Oct. 21, 1930. V. C. THOMAS 1,778,989

GASOLINE TANK CAP LOCK

Filed Oct. 5, 1929

Fig. 1.

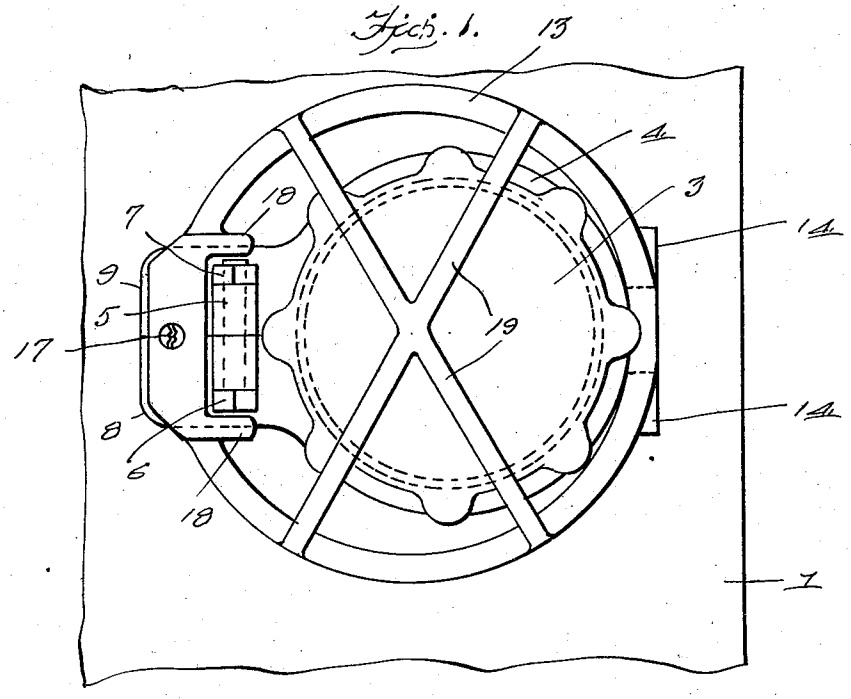


Fig. 2.

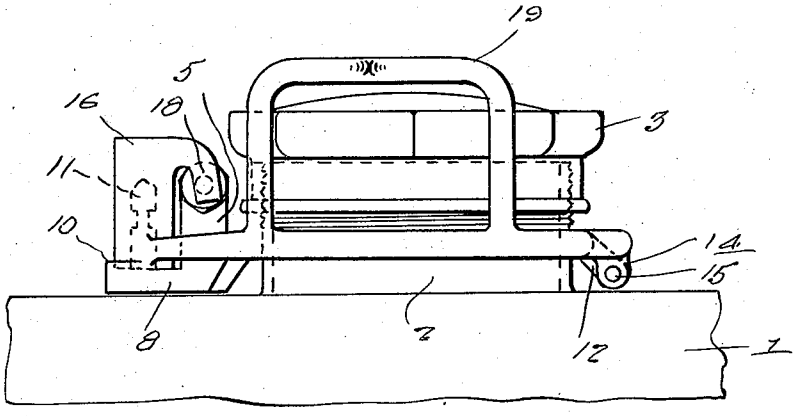
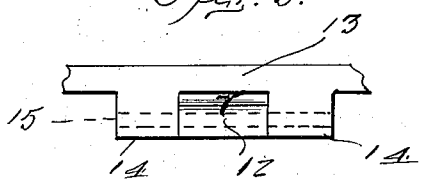


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GASOLINE-TANK-CAP LOCK

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This invention relates to gasoline tank cap locks and more particularly to devices of this nature of the type wherein a cage or hood is pivotally mounted on the gasoline tank or the neck thereof in a manner to enclose the cap to prevent the unauthorized removal thereof from the tank.

An important object of the invention is to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a gasoline tank cap lock of the aforementioned character which may be expeditiously mounted in position on the tank without the use of securing elements which extend through any part of the tank or the neck thereof and wherein the device will be adapted to tanks having inlet necks of different diameter.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a lock of the aforementioned character which will be simple in construction, strong, durable, efficient in its use and which may be manufactured at low cost.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein like characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view showing a gasoline tank cap lock constructed in accordance with this invention, the same being shown in position over the cap.

Figure 2 is a side elevation thereof.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary rear elevation showing the end joint which connects the clamping ring and the cage or housing carrying ring.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the reference character 1 designates a portion of a gasoline tank for use on automobiles having an upstanding externally threaded neck 2 providing an inlet for supplying gasoline to the tank. A closure cap 3 is threaded downwardly on the neck 2, in the usual manner.

A split clamping ring 4 encircles the neck 2 below the threaded portion thereof and has its adjacent front end provided with upstanding ears or lugs 5 having transverse aligned bores extending therethrough for the passage of a clamping bolt 6 which projects laterally beyond the outer edges of one of said lugs or ears and has threaded thereon the nut 7.

