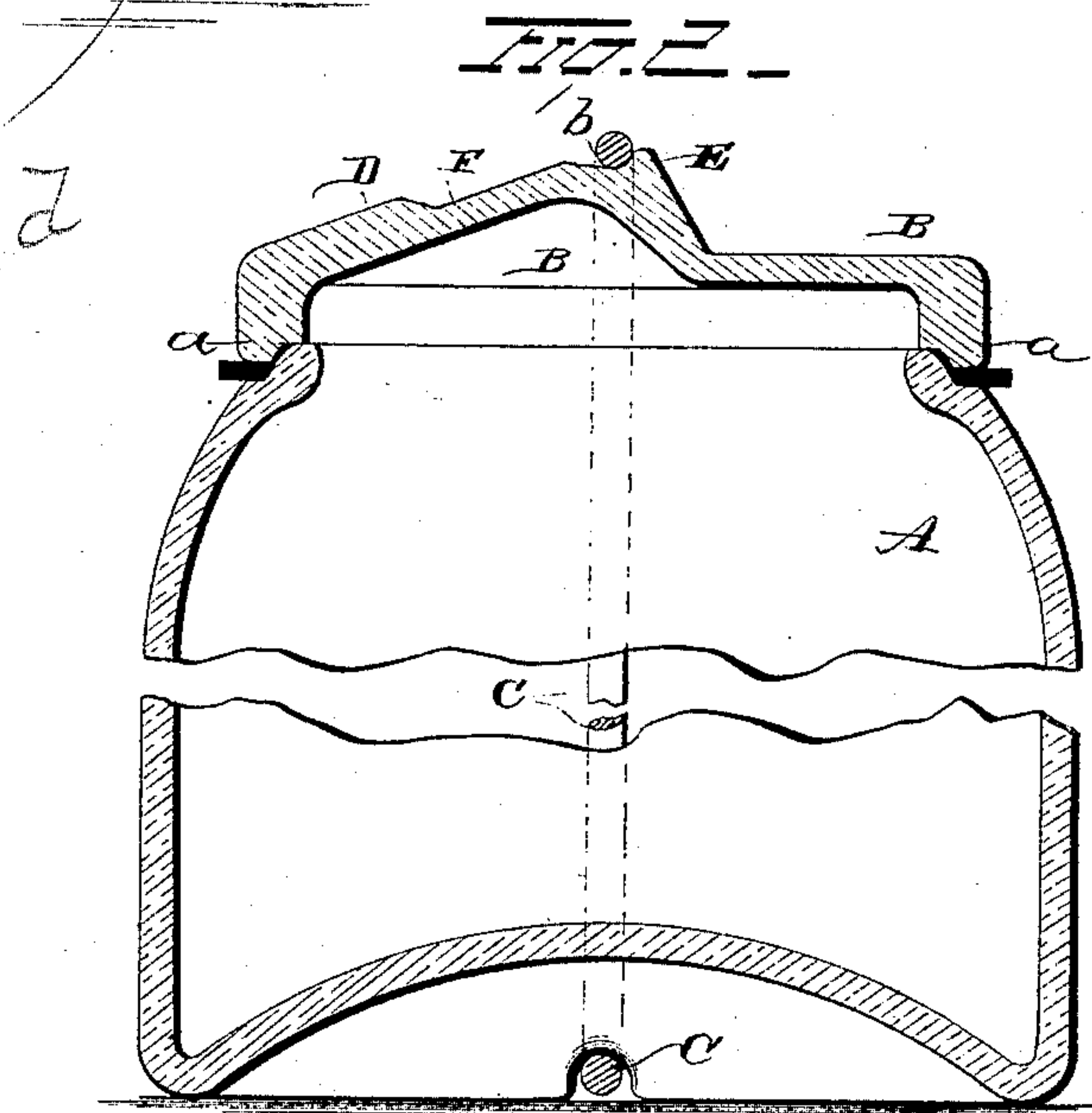
