

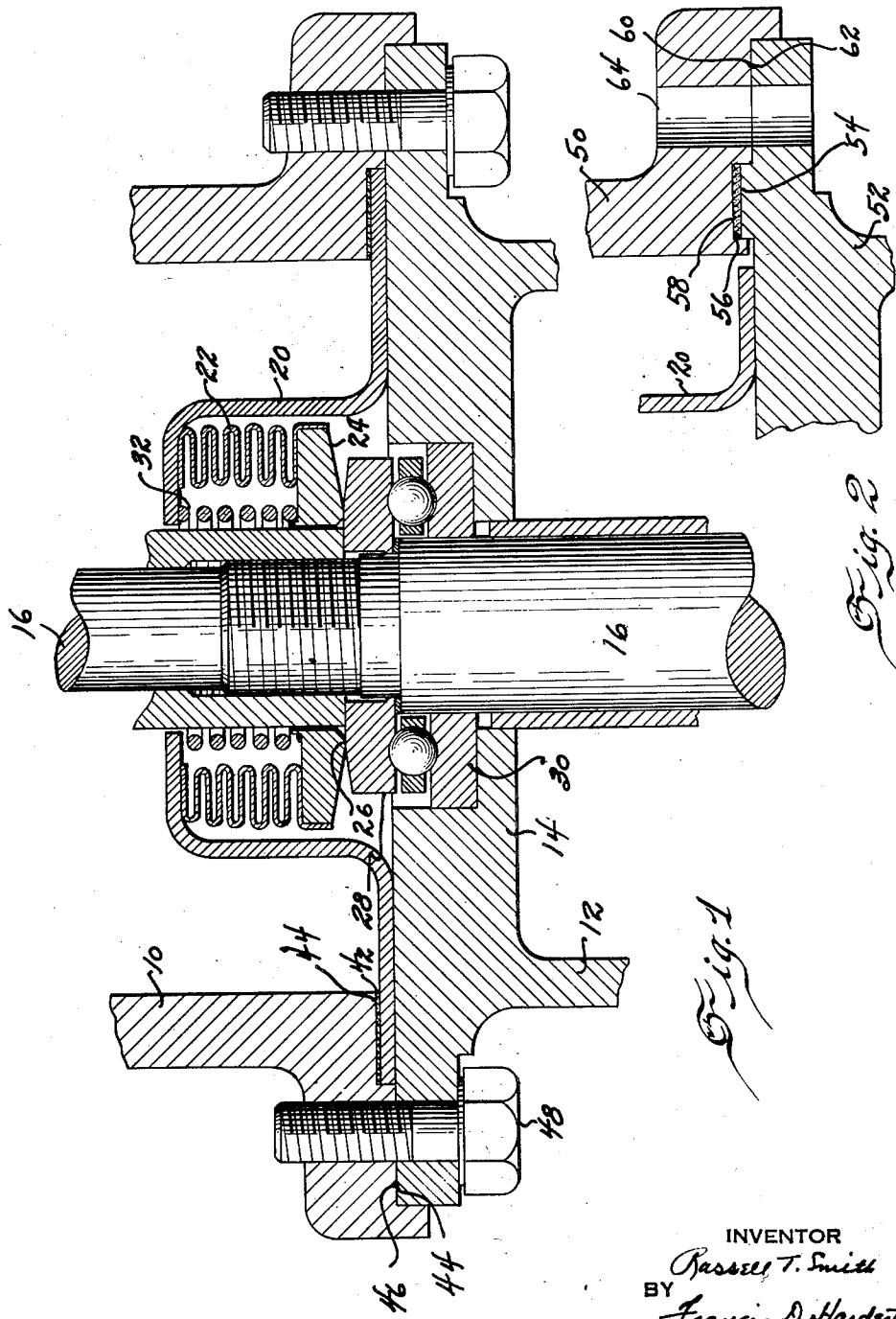
April 5, 1932.

R. T. SMITH

1,852,681

SEAL AND BEARING CONSTRUCTION

Filed March 2, 1931



INVENTOR
Russell T. Smith
BY
Francis D. Hardisty
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

RUSSELL T. SMITH, OF GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO GIBSON REFRIGERATOR COMPANY, OF GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN, A CORPORATION OF MICHIGAN

SEAL AND BEARING CONSTRUCTION

Application filed March 2, 1931. Serial No. 519,479.

This invention relates to seal and bearing constructions.

It is the practice at present, in refrigerator design, to connect two casings to each other, 5 one of them being a compressor casing and the other being a motor casing. One of the casings is generally provided with a transverse wall thru which projects a shaft common to the motor and to the compressor. The shaft, at 10 its ends, is mounted in the motor and in the compressor and at an intermediate point, is sealed to the transverse wall so that fluid communication between the motor casing and the compressor casing is prevented.

