Sept. 28, 1926. 1,601,617

D. GREENE

CONTAINER FOR VENDING MACHINES

Filed Sept. 9, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

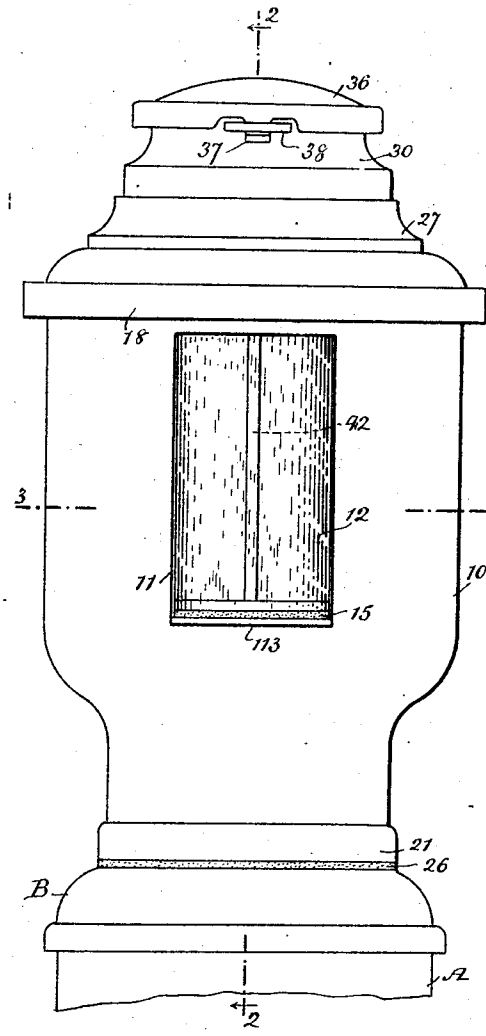


Fig. 2.

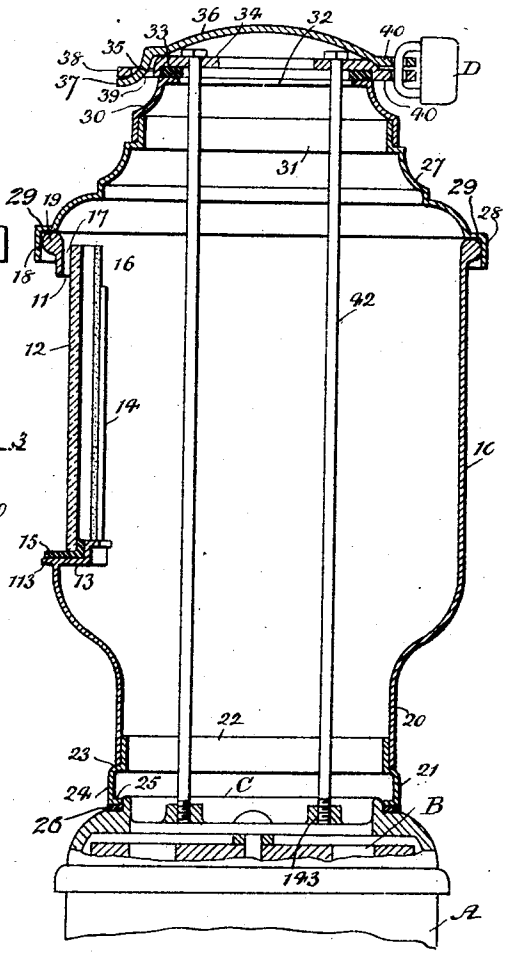
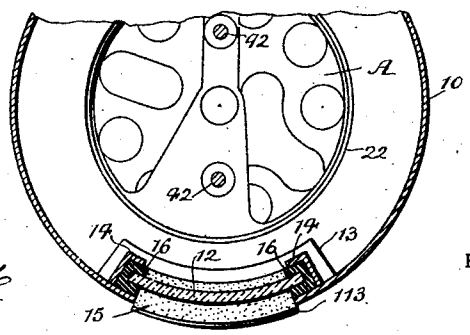


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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Fig. 4.