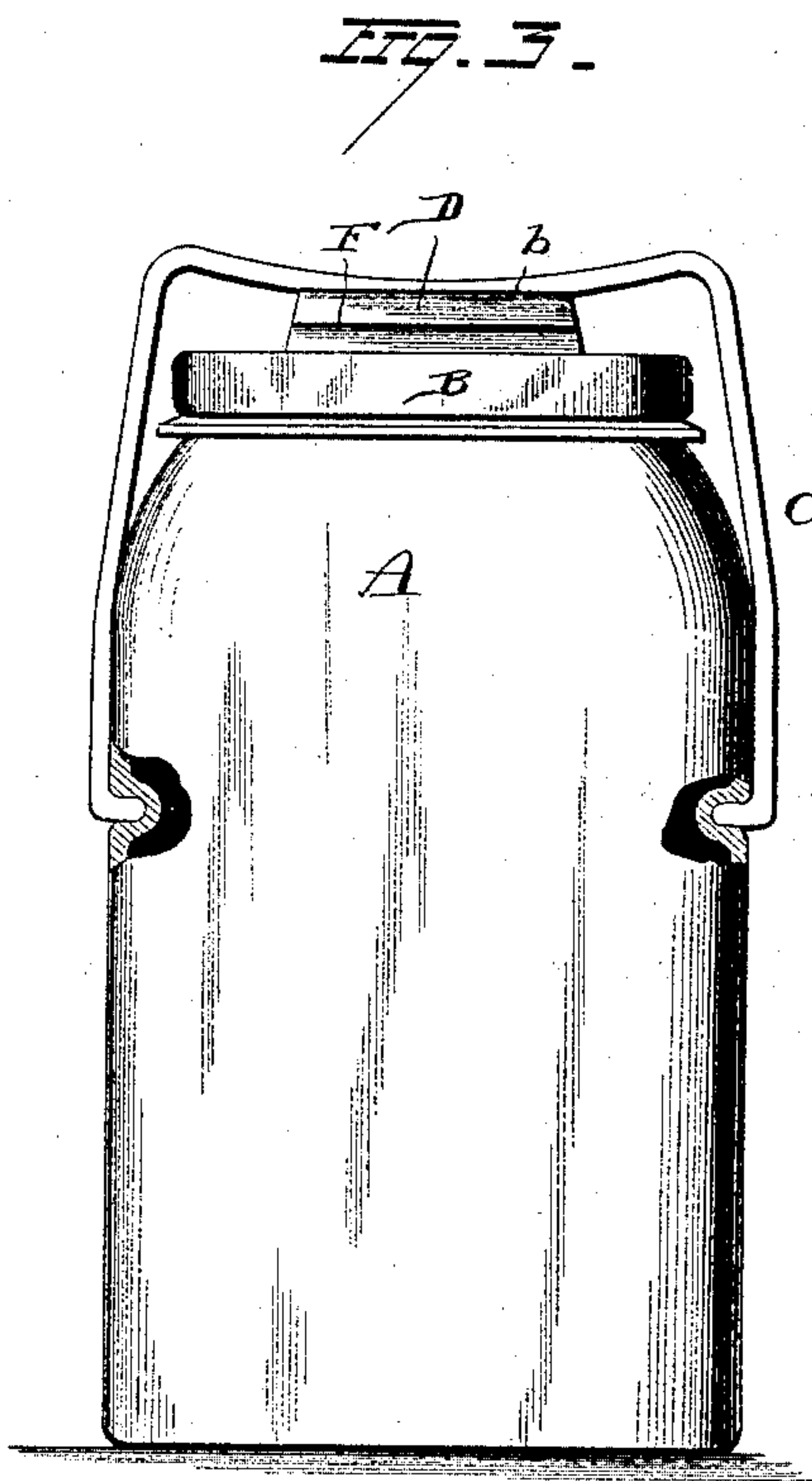
