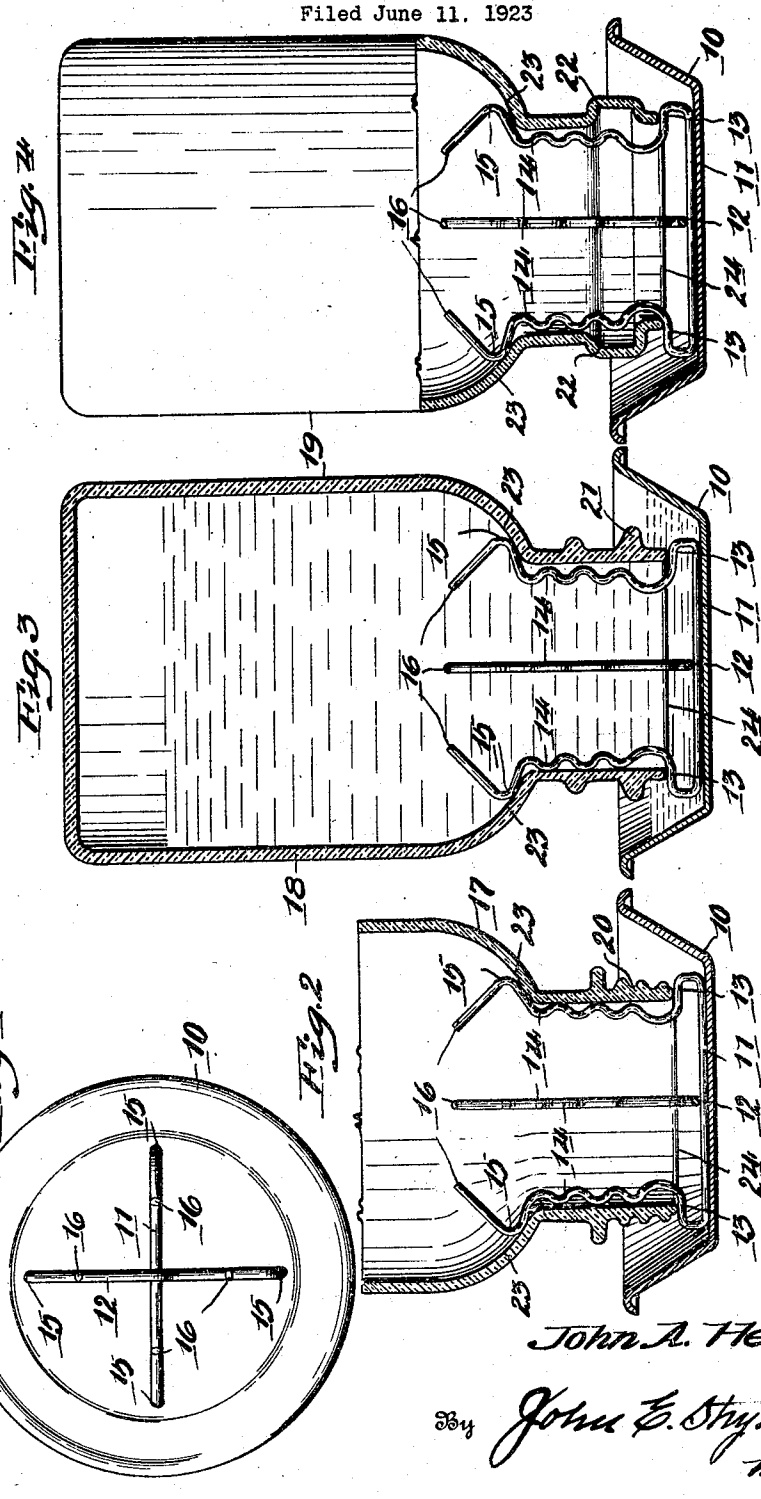
Nov. 16, 1926. 1,607,124

J. A. HEALY

POULTRY DRINKING FOUNTAIN

Filed June 11, 1923



Inventor
John A. Healy,
By John E. Stryker
his Attorney

Patented Nov. 16, 1926. 1,607,124

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. HEALY, OF LANGDON, MINNESOTA.

POULTRY DRINKING FOUNTAIN.

Application filed June 11, 1923. Serial No. 644,574.

This invention relates to improvements in means for securing the reservoir to the trough in a poultry drinking fountain.

The object of this invention is to provide a trough with simple and efficient means for connecting the same with various types of containers or jars, in order to utilize any one of such containers or jars as the reservoir of the drinking fountain.

