J. C. POTTER.

OIL CAN.

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Patented Jan. 9, 1917.

Fig. 2.

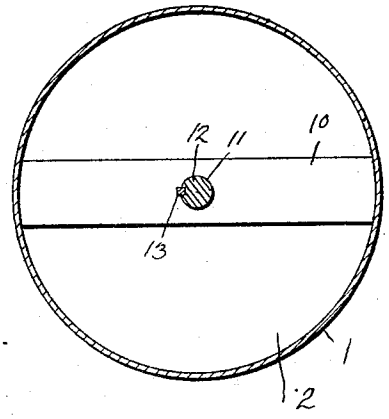


Fig. 1.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. POTTER, OF ALEXANDRIA, SOUTH DAKOTA.

OIL-CAN.

1,211,960. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 9, 1917.

Application filed December 11, 1915. Serial No. 66,316.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. POTTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Alexandria, in the county of Hanson and State of South Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oil-Cans; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in oil cans, and has for one of its objects the provision of a device of the above stated character, which shall be simple, durable and efficient and which may be manufactured and sold at a comparatively low cost.

A further object of this invention is the provision of an oil can having a flexible bottom for the purpose of forcing lubricating liquid from the can by pressing inwardly upon the flexible bottom.

A further object of this invention is the provision of an oil can having a flexible and elastic bottom with a spring pressed standard mounted within the oil can to bear upon the center of the bottom to force it outwardly after it has been pressed inwardly to expel the lubricating liquid, whereby the can will not be rendered unfit for use should the bottom lose its elasticity.

A still further and more specific object of this invention, of the above stated character, is the provision of novel means for supporting the standard in a vertical position within the oil can and in engagement with the central portion of the flexible body and resiliently attached to the lower end of the spout of the can, providing a central pressure upon the flexible bottom at all times.

With these and other objects in view, as will become more apparent as the description proceeds, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

For a complete understanding of my invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a side sectional elevation, showing the standard resiliently connected to the lower end of the spout of an oil can and bearing upon the central portion of the flexible bottom, and Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view, taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow, showing the connection between the flexible bottom and the standard.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the numeral 1 designates the side walls of an oil can, having a flexible bottom 2 secured thereto, and the upper edges of the walls 1 being bent inwardly and inclined upwardly, as at 3, to form a vertical flange 4, providing a mouth to the oil can. The flange 4 is crimped to form internal screw threads 5 to receive a cap 6 provided with a reduced portion having external screw threads 7 thereon to be received within the vertical flange 4. A spout 8 is secured centrally of the cap 6 and extends therethrough to a point below the bottom 9 of the cap 6.

Secured within the oil can to the bottom 2 adjacent the walls 1, by soldering or other suitable means, is a supporting strip 10. The strip 10 is provided with an opening 11 intermediate its length to receive one end of a standard of wood, or other suitable material, 12, which engages the flexible bottom 2. The lower end of the standard 12 is slotted to receive a pin or wedge 13 to secure and firmly hold the standard in the opening 11 of the supporting strip 10 and in a vertical position within the oil can. The standard 12 is provided with an enlarged portion adjacent the upper end thereof to provide a shoulder 14, said standard 12 being reduced, as illustrated at 15, from the shoulder 14 to the upper terminal of the standard and provided with external screw threads to receive a coupling sleeve 16, which will be hereinafter more fully described.

The coupling sleeve 16 consists of an outer vertical wall 17 and an inner parallel wall 18, said wall 18 being crimped to form internal screw threads thereon and secured to the wall 17 by means of a horizontal wall 19, forming a pocket 20. The upper edge of the wall 17 is bent at right angles to form a flange, having corrugations 21 thereon to facilitate the screwing of the coupling sleeve 16 upon the standard 12 to adjust the tension of a coil spring 22 which is received within the pocket 20 and secured to the walls 17 and 18 by soldering or other suitable means. The coil spring 22 is in turn secured to the interior of a spout 8 by solder, or other suitable means, to form a resilient

and compressing connection between the spout 8 and the standard 12 to force said standard downwardly and normally hold the flexible bottom 2 outwardly at all times.

A filling funnel 23 is provided with a reduced portion to form a spout 24, which is inserted and secured within the inwardly and upwardly directed portion 3 of the walls 1 to a point adjacent the coupling plate 16. The enlarged portion of the funnel 23 is provided with internal screw threads to receive a plug 25, which is provided with external screw threads to coöperate with the internal screw threads of the funnel 23. The reduced portion or spout 24 of the funnel 23 is provided with a screen 26 secured to the end thereof, by means of a collar 27, providing means for collecting foreign substances that may enter the funnel 23 when the lubricating liquid is being poured into the oil can, thus preventing the entrance of foreign substance which is liable to stop or accumulate within the spout 8 during the use of the oil can.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be seen that when the flexible bottom 2 has been compressed or pressed inwardly to force the lubricating liquid out through the spout 8 the standard 12 will be shoved upwardly against the tension of the coil spring 22, which bears upon the spout 8 and forces the flexible bottom 2 outwardly to initial position after the pressure has been released upon the bottom 2 by the user, thus overcoming the annoyance of oil cans of this type from becoming unflexible or dead and which will not operate successfully after a little usage.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. An oil can comprising side walls and a flexible bottom, a cap detachably secured to the upper edges of the walls, a spout secured within the cap, a tension spring secured to the lower end of said spout, a supporting strip secured to the flexible bottom and provided with an aperture intermediate its length, a standard secured within said aperture and resting upon the flexible bottom, said standard provided with an enlarged portion to form a shoulder and terminating in a reduced portion, a coupling sleeve screw threaded through the reduced portion of said standard, said coupling sleeve provided with a pocket therein to receive said spring to press the standard downwardly, and means for filling said oil can.

2. An oil can comprising side walls and a flexible bottom, a cap detachably secured to the upper edges of the walls, a spout secured within the cap, a clamping spring secured to the lower end of said spout, a supporting strip secured to the flexible bottom and provided with an aperture intermediate its length, a standard mounted within said aperture and resting upon the flexible bottom, said standard provided with a slot in the lower end thereof, a wedge positioned within said slot and bearing upon the wall of the aperture within said attaching strip to hold the standard therein, means for detachably connecting the upper end of the standard to the spring to force said standard downwardly against the bottom, and means for filling the oil can.

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

JOHN C. POTTER.

Witnesses:
MATT VOLZ,
F. S. BROOKS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents. Washington, D. C."