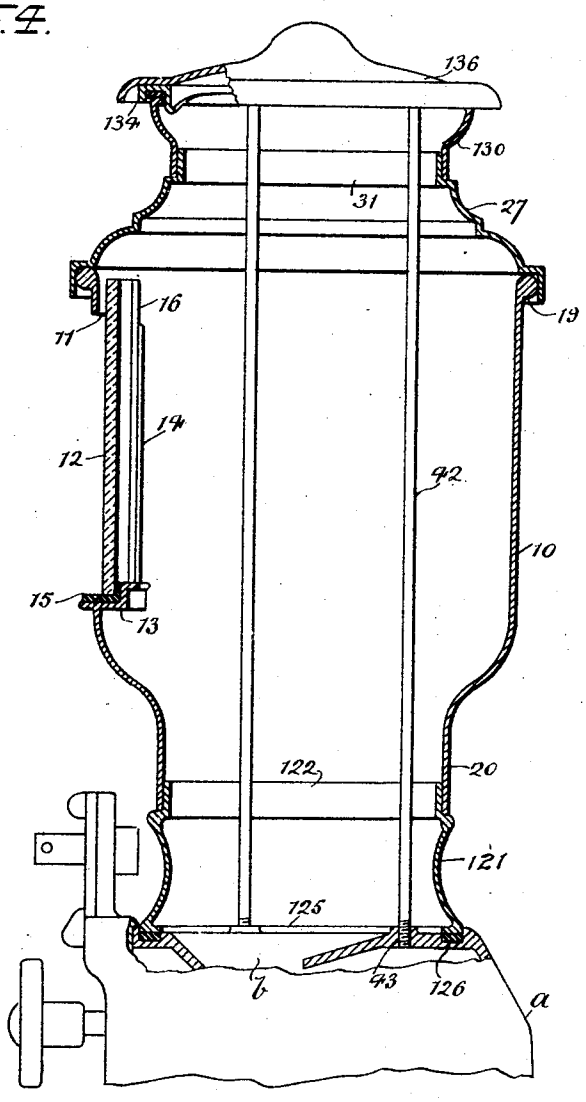
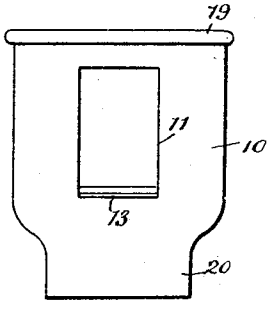


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID GREENE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

CONTAINER FOR VENDING MACHINES.

Application filed September 9, 1924. Serial No. 736,763.

My invention relates to machines for vending peanuts, candy and other commodities, and more particularly the invention relates to the container for the commodity which is placed on the tops of machines of the type to which the invention especially relates.

The general object of my invention is to provide a metallic container to be used in lieu of the fragile glass container generally found on machines of the class referred to, and a further important object of the invention is to provide a metallic container readily adapted to accord with the different makes of machines so that a standard metallic container body may be readily fitted to machines of different makes.

More specifically, the invention has in view the production of a metallic container body equipped with a window and so arranged that the window will be afforded protection against damage by the dropping of the container body or by blows against the body in the region of the window, and to provide at the same time a body and window assemblage so constructed and arranged that ventilation of the container will be provided at the top of the window.

The nature of my invention and its distinguishing features and advantages will clearly appear as the description proceeds.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, it being understood that the drawings are merely illustrative of practical examples of the invention.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a container embodying my invention and adapted to one make of vending machine shown in part;

Figure 2 is a vertical section as indicated by the line 2—2, Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a horizontal section as indicated by the line 3—3, Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 2 but illustrating the adaptation of the container body to another make of vending machine;

Figure 5 is a front elevation of the container body alone.

Referring at first more particularly to the assemblage shown in Figures 1 to 3, the numeral 10 indicates the container body which is made of metal, and in practice is made of aluminum. In the body at the front is formed a window opening 11 in which is set a glass 12 curved generally to conform to that of the body 10 which is cylindrical. A ledge 13 is formed on the body at the bottom of the opening 11 to afford support for the glass 12.

Rising from the ledge 13 are L-shaped glass retainers 14 and to make the window water-tight at the sides and bottom, the glass 12 rests on a rubber strip 15 which is L-shaped, the rear end having a vertical flange and the ledge 13 being generally of Z-shape so that it forms a backing for the window and for the flange of the strip 15. At the sides the glass is received in vertical packing strips 16, U-shaped in cross section and which are held within the vertical members 14. In order to vent the body 10 to prevent undue dampness therein, the glass 12 is set back from the container body at the top of the opening 11, so as to provide a vertical vent opening 17 in front of the glass 12 at the top. That the glass 12 may be afforded protection against damage by dropping of the container body or blows against the body adjacent the opening 11, the container body 10 at the top of the opening projects in front of the upper edge of said glass and forms a depending flange 18 behind which is the top annular bead 19 on the body 10. At the bottom of the opening 11, the ledge 13 projects forwardly in the form of a lip 113 and said lip with the flange 18 protects the glass at the bottom and top against the impact of a blow or damage by falling of the body. At the sides of the glass 12, it is further cushioned by the packing strips 16 which cushion any blow against the body at the vertical sides of the opening 11.

The known vending machine A shown partly in Figures 1 to 3 has inlets B for the commodity passing from the container 10. In Figure 4 the machine *a* has an inlet opening *b*.

