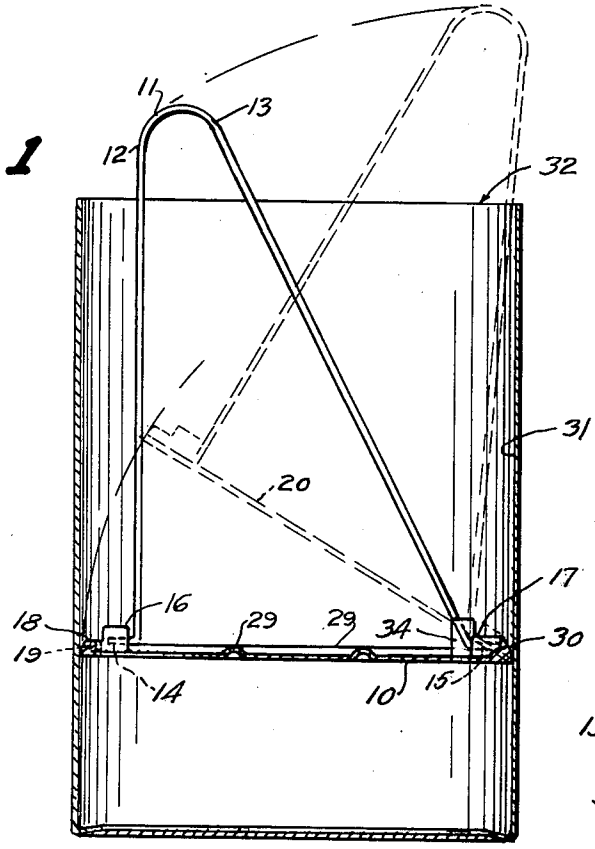
April 21, 1964 R. J. SIEBELT 3,129,842

ADJUSTABLE CONTAINER SEAL COVER

Filed April 4, 1962

Fig. 1



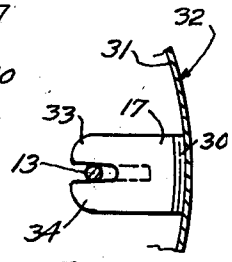


Fig. 5

Fig. 2

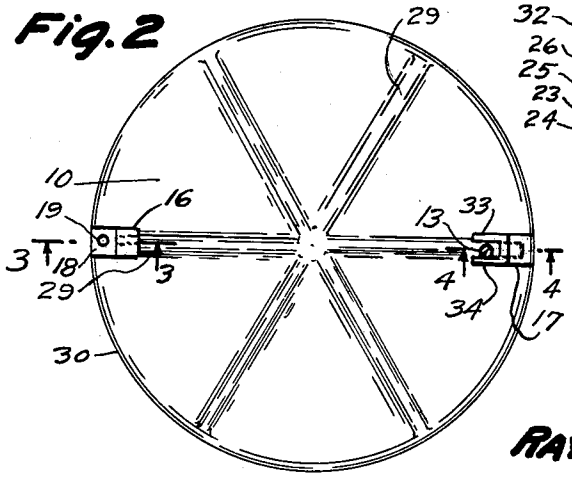
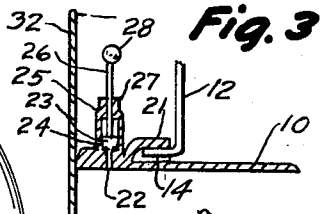


Fig. 3



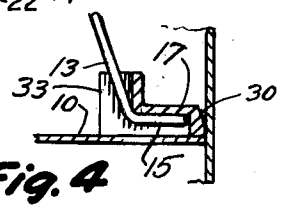


Fig. 4

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ADJUSTABLE CONTAINER SEAL COVER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 220—93)

This invention relates to covers adjustably positioned in containers wherein a cover positioned in a container, such as a paint can, is moved downwardly as quantities of paint are removed from the can so that the open area between the level of paint in a can and the cover cap of the can is eliminated, and the possibility of the thick film that usually forms on the surface of paint remaining in a can is obviated.

The purpose of this invention is to provide a sealing cover for a container in which the position of the cover in relation to the quantity of material in a container is adjustable.

Paint cans and containers for other purposes, or for other products, are provided with covers that are normally retained by annular beads in friction grooves in upper ends of the containers, and as quantities of the products are removed or used the beads are pressed into the grooves and the containers are substantially sealed with a pocket of air at atmospheric pressure in the upper part of the container.

The object of this invention is, therefore, to provide an adjustable cover for containers which eliminates all pressure on upper surfaces of materials remaining in containers.

Another object of the invention is to provide movable covers for containers which eliminate open areas above portions of products remaining in containers in which the covers are retained in adjusted positions by friction.

A further object of the invention is to provide a vacuum seal cover for a container in which means is provided for relieving the vacuum to facilitate removing the cover.

A still further object is to provide an adjustable vacuum seal cover for containers in which the cover is of simple and economical construction.

With these and other objects and advantages in view the invention embodies a disc designed to be positioned across a container and having oppositely disposed sockets thereon, a handle having legs with outwardly extended ends positioned with the ends in the sockets, and a valve positioned in the disc when desired.

Other features and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the drawing wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a vertical section through a container showing an adjustable sealing cover in the lower part thereof and also showing a handle removably mounted on the cover.

FIGURE 2 is a plan view of the cover with the container omitted.

FIGURE 3 is a cross section through one side of the cover, taken on line 3—3 of FIGURE 2, showing a modification wherein a valve is provided in the cover.