The adjacent ends of the clamping ring 4 are further provided with downwardly and forwardly projecting horizontally disposed extensions 8 and 9 which are clamped firmly together to constitute a unitary base when the ring is clamped around the neck 2. The forward ends of the extensions 8 and 9 are provided with outwardly extending lip 10, as seen most clearly in Figure 2. A notched or recessed locking post 11 is rigidly mounted on the extension 8 and projects upwardly therefrom. The rear portion of the clamping ring 4 is provided with downwardly and rearwardly extending lugs 12. A ring 13 encircles the clamping ring 4 in eccentric relation thereto and is pivotally connected to said clamping ring through the medium of a pair of downwardly extending ears 14 which embraces the lug 12 therebetween and are provided with aligned openings for the passage of a pivot pin 15 which extends through the opening in the lug 12.

The forward portion of the ring 13 has mounted thereon a lock 16 which is adapted to seat on the platform constituted by the extensions 8 and 9 and receive the locking post 11 therein for securing the forward portion of the clamping ring 4 and the ring 13 together. The lock 16 is provided, on its upper base, with a key receiving opening 17 and when the device is unlocked the ring 13 swings upwardly and rearwardly over the cap 3 on the pivot pin 15.

The lock 16 is provided with spaced rearwardly and downwardly extending fingers 18 which are adjacent the outer ends of the clamping bolt 6 and nut 7 thereon when the ring 13 is in its locked position and said fingers constitute guards for preventing the removal of said nut and the clamping bolt for the purpose of removing the clamping ring 4 from the neck 2. A pair of substantially inverted U-shaped intersecting rods extend over the cap 3 and have their opposite ends rigidly connected to the ring 13. As will

be apparent the rods, which are designated by the reference character 19, will prevent the removal of the cap 3 from the neck 2 when the device is locked on the clamping ring 4.

It is understood, of course, that any desired number of the rods 19 may be mounted on the ring 13. It is also to be understood that a solid wall casing or housing may be mounted on the ring 13 in lieu of the intersecting rods 19 and that said rods or casing may be of any desired material. It is further to be understood that any desired type of lock and post may be utilized for securing the forward or free portions of the rings together.

It is believed that the many advantages of a gasoline tank cap lock constructed in accordance with this invention will be readily understood, and although embodiment of the invention is as illustrated and described, it is to be understood that changes in the details of construction may be had which will fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim is:—

1. A gasoline tank cap lock of the character described comprising a split clamping ring for mounting on the inlet neck of the gasoline tank, co-acting lugs mounted on the adjacent ends of the split ring, a securing element mounted on said lugs and in conjunction therewith constituting means for clamping the ring on the neck, a ring of greater diameter than the clamping ring pivotally connected to said clamping ring, locking means on the free portions of the rings for locking the same together, cap retaining means mounted on the second named ring, and means carried by the locking means for preventing the removal of the securing element on the lugs when the rings are locked together.

2. A gasoline tank cap lock of the character described comprising a split clamping ring adapted to be mounted on the inlet neck of a gasoline tank, co-acting lugs having aligned bores therethrough on adjacent ends of the clamping ring, a clamping bolt extending through said lugs for securing the ring on the neck, a platform extending forwardly from the end portion of the clamping ring, a locking post mounted on the platform, a ring of greater diameter than the clamping ring hingedly connected thereto at its rear portion, a lug mounted on the free portion of the last named ring and adapted to seat on the platform and receive the post therein, and a pair of guard fingers mounted on said lock and extending closely adjacent the ends of the clamping bolt when the rings are locked together in a manner to prevent the removal of said bolt, and a cap retaining housing mounted on the last named ring.

3. A gasoline tank cap lock of the character described comprising a split clamping ring adapted to be mounted on the neck of a gasoline tank, a pair of opposed vertically extending lugs having aligned bores therethrough on the end portions of the split clamping ring, a threaded securing bolt extending through the aligned bores and having a head on one end and a securing nut on the opposite end for clamping the ring on the neck, a downwardly and forwardly extending horizontally disposed platform mounted on the forward end of the clamping ring, a locking post on the platform, a ring of greater diameter than the clamping ring hingedly connected thereto and encircling said clamping ring and the lugs thereon, a lock on the forward portion of the last named ring adapted for the reception of the locking post on the platform, said lock being further adapted to seat on said platform, a pair of spaced rearwardly and downwardly extending guard fingers mounted on the lock and extending closely adjacent the ends of the clamping bolt when the lock is seated on the platform and adapted to prevent the removal of said clamping bolt from the lugs, and a plurality of substantially inverted U-shaped intersecting rods extending over the cap and connected at their ends to the last named ring.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

VALERY C. THOMAS.