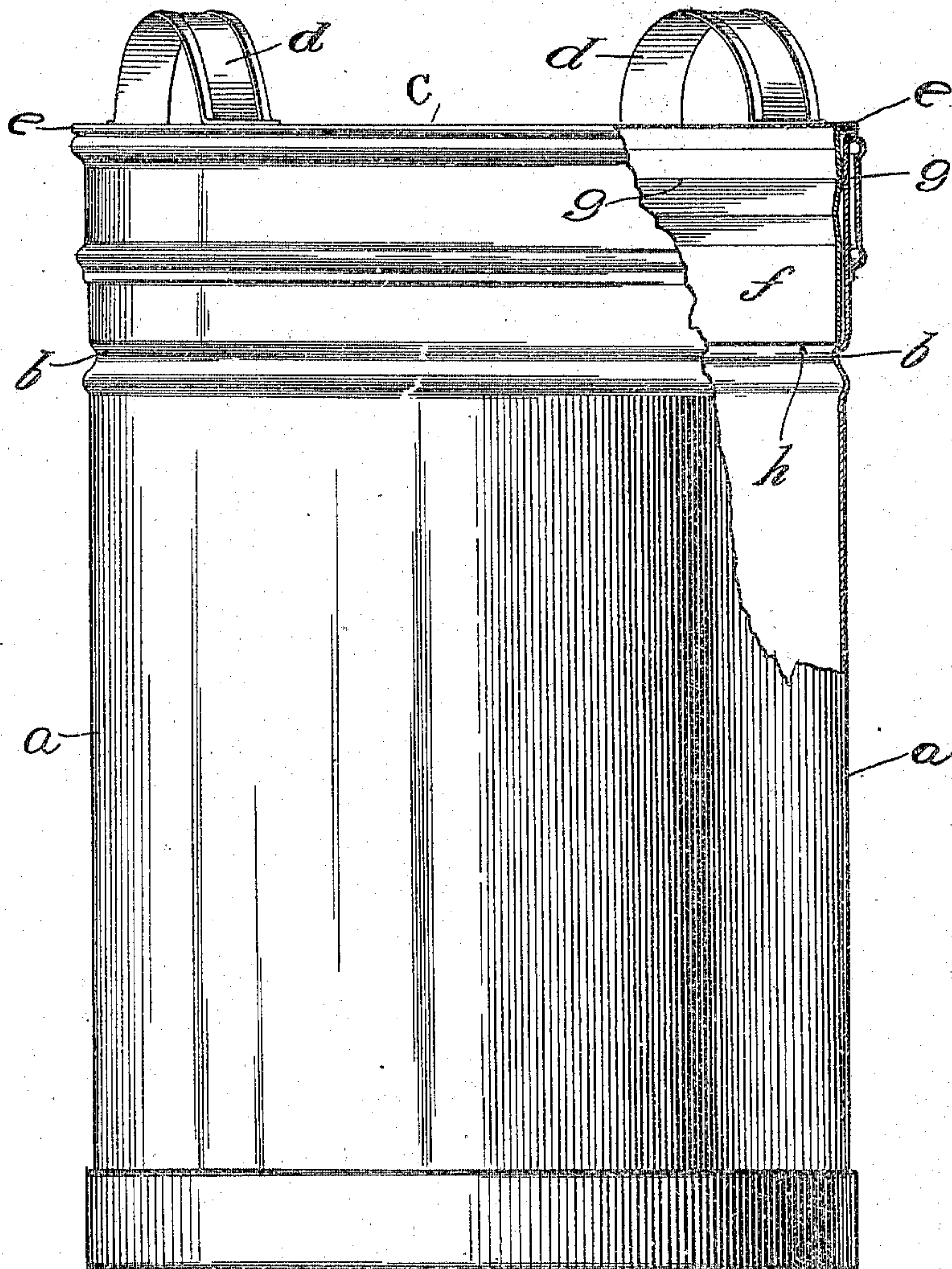


A. R. RUPPENTHAL.
MILK CAN CLOSURE.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 15, 1910.

958,012.

