BOTTLE CARRYING CASE

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Application November 16, 1955, Serial No. 547,176
1 Claim. (220-21)

The present invention relates to an improved carrying case particularly adapted for carrying bottles of various kinds, such as beverage bottles and the like.

The case is preferably constructed of a light metal, such as aluminum, and is reinforced along its edges and along certain areas to make it strong and durable in order for it to withstand the rugged use it normally receives.
One object of the invention is to provide a case of this kind which is lighter and more durable than those now in current use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a structure in which the case may be made up in sections whereby the sections may be dismounted and new sections added if it becomes damaged or worn out.
Stiil another object of the invention is to provide means for frictionally engaging the bottles to prevent them from rattling when being transported.

While several objects of the invention have been set forth, other objects may appear later on in the description.

The invention consists of certain novel features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of its several parts as will be apparent as the nature of the invention is more fully disclosed in the following detailed description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view in elevation of the improved carrying case.
Figure 2 is a sectional view taken along line 2-2 of Figure 1.
Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along line 3- $\mathbf{3}$ of Figure 1.
Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken along line 4-4 of Figure 1.
Figure 5 is an enlarged view partly in elevation and partly in section of one side of the carrying case.

Figure 6 is an exploded elevational view having parts thereof in section.
The carrying case comprises an open top container having its end sections and bottom formed preferably from a single sheet of light metal, such as aluminum. The greater portion of the sheet goes to form the bottom 10. The ends 11 and 12 of the container or case are formed from the material adjacent the ends of the sheet. These ends extend around the corners of the sheet as shown at $11^{\prime}, 11^{\prime \prime}, 12^{\prime}$ and $\mathbf{1 2}^{\prime \prime}$. The bottom has side turned up beads 13 and 14 for reinforcing the bottom along its side. The ends 11 and 12 extend upwardly perpendicular to the plane of the bottom and are provided with turned in beads 15 and 16.
The ends are also provided with hand holes. These hand holes are so constructed as to provide a smooth rounded surface in order to give a better grip to the case when it is carried, and also to prevent discomfort to the handler's hands.
The ends are provided with reinforcing members 17 and 18, which are placed adjacent the inside surfaces of the ends. There are provided openings in these members

17 and 18 corresponding with the hand holes. When the hand hole is formed there is left about its edges sufficient metal to extend inwardly through the hand hole and formed over the edge of the opening in the supporting members as shown best in Figure 3 at 11"'.
The sides 19 and 20 are formed with rolled bottom edges as shown at $\mathbf{1 9}^{\prime}, \mathbf{1 9}^{\prime \prime}, 2 \mathbf{2 0}^{\prime}$ and $\mathbf{2 0}^{\prime \prime}$ respectively. Extending between the rolled side edges are plates 21 and 22. These plates are slotted and formed at spaced intervals throughout their length, as shown at Figure 6 to receive a plurality of bottle separators, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28. Each end of the $U$-shaped separators is formed as shown in Figure 6. The sides and the top of the ends of the separator are flared out in a vertical plane as shown at 30, 31 and 32 and is adapted to slide into the cut-out portion 23. When the ends of the separators are placed in engagement with the respective cut-out portions in the plates 21 and 22 they are placed adjacent the inner surface of the side members 19 and 20 and the edges $19^{\prime} 19^{\prime \prime}, 20^{\prime}$ and $20^{\prime \prime}$ formed over the inner surface of the plates 21 and 22, as shown in Figures 2 and 3.
The sides and separators when assembled form a unit which is attached to the ends of the case. The ends of the case extend around the corner of the case, and in a plane with the ends of the assembled sides and separators. The portions of the end sections adjacent the sides, the sides 19 and 23 and plates 21 and 22 are preferably in the form as shown in Figure 6. The portions of the end sections, the plates 21 and 22 are all secured to each other by the rivets 36 . With this arrangement, it will be seen that the unit including the separators and side members may be removed from the ends and bottom by removing the rivets 36 . This is provided for the purpose of replacing broken or damaged parts.
The bottom of the case is provided with circular raised portions centrally of the space to be occupied by each bottle as shown at 40 . These raised portions are all of substantial identical form.
The case is constructed preferably of thin aluminum sheet, or any other suitable material.

The case, among other things, is light and durable and is so constructed as to make it attractive to the public. It is relatively simple in construction and requires a minimum amount of maintenance.

While the invention is illustrated in a particular form, it is not intended as a limitation of the general principles shown herein, the invention being limited only by the wording of the appended claim.

I claim:
A bottle carrying case of rectangular form constructed of a bendable metallic material comprising, vertical side and end walls of substantially the same heighth, the upper portion of the end walls formed to extend about their respective corners of the case and ending at a point in a plane with the side walls, the side walls detachably supported only from the upper portions of the end walls extending about the corners of the case and ending in the plane with each of the side walls, a bottom integrally formed with the lower edge of the end walls, a plurality of bottle separators for supporting the bottles individually, each of the bottle separators extending from one detachable side wall to the other detachable side wall, the ends of each of the bottle separators being flared outwardly in a vertical plane perpendicularly to the elongated axis of the separator, and elongated spacing elements having cut-out portions at predetermined intervals extending along the inner side surfaces of each of the detachable side walls for engaging the ends of the separators, the distance between the bottom and top edges of the spacing elements being slightly shorter than the heighth of the side walls, each side wall having an overturned bead extending inwardly along its top and bottom edges for en-
gaging the bottom and top edges of the spacing elements, the separators being constructed from a thin sheet of material of U -shaped cross-sectional form and fitted into the cut-out portions in the spacing elements having their flared ends held between the inner face of the side walls and the spacing elements, the open side of the $U$-shaped separators extending downwardly toward the bottom of the case and spaced therefrom, the sides of the separators being in a plane substantially perpendicular to the bottom of the case and having a plurality of evenly spaced and corresponding depressions along each side thereof of such size as to receive a small area of the side portion
of the bottle for holding the bottle in position on the bottom of the case and out of contact with each other.

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