A further object of my invention is to facilitate and quicken the operations of filling and cleansing the fountain by providing a series of spring fingers on the trough adapted to frictionally engage the reservoir.

There are decided advantages to be obtained by the use of a glass container as the reservoir of a poultry drinking fountain, the chief of these being the ease with which such containers may be cleansed and the advantage to the attendant of being able to determine at a glance when it is necessary to refill the reservoir. However, glass containers are frequently broken, and as it is often difficult to replace reservoirs of a particular design and size, much inconvenience is occasioned where the fountain requires a reservoir of a particular, peculiar shape. Containers, suitable for use as reservoirs, are obtainable in almost every household in the form of the common preserve jars, but these jars vary considerably in conformation and size. As far as applicant is aware, no drinking fountain has been devised heretofore which is adapted to utilize containers of the various common sizes and shapes as the reservoir of the fountain. The present invention is adapted for use with reservoirs of different shapes.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the best form of my device at present known to me. Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the trough with the reservoir removed; Fig. 2 is a central, vertical section of the device showing a reservoir of one type; Fig. 3 is a central, vertical section of the device showing a second type of reservoir and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the device partially in section showing a third type of reservoir.

In the drawings I have used the numeral 10 to indicate the trough of the fountain which is preferably a sheet metal pan having a flat bottom and open at its top. Soldered or otherwise secured within the trough 10 is a pair of crossed, steel wires 11 and 12 bent upward near the periphery of the trough to form supports 13 for the lower edge of the hereinafter described reservoir. A series of spring fingers 14 extend upward, integral with the supports 13. These fingers 14 are serrated and have outwardly bent portions 15 and obliquely inward projecting upper ends 16.

Three of the common types of containers 17, 18 and 19 are illustrated in use as reservoirs in Figures 2, 3, and 4. The container 17 has the common type of externally threaded neck 20; the reservoir 18 is formed with an annular, external flange 21 on its neck; while the neck of the container 19 has an annular, internal recess 22. The containers 17, 18 and 19 are three of the most common types of preserve jars. These containers are so formed that the distance between the shoulder 23 and open end 24 of the neck in each is approximately equal to that of the others and the internal diameters of the necks are also approximately equal. Thus, the fingers 14 readily fit into the neck of any of the containers 17, 18 and 19 and outwardly bent portions 15 of said fingers will engage the shoulder 23 in any of said containers.

To fill the fountain, one of the reservoirs 17, 18 or 19 is first filled with water while in normal, upright position. The trough 10 in inverted position is now pressed downward upon the opening 24 of the reservoir neck so that the fingers 14 pass into said neck into engagement with the shoulders 23 when the open end of the neck strikes the supports 13. The reservoir is now quickly inverted to allow the water to pass into the trough 10 between the supports 13. The latter supports, as will be evident, maintain the lower edge of the reservoir in proper position relative to the bottom of the trough 10, while the fingers 14, in engagement with the inner periphery of the reservoir neck, maintains said reservoir centrally within said trough. To re-fill or cleanse the reservoir, it is only necessary to forcibly withdraw the resilient fingers 14 from the opening 24 and thereby remove the trough 10.

While the supports 13 and fingers 14 are especially adapted to fit the containers 17, 18 and 19 illustrated in the drawings, it will be evident that the present device may be adapted for use with other forms of con-

tainers by merely bending the fingers 14 to conform to the particular container which is available for use as a reservoir.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. In a poultry drinking fountain, the combination with a reservoir consisting of an integral receptacle of glass or the like formed with a normally vertical neck portion and an internal flare at the upper extremity of said neck, of a trough adapted to receive said neck in inverted position, and a plurality of resilient fingers rigidly secured to said trough and projecting substantially vertically adjacent to the inner surface of said neck, said fingers being formed with outwardly bent portions arranged to spring into engagement with said flaring portion upon insertion of the fingers into said neck.

2. In a poultry drinking fountain, the combination with a reservoir consisting of an integral receptacle of glass or the like formed with a normally open neck portion and an internal, flaring portion at the upper extremity of said neck, of a trough adapted to receive said neck, open end downward, a plurality of resilient fingers rigidly secured to said trough and projecting substantially vertically adjacent to the inner surface of said neck, said fingers being formed with outwardly bent portions arranged to spring into engagement with said flaring portion upon insertion of the fingers into said neck, and supports adapted to maintain said reservoir in spaced relation to the bottom of said trough formed in said fingers near the base thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name to this specification.

JOHN A. HEALY.