R. BRAY.

MILK CAN.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 18, 1910.

974,116. Patented Nov. 1, 1910.

Fig. 1.

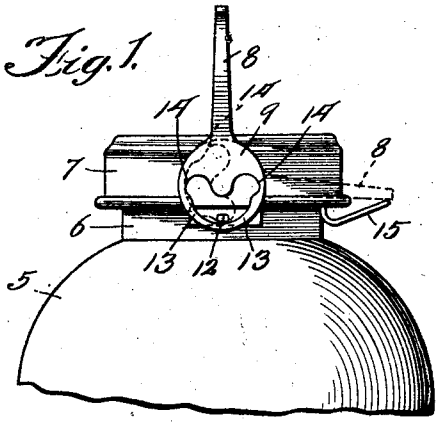


Fig. 2.

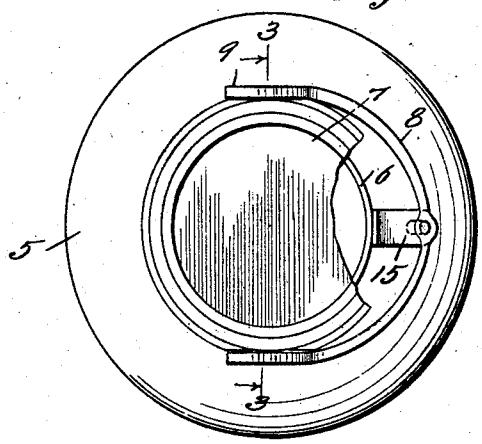


Fig. 3.

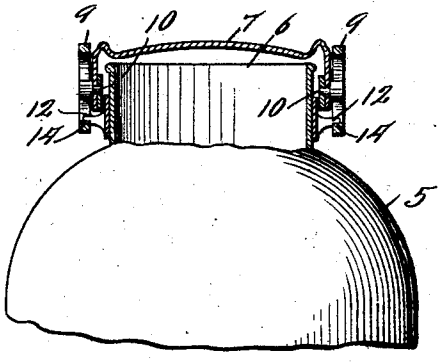
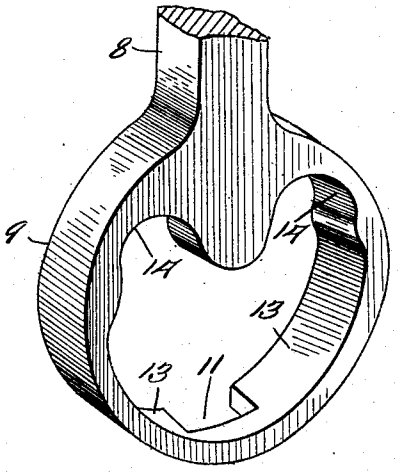


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MILK-CAN.

974,116. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 1, 1910.

Application filed June 18, 1910. Serial No. 567,653.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD BRAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Arlington Heights, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements Relating to Milk-Cans, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to cans designed for use in shipping milk and particularly to improved means for securing in place the covers of such cans. It is very desirable to have the top surfaces of these can-covers approximately flat or at least so shaped that one can may be placed on top of another and rest securely thereon, as when being transported in a railroad car for example. It is therefore important that the fastening devices for securing the covers in place, or any portion of such fastenings, shall not extend over the can-cover or project above the plane of the upper surface thereof.

It is one of the objects of my invention to provide simple and effective locking means that can be so applied as to in no manner interfere with the stacking of one can upon another as above mentioned.

Another object is to so construct that member of the locking means that is pivotally attached to the can-cover that it can be turned into locking position whether turned in one direction or the other on its pivots. That this is of very considerable value will be appreciated when it is borne in mind that frequently a large number of these cans have to be closed and the covers locked in place within a very short period of time. In such cases with a locking lever or bail that is operative only when turned in one direction the user must exercise care in seeing to it that the cover is placed on the can in correct position so that the pivoted lever or bail must be turned in the proper direction for locking, while if, as in the case of my improvements, such lever or bail can be made equally effective whichever way it is turned on its pivot or pivots, the covers can be applied more expeditiously and with no liability of having to remove and replace the cover or turn it partially around on the can-neck.

I accomplish the objects referred to by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings and hereinafter specifically described.