Patented May 17, 1910.



Witnesses:
Alfred Hamilton
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST R. RUPPENTHAL, OF BRILLION, WISCONSIN.

MILK-CAN CLOSURE.

958,012.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 17, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST R. RUPPENTHAL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brillion, in the county of Calumet and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Milk-Can Closures, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in closures for milk-cans; and an object of my invention is to provide a milk-can closure which will be health-preserving or hygienic and sanitary in character, simple in construction, relatively cheap in manufacture and efficient and durable in operation and use.

Another object of my invention is to provide a milk-can closure which may be readily removed from the milk-can and which will nevertheless efficiently prevent any squirting or leakage of the milk from the can. My new milk-can closure is made loose-fitting for the following reasons: A loose-fitting stopper can be quickly and easily removed from and replaced in the mouth of the can, whereby there is a great saving of time in serving out the milk from the can and a great saving of labor, inasmuch as the can-body does not have to be seized or handled in the operation of removing the stopper. Moreover, there is no danger of the handles of the cover or stopper being pulled off. Second: There is less friction between the stopper and the inside wall of the mouth of the can, from which it results that the coating of tin is not so soon worn from the metal of the can as in the case where a tight-fitting stopper is used. When the protecting coating of tin becomes worn, there is danger of corrosion of the exposed metal and of contamination of the milk. The milk inspectors condemn milk-cans having worn and exposed surfaces and much labor is required to be expended in keeping the latter clean. But loose-fitting stoppers have been objected to on the ground that they do not efficiently prevent the milk during transportation and handling from squirting and leaking past the stopper and out of the mouth of the can.

It is an object of my invention to provide a milk-can closure which will be loose-fitting

and at the same time free from the objection just stated.

In the drawings illustrating the principle of my invention and the best mode now known to me of applying that principle, the figure shows in elevation a milk-can provided with my new closure, parts being broken away and shown in section for the sake of clearness.

The milk-can *a* is provided near its mouth with an annular rib or ridge (sometimes called a bead) *b* which projects inwardly, the outer face of the milk-can being correspondingly grooved. The stopper *c* is provided with the handles *d* and is formed with a rim-flange *e* which overhangs the upper edge or mouth of the milk-can. The ring-shaped neck portion *f* of the stopper *c* is made of thin flexible sheet-metal and is formed with an outwardly projecting rib or bead *g*. The latter bears against the inner face of the wall of the mouth portion of the milk-can with a yielding pressure due to the elasticity of the metal of the neck *f* of the stopper *c*. The neck *f* is of such length that, when the stopper *c* is forced home into the mouth of the can, its edge portion *h* rides upon or engages the inwardly-projecting bead *b*; and, since this edge portion *h* is thin and flexible, it is sprung inwardly and by its own resiliency bears with a tight or snug fit against the ridge or bead *b* so that a liquid-tight joint is formed at this point. It will be observed that my new milk-can closure is loose-fitting and yet prevents leakage of the milk from the can under the exacting conditions of milk-handling and transportation as carried on today.

I claim:

A milk-can closure consisting of the combination of a milk-can formed near its mouth with an inwardly-projecting annular bead; and a loose-fitting stopper having a ring-shaped neck-portion which is formed with an outwardly-projecting annular bead and the edge of the inner end of which is pressed into engagement with the bead formed near the mouth of the milk-can, when the stopper is forced home, whereby a liquid-tight joint is formed to prevent leakage of the milk from the can; the bead upon the neck-portion of the stopper preventing

frictional contact between the rest of the neck-portion of the stopper and the inner opposing wall of the mouth portion of the can, whereby a loose fit and a minimum of
5 frictional resistance are insured.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand at South Kaukauna, Wisconsin, this

ninth (9) day of February, A. D. 1910, in the presence of the two undersigned witnesses.

AUGUST R. RUPPENTHAL.

Witnesses:

GEO. E. DAWSON,
G. B. HUSTING.