FIGURE 4 is a section taken on line 4—4 of FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 5 is a plan view of the socket shown in FIGURE 4.

Referring now to the drawing wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts the improved container vacuum seal cover of this invention includes a disc **10**, and a handle **11**, the handle being provided with a straight or vertical leg **12** and an inclined leg **13**, and the legs being provided with substantially right angularly disposed ends **14** and **15**, that are urged into sockets **16** and **17** on opposite sides of the disc by resiliency inherent in the handle. The socket **16** is provided with an extension **18** through which a pin hole **19**, for relieving vacuum or

air trapped under the cover, extends, whereby in moving the cover **10** from the position indicated by the broken lines **20** to that shown in full lines in FIGURE 1, the cover is free to nest upon the upper surface of material remaining in the container.

In the design illustrated in FIGURE 3, a socket **21**, similar to the socket **16**, is provided with an opening **22**, similar to the pin hole **19**, and a valve element **23** with a coacting valve seat **24**, is provided in the socket for closing the opening **22**. The elements are positioned in a valve body **25** with a valve stem **26** extended from the element **23** through the valve bonnet **27** and having a ball **28** on the upper end.

The disc **10** is reinforced by ribs **29** and the periphery of the disc is provided with an arcuate surface **30** which nests snugly against the inner surface **31** of the wall of a container **32**, providing a seal. The socket **17** on the opposite side of the disc, is provided with wings **33** and **34** that are spaced to receive the leg **13** of the handle, thereby providing means for retaining the handle in an upright position.

To remove the handle the legs **12** and **13** are squeezed together withdrawing the ends **14** and **15** from the sockets **16** and **17**, and when it is desired to remove the cover the ends of the legs are urged inwardly by the same means.

In use the conventional cover or end of a container is removed and paint, or the like, used from the container. When a desired amount of paint is removed from the container the conventional cover is replaced by the disc or cover **10** with the cover held by the handle **11**. The cover **10** is held in an inclined position, as indicated by the dotted lines, with one edge in engagement with the upper surface of material in the container, and as the cover is urged downwardly to the horizontal position shown in full lines, air below the cover is permitted to escape through the opening **19**. The opening may or may not be provided with a closure, such as the valve **23**, as may be desired.

The handle is removed to facilitate storage and packing, and when it is desired to use more material from the container the ends of the handle are inserted in the sockets and the cover is drawn upwardly and removed.

From the foregoing description it is though to be obvious that a container vacuum seal cover constructed in accordance with the present invention is particularly well adapted for use by reason of the convenience and facility with which it may be assembled and operated, and it will also be obvious that this invention is susceptible of some change and modification without departing from the principles and spirit thereof, and for this reason I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise arrangement and formation of the several parts herein shown in carrying out my invention in practice, except as claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. In a container cover, the combination which comprises a container having a continuous wall and a bottom, the lower edge of the wall being secured to and integral with the bottom, the upper end of the container being open, a disc fitted in said container and positioned with the periphery thereof substantially in sealing relation with the inner surface of the wall of the container, open aligned sockets on the upper surface of the disc, and an inverted U-shaped handle having a vertical leg and an inclined leg and having aligned ends at the open end of the handle positioned normal to the vertical leg of the handle and extended outwardly from the ends of both legs, the ends of the legs of the handle being positioned to extend into said aligned sockets and being removable therefrom by squeezing the legs together, and said inclined leg of the handle permitting the handle to actuate the cover to a sloping

position to facilitate insertion of the cover and removal thereof from the container.

2. In a container cover, the combination which comprises a container having a continuous wall and a bottom, the lower edge of the wall being secured to and integral with the bottom, the upper end of the container being open, a disc fitted in said container and positioned with the periphery thereof substantially in sealing relation with the inner surface of the container wall, said disc having an opening therethrough, a valve mounted on the disc and positioned to close said opening therein, a valve stem extended upwardly from the valve and positioned to, selectively, close or open the opening through the disc, open aligned sockets on the upper surface of the disc, and an inverted U-shaped handle having a vertical leg and an inclined leg and having aligned ends at the open end of the handle, positioned normal to the vertical leg of the handle and extended outwardly from said legs, the ends of the legs of the handle being positioned to extend into said sockets and being removable therefrom by squeezing the legs together, and said inclined leg of the handle permitting the handle to actuate the cover to a sloping position to facilitate insertion of the cover in the container and removal of the cover from the container.

3. In a container assembly, the combination which comprises a container having a continuous wall and a bottom, the lower edge of the wall being secured to the bottom and integral therewith, the upper end of the container being open, a cover fitted in said container and positioned with the periphery thereof substantially in sealing relation with the inner surface of the wall of the container, said cover having an opening therethrough, a valve mounted on the cover and positioned to close said opening, a valve stem extended from said valve and positioned to, selectively, open or close the opening through the cover, open aligned sockets on the upper surface of the cover, and an inverted U-shaped handle having a vertical leg and an inclined leg and having aligned ends extended from the ends of the legs at the open end of the handle, said aligned ends of the legs being positioned in a plane normal to the vertical leg of the handle, said ends of the legs of the handle being positioned to extend into said open sockets on the cover, and one of said open sockets being provided with spaced wings positioned to straddle the leg extended into the socket for retaining the handle in a position normal to the cover, said handle being freely removable from the sockets by squeezing the legs together, and said inclined leg of the handle permitting the handle to actuate the cover to a sloping position to facilitate inserting the cover in the container and removing the cover from the container.

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