L. BARTLETT.

BOTTLE SEAL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 4, 1913.

1,118,999. Patented Dec. 1, 1914.

Fig. 1.

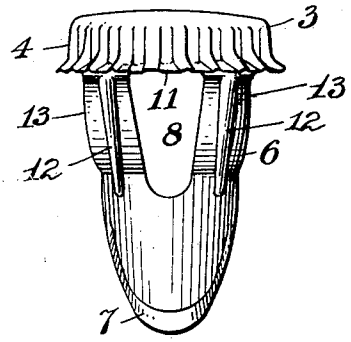
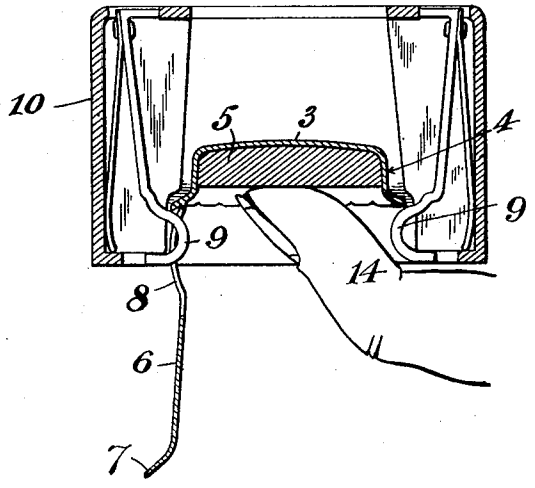


Fig. 2.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEONARD BARTLETT, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BOTTLE-SEAL.

1,118,999. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 1, 1914.

Application filed October 4, 1913. Serial No. 793,383.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONARD BARTLETT, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Bottle-Seal, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to seals for bottles of the character known as "crown seals"; and the object of the invention is to provide a seal of this kind with an integral thumb piece for detaching purposes so constructed that the seal may be applied to a bottle by any hand-fed crown capping machine.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1, is an elevation of my improved seal with integral thumb piece; and Fig. 2, is a vertical section of the same, and an illustration of how the same is placed in a "throat"—shown diagrammatically—of a hand fed machine.

Like numerals of reference refer to the same parts in each of the views.

In practice I provide a seal consisting of a shell 3, provided with a crimped skirt 4, and sealing disk, or gasket 5.

Integral with the skirt 4, is a thumb piece 6, preferably having a flaring portion 7, at the bottom so that it can be readily engaged for removal from the bottle.

I am aware that it has been known to make a bottle seal with a thumb piece for the purpose of removal; but in such cases, owing to the necessary width of the thumb piece it has been impossible to utilize a hand-fed throat used in crown capping machines to apply the seal to a bottle owing to the fact that the throats used in machines of this kind are provided with spring fingers adapted to engage and hold the seal in place while the bottle is being placed in position for capping. As generally constructed, throats of this kind have four spring fingers adapted to project into the throat to support the cap after insertion by the finger. Owing to the necessary width of a thumb piece, one of the spring fingers will engage the thumb piece while the others will rest in under it. This will cause the seal to be tipped owing to the pressure exerted on the thumb piece by the spring finger thereby preventing the right positioning of the seal for application.

It is the object of this invention to provide a seal which will overcome this difficulty, and, at the same time, provide for the more accurate locking of the same on the bottle.

To meet all these requirements I provide a thumb piece with an opening 8, therethrough, extending from the skirt of the cap to a distance sufficient to allow of one of the spring fingers 9, of a throat, as 10, to enter therein; and the skirt of the cap 3, is formed exactly the same above the opening 8, as at other points so that when the seal is forced into locking contact with a bottle the portion 11, of the skirt will engage the bottle just the same as other portions of the skirt 4, outside the thumb piece; and in order to form the thumb piece 6, in this way with a sufficiently large opening to permit the entrance of one of the fingers 9, unrestrictedly, and yet not have it extend too far around the skirt of the cap, I have ribbed the portions of the thumb piece at each side of the opening 8, to strengthen the same. By providing the ribs 12, the portions 13, of the thumb piece can be made quite narrow and yet be quite rigid when it is desired to remove the seal from the bottle, as will be understood.

As illustrated in Fig. 2, diagrammatically, the seal is always inserted by one finger, as 14, in the throat. These throats are always mounted in a capping machine with one of the spring fingers 9, toward the operator, and another directly opposite. In handling a seal of the kind here shown the operator invariably takes the seal in his hand with the thumb piece at the farthest point from him. Thus, when the seal is inserted in the throat, the opening 8, is always in the right position for the entrance of the spring finger 9, opposite the operator, and the seal is seated naturally in the throat in the right position for application. When applied, the portion 11, of the skirt is forced into just the same engagement as portions outside the thumb piece; and a secure engagement is made with the bottle as the metal forming the crimped skirt will flow under pressure from the capping throat without the hindrance that would occur if the thumb piece was in engagement with the skirt of the cap all the way across.

I claim:

1. In a bottle seal, a cap having a crimped skirt and an integral thumb piece, said thumb piece having an opening therethrough ending at the bottom of the skirt

of said cap and sufficient in size to receive the holding finger of a capping tool, for the purpose set forth.

2. In a bottle seal, a cap having a crimped skirt and an integral thumb piece with an opening therethrough terminating at the bottom of the skirt whereby said cap is provided with a free crimped portion above said opening, for the purpose set forth.

3. The herein described bottle seal comprising a cap and gasket, said cap having an integral thumb piece connected therewith at two points whereby an opening is formed between said connecting points with a portion of the edge of the skirt of the cap forming one wall thereof, said opening being sufficient in size to receive a holding finger of a capping tool, the portions connecting said thumb piece and cap being ribbed whereby the requisite stiffness is obtained with a maximum amount of the edge of said skirt exposed.

Dated this 1st day of October 1913.

LEONARD BARTLETT.

Witnesses:
WALTER R. BENEDICT,
M. C. ALLEN.

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