

No. 768,355.

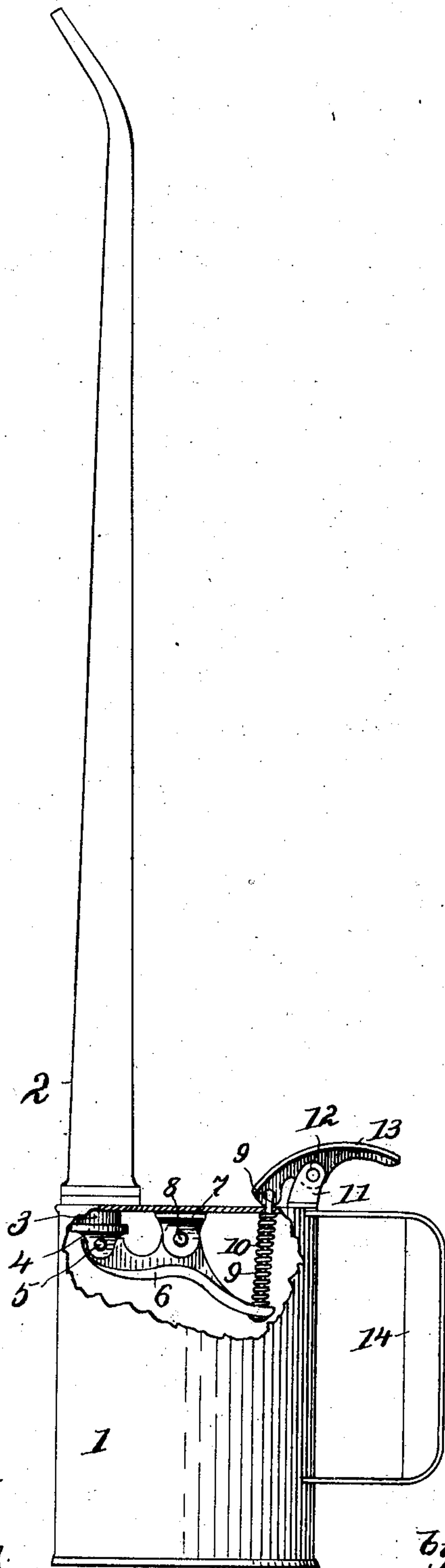
PATENTED AUG. 23, 1904.

A. O. BOLEN.

OIL CAN.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR O. BOLEN, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

## OIL-CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 768,355, dated August 23, 1904.

Application filed May 15, 1903. Serial No. 157,331. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ARTHUR O. BOLEN, of the city of Decatur, county of Macon, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oil-Cans, of which the following is a specification.

This invention provides simple and effective means for accurately controlling the discharge of oil from oil-cans. It is particularly applicable to oilers; but it has utility in connection with gasoline-cans and the like or wherever it is important to cut off the flow of oil instantaneously.

The invention is exemplified in the structure hereinafter described, and it is defined in the appended claim.

In the drawing forming part of this specification an oil-can of the oiler type is shown in side elevation, and a part of the body of the can is broken away to expose the mechanism in the interior of the can.

The body of the can is shown at 1, the nozzle therefor at 2, and the handle at 14.

At 3 is shown the oil-passage leading from the can to the nozzle, and at 4 is shown a valve for the oil-passage. The oil-passage 3 in the drawing is shown formed by the inner end of the nozzle projected a short distance into the can-body and below the top thereof and open at the lower end. The valve 4 is pivotally connected at 5 with a lever 6, which is fulcrumed inside the can. The fulcrum 8 for lever 6 is formed on a bracket 7, which depends from the top of the can. A bracket 11 is secured to the outside of the top of the can, and a lever 13 is fulcrumed at 12 in bracket 11. A rod 9 extends from an end of lever 13 to an end of lever 6, and a compression-spring 10 encircles the rod and fits between lever 6 and the top of the can.

The top of the can is flat, the nozzle extends upward from one edge of the top of the can, the handle 14 is on a side of the can opposite the body, and the force-receiving end of lever 13 extends above the handle in position to be pressed downward by the thumb of the user of the can. The spring 10 presses downward on the power end of lever 6 and holds valve 4 closed against oil-passage 3 in a manner to effectually prevent the escape of oil from the

can. When it is desired to discharge oil from the can, the nozzle is turned downward and presented where the oil is desired and thumb-pressure is applied to lever 13 sufficient to overcome the tension of spring 10 and open the valve. As soon as the required quantity of oil is discharged pressure on lever 13 is discontinued, and the spring 10 closes the valve 4 automatically.

The flatness of the upper end of the can enables the nozzle to be placed to one side of the can and also provides convenient bearings for the bracket 7, on which lever 6 is fulcrumed. It is advantageous to have the nozzle at a side of the can, for the reason that the oil will be discharged more freely and completely through a side discharge than through a central discharge with the same degree of tilt. In other words, the degree of tilt needed to discharge the contents of the can is less when the discharge-opening is to one side of the center of the can than when it is at the center.

The applicability of the invention to cans other than oilers will be readily seen without special explanation, as the gist of the idea is to automatically stop the flow of oil the instant a stop is required, and wherever this requirement exists the invention may be advantageously used.

The valve is located inside the can-body entirely independent of the spout or nozzle, and it opens inward toward the contents of the can. This simplifies the construction of the spout, gives better clearance when the valve is opened, and forms a better closure when the valve is seated. The spout is the delicate part of a can, as well as the exposed part. A can will outlast several spouts or nozzles, and it is a part of the plan of my invention to enable the simplest form of spout to be used and to entirely disconnect the valve from the spout.

I claim—

In an oil-can, the combination of a can-body having a discharge-nozzle with its inlet-opening within the can-body, a bracket depending from the can-body top, a single vertically-rocking valve-lever between its ends fulcrumed to said bracket, an upwardly-closing



valve within said body and below said opening and pivotally joined to one end of said lever, a projection at the exterior of said body, an exterior vertically-rocking thumb-  
5 lever between its ends fulcrumed to said projection and having its inner end located over the body-top, a pivotal pull connection between the inner end of said thumb-lever and an end of said valve-lever, and a coiled spring

on said connection and compressed between the body-top and said valve-lever end.

In testimony whereof I sign my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR O. BOLEN.

Witnesses:

J. M. GRAY,  
CHESTER A. SMITH.