No. 778,065. PATENTED DEC. 20, 1904.

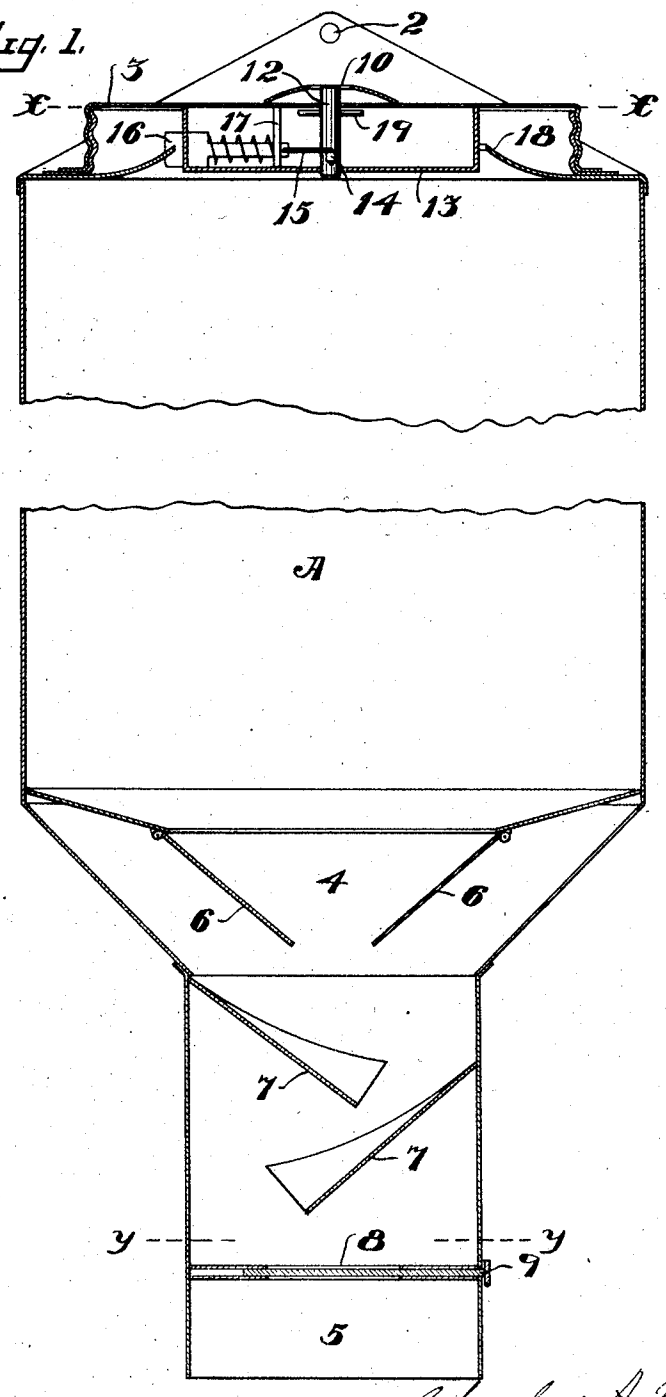
C. A. NORVELL.

CANISTER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 12, 1903.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2

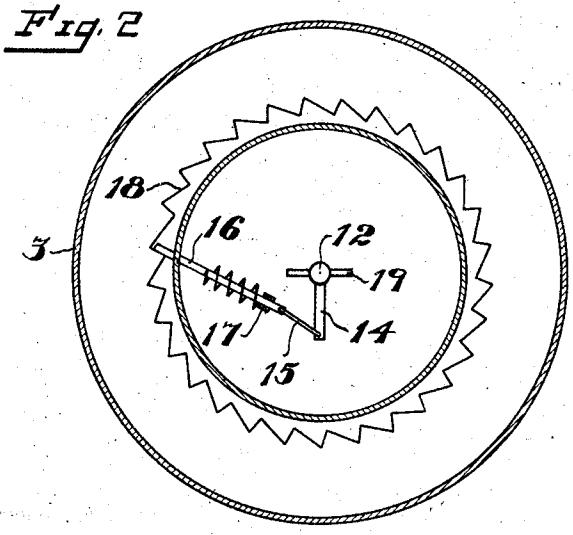


Fig. 3.

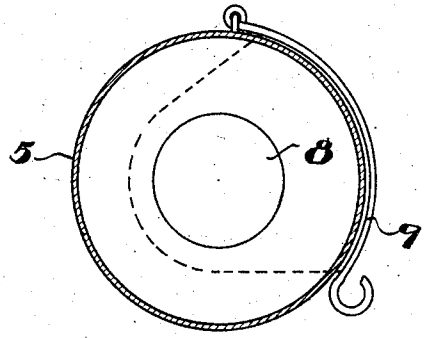


Fig. 4.

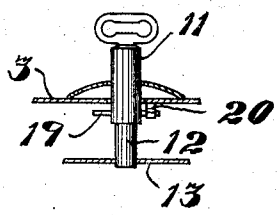
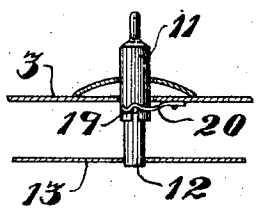


Fig. 5.



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No. 778,065. Patented December 20, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHESLEY A. NORVELL, OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

CANISTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 778,065, dated December 20, 1904.

