

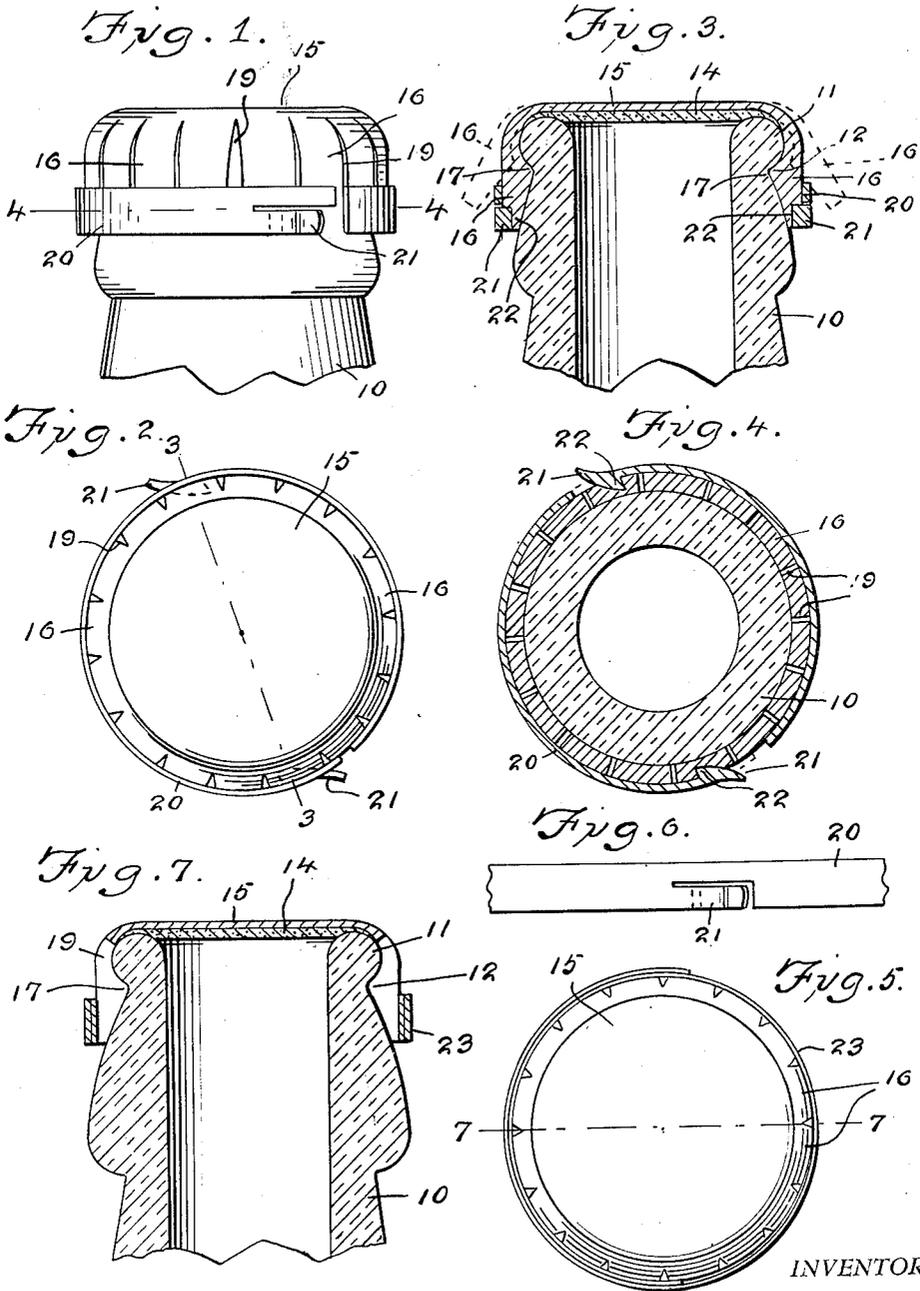
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CONTAINER CLOSURE

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CONTAINER CLOSURE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 215-45)

1

This invention relates to a closure member, and more particularly to a cap for closing or sealing a bottle.

The object of the invention is to provide a bottle closure or cap which can be readily applied to or removed from a container, such as a bottle containing a suitable liquid.

Another object of the invention is to provide a bottle stopper or closure which includes a novel means for securely holding the closure on the bottle until the user desires to dispense the contents of the bottle, the closure of the present invention adapted to be readily removed from the bottle by the fingers without requiring the use of a bottle opener or the like.

