(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

D. TRUE.

OIL CAN.

No. 553,726. Patented Jan. 28, 1896.

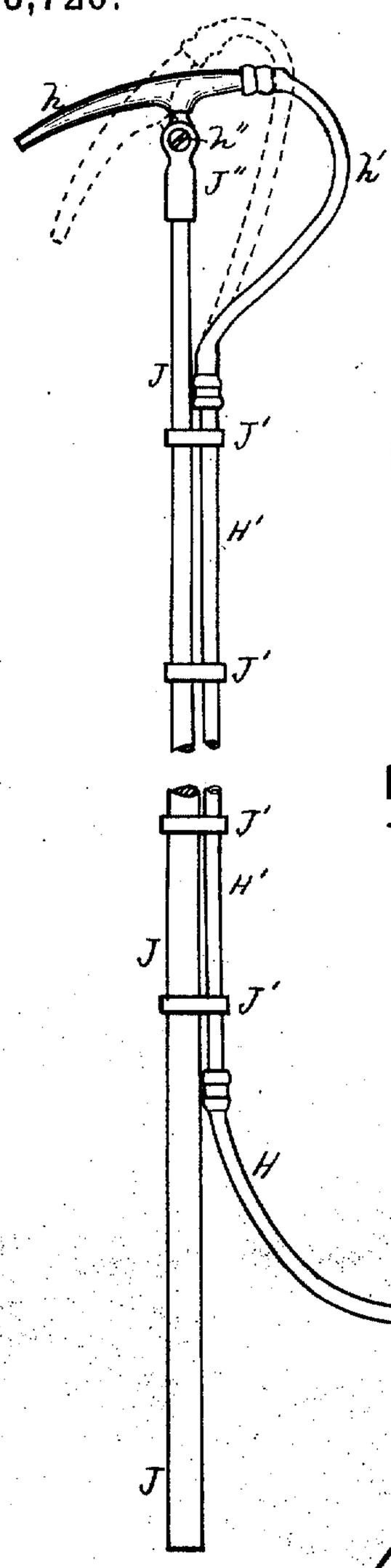

Fig. 2.