That which I believe to be new will be set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a side elevation of a portion of an ordinary milk-can with a cover applied thereto and with my improved locking means shown in connection with said can and cover. The pivoted bail secured to the cover is shown in full lines in the position it occupies when the cover is first placed on the can, and in dotted lines is represented the position assumed by such bail when forced down into locking position; Fig. 2 is a plan view with the pivoted bail in locking position,—a portion of the cover being broken away; Fig. 3 is a vertical central section at line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail, being a perspective view of one of the enlarged ends of the bail.

In the several figures of the drawings in which corresponding parts are indicated by like reference characters 5 indicates a milk-can breast, 6 a vertical neck, and 7 a cover of the kind having a wide flange adapted to fit upon and around the said neck. These parts, as shown, are of ordinary construction.

8 indicates a bail the ends of which terminate in heads 9—9 which, as shown, are approximately annular in shape. As best shown in Fig. 3 each head 9 is pivotally mounted upon a trunnion or stud 10, these studs projecting at opposite points from the outer face of the neck 6.

11 indicates a notch cut in the inner edge of each head 9 at the lower part of the head. These notches are each of a size and shape to receive one of the pins 12 that are affixed on opposite sides of and project from the neck 6, (see Fig. 3). These pins 12 are so located on the neck that when the cover is placed in position as shown in Fig. 1 they will have passed through the notches 11 and be adapted to be brought into contact with the inner faces of the heads. Each head has its said inner face formed to provide two cam surfaces 13—13, one at each side of the notch 11, and at the outer end of each cam surface 13 is formed a slight recess 14— which is shown for clearer illustration somewhat exaggerated.

15 indicates an ear riveted to the neck 6

with which the bail 8 may be locked or secured as is usual in this class of devices.

In operation the user when desiring to close the can places the cover 7 thereon, to which cover the bail is permanently pivoted as set forth, and in doing so has only to see that the notches line with the pins 12 so that such pins can pass therethrough. It is not necessary that he see that a particular head comes at a certain side of the neck in order that the bail may be in proper position to be turned down opposite the ear 15 with which it is to be locked, for as already pointed out the bail can be turned in either direction on its trunnions or studs and with equal effectiveness as respects drawing the cover tightly down upon the top of the neck of the can. After the cover has been placed in position, as in Fig. 1, the turning down of the bail will, as will be well understood, cause a cam surface 13 on each head 9 to bear with constantly increasing pressure on one of the pins 12 and just about as the limit of the movement of the bail is reached such pins 12 will move into the slight depressions or recesses 14, the effect of which will be to hold the bail against any tendency to turn back, and indeed will hold the bail in its turned down position even when the bail is not secured to the ear 15. As stated these depressions or recesses 14 are very slight, so that while sufficient to hold the bail down they are not deep enough to cause any material relaxation of the tight binding or fit between the cover and the top of the can neck.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a milk-can, the combination with a can-neck and a pin projecting from the outer surface thereof, of a cover fitting upon said neck, and a member pivoted to said cover, said member being enlarged below its point of attachment to the cover to form a head, at each side of the lower central portion of which head is a cam surface, with either of which cam surfaces said pin is adapted to coöperate to force down said cover.

2. In a milk-can, the combination with a can-neck and a pin projecting from the outer surface thereof, of a cover fitting upon said neck, and a member pivoted to said cover, said member being enlarged below its point of attachment to the cover to form a head, in the lower edge of which head is a notch through which said pin can pass and at each side of said notch there being a cam surface with either of which said pin is adapted to coöperate to force down said cover.

3. In a milk-can, the combination with a can-neck and oppositely-located pins projecting from the outer surface of the neck, of a cover fitting upon said neck, and a bail pivotally attached to the cover, each end of said bail terminating in a head that is provided with two cam surfaces in its lower portion, with either of which cam surfaces one of said pins is adapted to coact according to the direction in which said bail is turned.

4. In a milk-can, the combination with a can-neck and oppositely-located pins projecting from the outer surface of the neck, of a cover fitting upon said neck, and a bail pivotally attached to the cover, each end of said bail terminating in a head that is provided with two cam surfaces in its lower portion, with either of which cam surfaces one of said pins is adapted to coact according to the direction in which said bail is turned, and each of said cam surfaces terminating in a depression or recess.

5. In a milk-can, the combination with a can-neck and oppositely-located pins projecting from the outer surface of the neck, of a cover fitting upon said neck, and a bail pivotally attached to the cover, each end of the bail terminating in a head provided with a notch in its lower central portion through which one of said pins is adapted to pass and a cam surface at each side of said notch.

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Witnesses:
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