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PROTECTIVE COVER

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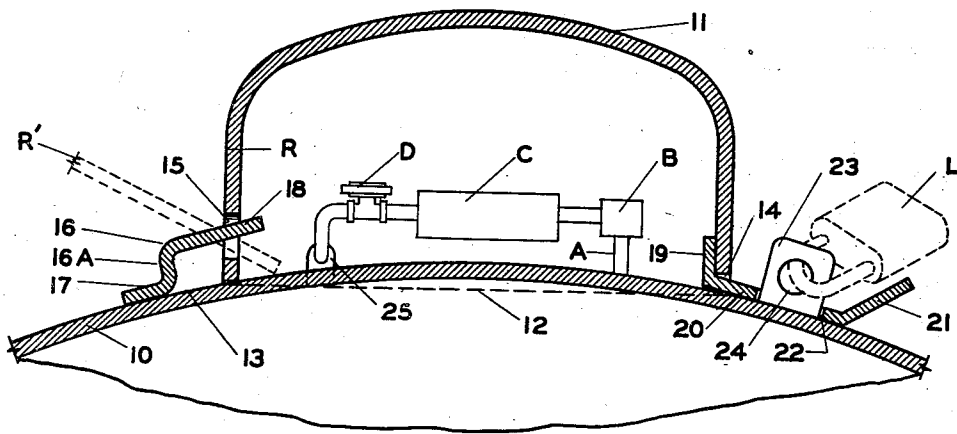


FIG. 1

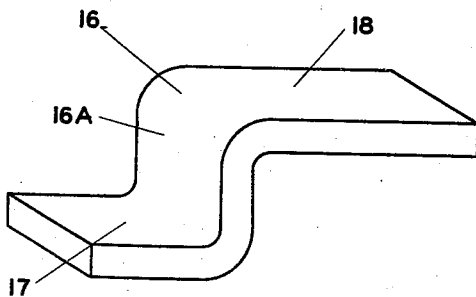


FIG. 2

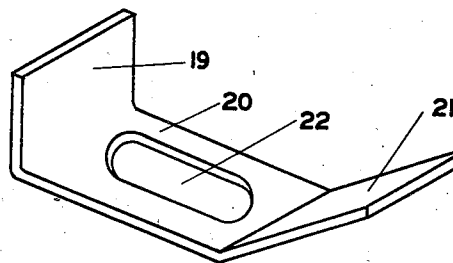


FIG. 3

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1 Claim. (Cl. 220—85)

This invention relates to a protective cover, and more in particular to a protective cover or cap adapted to be attached to a vessel or container to guard and protect mechanism used in dispensing the contents thereof.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple and easily operable protective cover which is adapted to guard and protect mechanism attached to a vessel which is utilized in the dispensing of the contents of said vessel, and to further provide such a protective cover which is readily and conveniently placed in a protective position and yet readily removable, and to further provide such a cover which will be devoid of hinges and similar elements which readily rust and render the cover inoperative or make necessary expensive repairs to the container, or hard to open and close, and to still further provide such a protective cover as will fit tightly upon the vessel, container or other member with which it is used and completely house the mechanism thereunder and protect the same from the elements, theft, and accidental and unauthorized tampering.

With these and other objects and advantages in mind which will become apparent upon consideration of the following specification, attention is now directed to the attached drawing, forming a part thereof, and wherein;

Fig. 1 is a cross-sectional view of the protective covering or cap showing the same in position on the top of the container;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of a member for assisting in holding the protective cover in place, and which also allows the cover to pivot thereabout in being raised; and

Fig. 3 is an enlarged perspective view of a member attached to the cover and for assisting in locking it in place.