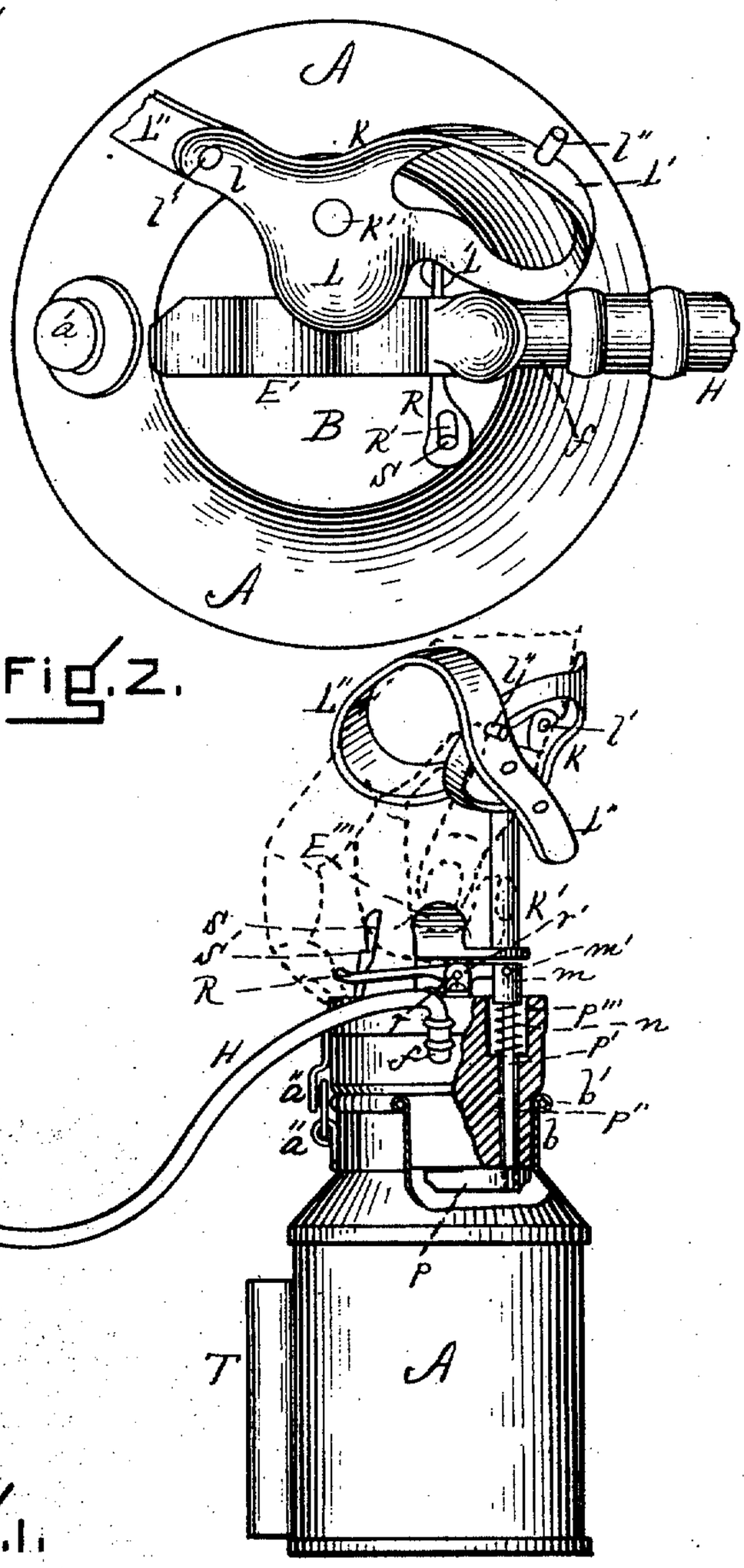

Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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OIL CAN.

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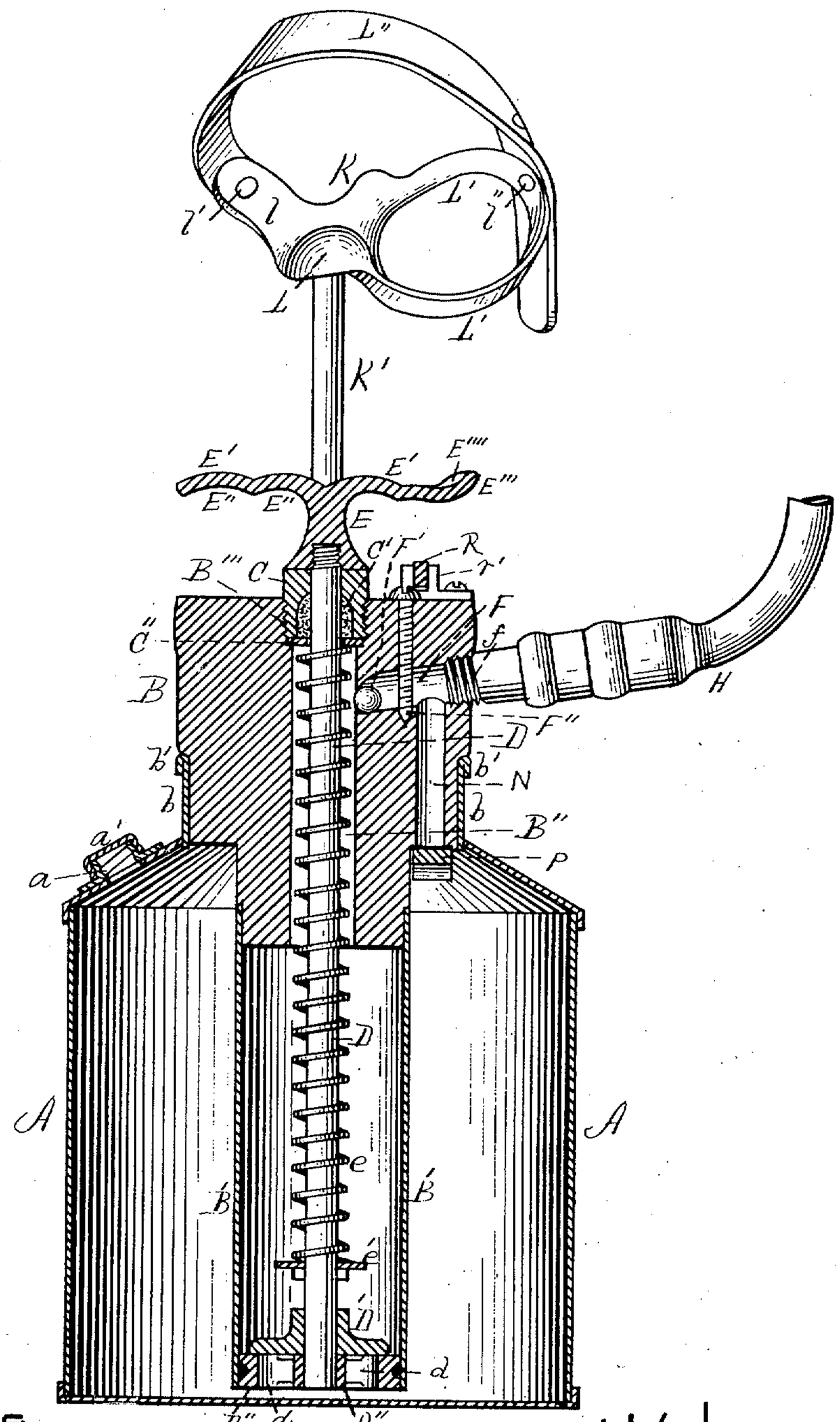

FIG. 3.

WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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OIL-CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 553,726, dated January 28, 1896.

Application filed April 25, 1895. Serial No. 547,080. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID TRUE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Amesbury, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Oil-Cans, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of oil-cans in which a pump is employed for driving the oil through the discharge-spout; and the invention relates to the means whereby distant and elevated bearings—such as are found in shafting, for example—may be reached, to the construction whereby the can may be easily carried from one point to another by a single hand and the pump operated by the same hand, and to certain details in arrangement and construction, all substantially as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved oil-can, a portion being shown in vertical section and parts of the mast and connecting-tube being represented as broken out. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same without the mast and with the connecting-tube broken off. Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents a reservoir or fount, made of any suitable material and provided with an opening *a*, by means of which it may be filled, and a cap *a'* for closing said opening.

B is a plug which sits snugly in the can and is formed to rest upon the upper edge *b'* of the mouth and to be detachably secured thereto by a suitable fastening contrivance A''. This plug is provided with a central bore B'', which is counterbored and screw-threaded at B''' to receive the small plug C, which is centrally and vertically bored to receive the piston-rod D, which moves through suitable packing C', supported by a centrally-perforated disk or washer C'', which lies between the lower edge of the plug C and the ledge produced by the counterboring of the passage B''. The piston-rod D is provided near its lower end with the piston D'', provided with suitable radial openings *d*, said piston fitting and moving vertically in a tube B', which extends down from the plug B toward the bottom of the can. A spring *e* surrounds the piston-rod and extends from the washer C'' to a cross-piece or support *e'* secured to the piston-rod, as shown in Fig. 3, and a sliding-valve D', of less diameter than the piston, moves on the rod D between the piston and the cross-piece *e'*. To the upper end of the piston-rod is secured a lifting-bar, consisting of the central portion E and cross-piece E', the latter having its under side formed into finger-recesses E'', as shown. A passage F leads on an upward incline from the passage B'' to the outer side of the plug B, such passage being lessened in diameter at its inner end to retain a ball-valve F', whose upper or outer movement is limited by the screw F''. Thus the lower end of the passage is closed by gravity and air prevented from entering the passage B'' when the oil-can is not in use.

Thus far there is nothing described which is claimed to be new in this invention. The piston-rod is lifted by raising the finger-bar E E' and the oil pumped from the can through the tube B' and passages B'' F into the connection leading to the nozzle, below described.

f is a rigid pipe screwed into the outer end of the passage F, and attached to the outer end of this pipe is one end of the flexible tube H, whose outer end is attached to one end of the rigid tube H'. The upper end of the tube H' has the lower end of a flexible tube *h'* secured to it, and the other end of the flexible tube *h'* is secured to the rear end of the nozzle *h*. This nozzle is pivoted at *h''* on a socket or cap J'' mounted on or inclosing the upper end of a mast J, to which the rigid tube H' is secured by the bands J'. (See Fig. 1.)

K is a hand-rest mounted on and supported by the standard K', whose lower end is screwed into the plug B. This hand-rest is provided with a protuberance L and thumb-ring L'. A strap L'' has one end secured at *l'* to the extension *l*, while the other end is supplied with holes, by means of which it can catch over the pin or post *l''* on the thumb-ring L'. By resting the center of the palm of the hand on the protuberance L, thrusting the thumb through the ring L', passing the strap over the back of the hand and catching it on the pin *l''*, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and laying the fingers in the recesses E'' on the lifting-bar, the oil-can may be carried anywhere and the bar E' lifted by the natural

drawing up or closing of the fingers of the same hand, in order to pump out the oil without swinging or causing lateral motion to the can. At the same time the lower end of the mast J is grasped by the other hand and the elevated nozzle *h* directed to any bearing to be lubricated—say on elevated shafting, for example—and applied to one bearing after another, the other hand working the pump. The nozzle being pivoted and its rear end secured to a flexible tube, it can accommodate itself to any position by pressure and proper direction of the mast. The flexible connection H is long enough to allow of sufficient freedom of movement of the mast with relation to the can.

N is a drainage-passage extending from the passage F down through the plug B and opening at the under side thereof.

