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S. N. DONNER

2,344,343

SANITARY COVER FOR CANS

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Fig. 1.

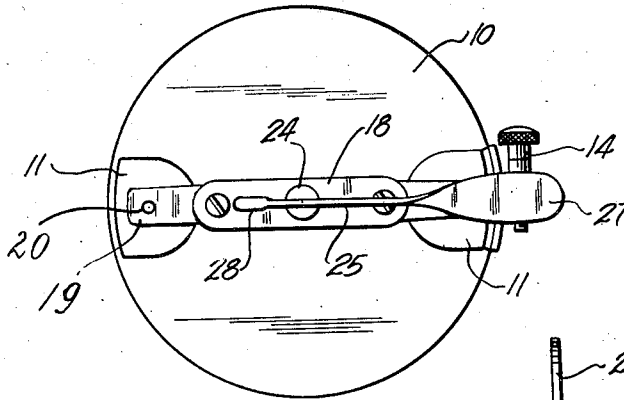


Fig. 2.

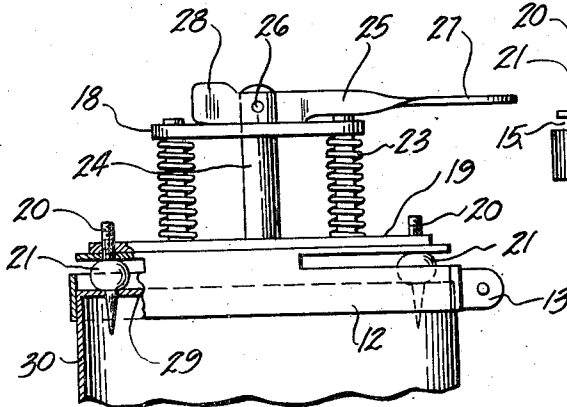
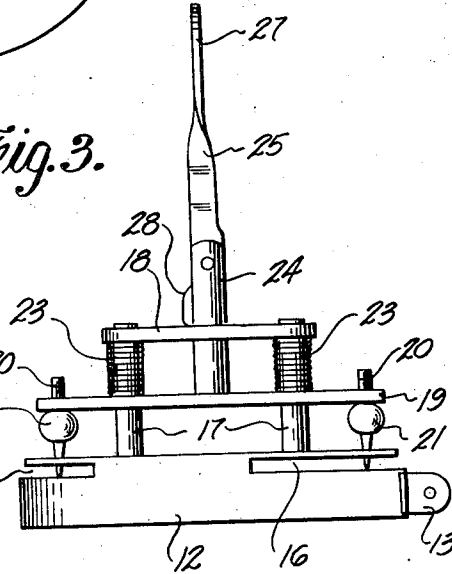


Fig. 3.



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2,344,343

SANITARY COVER FOR CANS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 220—51)

The purpose of my improvement is to provide a practical cover for cans containing milk, juices of fruits and vegetables and other liquids, said cover being of the kind that contains both, the means of perforating the top of a can and means of sealing the perforations against access of air into the can. The sealing means devised by me, include a novel combination of elements as will be presently described.

In addition to the above, my aim was to devise a cover of pleasing appearance but one that would be positive in action and simple in construction.

I shall now describe my invention with reference to the accompanying drawing in which,

Fig. 1 is a top elevation of my improved cover for cans;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of my cover, partly broken off, and showing the manner in which it may be operatively secured to the top of a can;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of my cover for cans, showing its movable elements out of engagement with the top of the can on which it is seated;

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The cover shown by me in the above drawings comprises a circular plate 10 of a diameter slightly larger than the diameter of a can to which the cover is to be secured. The plate contains two diametrically opposed apertures 11, disposed close to its rim and is provided with a circular flange 12, split at one side to form two opposed ears 13, journaled for the reception of an adjusting screw 14. The flange is intended to bind the top of the can, the screw serving to tighten the frictional grip of the flange on the can. On each side of plate 10, adjoining apertures 11, the plate is separated from the flange by a slot. As will be noted, there are two such slots, marked 15 and 16 respectively.

