having its terminals provided with downwardly extending portions 10 on which are secured plates 11 of any suitable material such as rubber to make an air-tight fit with the top of the can A to hermetically seal the openings *a*.

12 indicates a coil spring surrounding the plunger 8 within the casing 6 and having its terminals engaging the upper end of said casing 6 and the cross rod 9 to normally hold the plates 11 in engagement with the top of the can.

13 indicate ears secured to the plate 1 adjacent to its edge and having pivotally mounted thereon a bar 14 with its upper end bifurcated as shown at 15 to receive a lever 16 that is pivotally secured thereto by means of pins 17. One terminal of said lever 16 is pivotally secured to the plunger 8 by means of a pin 18, while the other terminal of the lever is bent downwardly as shown at 19 and then on a horizontal plane as shown at 20 and provided with a suitable handle 21.

In operation, it will be understood that after the can A is opened by cutting the holes *a* therein for the egress of the milk and to vent the can as heretofore stated, my improved cover is mounted thereon and clamped in position by means of the set screw 4 engaging the lugs 3 on the flange 2, said cover being so positioned that the openings 5 in the plate 1 are over the openings *a* in the can and the plates 11 positioned to cover said openings *a*. When no pressure is exerted on the handle 21 of the lever 16 the coil spring 12 within the casing 6 will normally hold the plates 11 depressed to that the openings *a* are hermetically sealed from dirt, germs and the like, and the contents of the can will be kept from spoiling. When it is desired to remove some of the contents of the can the handle 21 is depressed, thus lifting the plunger 8 and with it the cross rod 9 having the plates 11 secured to its ends 10 and by tilting the can in one or the other direction, the milk will flow from one of the openings *a* and the can be vented through the other opening *a*. After extracting some of the contents of the can, the openings *a* may again be sealed by releasing pressure on the handle 21 to permit the plates 11 to

engage the top of the can surrounding said openings.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:—

- 5 1. A cover for cans comprising a plate, a flange on the edges of said plate and provided with means for clamping said flange on a can, said plate having openings therein, a cylindrical casing mounted on said plate,
- 10 a plunger slidably mounted in said casing, a cross rod secured to the lower terminal of said plunger and extending through slots in the casing, said cross rod having its terminals formed with downwardly extend-
- 15 ing portions, valve plates secured to said downwardly extending portions of the cross rod, a spring mounted in said casing and surrounding the plunger, said spring having its terminals engaging the upper end of the
- 20 casing and the cross rod aforesaid to normally hold the plunger in its lowermost position, and a lever pivotally secured to said plunger for raising the plunger against the resistance of said spring.
- 25 2. A cover for cans comprising a plate, a flange on the edges of said plate and provided with means for clamping said flange

on a can, said plate having openings therein, a cylindrical casing mounted on said plate, a plunger slidably mounted in said casing, 30 a cross rod secured to the lower terminal of said plunger and extending through slots in the casing, said cross rod having its terminals formed with downwardly extending portions, valve plates secured to said down- 35 wardly extending portions of the cross rod, a spring mounted in said casing and surrounding the plunger, said spring having its terminals engaging the upper end of the casing and the cross rod aforesaid to nor- 40 mally hold the plunger in its lowermost position, ears mounted on said plate, an upright bar pivotally secured to said ears, a lever pivotally secured to said upright bar and pivotally secured to said plunger, said lever 45 being adapted to be operated to raise said plunger against the resistance of said spring.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

OSCAR STANKEY.

Witnesses:

ANTHONY J. STOCKER,
JACOB WERNER.