Application filed December 12, 1903. Serial No. 184,905.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHESLEY A. NORVELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sacramento, in the county of Sacramento and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Canisters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved receptacle or container for teas, coffees, spices, and the like. Its object is to provide a novel device of simple construction for use particularly as an advertising medium for grocers and others to be used by their customers exclusively or the buyers of their own particular wares or merchandise and which when once filled by the vendor of a specific grade or quality of goods it will be impossible of refilling by any one unauthorized by the vendor, the idea being, in other words, to furnish a vendee with an attractive container which he is entitled to use so long as he purchases supplies from a particular vendor, but which cannot be opened or refilled by the vendee or a competitor of the original vendor without the latter's consent.

It consists of the parts and the construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter more fully described, having reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line *y y*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail of key and spring-catch mechanism. Fig. 5 is a side view of same.

A represents a container of any suitable size, shape, and material and provided with suitable means of support. In the present instance I have shown the container as cylindrical and adapted to be screwed or otherwise secured to the wall, as at 2. The container is preferably provided with a screw-top 3 for filling purposes and a funnel-like bottom 4, terminating in a cylindrical throat portion 5, through which discharge takes place.

Inside the canister and near its bottom are two coacting flap-valves 6, which normally hang pendent and open; but should the canister be inverted they would immediately close by gravity and prevent the ingress of material through the throat. Below valves 6 are the staggered, inclined, and scoop-shaped baffles 7, and below the baffles is a contracted outlet 8, controlled by a suitable cut-off valve or gate 9. Thus it is seen that provision is made against the surreptitious refilling of the canister from the bottom, since the contracted discharge-opening 8, the staggered baffles 7, and the flap-valves 6 by providing a tortuous discharge-passage prevent the insertion of any instrument to hold the valves open to prevent the canister being filled from that end.

In order to prevent the refilling from the top when once the device is installed in the interest of a particular dealer, I provide means by which the cap may be screwed on and locked by suitable mechanism, the possession of the key being retained by the dealer. In the present instance I have shown the screw-cap 3 as having a central perforation 10 to admit a key 11 to engage a post 12, supported and turnable in a housing 13 on the inside of the cap. The lower end of the post has an arm 14, which connects by a link or other suitable connection 15 with the spring-pressed pawl or dog 16, carried in guides 17 on the housing 13 of the cap. The dog is adapted when the cap is screwed down in the ordinary manner to engage the ratcheted edge 18 of the canister-opening to prevent the cap being unscrewed. The portion of post 12 intermediate of the two portions of the cap has the projecting pins 19 on either side, and the key 11 is hollow and slotted to allow it to pass over the end of the post and the pins, so that when the key is turned in one direction the dog may be disengaged from the ratchet. The spring character of the dog will always tend to throw it into engagement with the ratchet.

In order to maintain the dog out of the path of the ratchet and allow the cap to be freely screwed on or off without holding onto the key, I provide a spring-keeper 20 in the path of one of the pins 19, over which the latter may be carried by means of the key and which keeper when once the pin is engaged behind it will hold the pin and post in opposition to the tension exerted by the spring-dog. After the canister has been filled and the cap

screwed down a simple turn of the key releases the pin from keeper 20 and the dog catches in the teeth of the ratchet. The key is then removed and no one not having the key may open the canister.

Thus by virtue of its proving an attractive and a most convenient article of household furniture it would operate to protect one dealer against another and enable him to keep his customers.

It is obvious that other locking means for the cap and other means for securing the cap on the can and changes in the preventive means for refilling through the discharge could be provided without affecting the principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A non-refillable canister comprising a receptacle having separate inlet and outlet passages said inlet-passage bounded by an annular series of ratchets, a screw-closure adapted to screw upon the receptacle and having an inwardly-projecting housing, a post turnably mounted in the housing and provided with key-engaging means, a spring-pressed dog guided in the housing, having one end adapted to engage the said ratchets and the opposite portion connected to the post whereby the dog may be disengaged from the ratchets to allow the closure to be removed.

2. A canister including a receptacle and means whereby it may be suspended from a wall or surface, said receptacle having separate inlet and outlet passages, a gate controlling the outlet-passage and a screw-closure controlling the inlet-passage said closure and the wall of the inlet-opening having interlocking members, and key-actuated means for unlocking said members.

3. A canister comprising a receptacle having separate inlet and outlet passages, a ratcheted wall surrounding the inlet-passage, a rotatable closure fitting the receptacle and provided with a housing on its under side, a spring-pressed dog guided in the housing and adapted to interlock with said ratcheted wall, a post turnably mounted in the housing and provided with radial pins, means connecting the dog with said post, and a spring-keeper in the path of one of said pins and over which the latter may be carried by means of an actuating-key whereby the dog is locked.

4. A canister including a receptacle having in its lower portion a discharge-passage and a pair of flap-valves which close when the receptacle is inverted, oppositely-inclined baffles below said valves and forming a tortuous passage, and a cut-off gate below the baffles and controlling the discharge of material.

5. A canister comprising a receptacle having an outlet-passage in its bottom through which the contents of the canister may flow by gravitation, normally open valves in said passage, baffles in the latter forming a tortuous passage and a cut-off valve in the passage controlling discharge from the canister.

6. A canister comprising a receptacle having an inclined open bottom through which the contents may flow by gravitation, a contracted throat portion below said inclined bottom, normally open valves in said passage and inclosed by the throat, means forming a tortuous passage in the throat, and a cut-off valve in said throat.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHESLEY A. NORVELL.

Witnesses:
E. H. HOPPE,
GEO. B. HENRY.