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(54) Drinking can

(57) The invention relates to a drinking can provided with a tear-off lip (5), characterized in that on the inner side of the drinking can, a cylindrical mouth piece (6) is fixed onto said tear-off lip (5) and in that the connection (7) between this mouth piece (6) and the tear-off lip (5) is provided laterally of the mouth piece in such a manner that when tearing off the tear-off lip (5), the mouth piece (6) projects through the opening formed thereby in the end wall of the drinking can.

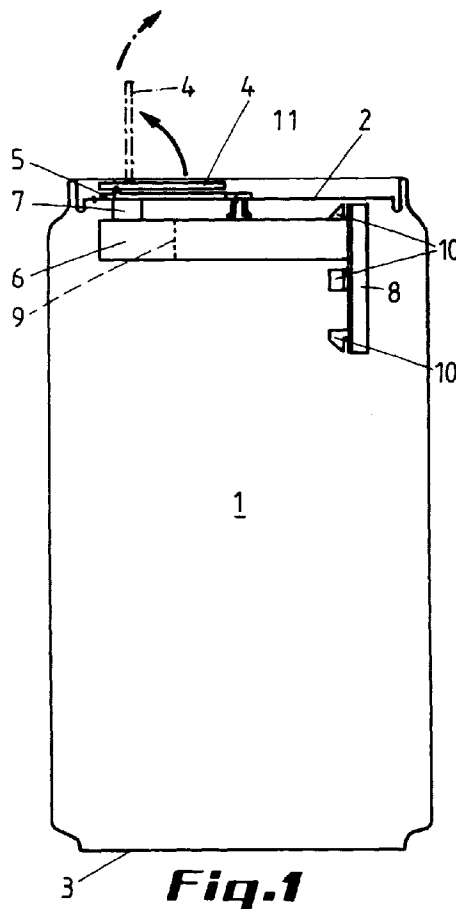


Fig.1

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Description

The present invention relates to a drinking can comprising two flat or substantially flat end walls, one of which is provided with a tear-off lip connected to a ring for tearing off this lip.

Although the production and the use of these drinking cans continuous to show an upward trend and said cans remained substantially unchanged for years, it is not clear why no evolution can be noticed in the concept of this product.

It is indeed generally known that the cans which are nowadays generally in circulation are not satisfying in case one or more of the following aspects of the drinking cans are taken into consideration:

1. Hygiene and lack of comfort when drinking;
2. Insects penetrating into the cans;
3. Injuries due to the sharp edges of the tear-off lip and the like;
4. Difficult to handle by persons with back or neck vertebra troubles;
5. Proliferation of bacteria in the circumferential edge of the respective end wall of the drinking can.

An explication of this unchanged situation has to be sought in the difficulty of combining technically reliable with economically feasible solutions.

An object of the invention is now to propose an original solution for the problems set forth hereinabove.

In order to enable this in accordance with the invention, a cylindrical mouth piece is fixed, on the inner side of the drinking can, onto said tear-off lip, the connection between this mouth piece and the tear-off lip is provided laterally of the mouth piece in such a manner that when tearing off the tear-off lip, the mouth piece projects through the opening formed thereby in the end wall, and the mouth piece shows a base portion provided with hook shaped projections designed to receive the edge of said opening so as to ensure a liquid tight seal between mouth piece and the respective end wall.

In an advantageous embodiment, a grid is provided within said mouth piece.

In a possible embodiment, said mouth piece is made at least partially according to the accordion principle.

Other details and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description of the drinking can according to the invention. This description is only given by way of example and does not restrict the invention. The reference numerals relate to the figures annexed hereto.

Figure is a longitudinal section, which has been kept schematically, through a drinking can according to the invention prior to opening thereof.

Figure 2 is a top plan view on the drinking can according to Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal section, which has been

kept schematically, through a drinking can according to the invention after having opened it.

Figure 4 is a top plan view on the drinking can according to Figure 3.

The drinking can shown in these figures is of the standard type comprising a cylindrical body 1 and two substantially flat end faces 2 and 3. In the representation according to the figures, 2 is the upper and 3 the lower end wall.

By pulling the ring 4 fixed to the upper end wall 2 upwards, an opening is pulled out of this wall 2. The movement performed by this ring is shown in Figure 1 by means of an arrow (in full line). The position of the pulled up ring is shown in mixed line.

Pulling the ring 4 further upwards produces an opening in the upper end wall 2 which corresponds to the tear-off lip 5 in this wall. The shape of this opening can be seen clearly in Figure 4.

According to the invention, a cylindrical mouth piece 6 is now connected to this tear-off lip 5. The connection between the cylindrical mouth piece 6 and the tear-off lip 5 has been indicated with reference 7.

To the bottom of the cylindrical mouth piece 6 (seen in the use position) is connected a base portion 8, the circumference of which is somewhat larger than the circumference of the opening achieved upon tearing off the tear-off lip. By circumference is meant the profile of the base portion considered in top plan view as shown in Figure 4.

Within the cylindrical mouth piece, a grid 9 is applied which makes intrusion of insects entirely impossible.

The base portion 8 is provided with four hook shaped projections 10 which snap over the edge of the opening formed by tearing off the tear-off lip 5, when pulling the cylindrical mouth piece 6 upwards. In this way, a satisfying connection is achieved between the base portion and the end wall 2 of the drinking can.

In order to be able to drink, the small stopper 11 has to be removed from the end wall 2. This can be done very easily since the connection between this small stopper and the thin metallic end wall 2 is technically well feasible. The small stopper 11 may be stuck for example in a temporary sealing membrane connected to the metallic end wall.

A possible variant embodiment of the here-described mouth piece consists in making this piece in the form of an accordion. This enables to compress the cylindrical mouth piece.

Hence, the drinking can according to the invention provides an original solution for the problems as they have been set forth in the preamble.

The invention is not limited to the here-described embodiment and modifications to this embodiment remain covered by this application in as far as they fall within the scope of the claims annexed hereto.

Claims

1. A drinking can comprising two flat or substantially flat end walls, one of which is provided with a tear-off lip connected to a ring for tearing off this lip, characterized in that on the inner side of the drinking can, a cylindrical mouth piece (6) is fixed onto said tear-off lip (5), in that the connection (7) between this mouth piece (6) and the tear-off lip (5) is provided laterally of the mouth piece in such a manner that when tearing off the tear-off lip (5), the mouth piece (6) projects through the opening formed thereby in the end wall, and in that the mouth piece (6) shows a base portion (8) provided with hook shaped projections (10) designed to receive the edge of said opening so as to ensure a liquid tight seal between mouth piece (6) and the respective end wall (2).
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2. A drinking can according to claim 1, characterized in that said mouth piece (6) consists of a flexible material. 20
3. A drinking can according to either one of the claims 1 and 2, characterized in that a grid (9) is provided within said mouth piece (6). 25
4. A drinking can according to any one of the claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said mouth piece (6) is at least partially made according to the accordion principle. 30
5. A drinking can according to any one of the claims 1 to 4, characterized in that said flat end wall comprising the tear-off lip (5) is further provided with an air inlet formed upon lifting a button (11) which is part of a temporary sealing membrane. 35

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