June 3, 1941. J. A. KLAUS 2,243,870

BABY FEEDING BOTTLEHOLDER AND TEETHER

Filed April 20, 1939

Fig. 2

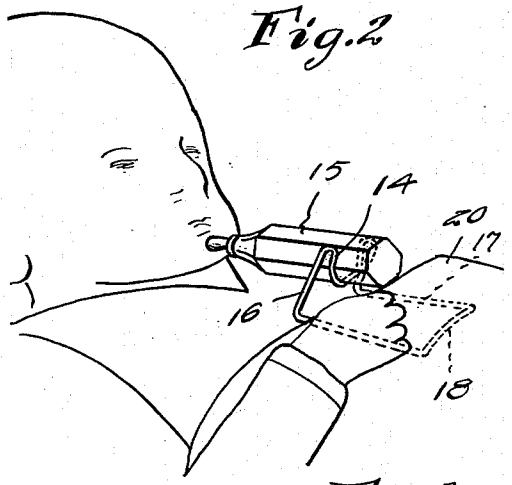


Fig. 1.

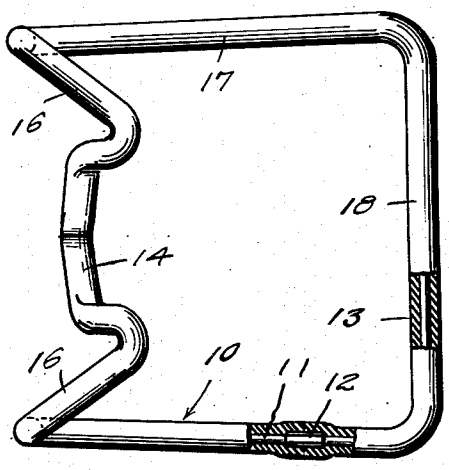


Fig. 5.

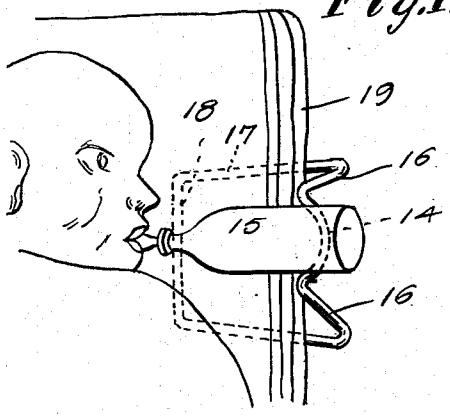


Fig. 4.

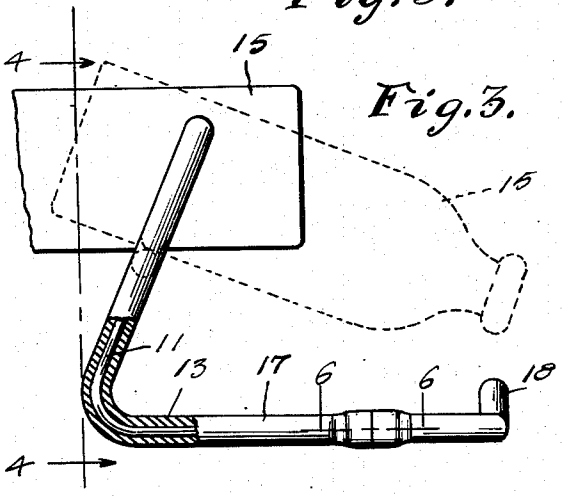


Fig. 3.

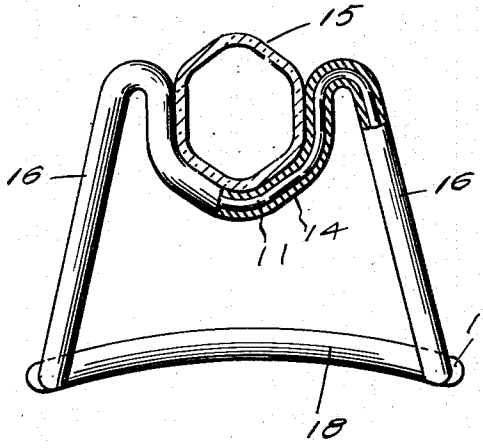
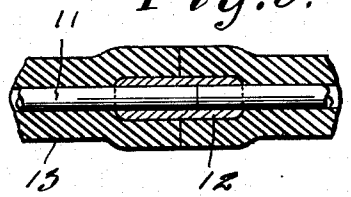


Fig. 6.