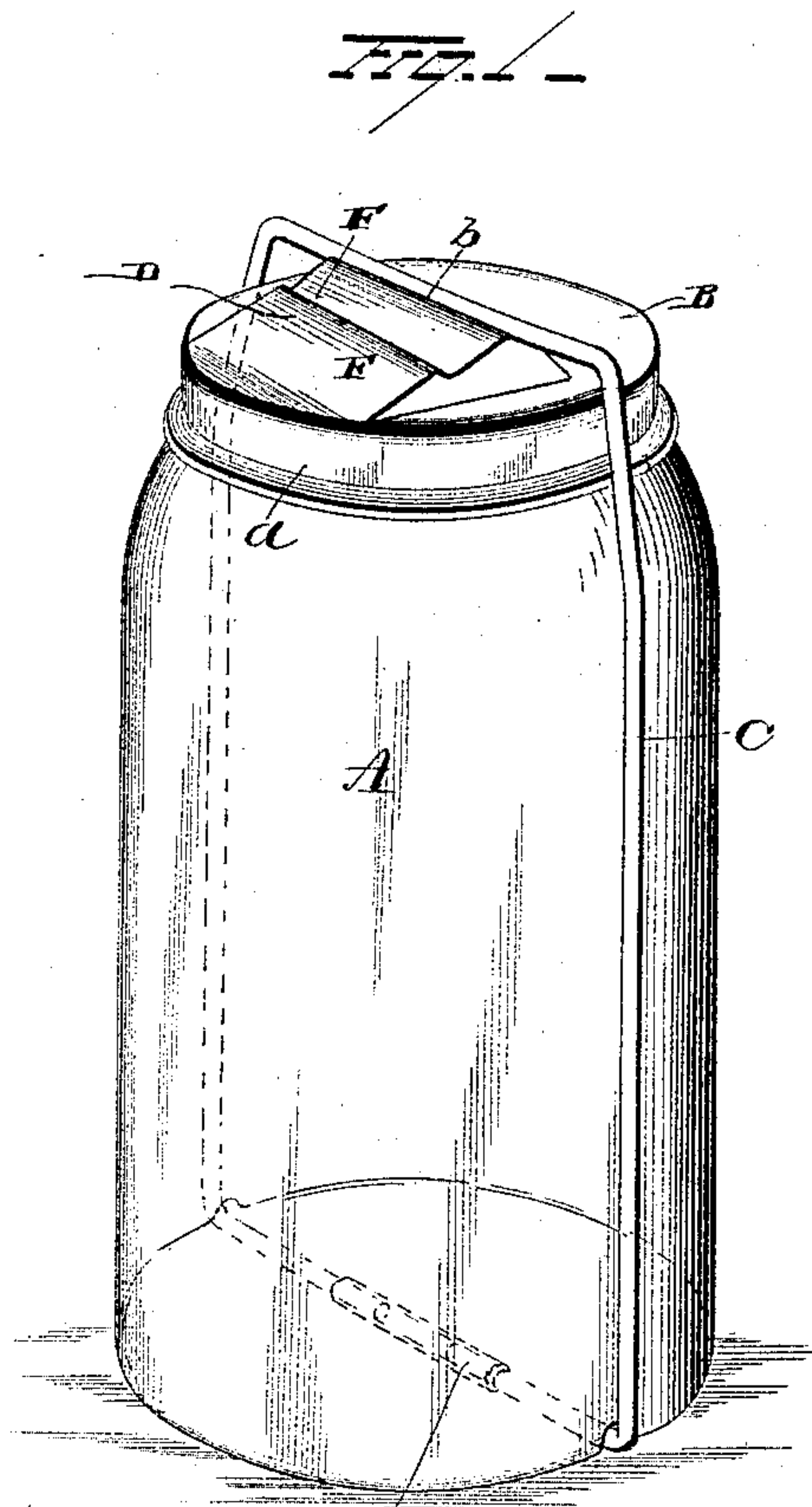


