Feb. 8, 1949. G. WORMULL 2,461,247

UTILITY COVER

Filed July 4, 1945

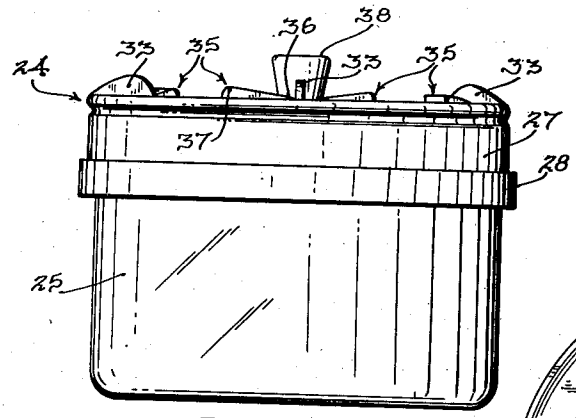


FIG. 1.

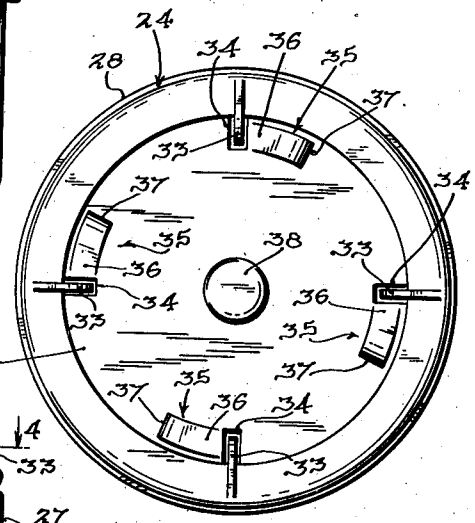


FIG. 2.

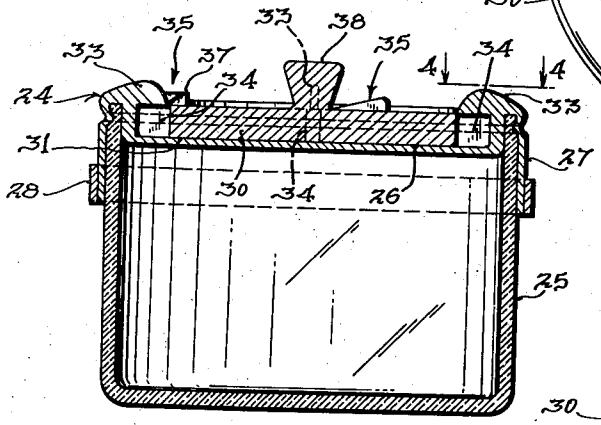


FIG. 3.

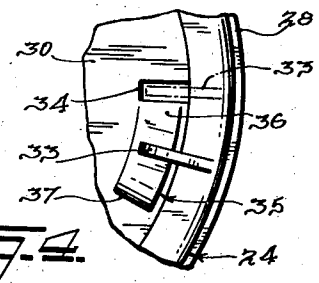


FIG. 4.

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UTILITY COVER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 215—38)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a utility cover.

More particularly the invention proposes a new and improved utility cover for a jar and the like, but the cover is equally adapted for use on other containers, such as milk bottles, for example.

It is a primary object of my invention to provide a cover of the general class referred to which is easy to keep clean and sanitary and which is capable of protecting the contents of jars, bottles and the like against dust, germs, or odors.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a new and improved cover of the class referred to which is easy to apply to a jar, bottle or the like and easy to remove from such container.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide a cover of the type specified which is practically unbreakable and indestructible in service and which may be re-used as a closure member as long as desired.

A further object of this invention is to provide new and improved covers of the type mentioned which may be manufactured and sold in large volume at low cost.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the various objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description in connection with the accompanying drawing in which the novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a jar provided with a utility cover constructed in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 represents a plan or top view of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the jar shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary plan view looking in the direction of the arrows on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3, but with the cover in locked position.