With reference now to Fig. 1 there is fragmentarily illustrated in cross-section the upper portion of a container or vessel 10, which may be of any suitable type, size or design, but for the purposes of illustrating this invention will be assumed to contain a fluid under pressure, such as liquefied petroleum gases of the type used industrially and domestically as fuel. In storing such gases in containers and dispensing them therefrom to the pipe line or conduit carrying them to the fuel burners, it is necessary to provide valves for controlling their withdrawal from the container, and pressure regulating devices for reducing the pressure on the gases prior to their entry into the conduit carrying them to the fuel

consuming appliances, and usually a relief valve.

Such elements constitute no part of this present invention but to more completely illustrate and explain this invention there is shown a pipe A for withdrawing the contents of the container 10, which may be fluids under pressure, in which is interposed a valve B, a pressure regulator C and a relief valve D, all of which elements are desired to be protected against the elements, theft and tampering. And to accomplish this there is provided a dome-shaped protective cover or cap 11 having a substantially circular base 12 which seats upon the top wall 13 of the container 10, and is formed with a cut away portion 14 for the purpose to be described. The cap 11 is provided on one side, at a point adjacent its base, with a slot 15.

Secured to the upper side 13 of the container there is welded or otherwise fastened a stationary member 16, which is more clearly illustrated in Fig. 2, and comprises the portion 17 attached to the container and an arm 18 thereof which is so bent as to be disposed parallelly to the upper surface 13 of the container 10 and within the slot or opening 15 of the cap 11 when the same is in the protective position illustrated in Fig. 1.

Attached to the inner surface of the cap 11 at a point substantially diametrically opposite the slot 15 is the flange portion 19 of a hasp 20 which passes through the cut away portion 14 of the cap rim. The hasp may be secured to the cap 11 by any desired or suitable means, such as by welding, and is further formed with the handle portion 21 and an elongated slot 22 which fits over an upright stub 23 secured to the upper surface 13 of the container and which is provided with a hole 24 through which the bight of a lock L may be passed as shown.

The protective cap is cut away at one point on the rim or edge thereof to provide the port 25 through which passes the pipe A.

When it is desired to inspect the pipe A or to regulate or inspect any of the devices B, C or D protected by the cap or dome 11, it is only necessary to unlock and remove the lock L and by lifting up on the handle 21 of the hasp 20 lift the same out of engagement with the stud 23 and tilt back the cap 11, which by virtue of the arm 18 extending into the slot 15 will pivot at that point upon the arm 18, until the rear wall R thereof is in the position shown by the dotted lines R' in Fig. 1, at which point the weight of the cap

will hold the same in open position with the top of the container 10 uncovered.

To replace the cap or covering in its protective position it is merely necessary to draw it forward from the position indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 1 until the rim 12 thereof is making engagement with the upper surface 13 of the container, and the stub member 23 has been passed through the slot 22 at which time the bight of the lock L may be inserted in hole 24 thereof and locked to the stub to prevent the removal of the hasp. And the cap when in such position will be securely maintained in place upon the container top to protect the mechanism thereunder, and will be incapable of any appreciable upward, lateral or rotary movement with respect to the container by virtue of the arm 18 protruding into the slot 15 and the engagement between the hasp 20 and stub 23, and these members will further serve to hold the cap tightly upon the container and in close contact with the upper surface thereof.

It should also appear apparent that the protective cap or covering 11 may be readily removed entirely from the top of the container 10 when occasion demands. This is accomplished by first

removing the lock L and raising the cap by lifting up on the handle 21 to remove the stud 23 from the elongated slot 22, at which time the cap 11 may then be drawn forward to disengage the arm 18 from the slot 15, thus leaving the cap 11 entirely removed from the container.

I claim:

In combination, a surface, a protecting cover for the surface, the cover having a depending wall in engagement with the surface, an opening in the depending wall spaced from the surface, a stationary member secured on said surface, an arm carried by the stationary member extending along and in spaced relation to the surface, the arm projecting into the opening in the cover, the length of the arm being greater than the dimension of the opening along a line lying in a plane containing the arm and substantially perpendicular to the surface, and means acting between the cover and the surface to hold the cover at a point farthest from the opening contiguous to the surface and against substantial movement in the direction the arm extends.

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