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F. O. WILLIAMS

LIQUID CONTAINER

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Fig. 1.

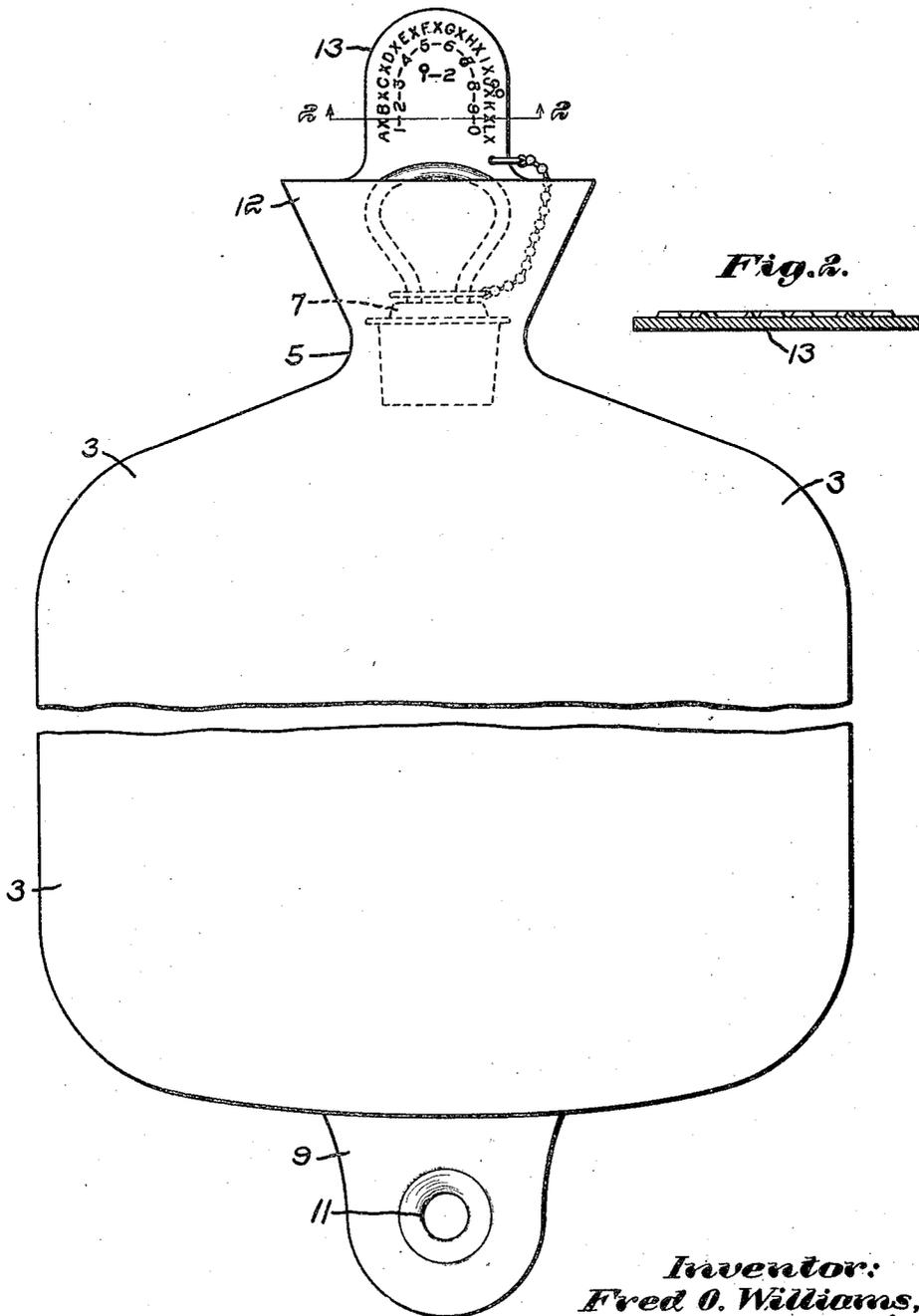


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LIQUID CONTAINER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be is known that I, FRED O. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Brookline, county of Norfolk, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Liquid Containers, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to liquid containers especially such as are used for therapeutic or quasi-therapeutic purposes and of which examples are hot water bottles and ice bags. For convenience in the following description I shall refer to the container as a hot water bottle.