The new and improved utility cover in accordance with the present invention is shown on the drawing applied to a jar 25. The utility cover includes a member 24 having a reinforced top wall 26 for extending over the open top of the jar 25 and extending slightly into the top portion of the jar for assisting in closing the jar. Member 24 which may consist of any suitable material such as thermoplastic or thermo-setting resin or a metal or an alloy, is provided with a skirt wall 27 which may be flexible and which engages about the top portion of the jar 25. A grip band 28 is mounted around the bottom portion of the skirt wall 27. The bottom face of the stiffened and reinforced top wall 26 is slightly concaved to assist in sealing the jar, or other container.

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A slightly tapered plug-like member 30 is set into a complementary recess in the top of member 24. The plug-like member 30 has a slightly tapered bottom portion 31. Clamping means is associated with the plug-like member 30 by which it may be firmly mounted in position on member 24.

The clamping means referred to in the previous paragraph includes a plurality of ribs 33 formed on the top portion of the member 24 and projecting slightly over the recess which receives the plug-like member 30. The plug-like member 30 is formed with slots 34 which may be aligned with the ribs 33, see Fig. 2, so that the plug-like member 30 may be lifted up and removed. Adjacent each of the slots 34 there is an inclined cam ridge 35. These cam ridges have shallow portions 36 adjacent the slots 34 and high portions 37 remote from the slots 34.

The operation of the invention is as follows: The cover may be used to seal bottles, jars and other containers. The plug-like member 30 is very useful for better sealing the utility cover on a jar. The plug-like member 30 may be removed by turning it a small distance so that the cam-like ridges disengage from the bottoms of the ribs 33 and the slots 34 align with the ribs 33. Now the plug-like member 30 is free to be lifted up and removed. It may be replaced when desired. When it is turned, the high ends 37 of the ridge-like cams 35 engage beneath the ribs 33 which forces the plug-like member 30 tightly down so that the tapered portion 31 presses against the tapered wall of the thermoplastic member 24, slightly spreading and expanding member 24 so that it securely engages against the inner face of the top opening of the jar 25, or other container upon which the cover is used. The center of the plug-like member 30 is formed with a projecting handle 38 by which the plug-like member may be gripped to facilitate turning the same.

While the utility cover is shown on the drawing applied to a jar, as previously indicated, the utility cover is equally adapted for use on milk bottles and other containers.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications com-

ing within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A utility cover, comprising a thermoplastic member having a reinforced top wall for extending over the open top of a bottle or jar to be closed, and furthermore having a skirt wall for engaging about the top portion of said bottle or jar, a plug-like member having tapered sides set into a complementary opening in the top of said member, and means for clamping said plug-like member tightly in said opening including ribs projecting from said thermoplastic member and extending over said recess for said plug-like member, said plug-like member being provided with slots alignable with said ribs so that the plug-like member may be removed, and ridge-like cams on said plug-like member adjacent said slots and engageable against the bottom edges of said ribs.

2. A cover for food containers, comprising an outer skirt wall adapted to enclose the wall of the container and a horizontal wall connected to said outer skirt wall, said connection being by an integral U-shaped portion which straddles the upper edge of the container wall, said portion being formed with inwardly extending ribs spaced outwardly from said horizontal wall, and a disk-like plug snugly fitted against said horizontal wall and the inner wall of said U-shaped portion and provided with a slot to receive each inwardly extending rib and a cam inclined portion adjacent each slot adapted to be turned under said ribs to tighten said plug in said cover, said plug having a central upstanding handle for turning the same.

3. A cover for food containers comprising a circular wall having on its outermost edge a U-shaped circular skirt wall adapted to straddle the vertical wall of a container, the outer portion of said skirt wall being longer than the inner portion thereof and the inner portion having ribs projecting inwardly in vertically spaced relation to said first-named circular wall, and a circular plug fitting snugly against said first-named circular wall and against the inner portion of the skirt wall and having inclined cam means for increasing the pressure of said plug between said ribs and said first-named circular wall.

4. The construction set forth in claim 3, the plug having radial slots to receive the ribs to permit the detachment of the plug.

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