March 14, 1961 DON DEE PARSONS ET AL 2,974,814

INSULATED BOTTLE HANDLING COVER

Filed Sept. 24, 1958

Fig.1

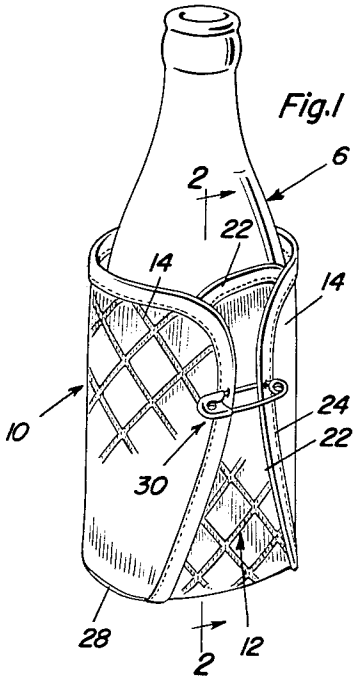


Fig.2

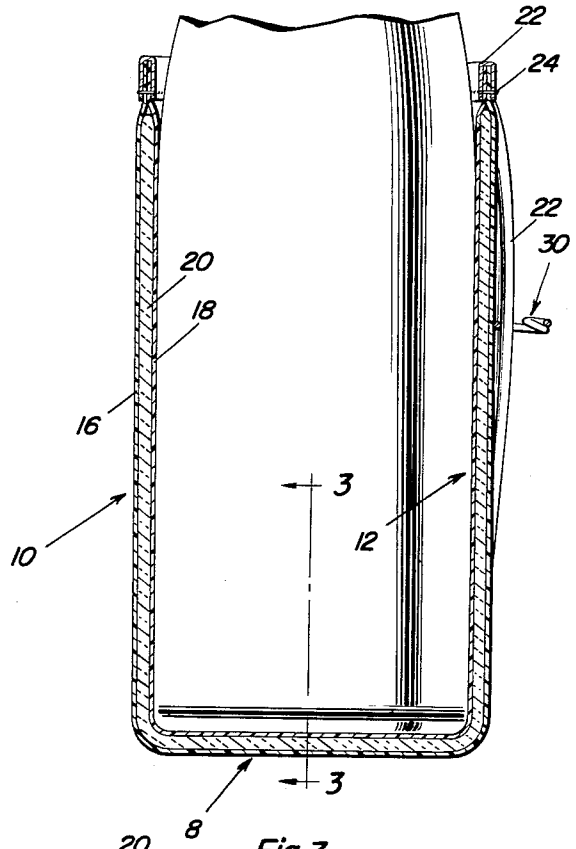


Fig.4

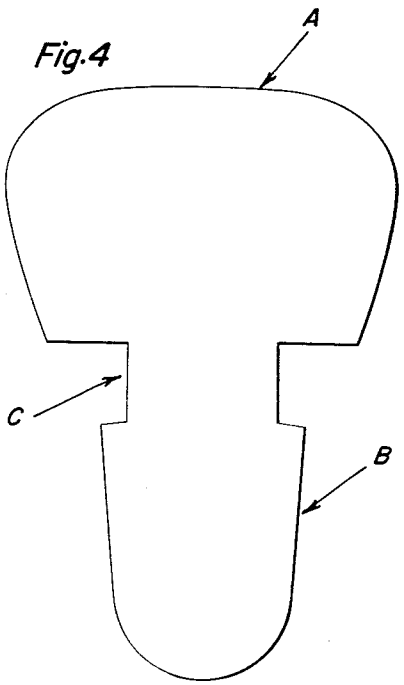
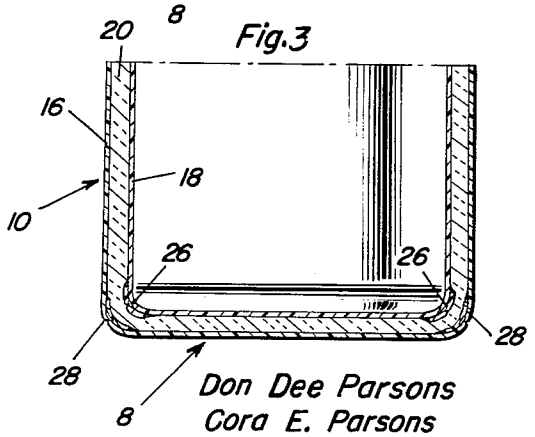


