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CARRIER FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS

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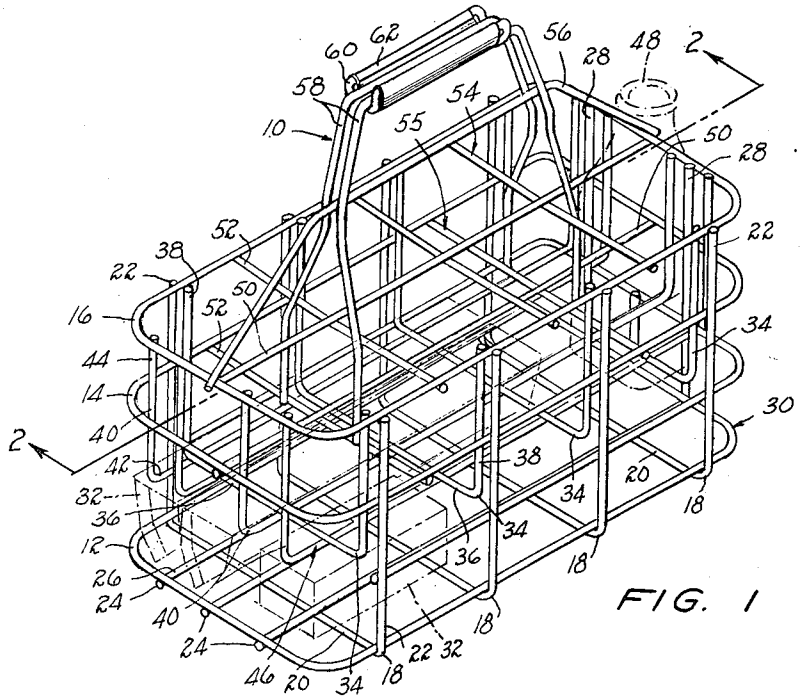


FIG. 1

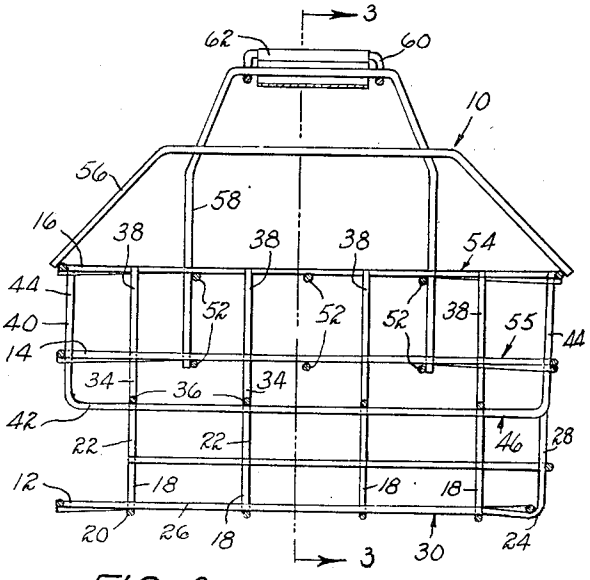


FIG. 2

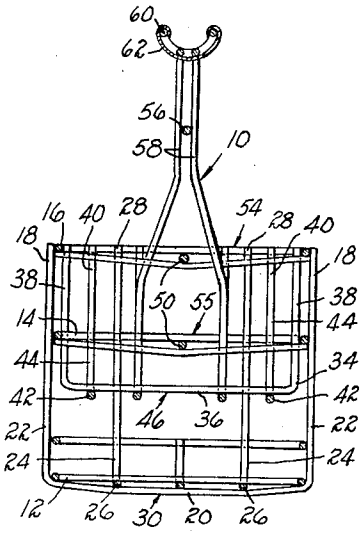


FIG. 3

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# CARRIER FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 220—117)

This invention relates to portable carrying devices, and pertains more particularly to a carrier particularly adapted for transporting dairy products between a delivery truck and the customer's home.

One important object of the invention is to provide a carrier which is suitable for carrying both bottled and packaged dairy products.

Another object of the invention is to provide a carrier of the foregoing type which provides ready access to the goods carried therein, but which will fully protect the goods against breakage or mutilation during transportation.

A further object of the invention is to provide a carrier which affords complete visibility of the contents being carried, thereby facilitating the selection of products for delivery.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a carrier of this type which is rugged and yet lightweight and inexpensive to manufacture.

Other objects will be in part obvious, and in part pointed out more in detail hereinafter.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of elements and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereafter set forth and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the carrier in actual use;

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken in the direction of line 2—2 of Figure 1; and,

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken in the direction of line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the carrier has been designated generally by the reference numeral **10**. The carrier **10** comprises first, second and third rectangular loops bearing the respective numerals **12**, **14**, and **16**, these loops being constructed of light-weight rod or wire stock and arranged in a spaced vertical array one above the other. A set of longitudinally spaced U-shaped wire elements **18** also forms a part of the carrier, these elements **18** including horizontal portions **20** and vertical leg or stud portions **22**. Further included in the carrier is a set of laterally spaced L-shaped wire elements **24** having horizontal portions **26** and vertical stud portions **28**. The elements **18** and **24** are suitably secured to the first rectangular loop **12** as by soldering, and the horizontal portions **20** and **26**, which may be similarly soldered at their points of intersection, form a base labelled **30**. This base **30** forms a support for various types of packaged dairy products **32**, such as butter and eggs, which are shown in phantom outline. Inasmuch as the stud portions **22** and **28** are distributed about only three sides of the base **30**, the fourth side, better termed, one end, is left open for the facile placement of the goods **32** upon said base.