15 Further, it has been found desirable to support the shaft at points other than in the motor and compressor casings and the transverse wall thru which the shaft projects forms an ideal location for the shaft support 20 or bearing.

An object of this invention, therefore, is a seal and bearing connection for a shaft which has ends in two relatively connected casings, one of the casings having a transverse wall in which the shaft is supported and to which the shaft is sealed.

A further object is a novel form of seal between the casings above mentioned which is so constructed as to insure the alignment 30 of the casing walls with the shaft.

Still further objects will readily occur to those skilled in the art upon reference to the following description and the accompanying drawings in which

35 Fig. 1 shows the device in section.

Fig. 2 is a partial view of a modification.

Referring to the drawings, and more particularly to Fig. 1, it will be seen that there has been provided a compressor casing 10 40 and a motor casing 12, the latter having a transverse wall 14 which forms a partition between the casings. The wall 14 is apertured and thru the aperture projects a shaft 16, one of whose ends is connected to the compressor unit within the casing 10 and the other of which is connected to the motor unit within the casing 12. The ends of the shaft are mounted in bearings (not shown) and the shaft is sealed to the transverse wall in 45 such a manner that communication of the

fluid from casing 10 to casing 12 is prevented and such sealing means will now be specifically described.

Secured to the transverse wall 14 is a cupped plate 20 to which is secured one end 55 of an expandable and contractible bellows 22, the other end of the bellows being secured to the non-rotating ring 24, which is generally of anti-friction metal. The ring is provided with an annular edge 26 which engages a ring 28 forming one of the races of an anti-friction bearing, the other race comprising a ring 30 which is secured to the transverse wall 14 by means of a press fit, or the like. Disposed within the cupped plate 20 is a coil spring 32 which biases or forces the ring 24 into sealing engagement with the ring 28 as the latter rotates with the shaft 16.

It will be seen that an effective seal, which 70 at the same time includes an anti-friction bearing ring as one of its elements, is provided and the construction efficiently carries out its sealing function without minimizing the effect of the anti-friction bearing.

75 A second feature of the invention is a novel seal between the casing parts, such seal serving to prevent fluid from escaping from the compressor 10 to the motor casing 12 or into the atmosphere, and such seal also serving as a means to insure the alignment of the shaft with respect to the casing. Such means will 80 now be described specifically.

The casing 10 is provided with a groove 42 85 having a gasket 44 therein, the gasket abutting the edge of the cupped plate 20, which is thus clamped between the gasket 44 and the transverse wall 14. The casings have abutting annular surfaces 44 and 46 which are accurately surfaced, machined, and ground, so as to be in perfect alignment with the shaft bearing surfaces and especially with the surfaces which support the race 30 of the anti-friction bearing in the transverse wall 14. The casing parts are secured to each other by means of annularly spaced bolts 48.

90 When the casings are to be assembled with the shaft in place, the casings are brought together so that the edge of plate 20 and the gasket 44 are clamped between the casing 10 95 and 100

and the transverse wall 14. The bolts 48 are tightened until surfaces 44-46 engage each other, during which time the gasket 44 is being compressed. Since surfaces 44-46 are accurately surfaced, the alignment of the casings and of the shaft will not depend upon the degree of compression of the gasket 44. In other words, casing 10 will be accurately positioned with respect to casing 12, regardless of the gasket 44. In this manner the casings are aligned with respect to each other and accordingly their bearings are accurately located with respect to one another.

In Fig. 2 there is shown a construction wherein the casings 50 and 52 are sealed and aligned with respect to each other by means of an annular rib 54 one of them being disposed on a gasket 56 in an annular groove 58 of the other, there being the usual accurately surfaced, machined and ground, engaging surfaces 60 and 62, thru which bolts may be passed, there being bolt holes 64 for this purpose.

In this construction, the seal also serves to align the shaft with respect to the casings by aligning the casings with respect to each other, but the cupped plate 20 is not clamped between the casings as it is in the construction of Fig. 1.

Now having described the invention and the preferred embodiment thereof, it is to be understood that the said invention is to be limited, not to the specific details herein set forth, but only by the scope of the claims.

What I claim is:

1. A combined seal and bearing construction for a casing having an apertured transverse wall thru which a rotating shaft projects comprising a cupped plate secured and sealed to said wall and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, an anti-friction bearing surrounding said shaft and having a ring fixed to and rotating with said shaft, a non-rotating ring in the cup of said plate, an expandable bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring and to said plate, and a coiled compression spring in said bellows and tending to expand the latter so as to bias said non-rotating ring into sealing engagement with said rotating ring.

2. A combined seal and bearing construction for a casing having an apertured transverse wall thru which a rotating shaft projects comprising a cupped plate secured and sealed to said wall and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, an anti-friction bearing surrounding said shaft and having a ring fixed to and rotating with said shaft, a non-rotating ring in the cup of said plate, an expandable bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring and to said plate, and a coiled compression spring in said bellows and tending to expand the latter so as to bias said non-rotating ring

into sealing engagement with said rotating ring, said anti-friction bearing being of the double-race type, wherein one race is secured to the casing wall, and the other forms the above mentioned rotating ring.

