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R. A. DOMINGUEZ

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BOTTLE HOLDER

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Fig. 1.

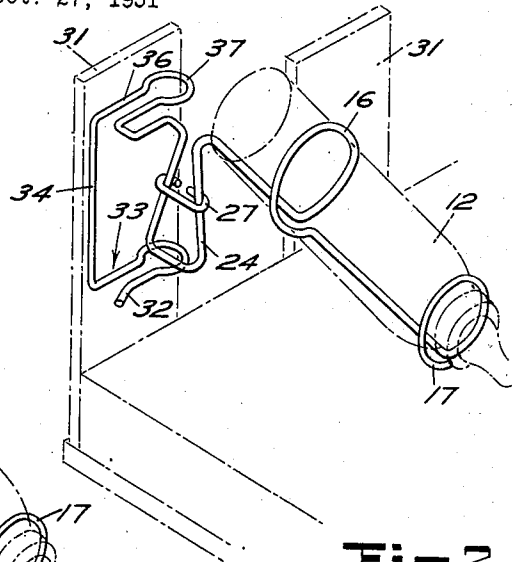
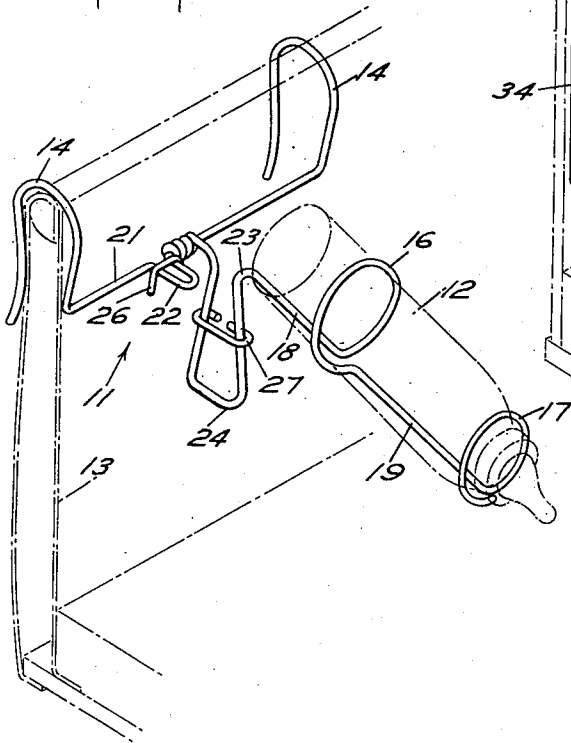


Fig. 2.

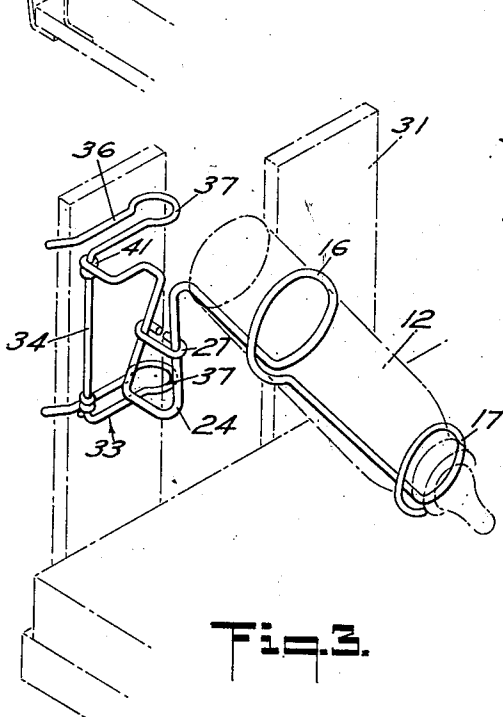


Fig. 3.

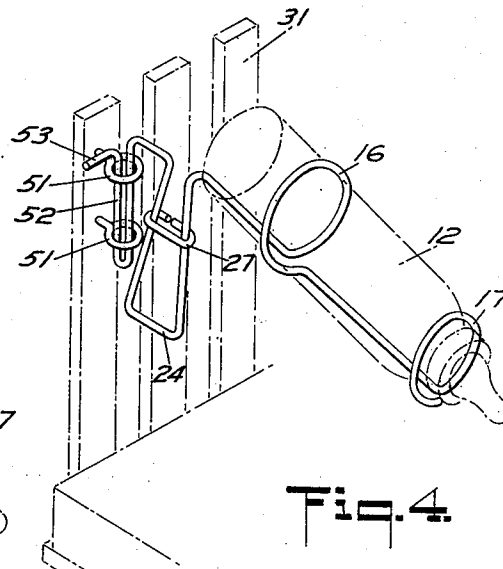


Fig. 4.

