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STERILIZER

Filed March 2, 1926

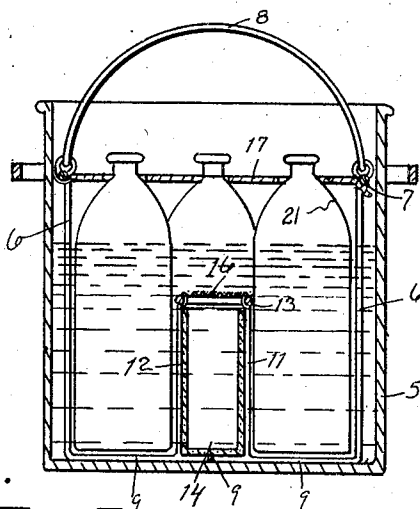


Fig. I.

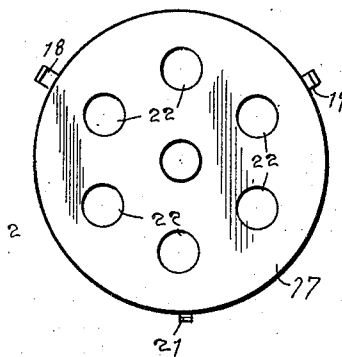


Fig. II.

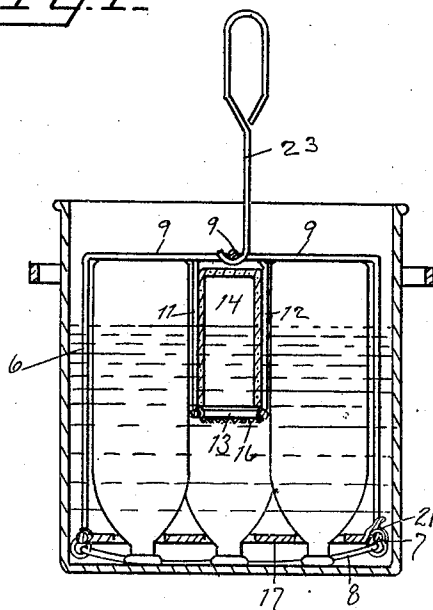


Fig. III.

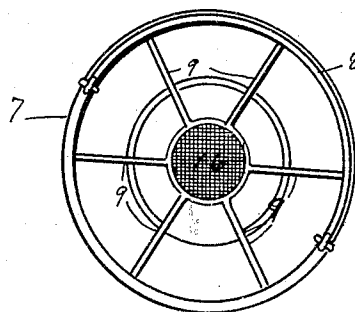


Fig. IV.

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STERILIZER.

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This invention relates to improvements in sterilizers, and has particular reference to a sterilizer for use in the cleansing of bottles such as nursing bottles, fruit jars and the like.

Another object of this invention is to produce a device of this character in which a plurality of bottles may be placed, sterilized and removed from the sterilizing liquid without injury to the person using the same.

Another object is to produce a device of this nature which is cheap to manufacture, and therefore well within the purchase price of the average user.

A still further object is to provide means whereby a plurality of nipples may be also sterilized at the same time.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this invention, and in which like numerals are used to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure I is a vertical cross-section showing my device in use as the same would appear when sterilizing the contents of the bottle,

Figure II is a top plan view of the retaining plate,

Figure III is a top plan view of the bottle rack, and

Figure IV is a view similar to Figure I showing the bottle and rack in an inverted position so as to sterilize the interior of the bottles.

At the present time, in the preparing of formula milk, it is first necessary to thoroughly cleanse the bottles by immersion in boiling water, then the bottles must be removed, drained, cooled and filled with the milk, after which the bottles are again placed in a vessel containing water, heated to a predetermined temperature, and then quickly cooled in order to Pasteurize the milk within the bottles.

The sterilizing of the bottles in an ordinary vessel requires time in placing the bottles in the vessel, with the danger of burning the hands when removing the bottles from the water, also in sterilizing the nipples the same float upon the surface oftentimes, and are therefore not properly sterilized, and when they drop to the bottom of the vessel they are extremely difficult to

extract from the water, besides being difficult to locate.

I have therefore provided a bottle holding rack which will obviate all of the above difficulties and disadvantages.

In the accompanying drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 5 designates a vessel, within which I place a rack constructed with a plurality of up-rights 6. This rack is preferably formed of wire. These uprights 6 are connected to a ring 7, which ring is in turn provided with a bail 8. The bottom of the rack is formed with a plurality of spoke-like members 9 which join the uprights 6.

At 11 and 12 I have shown vertically disposed wires which are connected to a ring 13. Between these wires 11 and 12 I position a receptacle 14 within which nipples must be placed after which a screen cover 16 is secured to a wire ring 13.

At 17, I have shown a retaining plate having ears 18 and 19 which are adapted to engage the ring 7, while at 21 I have provided a spring catch which is also adapted to engage the ring 7. This retaining plate 17 is provided with a plurality of openings 22 through which the necks of the bottles to be sterilized may pass.

The manner of using my device is as follows:—

Assuming that the rack is in the position shown in Figure I, the retaining plate 17 is removed, the bottles are placed within the rack and the retaining plate replaced. The bottles are now filled with water and the receptacle 5 is also partially filled with water. By now quickly inverting the entire rack and dropping the same into the vessel the water will be retained in the bottles and the rack and the bottles will assume the position shown in Figure IV. After the water has reached a boiling point, the entire rack may be lifted out of the vessel by employing a hook 23 and engaging one of the spokes 9 at the bottom of the rack. As soon as the necks of the bottles have been lifted above the water line of the vessel, the water in the bottles will be drained into the vessel, leaving the bottles thoroughly sterilized, and as the water is at a boiling temperature, the bottles will quickly dry.

The rack is now inverted to its normal position, after which the bottles are filled

with the formula milk and the necks plugged with cotton. The rack may now be reinserted in the vessel and the water gradually brought up to the desired degree of heat.

5 It will thus be seen that by employing my rack it is not necessary to touch the bottles after they have once been placed in the rack. After the milk has been Pasteurized the entire rack may be removed from
10 the vessel and employed as a container for the bottles up to the time when they are to be used.

It is of course to be understood that this apparatus could be employed in the sterilizing and processing incident to preserving.
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It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes relative to the size, shape and arrangement of
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parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

25 In a device of the character described, a plurality of vertically disposed members, a ring secured to the upper extremity of said vertically disposed members, a plurality of spoke-like members connecting to the lower
30 extremity of said vertically disposed members, said spoke-like members converging and joining at a central point, uprights secured to said spoke-like members, a ring secured to said last mentioned uprights, a
35 screen removably secured to said last mentioned ring, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
JOHN HOMER WOOLSEY.