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BABY FEEDING BOTTLEHOLDER AND TEETHER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 248—107)

This invention relates to an improved bottle-holder and teether adapted for use in feeding young babies while in a prone position lying either on their back or on either side.

More particularly, it is an aim of this invention to provide an improved holder and teether for use in feeding babies while lying down which is light in weight so that it may be rested on the chest of the baby and so shaped that it will adapt itself to the contour of the baby's body so that the holder may be used in this position with no discomfort to the infant.

Still a further aim of the invention is to provide a holder and teether likewise adapted to be disposed at either side of a crib or bed for feeding an infant while lying on its side and provided with a base portion adapted to be positioned beneath the pad or blanket of the crib or bed to prevent the holder from tipping.

Still a further aim of the invention, is to provide a holder and teether formed from a strand of wire connected at its ends and provided with a flexible and pliable teething casing, said holder being sufficiently resilient to frictionally engage and hold a bottle in the proper elevated position so that it may be drained; and said holder being so shaped that the bottle holding portion will be disposed above its supporting base whereby the bottle may be so positioned therein as to be in balance with the holder to prevent the holder or bottle from being tipped or upset.

A particular advantage of the invention resides in the fact that it is of very simple construction, capable of being economically manufactured and of being easily kept in a clean sanitary condition so that the holder and teether may be used indefinitely.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment thereof, and wherein—

Figure 1 is a top plan view showing the holder and teether supporting a feeding bottle with its base portion disposed beneath pads or blankets on which an infant is lying on its side,

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing the holder and teether used to support a feeding bottle in position to feed an infant lying on its back,

Figure 3 is a side elevational view partly in section of the holder and teether showing two positions in which a feeding bottle may be supported,

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view taken along the line 4—4 of Figure 3,

Figure 5 is a top plan view partly in section of the holder, and

Figure 6 is a horizontal sectional view taken along the line 6—6 of Figure 3.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts throughout the different views, 10 designates generally the holder and teether for feeding bottles for babies comprising the invention which comprises a strand of wire 11 connected at its ends by the tubular coupling 12, which parts are enclosed by means of the tubular teething casing 13, the ends of which meet over the coupling 12, as best seen in Figure 6.

Casing 13 may be formed of any suitable material preferably one which is relatively thick, pliable and flexible, so that it has all the properties of a teether and is designed to be used as such, and which is capable of being washed or otherwise cleaned without being damaged.

The holder and teether 10 is bent in shape to form the bottle holding portion 14 which is generally U-shaped in form, but having the portion of the strand of wire 11 which extends through the bottle holding portion 14 so bent as to form a plurality of sides so that the portion 14, as best illustrated in Figures 4 and 5, preferably comprises four distinct sides adapted to receive four sides of a bottle 15 which is polygonal shaped in cross section and which as illustrated in Figure 4 has six sides. Obviously, portion 14 could be shaped to engage three sides of a bottle which is rectangular in cross section, or the portion 14 could be substantially semi-circular to engage half of a round bottle.

Formed integral with the ends of the bottle holding portion 14 and disposed at acute angles thereto are the portions 16 which are disposed in depending relationship to portion 14 and in diverging relationship to each other. The diverging ends of the members 16 are formed integral with the ends of a U-shaped base portion 17 which is disposed at acute angles to the supporting members 16 so that the bottle holding portion 14 is disposed above the base 17 and adjacent to one of its ends. The intermediate portion 18 of the U-shaped base 17 is bowed upwardly, as best seen in Figure 4, for a purpose which will hereinafter be described.