Mounted on said plate 10, and aligned with apertures 11, are two posts 17, joined at the top by a yoke 18. The posts serve as guides for a horizontal bar 19, containing two holes spaced from each other so as to fit over the outer diameter of said posts. In addition thereto, the bar has at each end a threaded hole to accommodate a correspondingly threaded shank 20 supporting a ball and spike combination. The shank, the ball 21, and the spike mounted thereon, and indicated by numeral 22, are aligned in a perpendicular position with respect to the circular plate 10 and over the respective aperture 11. The ball is preferably made of metal, although a plastic or some other material may be found suit-

able. The spike is preferably conical in shape. Coiled around posts 17 are expansion springs 23, bearing at top against yoke 18, and bearing at their lower ends against bar 19.

Midway, between the ends of bar 19 is a perpendicular column 24, affixed to the bar and passing upwardly through an aperture 31, centrally located in yoke 18, as shown in Fig. 1. The column is slotted at the upper end to accommodate therein a lever 25, fulcrumed in the slot by means of a cross pin 26. One arm of the lever, namely the longer one, serves as a handle 26, while the shorter arm, bears against yoke 18.

I shall now describe the use of my cover. In order that it might be affixed to the top of a can, flange 10 must be sufficiently loosened by means of screw 14 to fit over said top. The cover is then placed on the top of the can while lever 25 is in a position shown in Fig. 2, whereupon the cover is pressed down manually against said top to cause spikes 22 to perforate the top wall 29 of can 30. Flange 10 may now be tightened by means of said screw 14.

It will be noted that the extent of the penetration of the spikes into the top wall 29 is limited by balls 21. In their position right over the spikes, and being partly nested in the depressions made in the top of the can by spikes when perforations are made therein, the balls serve as effective means of sealing said perforations.

In order to pour out the contents of the can, the spikes must be withdrawn from the openings made by them. This is done by means of said lever 25, which is raised by means of handle 27 to a perpendicular position, whereby the shorter arm 28, bearing against yoke 18, will cause column 24 to slide upwardly in aperture 31 in yoke 18. As column 24 is affixed to bar 19, it will raise said bar and the spikes which are attached to its under-side. The perforations in the top of the can are thus exposed and the contents of the can may be poured out through slot 15 or slot 16 as the case may be.

When it is desired to seal the perforations in the top of the can, lever 25 is brought down from its perpendicular position as shown in Fig. 3 to its normal horizontal position shown in Fig. 2. This causes the spikes to re-enter the perforations and the balls to seal them.

Having thus described my improvement and its operation, what I wish to claim is the following:

1. Cover for cans of the kind described comprising a circular plate having two diametrically

opposed apertures at its rim, a circular flange depending therefrom to grip the top of the can on which the cover is seated, a movable horizontal bar, having at each end on its under-side a ball with a spike projecting from it downwardly and over the respective aperture in the plate, an upright column on said bar and having a perpendicular slot in its upper end, a stationary yoke above and parallel to the movable bar, being supported at each end by a post mounted on the plate and having a centrally located passage for the upright column, a coiled spring around each post to keep the bar and the yoke in a yieldingly spaced relation to each other, a two-armed lever fulcrumed in the slot of the column, one arm of said lever slidingly bearing against the upper surface of the stationary yoke to bring the movable bar with its spikes into or out of engagement with the top of the can.

2. A cover for cans of the kind described, comprising a circular plate having two diametrically opposed apertures at the rim, a circular flange depending therefrom to adjustably grip the top

of the can to which the cover is applied, a horizontal slot in the flange on each side of the plate adjoining the aperture therein, a movable horizontal bar, having at each end on its under-side, a ball with a spike projecting from it downwardly and over the respective aperture in the plate, an upright column on said bar and having a perpendicular slot in its upper end, a stationary yoke above and parallel to the movable bar, being supported at each end by a post mounted on the plate and having a centrally located passage for the upright column, a coiled spring around each post to keep the bar and the yoke in a yieldingly spaced relation to each other, a two-armed lever, fulcrumed in the said slot of the column, one arm of said lever serving as a handle, and the other bearing slidingly against the upper surface of the stationary yoke to actuate the movable bar by means of said column and to bring said bar with its spikes into or out of engagement with the top of the can.

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