3. A combined seal and bearing construction for a casing having an apertured transverse wall thru which a rotating shaft projects comprising a cupped plate secured and sealed to said wall and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, an anti-friction bearing surrounding said shaft and having a ring fixed to and rotating with said shaft, a non-rotating ring in the cup of said plate, an expandable bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring and to said plate, and a coiled compression spring in said bellows and tending to expand the latter so as to bias said non-rotating ring into sealing engagement with said rotating ring, said anti-friction bearing being of the double-race ball type, wherein one race is secured to the casing wall, and the other forms the above mentioned rotating ring.

4. A combined seal and bearing construction for a casing having an apertured transverse wall thru which a rotating shaft projects comprising a cupped plate secured and sealed to said wall and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, an anti-friction bearing surrounding said shaft and having a ring fixed to and rotating with said shaft, a non-rotating ring in the cup of said plate, an expandable bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring and to said plate, and a coiled compression spring in said bellows and tending to expand the latter so as to bias said non-rotating ring into sealing engagement with said rotating ring, one of said rings having an annular sharp edge which engages the adjacent surface of the other ring.

5. A combined seal and bearing construction for a casing having an apertured transverse wall thru which a rotating shaft projects, comprising a cupped plate secured and sealed to said wall and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, an anti-friction bearing surrounding said shaft and having a ring fixed to and rotating with said shaft, a non-rotating ring in the cup of said plate, an expandable bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring and to said plate, and a coiled compression spring in said bellows and tending to expand the latter so as to bias said non-rotating ring into sealing engagement with said rotating ring, said anti-friction bearing being of the double-race type, wherein one race is secured to the casing wall, and the other forms the above mentioned rotating ring, one of said rings having an annular sharp edge which engages the adjacent surface of the other ring.

6. A combined seal and bearing construction including a casing-like part having an

apertured transverse wall, a rotating shaft projecting thru the aperture of said wall, a shaft bearing in said aperture, a second casing-like part, and means for securing and sealing said casing-like parts to each other, in such a fashion that the alignment of the shaft with respect to the casing-like parts is maintained, said means including a plurality of annularly spaced bolts adapted to draw 10 annular portions of the casing-like parts to each other, the annular portions having cooperating, accurately formed, planar surfaces adapted to abut each other, one of the portions having an annular groove in which 15 is disposed an annular gasket, the other of the portions having an annular raised portion seated in said groove and on said gasket, and adapted to compress the latter.

7. A combined seal and bearing construction including a casing-like part having an apertured transverse wall, a rotating shaft projecting thru the aperture of said wall, a shaft bearing in said aperture, a second casing-like part, and means for securing and 25 sealing said casing-like parts to each other, the shaft bearing including a rotating ring, the wall being provided with a cupped plate secured and sealed thereto, and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, a 30 non-rotating ring in the cup of said cupped plate, an expansible bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring and to the plate, and a coiled compression spring in said bellows and tending to expand the latter so as 35 to bias said non-rotating ring into sealing engagement with said rotating ring.

8. A combined seal and bearing construction including a casing-like part having an apertured transverse wall, a rotating shaft projecting thru the aperture of said wall, a shaft bearing in said aperture, a second casing-like part, and means for securing and sealing said casing-like parts to each other 40 in such a fashion that the alignment of the shaft with respect to the casing-like parts is maintained, said means including a plurality of annularly spaced bolts adapted to draw annular portions of the casing-like 45 parts to each other, the annular portions having cooperating, accurately formed, planar surfaces adapted to abut each other, one of the portions having an annular groove in which is disposed an annular gasket, the other 50 of the portions having an annular raised portion seated in said groove and on said gasket, and adapted to compress the latter, the shaft bearing including a rotating ring, the wall being provided with a cupped plate secured 55 and sealed thereto, and having an aperture thru which said shaft projects, a non-rotating ring in the cup of said plate, an expansible bellows having its ends sealingly secured to said non-rotating ring to the plate, 60 and a coiled compression spring in said 65 bellows and tending to expand the latter so as to bias said non-rotating ring into sealing engagement with said rotating ring.

9. A seal construction including two casing-like parts, having annular portions provided with cooperating, accurately formed, planar surfaces adapted to abut each other, one of the portions having an annular groove in which is disposed an annular gasket, the other of the portions having an annular raised portion sealed in said groove and on said gasket and adapted to compress the latter, and bolts drawing said parts to each other.

In testimony whereof, I sign this specification.

RUSSELL T. SMITH.

85

90

95

100

105

110

115

120

125

130

70

75

80

85

90

95

100

105

110

115

120

125