W. E. SMITH.

POULTRY FOUNT.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1908.

937,108. Patented Oct. 19, 1909.

Fig. 1.

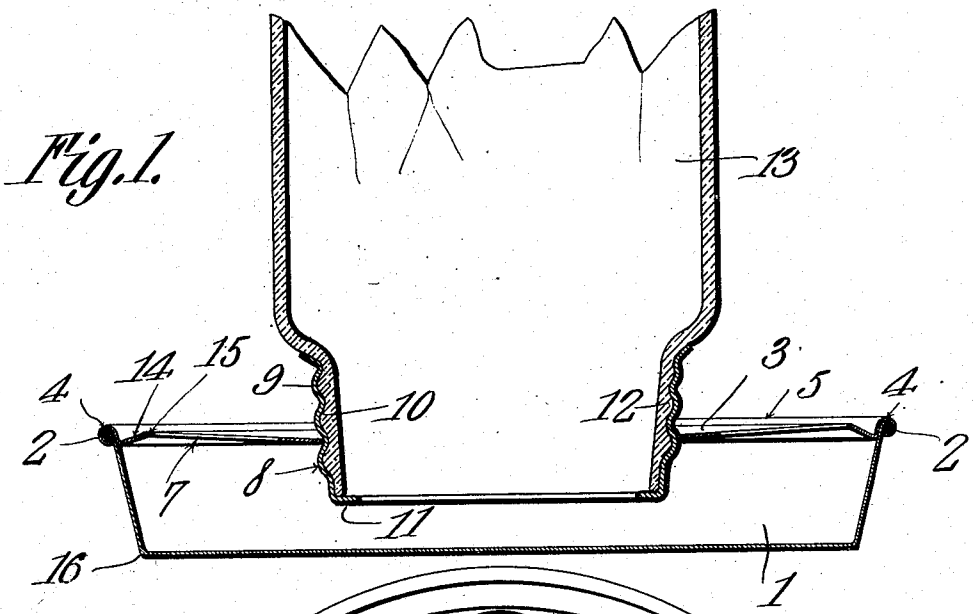
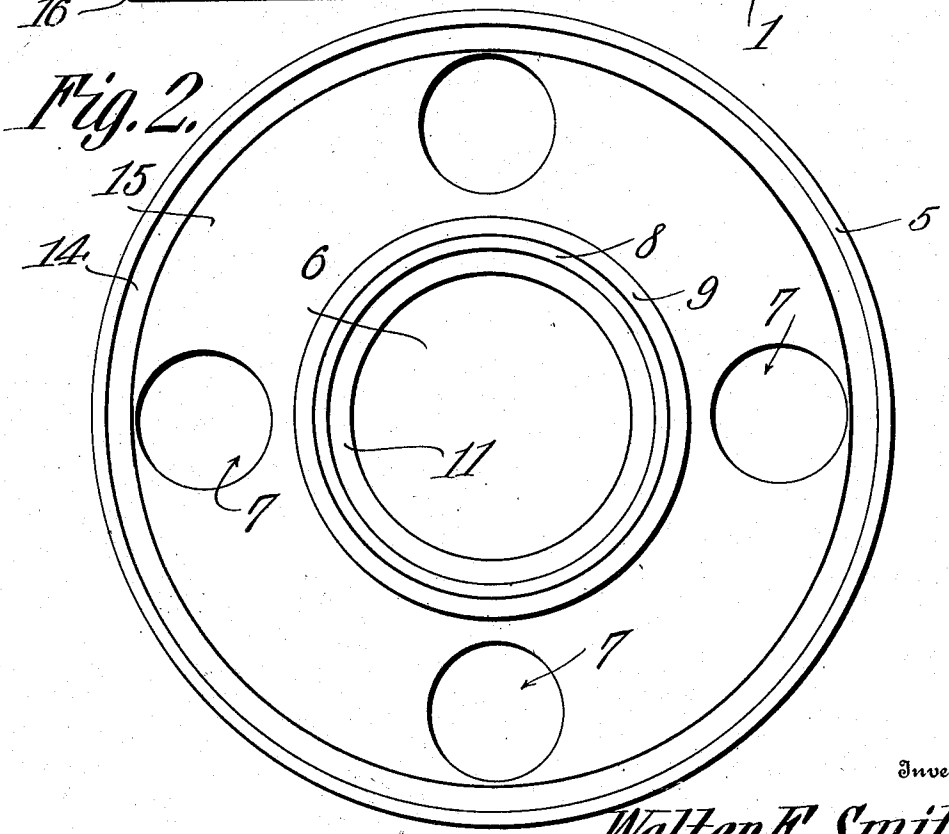


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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POULTRY-FOUNT.

937,108. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 19, 1909.

Application filed October 2, 1908. Serial No. 455,880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER ERNEST SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clay Center, in the county of Clay and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Poultry-Fount, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to chicken founts, and by way of introduction, I will state that my examination of the prior art and my experience with chicken founts of the type herein described, have brought to my notice the following defects in devices of the above mentioned class. A large open water surface is presented, into which young chickens may fall or step, wetting and often drowning them; no effort is made so to locate a perching place that small chickens will assume in drinking, a position in which excrement will be deposited without the fount; no provision is made for the disposition of filth accumulating upon the fount, such filth not infrequently finding its way into the drinking water; many chicken founts are fashioned with the tank integral with the reservoir, the tank being thus rendered difficult to fill and clean; or if the tank is made separable from the reservoir, the union is of such a sort that when the tank is grasped, the reservoir or bottom falls away, or vice versa; no effort is made to utilize the firm contact between the terminal of a threaded neck and an annular rib adapted to receive the terminal of a threaded neck; the center of gravity is so disposed as to make the device subject to easy overturning; and it is the object of this invention to overcome these defects.