A further object of the invention is to provide a bottle cap which is extremely simple and inexpensive to manufacture.

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

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

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevational view showing the cap of the present invention applied to the neck of a bottle;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the assembly of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4-4 of Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a top plan view of a modified closure member;

Figure 6 is an elevational view showing of the portion of the retaining strap or ring for the assembly of Figures 1 through 4;

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken on the line 7-7 of Figure 5.

Referring in detail to the Figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the drawings, the numeral 10 designates the neck of a suitable receptacle, container or bottle, and the container may hold any beverage, such as beer, whiskey or soda water. The neck 10 includes an upper annular bead 11, Figure 3, and the bead defines therebelow an annular indentation or recess 12.

The closure member of the present invention includes a circular disc 14 which may be made of any suitable material, such as cork, and the disc 14 extends across the open top of the neck 10. Extending across the disc 14 is a body portion 15 which forms part of the cap of the pres-

2

ent invention. Extending from the body portion 15 is a plurality of spaced fingers 16; the spaces or slits between the fingers 16 being indicated by the numerals 19, Figure 1.

Each of the fingers 16 is provided with an inwardly extending shoulder 17, Figure 3, and these shoulders 17 are adapted to be received or seat in the indentations 12 when the cap is being used to close a bottle.

For maintaining the shoulders 17 seated in the indentation 12, a suitable retaining ring 20 is provided. The retaining ring may be made of any suitable material, such as plastic or spring metal, and the ends of the retaining ring 20 are spaced from each other, as best seen in Figure 1. The retaining ring 20 carries or is provided with a pair of diametrically opposed snap latches 21, Figure 4, and the snap latches 21 are adapted to seat in suitable sockets 22 which are arranged in the exterior of certain of the fingers 16. Thus, when the snap latches 21 are seated in the sockets 22, the retaining ring 20 will be maintained immobile, and also the fingers 16 will be maintained in the solid line position shown in Figure 3. When the cap is to be removed, the user need only manually disengage the snap latches 21 from the brackets 22, so that the retaining ring 20 can be removed and then the members 15 and discs 14 can also be removed so that the contents of the bottle can be readily dispensed.

In Figures 5 and 7, there is shown a slightly modified closure assembly, wherein the fingers 16 are maintained against the neck of the bottle by means of a retaining ring 23. The retaining ring 23 is in the form of an endless strip of plastic or spring metal which circumposes or surrounds the exterior surface of the fingers 16 so as to maintain the shoulders 17 seated in the indentation 12, whereby accidental opening of the bottle will be prevented. When the user desires to dispense the contents of the bottle which is equipped with the closure of Figures 5 and 7, the user merely disengages the retaining band 23 from the fingers 16 so that the discs 14 and member 15 can be removed from the bottle.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that a closure is provided which is especially suitable for bottles of beverages and the like. The closure of the present invention can be readily applied to the bottle or removed from the bottle without requiring the use of any tools or openers. In the form of the invention shown in Figures 1 through 4, the retaining ring 20 maintains the

3

shoulders 17 seated in the indentation 12, so that accidental opening of the closure is prevented. The latches 21 seat in the sockets 22 to further prevent accidental movement of these parts. In the embodiment shown in Figures 5 and 7, the continuous retaining ring 23 is wrapped around or extended around the fingers 16 to maintain the shoulders 17 in the indentation 12.

The parts of the closure can be made of any suitable material, such as plastic or metal. The closures can be applied by hand or by a suitable machine. The retaining ring is preferably fabricated of a material having high degree of resiliency.

I claim:

In a closure for a receptacle having a neck provided with an annular bead defining an annular indentation, a disc extending across the top of said neck, said disc being made of yieldable material, a cap including a horizontally disposed body portion extending across said disc and across the open end of the receptacle, said cap further including a skirt portion provided with a plurality of slits forming a plurality of spaced fingers extending downwardly from said body portion, the inner face of each of said fingers being provided with a downwardly converging surface intersecting a downwardly diverging surface therebelow forming inwardly extending shoulders for seating in said indentation, said shoulders being arranged intermediate the ends of said fingers, a resilient retaining ring extending around the exterior of

4

said fingers at the lower portions thereof, said ring being arranged below said shoulders, there being a pair of diametrically opposed sockets arranged in the exterior surface of certain of said fingers, and a pair of snap latches carried by said ring for seating in said sockets, the ends of said ring being spaced from each other, said snap latches extending outwardly from said ring.

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