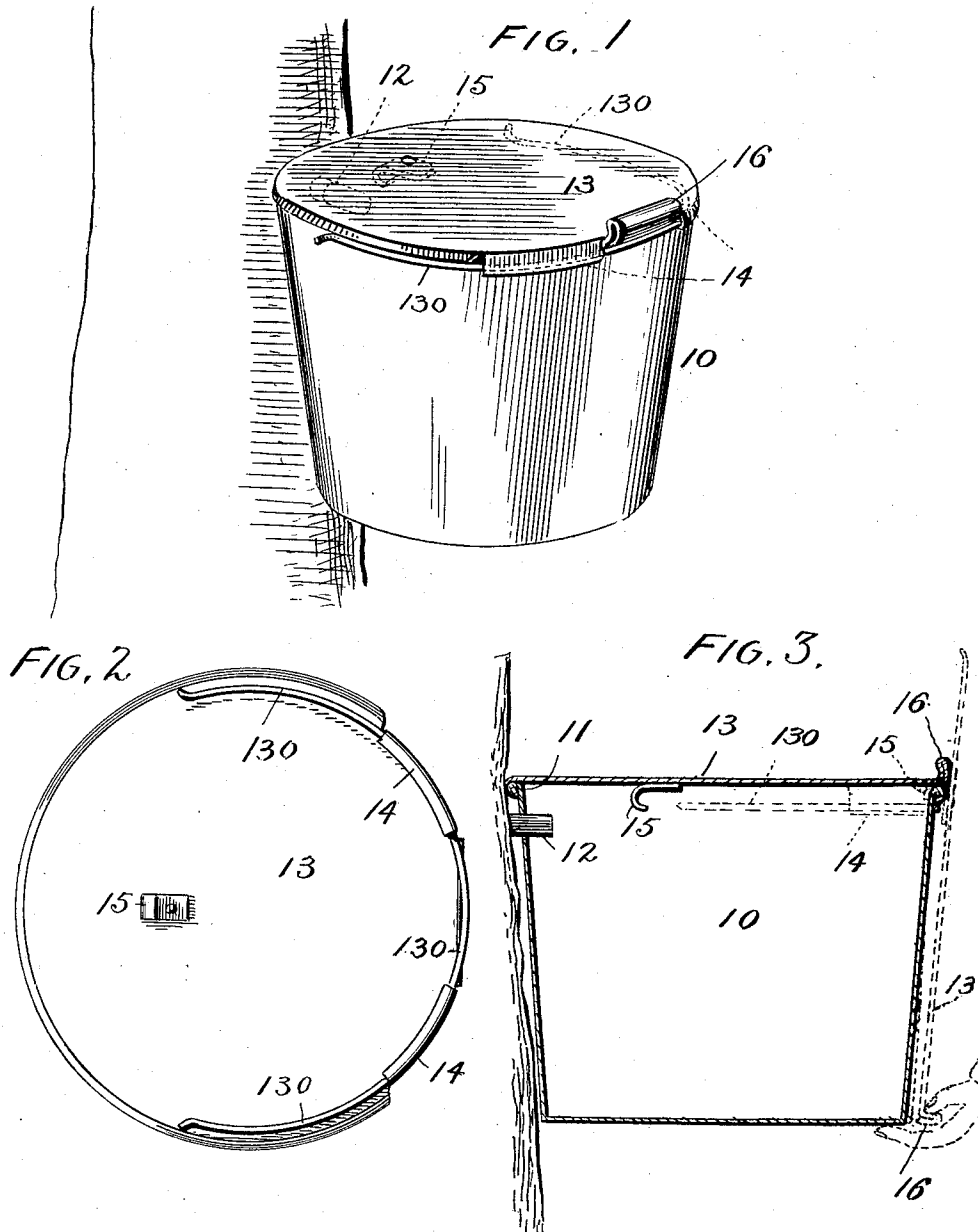


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SAP BUCKET COVER.
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1,056,766.

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Witnesses
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SAP-BUCKET COVER.

1,056,766.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CORIDON W. ALDERMAN, of Windsor, in the county of Ash-
tabula, and in the State of Ohio, have in-
vented a certain new and useful Improve-
ment in Sap-Bucket Covers, and do hereby
declare that the following is a full, clear,
and exact description thereof.

Sap buckets are hung from the tree by
the sap spout, and the pivotal connection
with the tree thus afforded is utilized for
the emptying of the sap into the collecting
bucket by catching the sap bucket at the
bottom and swinging it upon its pivotal con-
nection with the spout, one hand being uti-
lized to swing the bucket, and the other to
hold the collecting bucket. The important
requirements in a practical and efficient
cover, are, first, that it will exclude from the
sap rain water, (which, if it gets into the
sap requires prolonged boiling for the evap-
oration of the water, and, therefore, in-
creases the cost), and also prevent the en-
trance of leaves and other debris or dirt
that discolor the sap by darkening it and
thus impairs its selling qualities, for clean
maple syrup is known to look like, or sub-
stantially like, white clover honey, which
appearance is thus made the test of high
grade maple syrup; and second, ease of ma-
nipulation to uncover the sap bucket when it
is to be emptied, and no interference with
the operation of emptying it in the manner
which has above been pointed out.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1
is a perspective view of a sap bucket shown
in position for use with a cover embodying
my invention; Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view
of the cover; Fig. 3 is a vertical section of
the bucket and cover, the full lines showing
the cover in bucket closing position and
the dotted lines showing its position at the
instant of swinging the bucket to empty its
contents.