It will be observed that the container 10 has a cylindrical contracted neck 20 at the lower end. In order to adapt the neck 20 to vending machines of different makes, I provide a base ring 21, the zone 22 at the upper end of which base ring is in a form to fit within the neck 20, there being an annular shoulder 23 on ring 21 at the base of the zone 22 to sustain the container 10. The lower portion or zone 24 of base ring 21 is adapted to rest on a machine A at the top and to afford a firm seat therefor the lower

edge of said ring 21 is in the form of an annular flange 25 directed radially inward which fits over a short neck C on the machine A, a packing ring 26 being usually employed beneath the flange 25. The base ring 21 is made separate from the body 10 and is readily detachable for the purpose of making the said base ring interchangeable to provide a ring to accord with the size and formation of the upper end of the vending machine. In the form shown in Figure 4 the base ring 121 has the zone 122 at the upper end corresponding in all respects with the zone 22 as to size, so as to fit the depending neck 20 of container 10. In practice, a plurality of the base rings 21, 121 is provided as part of the equipment, to go with a single standard container body 10 but the lower portion of each base ring is made to conform to a particular make of vending machine. In Figure 4 the lowermost zone of the base ring 121 is enlarged to conform to the vending machine *a* and has an upturned flange 125 to provide the necessary seating surface and strength, said flange seating on a gasket or packing ring 126 on the top of the machine *a*.

On the upper end of the container body 10, I provide an ornamental cap piece 27 open at the top and bottom and having the enlarged depending flange 18 fitting over the bead 19 of the body 10 and presenting a shouldered horizonal zone 29 to rest on said bead 19. The covers or closures of the containers of a vending machine such as A, *a* vary with the different makes of machines and I provide means to adapt the cap piece 27 to the cover or closure of any particular make of machine. For the stated purpose a detachable ring or collar 30 is provided for the cap piece 27 and fits snugly over the reduced upper end 31 thereof. The cap piece 27 is the same in the forms illustrated in Figures 1 to 3 and in that illustrated in Figure 4, but the collar 30 is adapted to one particular make. To provide a collar on the cap 27 to fit other makes of machines, the said collar is varied and interchangeable. In the form shown in Figure 2, the collar 30 has an inturned flange 32 on which seats a packing ring 33 over which is placed a broad essentially flat ring 34 having a down turned flange 35 at its outer edge, said ring 33 being appurtenant to the make of vending machine A illustrated in Figures 1 to 3. Hence, the collar 30 conforms the body 10 to the top elements of a known make of vending machine while the base ring 21 performs a similar office for the same make of the machine at the bottom of the container. The top elements of the machine in question includes a cover 36 disposed on the ring 34. In the known make of machines referred to also the cover 36 is formed with a tongue 37 adapted to engage an ear 38 on the ring 34. The ear 38 has an opening 39 to receive the tongue 37. Diametrically opposite the tongue 37 and ear 38 the cover 36 and the ring 34 have lugs 40, 41 formed with registering holes to receive the shackle of a lock D. In the known make of machine shown in Figure 4 a channeled ring 134 is received on the annular flange 31 at the upper zone of the cap piece 27. Said ring or collar 30 is cylindrical at its lower end to fit the flange 31 and the upper end flares as compared with the contracted upper end of the ring 30 in Figure 2. The channeled ring 134 is adapted to receive a cover or closure 136 of a certain make of vending machine.

The container and the described base ring and top members are fastened in position by vertical bolts in a manner customary with containers for the vending machines to which the invention relates. The bolts indicated by the numeral 42 pass downwardly through the ring 34 or 134 and have threaded engagement with sockets 43 or 143 at the top of the vending machine A or *a*.

I would state in conclusion that while the illustrated examples consitute pracical embodiments of my invention, I do not limit myself strictly to the exact details herein illustrated, since, manifestly, the same can be considerably varied without departure from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. In a container for vending machines, a container body, a separate base ring on the body at the lower end and formed at its lower portion to engage and be supported upon the top of a vending machine, said base ring being detachable from the container body to permit of the interchange of base rings to adapt the body to different makes of vending machines; together with a separate cap piece detachably engaged with said body at the uper edge, a collar on the cap piece and separate therefrom and closure means for the collar, the collar being separate from the closure means so as to be interchangeable for adapting the collar to closures of different forms.

2. In a container for vending machines, a container body having a depending contracted zone at its lower end, a separate base ring having a flange at the top fitting the lower end on the depending neck of the body to permit the detachment of the base ring, whereby to employ interchangeable base rings with the said body and neck, said base ring being formed at its lower portion to seat upon the upper end of a vending machine; together with a cap ring fitting the body at the upper end, a collar detachably supported on said cap ring, and a closure supported on said collar.

3. In a container for vending machines, means to secure the container to the top of the vending machine, said container body having a side opening, and a window at said opening and spaced from the inner surface of the container at the top of the opening for venting the container.

4. A container body for vending machines, means to secure the same in position on top of the vending machine, said container having a side opening, a window in the container at said opening, the container body at the top and bottom of the opening having integral members extending forwardly in front of the window to protect the latter against damage.

5. A container for vending machines having a side opening, a ledge on the container at the bottom of said opening, a window at said opening and supported on said ledge, elements rigid with the ledge and rising therefrom at the sides of the opening at the interior of the container to retain the window in position, and U-shaped packing strips interposed between the vertical side edges of the window and said elements to make the window water-tight at the sides and to cushion a blow against the container at the sides of the opening.

6. In a container, a container body, means to secure the body to the top of a vending machine, a cap ring fitting the body at the upper end, a collar detachably supported on said cap ring to adapt the ring to vending machine parts, and a closure supported on said collar.

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