P is a vertically-moving valve secured to the lower end of the rod P′ moving vertically in the passage P″. This passage is enlarged at P‴, and the upper end of the rod is enlarged at *m*, as shown in Fig. 1. A spring *n* surrounds the rod between the enlarged portion *m* and the shoulder produced by the enlargement P‴ of the passage P″. A lever R has one end pivotally secured at *m′* to the upper end of the rod P′, and said lever is fulcrumed at *r* on the bracket *r′*, secured to the upper surface of the plug B. The forward end of the lever R is provided with a slot R′, Fig. 2, and through this slot projects a spring S, set vertically in the upper surface of the plug B, and provided with a notch S′.

When it is desired to empty the nozzle and connecting-tubes *h′* H′ H of any oil which may be in them, as would be the case after such bearings as needed attention had been supplied with oil, the front end of the lever R is lifted until it reaches the notch S′, when the outwardly-pressing spring S brings said notch under the edge of the slot R′ in said lever, and the lever is supported in a raised position. The raising of the front end of the lever pushes down the rod P′ and lowers the valve P, thus allowing the oil to pass from the nozzle and pipes *h′*, H′ and H through the connection *f* into the inclined passage F, and thence through the vertical passage N into the reservoir or can. It will be seen that this drainage-valve is especially useful when elevated spouts are employed, not only because of the amount of oil which is necessarily in the tubes between the spout and the reservoir, and which would run out and be lost as soon as the spout is lowered, but also because the flexible tubes which make parts of the connection are necessarily distended and can by this method be relieved. As soon as the oil has returned to the reservoir, a rearward pressure on the spring S relieves the lever R, and the valve P returns (by means of the spring *n*) to its normally-closed position.

In carrying the spout from one bearing to another it is advisable to lift the catch a little in order to allow enough oil to flow back to prevent any dripping. One end of the lifting-bar E′ is turned up a little at E‴, and is furnished at that point with a small depression E⁗. This is for the accommodation of the thumb while the forefinger (or other finger) is employed in lifting the lever R. (See broken lines in Fig. 1.) The palm of the hand being on the rest K and the fingers being under the finger-bar E′, when one finger is removed from the finger-bar for the purpose of pressing up the lever R, the pressure of the thumb upon the finger-bar is advisable and almost necessary, not only in order to steady the device, but also to prevent involuntary lifting of the finger-bar.

A socket T is provided for the mast J.

This application is made concurrently with another application by me for an improvement in oil-cans, Serial No. 547,079, in which the construction of the can A, plug B, and pumping mechanism are substantially the same as in this application. These parts are not claimed therefore in this application in themselves considered.

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

1. In an oil-can of the character described, in combination, an oil-reservoir, the supporting-mast J adapted to be raised and directed by the hand, the nozzle *h* pivoted to the upper end of said mast, the rigid or non-flexible tube H′ secured to and laid parallel with said mast, the flexible tube *h′* connecting the upper end of said rigid tube with the rear end of said nozzle, the flexible tube H connecting the lower end of the rigid tube with the pipe leading to the oil-reservoir, a pump for forcing the oil through said tube to the nozzle, a lifting-handle connected with the piston of the pump whereby the oil is ejected, and a hand-rest supported by the stationary portion of the oil-can, substantially as described.

2. In an oil-can of the character described, the hand-rest K provided with the thumb-ring L′ and protuberance L, the strap L″ extending from one side of the hand-rest and adapted to be caught on the other side thereof, the vertical rod K′ extending from the oil-can and supporting said hand-rest, and a finger-bar or lifting-bar connected with and actuating the piston of the pump, substantially as set forth.

3. In an oil-can of the character described, a hand-rest supported thereby, and the finger-bar or lifting-bar E′ connected with and actuating the piston of the pump, said finger-bar being formed with finger-recesses E″ on its under side and the upturned edge E‴ and thumb-recess E⁗ on its upper side, substantially as described.

4. In an oil-can of the character described, the plug B provided with the passage F leading to the tubular connections which communicate with the nozzle, and the drainage-passage N extending from said passage F down through the plug and opening into the

reservoir, and a valve normally closing said drainage-passage and adapted to be opened from the outside of the can, substantially as set forth.

5. In an oil-can of the character described, in combination, the plug B provided with the passage F and drainage-passage N, the valve P located at the lower end of said drainage-passage, the rod P′ extending from said valve up through the plug and held normally raised by a spring, the lever R pivotally supported by the plug and connecting at one end with said rod, and the notched spring S S′ extending from the plug and adapted by bearing against said lever to support its outer end in a raised position and when pressed back to release it, substantially as described.

DAVID TRUE.

Witnesses:
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E. A. WOODBURY.