Fig.3



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INSULATED BOTTLE HANDLING COVER

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The present invention relates to a simple, expedient and practical cover and holder for bottles, cans and similar containers, the purpose of the invention being to facilitate convenient and satsifactory handling at home and elsewhere of cold soft drinks and beverages. As the general statement of the subject matter of the invention reveals there is a constant trend which, evidently, amounts to endorsement and approval of the practice of drinking cold soft drinks and beverages directly from the bottle or can as the case may be. However, and whether drinking from containers direct it is or is not worthy of unqualified endorsement, the fact remains that the opposition to handling ice cold containers is attended by certain objections, for example, the dripping of condensation or water, as the case may be on one's garments, and furniture. In addition, spotting and marking of furniture surfaces when wet containers are inadvertently or otherwise placed thereon is equally objectionable and for which reasons coasters, specially fabricated jacks, shields and so on have been coming into vogue. It follows that the instant invention constitutes an advance in the art in that it has to do with a structurally novel and distinctly different type of a jacket and holder for cold drink containers.

One improvement is thought to reside in a holder which may be fashioned into a container enclosing receiver, the bottom and walls of which are laminated construction, the laminates or plies of material being of appropriate texture and the intervening one being preferably quilted or equivalent pad material which is not only desirable because of its compressibily resilient padding and shielding function but is of insulation material so that the warmth of the hand grasping the jacket will not prematurely warm up the contents of the bottle or container.

Stated more specifically the invention pertains to a jacket which may be fabricated from suitable plies or laminates of appropriate material which are cut out and stitched and bound together to provide a container receiving an enclosing portion functioning as a highly practical and efficient handling cover.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is that disclosed in the drawing and which is characterized by a flexible enclosing jacket having a receptacle portion with a closed bottom and an upstanding enclosing wall wherein the main wall has a vertical opening which is adapted to be closed by a tongue-like wall portion. In this construction and arrangement the vertical edges of the main wall portion function as flaps which overlap the tongue and which are secured together by way of a safety pin or the like.

Other objects, features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the improved holding and handling jacket, the manner in which it is constructed and how it looks when it is pinned in place for use on a soft drink or equivalent bottle.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view taken approximately on the plane of the vertical line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a section of a fragmentary type taken on the vertical line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of one of the cut-outs or blanks of plastic material showing the preferred configuration thereof for expeditious manufacturing and making.

Referring now to the drawing it will be obvious that the essence of the invention resides primarily in the finished product, that is the holding and handling cover or jacket. It is highly desirable that this jacket have the moisture absorbent advantages of liquid absorbing pads and coasters and also the comfort of grasping and handling which is found in the many and varied styles of cup-like and receiver-type jacks, stockings and so on. In other words, the invention is a protector for the bottle tending to prevent breakage or crashing if dropped by a child, and a protector against soiling of garments, furniture, floor coverings and so on. Of significant importance, as already stated, is the fact that the jacket is possessed of insulating properties. In this connection it could actually be used not only in connection with bottles containing cold drinks but also for a nursing bottle containing a suitably warmed up milk or special formula for assistance and aid to mothers and their young ones. With reference to Fig. 1 it will be seen that the container, whether it is a bottle, can or the like, is denoted by the numeral **6** and it is removably inserted in the receptacle portion of the novel insulating and protective jacket. The bottom of the jacket is denoted and seen best in Figs. 2 and 3 at **8**. The wall components rising from the bottom constitutes or defines the open top receptacle portion. The main wall component or jacket proper is denoted by the numeral **10**. The vertical front edges thereof do not come together but are spaced apart and in this gap the secondary wall component **12** is located. Because of its peculiar shape this component **12** is referred to as a tongue-like front wall. As a matter of fact the portions of the main wall which overlap the tongue-like front wall may be referred to as overlapping flaps **14**. As seen in Fig. 2 the outer ply of commercial plastics of a suitable grade is denoted by the numeral **16**, the inner one by the numeral **18** and the intervening pad or filler of insultion material is denoted at **20**. Actually the two plies **16** and **18** are of the pattern or shape shown in Fig. 4. Each piece may be said to comprise the large end portion A, the narrower tongue-like end portion B and the intervening connecting or neck portion C. The plastic plies and insulation pad having this shape are joined together in an obvious manner. That is to say, the marginal edges of the plastic sheets or plies **16** and **18** are stitched together and bound by a suitable bias tape **22**, the stitching being denoted at **24** in Fig. 2. The numerals **26** and **28** in Fig. 3 designate suitably turned seams which are generally necessary when using cut-outs or blanks of the configuration seen in Fig. 4.

