My invention relates to a can chime cover and provides a useful device for covering and protecting the sealing groove of a can which may contain paint or other materials. Since my invention is particularly applicable for use in connection with a container such as commonly employed for holding paint, it will be described with respect thereto, although it is to be understood that it has other uses and can be employed with containers for holding other materials and with containers formed of metal, paper or other materials.

In the ordinary use of a paint can, the lid is pried off and the paint is stirred and particularly when the can is full, some of the paint usually slops over into the sealing groove. In addition to this, when using the paint the brush is scraped or wiped against the edge of the groove to remove the surplus paint and some of the paint thus wiped from the brush runs into the groove. The result is that after the can has been used for even a short time, there is usually a considerable amount of paint in the groove and when the container cover or lid is placed on the can, this paint is likely to splash onto the user. Paint collecting in the sealing groove, furthermore, is wasted, is apt to be smeared on the outside of the can and is likely to cause sticking of the cover.

To overcome the tendency of the paint to collect in the chime, I use a chime cover which can be readily placed so as to cover the sealing groove and thus prevent it from being filled with paint from the can. The chime cover is removable and can be used on any number of cans. It can be made from sheet metal, paper, plastic, rubber, etc., and can be readily and inexpensively fabricated.

In the accompanying drawing, I have shown for purposes of illustration only a preferred embodiment of my invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a sectional view of a chime cover in position on a can:

Figure 2 is a sectional view in elevation along the line II—II of Figure 1 and showing part of the can in elevation;

Figure 3 is a sectional view of a detail of a modified container and chime cover; and

Figure 4 is a plan view of a number of nested chime covers.

In the drawing there is illustrated a sheet metal container 2 the upper end of which is doubly sealed to a container end 4 forming a chime 3. The container end 4 has a central opening permitting access to the interior of the container. The opening is bounded by a substantially vertical frictional wall 5 the upper edge of which is turned inwardly to form a bead or rim 8. An annular sealing groove 7 is provided between the wall 5 and the edge 3 of the container end. The can is closed by the customary friction closure, or lid (not shown). Such friction closures are of the type which has a portion which frictionally contacts the vertical wall 5 and is thus held in closing position. Inasmuch as the frictional closure provides no part of the invention, it is not considered necessary to describe it.

The chime cover 8 is made in the form of an annular ring of generally channel section. The cover 8 has an inclined base portion 9, an outer depending flange 10, and an inner depending flange 11. The flanges 10 and 11 are substantially parallel to one another and are angularly disposed with respect to the base portion 8 and form continuations thereof. It will be observed in Figure 2 that the base portion 9 slopes downwardly toward the inner flange 11 when the flanges are in the downwardly extending position. The flanges are spaced apart a sufficient distance to enclose the container end 4, over which it is placed after the can lid has been removed. I prefer to make the chime cover 8 so that the depending flanges fairly closely fit over the end 3 of the container, although the chime cover will function satisfactorily if the fit is a somewhat loose one.

In Figure 3 there is shown a modified form of chime cover. This cover has a substantially straight base portion 12, an outer depending flange 13 and an inner depending flange 14, forming continuations of the base portion. The flanges are spaced a sufficient distance apart so that the flange 13 will be outside the upper sealed edge 15 of the container 2a and the flange 14 will lie inside a wall 16 formed in the lid 17, which wall surrounds a depression in the lid. This form of chime cover can be placed in position on top of the can after the lid has been applied and this is convenient for shipping purposes. If desired the base portion 12 can be crowned upwardly.

For convenience the chime covers may be assembled in a series of sizes 8a, 8b, 8c, 8d, 8e, etc., to cover a number of standard can sizes, and the covers nested for convenience, as shown in Figure 3. The user would select the appropriate size for the can.

I prefer to form the chime covers from ordinary thin sheet metal by a stamping operation.
I do not propose to limit myself to stamping or to the use of sheet metal, but I also contemplate that the chime cover may be made of any suitable material such as coated or impregnated paper, fibre, plastic, rubber, etc., and may be formed in any convenient manner, such as by stamping, molding, casting, etc.

In use, the chime cover is placed over the can end with the depending flange 11 projecting downwardly into the can. The paint may then be stirred without danger of its slopping into the sealing groove. When painting, the surplus on the brush may be wiped off or removed by scraping the brush against either the top or bottom part of the depending flange 11. When the painting operation has been concluded, the chime cover may be removed and the usual lid replaced. The chime cover can be used repeatedly.

While I have illustrated and described the present preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that the same is not limited thereto, but that it may be otherwise embodied within the scope of the following claim:

The combination with a container having an opening in one end surrounded by a sealing groove adapted frictionally to engage a cover flange, of a protective ring extending around the end of the container, said ring being of channel section and having an outer flange fitting over the outer surface of the container and an inner flange extending into said opening, the portion of the ring between the flanges sloping downwardly toward the inner flange, said inner flange providing a wiping surface for a brush dipped in the contents of the can, the intermediate portion of said ring serving to prevent deposit of said contents in said sealing groove.

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