INVENTOR
RICHARD A. DOMINGUEZ

BY
Kardner & Zimmerman
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BOTTLE HOLDER

Richard A. Dominguez, Richmond, Calif.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 248-103)

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This invention relates to a device for supporting an article, and is particularly directed towards a holder and support mechanism for a nursing bottle or the like.

Heretofore, numerous devices have been presented to the purchasing public for holding a bottle in a preselected position over a crib or buggy whereby a baby may suck on the nipple which comprises the outlet for the bottle contents. However, no particular one of such prior art devices has acquired any particular commercial success due either to its high cost of manufacture, complicated structure, or inability to properly position the bottle over the baby's mouth, etc.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a holder which may be made in an extremely economical manner, and which may be readily fastened to a supporting structure by a person having no particular skill or training, and without requiring the use of any special tools or equipment.

Another object of my invention is to provide a bottle holder of the type described in which means are provided for positively, yet resiliently, supporting the bottle in a preselected position relative to a fixed support structure.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder of the above character which is manually deformable so as to permit selective positioning of the bottle, but which will resist all but deliberate deformation.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a bottle holder of the type described which is arranged to support a bottle in a plurality of spaced portions along the length of the latter, and in which the bottle may be easily inserted and removed.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a holder as above described which is capable of pivotal movement relative to a fixed base structure for more convenient positioning of the bottle.

The invention possesses other objects and features of advantage, some of which, with the foregoing, will be set forth in the following description of the preferred form of the invention which is illustrated in the drawing accompanying and forming part of the specification. It is to be understood, however, that variations in the showing made by the said drawing and description may be adopted within the scope of the invention as set forth in the claims.

Referring to said drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of bottle holder shown in bottle supporting position on a buggy or like structure.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the invention, showing the holder attached to a vertical crib slat or the like.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a holder, similar to that disclosed in Figure 2, but capable of pivotal rotation about a vertical axis.

Figure 4 is a perspective view illustrating a further embodiment of the invention, the holder being similar to that of the other figures except for the manner of attaching the same to the vertical slat of the crib.

Although various embodiments of the present invention are disclosed in the accompanying drawing, the portion of the device arranged to engage and hold the bottle are substantially identical, the variations between the embodiments being due to the particular structure on which the holder is placed, and to the particular manner of mounting the holder on the structure. It will become clear that certain other attaching means could be utilized without departing from the scope of my invention.

Referring now to Figure 1, the holder, generally indicated by the numeral 11, is arranged to be releasably supported on the generally horizontal side portion of a crib or buggy and to engage in supporting bottle 12 in an inclined position so that the baby lying in the crib or buggy can more readily engage the nipple on the end of the bottle. In view of the fact that the buggy or crib whose sidewall is indicated by the numeral 13, and the bottle 12 form no part of the present invention, they have been indicated in dash-dot lines so as to simplify the drawing. The portion of the holder 11 which engages the sidewall of the buggy or other structure comprises a pair of U-shaped loops 14 arranged to overlie the upper portion of such sidewall. The portion of the holder which supports the bottle 12 includes a pair of circular elements 16 and 17 which are of a size permitting the bottle to be fixed thereto but limiting axial movement of the bottle to the position shown in the drawing. For reasons of economy and simplicity of construction, I prefer to construct this portion of the holder from a single length of wire and it will be clear that this may be readily accomplished by providing a straight run of wire 18 immediately prior to the formation of the first circular element 16, and thereafter continuing with a second straight run of wire 19 to the latter circular element 17, this element comprising the distal end of the holder.