Reviewing certain aspects of the invention is is notable that the holder provides cushioning properties and when on a breakable bottle lessens the likelihood of accidental breakage. The fact that the interior and exterior surfaces are of a suitable plastic material renders the device substantially water-proof. The use of biased tape to bind the marginal edges renders the construction substantial and promotes reasonably long usefulness. The manner in which the cooperating adjacent edges of the peculiarly shaped (Fig. 4) blank come together and are stitched results in the edge portions of the flaps **14**

being substantially free and capable of being spread apart. Also the upper portion of the tongue-like front wall **12** can be swung out between the existing space of the flaps thus opening up the receptacle or receiver portion sufficiently to allow a bottle or can to be easily inserted and just as easily removed. The fact that a safety pin or the like **30** provides the fastener makes it possible to remove the fastener entirely and therefore the component parts can be easily washed and kept clean. Novelty is therefore predicated on the laminated construction characterized by a bottom **8** which is sufficiently conformable to the bottle that the bottle with the jacket thereon may be set on a table without the likelihood of the bottle capsizing. The container wrappping and enclosing portion, which provides a receiver, is characterized by the main upstanding wall **10** with flaps having their marginally bordered edge portions spaced apart and bridged by the safety pin or equivalent fastener and with the tongue-like front wall **12** tucked in and such in construction and use that the flaps overlap the tongue or wall **12**.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. For use in holding and handling hot and cold containers, bottles and cans, a coaster embodying a one-piece jacket providing a receiver for a readily insertable and removable container, said jacket having a bottom, an upstanding body portion embodying a rear wall and diametrically opposite complemental side walls, said side walls having vertical edges spaced apart and defining a pair of readily openable and closable flaps and a slot between said edges, said receiver also embodying an upstanding front wall of tongue-like construction and of a height equal to the height of the body portion, said tongue being joined only at its lower end to the bottom and being free of connection with said flaps and said flaps overlapping the exterior marginal surfaces of the tongue, and a readily accessible, applicable, and removable fastener separably joining the flaps together.

2. The structure defined in claim 1, and wherein the marginal edges of said flaps are contoured and rounded and cooperate with the adjacent edge portions of the tongue in a manner to expose a median lengthwise portion of said tongue and giving the over-all receiver a diaper-like appearance, said fastener comprising a safety pin bridging the space between the flaps and pinned to said flaps and contributing to the desired humorous diaper-like appearance.

3. The structure defined in claim 2, and wherein said jacket comprises an insulated pad embodying inner and outer plies of flexible sheet material and an intervening pad of insulation material, the marginal edges of the several plies of material being stitched together and provided with bias binding tape.

4. For use when holding and handling hot or cold beverage containing bottles, cans and equivalent containers, a coaster comprising a one-piece insulated flexible pad fashioned into a jacket, said jacket adapted to encase a substantial portion of the container, said jacket embodying a bottom wall, a back wall and diametrically opposite side walls joined with said back wall, said side walls having forwardly disposed flaps, the vertical marginal edges of the flaps being spaced apart and providing an intervening slot, an upstanding tongue-like front wall spanning the space between the vertical marginal edges of the flaps and having vertical marginal portions thereof overlapped by said flaps and giving the front portion of the jacket a unique diaper-like appearance, the marginal edges of the back and side walls and also the front wall being reinforced and bound by binding and edging tape stitched to said marginal edges, said tongue-like front wall being free of positive connection with the flaps and facilitating the step of opening up the front of the jacket to facilitate attaching the jacket to or removing it from a container, and a conventional safety pin adapted to bridge the space between the flaps and being connectible with the flaps in a manner to retain the desired diaper-like appearance.

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