(No Model.)

J. GILBERDS.
FRUIT JAR COVER.

No. 328,115.

Patented Oct. 13, 1885.



WITNESSES
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S. J. Nottingham

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By [Signature] Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES GILBERDS, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK.

FRUIT-JAR COVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 328,115, dated October 13, 1885.

Application filed June 23, 1885. Serial No. 169,562. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES GILBERDS, of Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Covers for Fruit-Jars; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in covers for that class of fruit-jars which are sealed by a spring-wire stirrup or yoke arranged to encircle the jar or be secured to the sides or neck of the jar and arranged to swing over the cover, the object of the invention being to improve the construction of the covers and thereby simplifying the operation of canning and insure a more perfect sealing of the jars.

With these objects in view my invention consists in a fruit-jar cover having a beveled bearing-surface for the stirrup or yoke, the said beveled surface being provided with two or more steps.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a fruit-jar embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a view in vertical section of the same; and Fig. 3 is a view of a modified construction, showing the stirrup secured to the body of the jar.

A represents the fruit-jar, of any desired form and construction, and provided with a cover, B, the latter being securely held in place by a spring stirrup or yoke, C, of any suitable form. The cover B is provided with a peripheral depending rim, *a*, adapted to encircle the neck of the jar and rest on a rubber gasket, and with a beveled face or bearing-surface, D, rising gradually from its periphery to a point slightly beyond its center, and terminating in a stop or abutment, E, which latter limits the movement of the stirrup when the latter is moved to a position to lock the cover to the jar. The inclined bearing-surface D is provided at a point alongside of the abutment E with a stop or step, *b*, located over or approximately over the center of the jar. This step, in which the upper section of the stirrup or yoke rests when the cover is in a locked position, can be perfectly flat or slightly grooved, as found convenient in practice. This beveled

surface of the cover is also provided with one or more stops or steps, F, either flat or grooved, and located between the periphery of the cover and the stop or step *b*, and parallel with said stop or step *b*. This step F is adapted to receive the upper section or cross-bar of the stirrup or yoke, as will be hereinafter described. This step or steps F, located between the step *b* and the periphery of the cover, enables the cover to be engaged by the stirrup or yoke and secured to the jar during the operation of canning, and yet not so tightly but that the air and gases generated within the jar during the cooking process may be expelled by the heat to which it is subjected.

To more fully explain the results obtained by the use of my improved cover, I will briefly describe the operation of canning as conducted with a jar provided with such cover. The fruit is first heated and put into the jar, which is then filled up with hot sirup. The cover is now placed in position upon the jar and secured in place by the stirrup or yoke, the upper section or cross-bar of which is engaged with the step F, located, as before described, between the step *b* and the periphery of the cover. When the parts are in this position, the full power of the spring stirrup or yoke is not exerted on the cover, and as the pressure is to one side of the center of the cover the other side of the cover, or that is the side farthest away from the upper cross-bar of stirrup or yoke, is free to be elevated by the pressure of the air and gases within the jar. After the cover is put on in this manner the jar is subjected to a steam-bath, which cooks the fruit and expels the air and gases. The jar is then hermetically sealed by springing the stirrup or yoke up onto the central bearing or step, *b*. This done the jar is submerged in boiling-water until the fruit is cooked.

The stirrups C are preferably made of spring-wire bent into the required shape, with its ends united on a line with its lower cross-bar by a ferrule, *d*.

The upper or lower or both of the cross-bars of the stirrups or yokes can be bowed to render the stirrup or yoke elastic; or the sides of the stirrup can be bowed and produce the same result. I prefer, however, to bow the sides and top, as shown in the drawings.

Instead of having the stirrups or yokes en-

circle the jars, as above described, the body of the jar can be provided on diametrically-opposite sides with indentations, as shown in Fig. 3, in which the bent ends of a U-shaped stirrup or yoke are sprung.

My improved covers require less handling during the operation of canning than covers of the old form, and, moreover, they are in position to be finally sealed just at the right moment. A more perfect sealing of the jars is effected by expelling the air under the edges of the covers and then sealing them than by putting them on when the fruit is steaming, as ordinarily practiced.

It is evident that slight changes in the construction of the several parts might be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention; hence I would have it understood that I do not confine myself to the exact construction shown and described, but consider myself at liberty to make such changes as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

1. A fruit-jar cover having a beveled or inclined bearing-surface on its upper face, the said bearing-surface being provided with two or more steps, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A fruit-jar cover having a beveled or inclined bearing-surface on its upper face, the

said bearing-surface being provided at its upper end with an abutment and with two or more steps located between the abutment and the periphery of the cover, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. A fruit-jar cover having a beveled or inclined bearing-surface, the latter being provided at its upper end with an abutment and a step and at a point between said step and the lower end of said inclined bearing-surface with a second step, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A fruit-jar cover having an inclined bearing-surface on its upper face, the said bearing-surface being provided at a point over the center of the cover with a step and at a point between said step and the periphery of the cover with a second step, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination, with a jar and a cover having an inclined bearing-surface, the latter being provided with an abutment and with two or more steps located in different planes, of a spring stirrup or yoke adapted to engage the steps and hold the cover in position, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES GILBERDS.

Witnesses:

A. W. BRIGHT,
S. G. NOTTINGHAM.