The sap bucket 10, shown in the drawings,
is of the usual galvanized iron construction,
having a wired rim 11 at the top, and just
below the top is a hole to fit over the usual
sap spout 12, by which means the bucket
is supported and which constitutes the piv-
otal connection, heretofore described, by
which the bucket may be turned for empty-
ing the sap into the collecting bucket. The
cover 13 is preferably made of sheet metal,
and where the buckets are made of gal-
vanized iron it will be made of galvanized

iron (but, of course, I do not limit myself to
any particular material for the bucket) and
it is of a diameter slightly larger than the
diameter of the bucket so as to completely
cover the exposed top thereof and project
slightly beyond the rim. To the underside
of the cover is attached a C-shaped spring
wire 130 which is something more than a
half circle in extent and of such size that it
snugly fits the exterior of the bucket just
below the top, the free ends of the spring
spreading sufficiently when by a sliding
movement the cover is passed to a position
to close the top of the bucket, or to uncover
the same.

In applying the cover, as soon as the free
ends of the spring pass beyond the greatest
diameter of the bucket, the cover becomes
self-locating by the action of the spring, so
that its proper bucket closing position is
certain to be always fixed. The spring con-
nection thus afforded for the cover is suffi-
cient to securely hold the cover even when
strong winds are blowing, and as the cover
fits close against the top edge of the bucket,
it is impossible for rain water and other ob-
jectionable objects or things, such as dry
leaves, insects, etc. to get into the bucket.
The clamping ring may be attached to the
cover in a simple and efficient manner by
forming the cover at portions of its rim
with a down turned flange, which flange is
folded about the contiguous portion of the
spring.

On the underside of the cover at a point
midway, or substantially midway between
the free ends of the spring, I place a hook
15 consisting of a piece of heavy sheet metal
that is riveted to the cover, and at the dia-
metrically opposite point of the cover there
is an upturned flange 16 that forms a handle
by which the cover, when in position on the
bucket, may be slid off from the same until
the hook 15 on the underside catches over the
rim of the bucket and forms a pivotal con-
nection by which the cover may be swung
downward to a vertical position to bring the
hand at the bottom of the bucket so that
with the thumb resting upon the handle the
fingers can pass beneath the bottom of
the bucket and thus a firm grip obtained on
the bucket to tilt or swing it for the purpose
of emptying the sap into the collecting
bucket. Should it be desired to bring the
hand to any position other than in front, it
may be readily done during the lowering of

the cover so that the one continuous motion is necessary. It will be seen that the cover may be moved to uncover the bucket by the use of one hand (and it can be as readily returned to bucket closing position by one hand) and that it not only does not interfere with the tilting of the bucket to empty it, but it facilitates that operation since it provides the means for a firm grip upon the bucket which is required for safe and expeditious pouring of its contents. No modification of form or structure of the bucket of any kind is necessary for the utilization of my cover. The cover may be perfectly flat, or if made of sheet metal it may be stiffened, if found desirable, by the well known expedient of corrugating it, the corrugations, of course, being circular.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is—

1. A sap bucket cover having on opposite sides a bucket-rim-engaging projection, and a handle, respectively, the handle being situated at the rim of the cover said rim-engaging projection being on the underside of the cover and within the bucket, and constituting a pivotal connection of the cover with the bucket when in engagement with the bucket rim.

2. A sap bucket cover having on opposite sides a bucket-rim-engaging projection, and a handle, respectively, the handle being situated at the rim of the cover said rim-engaging projection being on the underside of the cover and within the bucket, and constitut-

ing a pivotal connection of the cover with the bucket when in engagement with the bucket rim, and a spring clamp on the underside of the cover to engage the exterior of the bucket.

3. A sap bucket cover having on opposite sides a bucket-rim-engaging projection, and a handle, respectively, the handle being situated at the rim of the cover said rim-engaging projection being on the underside of the cover and within the bucket, and constituting a pivotal connection of the cover with the bucket when in engagement with the bucket rim, and a spring clamp on the underside of the cover to engage the exterior of the bucket and attached thereto by a downwardly projecting flange on the cover.

4. A sap bucket cover having on its underside a spring, bucket-engaging clamp having separated free ends a distance apart less than the diameter of the bucket, a bucket-rim-engaging projection on the under side of the cover midway between said free ends and constituting a pivotal connection between the cover and the bucket when said projection engages the bucket rim, and a handle on the upper side of the cover at the edge thereof diametrically opposite the location of said rim-engaging projection.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

CORIDON WILLIAM ALDERMAN.

Witnesses:

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NELLIE ALDERMAN.