

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS SCOTT, OF FARMERSBURG, INDIANA.

CAN-LOCKING DEVICE.

No. 930,566.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS SCOTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Farmersburg, in the county of Sullivan and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Locking Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved means for locking the closing caps on cans or other receptacles, preferably for use on cans or receptacles adapted to contain gasoline or other explosive.

The object of my invention is to have the cap of an explosive can locked so that when the can is to be filled the dealer is reminded of the fact that when filling the can he will handle an explosive, and it will be also possible for the user of the can to readily determine the difference between such explosive containing receptacles and ordinary cans containing non-explosives. The user of the can may have a key or not or the key may be only held by the dealer.

A further object of my invention is to provide a construction in which the cap, though locked, may be turned a short distance, in order to let air into the can to permit of the ready pouring of the contents therefrom, though preventing the cap from being entirely unscrewed from the can to permit the re-filling thereof.

With these and other objects in view my invention consists in certain constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts, the preferred form of which will be first described in connection with the accompanying drawings and then the invention particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings wherein the same part is designated by the same reference numeral wherever it occurs, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the can provided with a screw cap embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a section taken on line 2, 2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3, 3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the top of the can with the cap removed; Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the cap in position with parts broken away to more clearly show the construction.

1 designates a can or other container of any ordinary or desired form and provided with a cover 2 from which, as shown, extends a spout 3.

4 designates a short cylindrical section

exteriorly threaded and secured to the top of the can and surrounding the filling opening 5 formed in said top. This section is preferably provided at its base with a vent opening 6.

7 is a semi-circular depression formed in the body of the can at the base of the section 4, and terminating at one end in a square shoulder 8.

9 is the cap adapted to close the filling opening, said cap being formed with a head 10 and a pair of downwardly extending spaced flanges 11, 12, whereby an annular space 13 is provided between them, the interior of the flange 12 being threaded to cooperate with the thread on the exterior of the tube 4. The lower end of the space 13 is preferably closed by the ring 14 secured between the flanges 11 and 12 at their lower end.

15 designates a spring of spiral form and located in the annular chamber 13. One end of the spring is secured to the underside of the head 10 by means of the screws or other securing devices 16, and the other end of the spring is formed with a downwardly extending portion 17 which passes through an opening 18 in the ring 14 and in position to enter the depression 7 in the top of the can body when the cap is screwed down into closing position. The portion 17 of the spring is located in the cap in relation to the depression 7, so that in screwing the cap into place it will pass over the shoulder 8 and into the depression just before the lower end of the cap comes in contact with the top of the can. The cap consequently has to be turned after the projection 17 passes the shoulder 8, in order to make a tight joint between the lower end of the cap and the top of the can. Consequently when the cap, after having been screwed down tight on the top of the can is turned back until the projection 17 strikes against the shoulder 8 air will be permitted to pass into the vent opening 6 and cause the free flow of liquid from the can. In the side of the flange 11 I form a key hole slot 19, said slot entering into the annular chamber 13 between the ends of the spring, preferably near the end of the spring carrying the projection 17.

20 is a projecting pin secured to the inner flange 12 in line with the key hole slot 19, whereby a key 21 having a hole in its inner end and a cam projection 22 on its side may be placed in the key hole with its opening

over the pin 20, whereupon by turning the key the projection 22 will strike the under side of the spring and raise the same so as to raise the projection 17 out of the depression 7 and permit the cap to be turned and removed from position. When the cap is to be replaced after the can has been filled it is simply screwed down into position whereupon the last turn and projection 17 will pass over the shoulder 8 and down into the depression 7, thus locking the cap in position while permitting it to have sufficient movement to close the can airtight or permit air to pass under the cap and through the vent 6.

I realize that considerable variation is possible in the details of construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not intend to limit myself to the specific form shown and described.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. The combination with a receptacle having a filling opening therein, an exteriorly threaded tube surrounding the filling opening, an interiorly threaded cap adapted to close the tube, locking means carried by the cap, a depression in the receptacle adjacent to the tube in which the locking means is adapted to engage when the cap is in position on the tube, the length of the depression being such as to permit of a limited rotation of the cap when in locked position.

2. The combination with a receptacle having a filling opening therein, a threaded tube surrounding the filling opening, a threaded cap for closing the end of the tube, means for locking the cap when it is in position to close the tube, and means permitting a limited rotation of the cap while it is locked.

3. The combination with a receptacle having a filling opening therein, a closure for the filling opening, means for locking the closure when it is in position to close the opening, and means permitting a limited movement of the closure in relation to the opening while it is locked, whereby the receptacle may be vented.

4. The combination with a receptacle having a filling opening, of a threaded tube surrounding the filling opening, a cap for closing the tube, said cap comprising a head and two spaced flanges extending downwardly from the head, a spiral spring secured to the head between the flanges provided with a locking projection, and a depression having a shoulder with which said projection is adapted to engage when the cap is in position to close the tube.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS SCOTT.

Witnesses:

THOMAS CRARY,
ROBERT A. BALDRIDGE.