A set of longitudinally spaced U-shaped wire elements **34** provided with horizontal portions **36** and vertical stud portions **38** are superimposed above the base **30**, the stud portions **38** being secured as by soldering to both the second and third rectangular loops **14** and **16**. Another set of U-shaped wire elements **40** having horizontal portions **42** and vertical portions **44** are laterally spaced, and the stud portions **44** are connected to both the rectangular loops **14** and **16**. The horizontal portions **36** and **42** intersect with each other to form a platform which has been given the reference numeral **46** and



upon which may be supported bottled dairy products such as milk and cream, only one bottle **48** being shown in phantom outline. Since the packaged products **32** are to rest on the base **30**, it will be understood that the platform **46** should be spaced above the base **30** sufficiently to obviate any possible interference with the tallest packaged products which might be carried on said base **30**.

A longitudinal wire element **50** extends centrally lengthwise relative to each of the rectangular loops **14** and **16**, such elements having their ends secured to said respective loop elements, as in the preceding manner. Extending transversely relative to the wire elements **50** and the loops **14** and **16** is a series of lateral wire elements **52**, the elements **50** and **52** cooperatively forming upper and lower grids **54** and **55** through which the various bottled products **48** may be inserted. Obviously, the elements **50** and **52** are arranged one above the other but in a staggered relationship with respect to the crisscrossing horizontal portions **36** and **42**, these latter portions, as hereinbefore mentioned, forming the platform **46** which supports the bottled products **48** in the carrier while the elements **50** and **52** serve as partitions or separating guides therefor.

A diverging bridging element **56** has its extremities secured to the ends of the upper rectangular loop **16**. A pair of inverted U-shaped elements **58** is secured to the bridging element **56** and is also anchored to selected transverse elements **52** and horizontal portions **36**, the elements **56** forming a framework for a wire skeleton element **60** anchored to the elements **56** and which has secured thereto a semi-cylindrical handle grip **62**, the handle grip **62** providing the means by which the carrier may be lifted and transported.

In conclusion, it will be apparent that the invention envisages a very light-weight carrier which is particularly suited for use by milkmen in transporting dairy products from the delivery truck to the customer's home. The utility of the above described carrier is especially enhanced inasmuch as the carrier can be employed for transporting both bottled and packaged dairy goods.

Still further, it will be appreciated that the carrying device **10** may be simply and economically fabricated from low cost wire stock which stock can be readily welded or soldered together at the various points of juncture to provide a unitary structure having very durable characteristics.

Further, little likelihood of any packaged products falling off the base **30** exists inasmuch as the open end of the carrier may be carried at a slightly elevated or tilted position, thereby causing the packages to move, if at all, rearwardly against the stud portions **28** rather than through the open or entrance end.

As many changes could be made in the above construction and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the language used in the following claims is intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described and all statements of the scope of the invention which, as a matter of language, might be said to fall therebetween.

I claim:

1. A portable carrier for dairy products comprising first, second and third rectangular wire loops arranged in horizontal planes one above the other, a first set of U-shaped wire elements, longitudinally spaced, having horizontal and vertical portions, the vertical portions forming upright studs secured along two opposite sides of said three wire loops, a set of laterally spaced L-shaped wire elements having horizontal and vertical leg portions, said vertical leg portions forming upright studs at only one end of said wire loops thereby providing access at the other end of said first loop for the introduction of packaged dairy products onto a shelf provided by the intersecting horizontal portions of said U-shaped and L-shaped wire elements, a second set of U-shaped elements, longitudinally spaced, having horizontal and vertical por-

tions, the vertical portions forming upright studs secured to said second and third loop elements, a third set of U-shaped wire elements, laterally spaced, having horizontal and vertical portions, the vertical portions forming upright studs also secured to said second and third loop elements, said horizontal portions of said second and third sets of U-shaped elements being disposed in a plane beneath the plane of said second loop and above the plane of said first loop, said last mentioned horizontal portions furnishing support for bottled dairy products, a series of longitudinal and lateral wire elements in staggered superimposed relation with said last mentioned horizontal portions and secured to said second and third loop elements in such spaced relation as to permit entry of said bottled products onto said support therefor, and a handle including a bridging wire element fixed to opposite ends of said third loop and extending parallel to said L-shaped elements, whereby the carrier may be tilted when carried to elevate the open end of said shelf.

2. A portable carrier for dairy products comprising first, second and third rectangular wire loops arranged in horizontal planes one above the other, a first set of U-shaped wire elements, longitudinally spaced, having horizontal and vertical portions, the vertical portions forming upright studs secured along two opposite sides of said three wire loops, a set of laterally spaced L-shaped wire elements having horizontal and vertical leg portions, said vertical leg portions forming upright studs at only one end of said wire loops thereby providing access at the other end of said first loop for the introduction of packaged dairy products onto the intersecting horizontal portions of said U-shaped and L-shaped wire elements, a second set of U-shaped elements, longitudinally spaced,



having horizontal and vertical portions, the vertical portions forming upright studs secured to said second and third loop elements, a third set of U-shaped wire elements, laterally spaced, having horizontal and vertical portions, the vertical portions forming upright studs also secured to said second and third loop elements, said horizontal portions of said second and third sets of U-shaped elements being disposed in a plane beneath the plane of said second loop and above the plane of said first loop, said last mentioned horizontal portions furnishing support for bottled dairy products, a series of longitudinal and lateral wire elements in staggered superimposed relation with said last mentioned horizontal portions and secured to said second and third loop elements in such spaced relation as to permit entry of said bottled products onto said support therefor, and a handle comprising a downwardly diverging bridging wire element connected to opposite ends of said third loop, a pair of inverted U-shaped wire elements secured to said bridging wire element, to two of said lateral wire elements which are secured to said second loop and to two of said lateral wire elements which are secured to said third loop, and a semi-cylindrical element embracing the midportions of said pair of U-shaped wire elements by which the entire carrier may be lifted.

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