My invention will best be understood by reference to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing of an illustrative embodiment thereof wherein:

Figure 1 is a broken front elevation of a hot water bottle exemplifying my invention; and

Fig. 2 is an enlarged section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring to these drawings, I have there shown as an example of my invention a hot water bottle of suitable flexible, waterproof material, such as rubber, having a baglike body 3 which may be filled through the neck 5 which is closed by a suitable stopper 7. The bottom of the bottle may be provided with an extension 9 formed with an opening 11 by means of which the bottle may be hung up when not in use. Around the mouth of the bottle the material may be continued to provide a funnel shaped lip 12, and I preferably provide this lip with a flap or extension 13 which is imperforate in the sense that it has no opening such as the opening 11 by means of which the bottle could be suspended. It is desirable that devices of this character when not in use should be suspended upside down and the construction of the bottle herein illustrated necessitates hanging it up by the hole 11, if at all.

To permit the registration on the bottle of an indestructible notation of the time at which it was sold, and thus to provide a check on its wearing qualities which will permit the seller thereof to give a positive guaranty, I provide the lip 13 with symbols as shown in Fig. 1, and preferably as shown

by Fig. 2 and for a purpose more fully to be described these symbols are molded in the rubber and are raised. In the embodiment shown there are two series of symbols, each series forming a figure like an inverted U opening toward the bottom. For example, herein the exterior series embodies twelve letters, A to L, each pair being separated by an X, and a second series embodies ten figures, 1 to 9 and a zero. By this arrangement a close indication of the time may be registered by punching the lip 13 at the proper places. For example, as indicated, the numeral 7 is punched indicating the seventh year of a decade, as 1917. The letter J is punched indicating that the sale was made in October, and the punch mark is made exteriorly of an adjacent X, which may be taken to indicate that the sale was made in the first half of the month, whereas a mark inwardly of the X would indicate a sale within the second half. Herein I have also shown the numerals 1 and 2 within the U, which may be used to indicate the period for which the particular bottle is guaranteed. For example, 1 is punched to indicate that the guaranty extends to October, 1918.

It will be seen that by the construction as described, provision is made for permanently marking the bottle, as by means of a punch, but that this marking does not impair the integrity of the bottle as a liquid container in any way or otherwise weaken the structure thereof. At the same time, a bottle is provided which when not in use can be suspended only upside down and therefore involuntarily the user is enlisted in taking such care of it as will make possible the guaranty. The guaranty record is visibly presented to the user each time that he handles the bottle and after the limit of the guaranty has expired a favorable impression is created on his mind each time.

As stated, I preferably mark the symbols on the extension 13 by molding them in raised characters and may arrange them in U-shaped series around the edge of the extension. The extension provides a convenient support by which the bottle may be grasped in filling or the like and the raised characters assure a good grip thereon. The extension is likely to become somewhat wet and smooth rubber if wetted is slippery. The characters prevent the extension from slipping between the fingers, which would possibly cause the contents to be spilled. It

is thus seen that they fulfill a double function and their arrangement, as for example in U-shaped series as here shown, is of assistance since they define a finger-receiving recess and thus provide a firm grasp. The provision of the symbols and the particular manner of their application thus not only has a merchandizing value in that it provides for a registration of the time of sale, permitting the giving of an absolute guaranty by the seller, but it also has a mechanical function in the use of the bottle by the purchaser.

Having thus described one specific embodiment of my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A liquid container of flexible water-

proof material having an extended portion projecting at the mouth thereof constituting a tab for handling the container, said portion having raised characters molded thereon whereby to permit providing a time registration and to afford a gripping surface.

2. A liquid container of flexible water-proof material having an integral flap projecting near the mouth thereof, said flap having raised characters molded thereon and defining between them a finger receiving pocket whereby to permit providing a time registration and to afford a gripping surface.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

FRED O. WILLIAMS.