The holder and teether 10 is adapted to be used for holding a feeding bottle to feed a baby while lying either on its side or on its back. In

Figure 1 the device is illustrated in position for feeding an infant while lying on its side with the base portion 17 thereof positioned beneath the blanket or pad 19, on which the infant is lying and at one side thereof. In this position of the holder and teether 10, the bottle 15 is engaged in the portion 14 adjacent its bottom end with its neck extending toward the intermediate portion 18 of the base 17. With the bottle 15 in this position the holder and teether 10 and bottle 15 may be adjusted to be substantially balanced so that where it is not convenient to position the base 17 beneath blankets or a pad the holder and teether 10 will nevertheless be sufficiently stable to support the bottle 15. In Figure 2 the holder is shown as used for supporting the bottle 15 for feeding a child while lying on its back and in this position the base 17 is rested on the infant's chest and covered with a blanket or other suitable covering used to cover the infant, designated 20, in the manner as illustrated in Figure 2. When the holder and teether 10 is used in this manner the bottle 15 is positioned in the portion 14 with its neck projecting away from the base 17 and since it is mounted adjacent to its bottom it will be obvious that the weight of the bottle and its contents would tend to tilt the holder and teether 10 to raise the base 17, and it is for this reason that the base is covered by the blanket 20 and thereby held against tilting. The bowed intermediate portion 18 of the holder, when used as in Figure 2, due to its shape will fit the contour of the infant's body so that the device may be used in this way without discomfort and as the weight of the holder and teether 10 is very slight, it and the bottle may be readily supported on the body of the infant without subjecting it to undue weight. Holder and teether 10 as a whole is resilient and the portion 14 is especially resilient due to the natural resiliency of that portion of the strand or wire 11 which forms a part of the bottle holding portion 14 and also due to the angular relationship of the supporting members 16 to the portion 14 which combine to enable portion 14 to be sprung outwardly to receive the bottle 15 and to thereby be held under tension so that the bottle will be frictionally engaged with sufficient pressure to prevent it from being accidentally dislodged from the holder. It is intended of course that the portion 14 will have a smaller interior than the exterior of the bottle 15 so that said portion must be expanded to receive the bottle, and obviously the size of portion 14 may be varied depending upon the cross sectional size of the bottle to be held. Furthermore, holder and teether 10 may be sufficiently resilient to adapt it for holding bottles 15 of more than one size.

Various modifications and changes in the precise construction and arrangement of the parts as illustrated, may obviously be made and are contemplated and the right is therefore reserved to make such variations and changes in the invention as do not depart from the spirit and scope thereof as hereinafter defined by the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A baby feeding bottleholder comprising a substantially U-shaped supporting base, the legs of said U-shaped base terminating in upwardly and inwardly bent supporting arms disposed at acute angles to said base, and a substantially U-shaped bottle holding member having its ends formed integral with the upper ends of said arms, said bottle holding member being disposed above the base and intermediate of its ends and being resilient to releasably and frictionally engage the body portion of a bottle.

2. An article as in claim 1, said base portion being adapted to rest on a baby's chest and to be held in position thereon by means of blankets or other suitable covering, and the base having an intermediate portion, arcuately shaped, to fit the contour of the baby's body.

3. A holder for polygonal shaped baby feeding bottles comprising a bottleholder and teether formed of a strand of wire connected at its ends, a flexible and pliable teething casing for said strand, said holder including an elevated bottle holding portion having a depending intermediate portion comprising a plurality of sides adapted to engage a plurality of sides of a polygonal shaped feeding bottle, legs formed integral with the ends of said intermediate portion and disposed in diverging and depending relationship to each other, and a substantially U-shaped supporting base having its ends formed integral with the ends of said legs and disposed at acute angles thereto, said holder being adapted to engage the bottle adjacent its bottom end with its neck extending toward the intermediate portion of the base whereby the bottle will be supported in proper elevated position to drain the contents and balanced by the holder, on its own equilibrium, independent of attachment or support.

4. A baby feeding bottleholder comprising a frame formed of a single strand of wire joined at its ends, said frame including a substantially U-shaped base, said base having an upwardly bowed intermediate portion, arms formed integral with the ends of the base and projecting upwardly in converging relationship, said arms being disposed at acute angles to the base, and said arms terminating in a depending substantially semicircular portion for frictionally engaging a bottle with its neck extending in either direction therefrom, said semi-circular portion being disposed above and adjacent one end of the base.

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