With these and other objects in view, as will hereinafter more fully appear, the invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, delineated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportions, size and minor details of the structure may be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section through the diameter of the fount, a portion of the tank 13 being broken away; Fig. 2 is a top plan of the reservoir 1 with the tank 13 removed.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a reservoir 1 which may be of any shape and size; preferably, however, it is frusto-conical, the base of the frustum being upward.

Rigidly attached to the edges 2 of the reservoir, is the lid 3. The lid 3 is preferably pressed about the edges 2 to form the bead 4, and depressed below the plane of the edges 2, leaving upstanding above the lid 3, the rim 5. The lid 3 is provided with a relatively large central opening 6, about which are disposed the smaller openings 7. Within the central opening 6, projecting downward into the reservoir 1 as shown at 8, is rigidly mounted the collar 9 provided with the threads 10. From the lower end of the collar 9 projects inward the annular rib 11. A threaded neck 12 is screwed into the collar 9, the end of the neck 12 coming into bearing with the annular rib 11; from the threaded neck 12 and integral therewith, rises the tank 13, closed at the top and of any form.

In practice, to form the collar 9, I employ a cover adapted to fit a fruit-jar of the well-known Mason type and from the top of this cover I remove a relatively large central circular section, the remaining portion of the top forming the annular rib 11. The tank 13 may be supplied by a Mason fruit-jar adapted to fit the cover employed in the manufacture of the collar 9, and the mouth of the jar is screwed down into contact with the rib 11. The contact between the mouth of the jar and the rib 11 serves to steady the tank 13 and hold the same rigidly in the collar 9. The holes 6 should be of relatively small diameter to prevent young chickens from becoming wetted or drowned in the reservoir 1. Furthermore, if the openings 6 be of small diameter, the possibility of filth finding its way into the reservoir 1, is reduced. The rim 5, rising above the lid 3, furnishes a foot-hold for small chickens, which of necessity might be forced to stand upon the lid 3 to drink. Furthermore, by providing the rim 5 as a perch, small chickens are induced to assume a position in drinking, which obviates the possibility of their dropping excrementitious matter upon the lid 3 or into the openings 6.

In forming the lid 3, I fashion it into the annular member 14 downwardly inclined to-

ward the side of the reservoir 1, and the annular member 15 downwardly inclined toward the central opening 6. When any filth is deposited upon the lid 3, it will tend to move downward along the inclined annular member 15, coming to rest at the juncture between the member 15 and the collar 9, or, should the accretions upon the lid 3 be forced upward through the scratching of the poultry, or otherwise, it will find lodgment between the inclined annular member 14 and the rim 5, from either of which places of collection, it may be readily removed.

In the preferred, frusto-conical, form of reservoir, the sides are made to slant inward bringing the angle 16, a fruitful place for filth accumulation, within reach of the openings 7. In a receptacle filled with liquid, material in suspension is ordinarily deposited in greater quantity upon the side walls than elsewhere, and, by inclining the walls, they are brought within easy reach of the openings 7 through which they may be scraped and cleansed.

In practical operation, the tank 13 is unscrewed from the collar 9, upturned, and filled with the liquid which it is desired to dispense. The reservoir 1 is then screwed upon the tank 13 and the device turned over and placed in position upon the ground or coop-floor, in which position the liquid contained in the tank 13 will be supplied to the reservoir 13 as it is removed through consumption or evaporation.

It will be seen that when my invention is assembled, it forms a compact, solid device any part of which may be grasped when it is desired to lift the fount, there being no frictional unions liable to part, one member remaining in the hand, the other member falling to the ground.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a device of the class described, a reservoir and a lid rigidly attached to the edge of the reservoir, the lid being depressed below the edge of the reservoir to form an upstanding peripheral rim.

2. In a device of the class described, a reservoir; a lid rigidly attached to the edge of the reservoir and comprising an annular portion downwardly inclined toward the side of the reservoir, and an annular portion downwardly inclined toward the center of the lid.

3. In a device of the class described, a reservoir; a lid rigidly attached to the edge of the reservoir and comprising an annular portion downwardly inclined toward the side of the reservoir and an annular portion downwardly inclined toward the center of the lid, the lid being depressed below the edge of the reservoir to form an upstanding peripheral rim.

4. In a device of the class described, a reservoir; a lid rigidly attached to the edge of the reservoir and depressed below the edge of the reservoir to form an upstanding peripheral rim, the said lid having a relatively large central opening and being provided with other smaller openings disposed about the central opening; and a threaded collar mounted in the central opening and rigidly attached to the lid.

5. In a device of the class described, a reservoir, a lid rigidly attached to the reservoir and comprising an annular portion downwardly inclined toward the side of the reservoir, and an annular portion downwardly inclined toward the center of the lid, the said lid having a relatively large central opening and being provided with other smaller openings disposed about the central opening; and a threaded collar mounted in the central opening and rigidly attached to the lid.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WALTER ERNEST SMITH.

Witnesses:
WALLACE H. VINCENT,
W. D. VINCENT.