Novel means are provided for interconnecting the loops 14 and the bottle per se as it is believed obvious that if a simple wire connection were utilized between the two, the weight of

the bottle in the holder would create an undesirable downward flexure of the connection and preclude the bottle from being maintained in the desired angular relationship. As here shown, the connecting means includes a generally horizontal member 21 formed integrally with the loops 14. Preferably this member is provided with a U-shaped portion 22 which adds strength to the member and also serves as an anchoring means for the connector. As also previously mentioned, a straight run of wire 18 is provided rearwardly of the circular element 16 and this member is sharply bent at 23 to provide a downwardly divergent element 24, the end of the element remote from the bend 23 being wound around the member 21 and anchored to the U-shaped portion thereof as indicated at 26. The element 24 would not be sufficiently rigid to sustain the weight of the bottle 12 and to prevent the element from opening. Due to the imposition of such a weight I provide a C-shaped clamp which is slideable on the legs of the element 24 so as to limit the relative outward displacement thereof. By forcing the clamp 27 downwardly on the element 24 the bottle supporting portion of the holders will be maintained in a positive, but somewhat resilient position. Due to the relatively high degree of flexibility in the wire a user of the device may easily position the bottle by forcibly bending the wire herewith at the juncture of the loops 14 and member 21 or at the bend 23.

In Figure 2 I have indicated a somewhat modified form of the invention, and this embodiment is particularly designed for supporting a bottle from the vertical slats of a crib, such slats being indicated by the numeral 31. This form of the invention is particularly useful where the upper ends of the slats are disposed at a relatively large distance from the mattress in the crib, which otherwise might require an extremely long or complicated supporting arrangement if the holder were to be supported on the upper horizontal runner of the crib. The element 24 and clamp 27 are arranged in exactly the same manner relative to the bottle as that previously discussed, but in this form of my invention, the entire device may be constructed from a single length of wire. The end 32 of the wire, remote from the circular element 17 is provided with a horizontally disposed and U-shaped portion 33 which continues upwardly in a general vertical direction as indicated at 34, and then is bent to provide a portion 36 similar to and spaced from the portion 33. The portion 36 is then connected to one leg of the element 24 as indicated. The respective legs of the portions 33 and 36 are spaced slightly less than the normal thickness of the crib slat and by sliding the device horizontally on to the slat, the leg portions and the runner 34 will engage opposite sides of the slat and resiliently hold the device in position. Preferably, the portions 33 and 36 are provided with large arcuate elements 37 which provide a stop for limiting the horizontal movement of the element in installing the apparatus.

A still further embodiment of the invention is disclosed in Figure 3 of the drawing and it will be seen that the device disclosed is substantially identical to that shown in Figure 2. The fundamental difference between the two devices resides in the pivotal connection between the slat clamping portions 33 and 36 and the bottle sup-

porting portion of the device. As here shown, the portions 33 and 36 together with the vertical extension 34 may be constructed from a single length of wire, but the end of the element 24 is coiled around the portion 34 at 41 in any suitable manner so as to permit rotation of the element and its associated bottle supporting members in a generally horizontal path of movement.

A similar pivotal arrangement is disclosed in Figure 4 of the drawing in which a pair of eye-bolts 51 are operatively inserted in one of the crib slats with the axes of the openings lying in a vertical direction. The end of the element 24 is provided with a tightly formed U-shaped portion 52 which is arranged to be fitted in the openings in the eye-bolts so as to permit the device to be horizontally pivoted relative thereto. The distal end of the wire may be bent as indicated in 53 to limit downward movement of the portion 52 into the eye-bolts.

In all of the embodiments of the invention it will be clear that a device is provided which may be economical fabrically which may be simply attached to a supporting structure and which will resiliently maintain a nursing bottle in a fixed position.

I claim:

1. A device of the character described comprising a single wire-like member having a pair of spaced loop portions formed therein, one end of said wire terminating at one of said loops, the other end portion of said wire including a downwardly divergent U-shaped element, a clamp slidably engageable with said element and limiting outward relative movement of the legs thereof, and means operatively connected to said element for releasably attaching said device to a base structure.

2. A holder for supporting a bottle relative to a base structure comprising a single rod-like member having a pair of spaced loop portions formed therein and arranged to encircle axially spaced portions of said bottle, a generally U-shaped member connected at one end thereof to one end of said member and having downwardly diverging leg portions, a clamp engageable with said leg portions and movable along a portion of the length thereof for resisting relative outward separation of the leg portions, means releasably engageable with said base structure, and pivotal means interconnecting the other end of said U-shaped member and said base structure engaging means.

3. Apparatus as set forth in claim 2 in which said rod-like member and said U-shaped member are made of metal wire and deformable by deliberate manual bending thereof, and in which said pivotal means includes a coil of wire extending from said other end of said U-shaped member and wrapped around said releasably engageable means.

RICHARD A. DOMINGUEZ.

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