

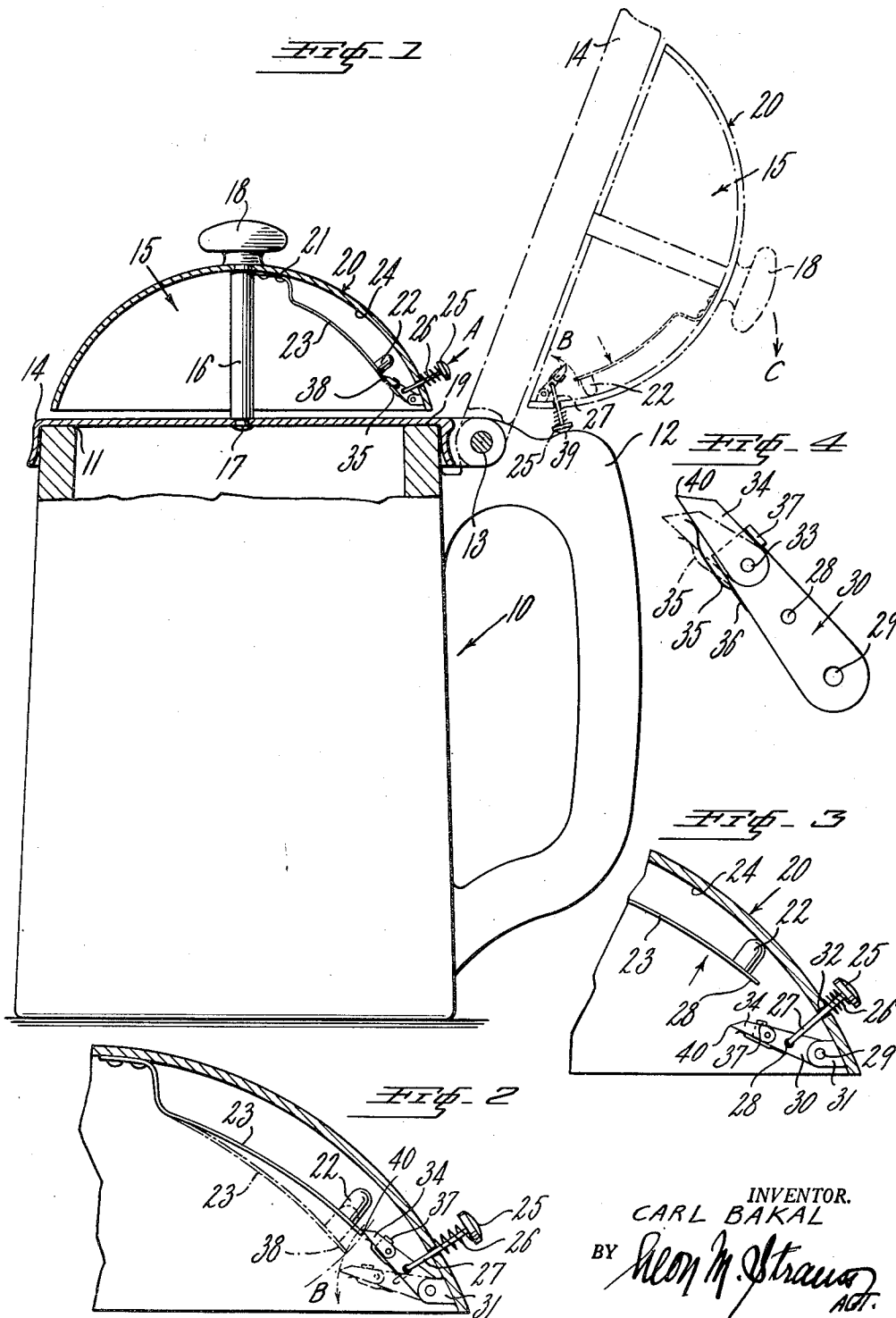
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DRINKING VESSEL WITH BELL DEVICE

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DRINKING VESSEL WITH BELL DEVICE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 116—67)

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This invention relates to cover or lid structures for mugs, cups, glasses, pitchers and similar vessels or containers.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to provide means affording a very effective combinational structure of a lid or cover for a vessel with a bell or like sound-producing means for signalling purposes, for attracting attention of a person, such as a waiter, and like persons.

It is another object of the invention to provide means facilitating the operation of the bell or like device by hand, as well as substantially automatically by the lid itself in predetermined position of the latter.

It is a further object of the invention to provide means conducive to an inexpensive structure for producing sound in connection with a swingable cover of a mug or like vessel, to thereby result in a novel article of utility which necessitates only a few parts to be mounted on existing covers of drinking vessels, such as beer steins, etc.

Still another object of the invention is to provide means rendering the possibility of varying the intensity of sound in bells associated with lids or covers of vessels.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide means enabling a person carrying a mug or beer stein by its handle to actuate the bell within the reach of his hand by his thumb so that such person may signal to others obstructing his path to allow passage.

These and other objects and features will become apparent from the following detailed description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 shows an elevational view, partly in section, of a drinking vessel embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view illustrating the embodiment of the invention in two different operative positions;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to that of Fig. 2 illustrating a further operative position; and

Fig. 4 shows a side elevational view of a detail employed in the invention and shown on an enlarged scale.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, there is shown in Fig. 1 a drinking vessel or mug 10 having an open top 11 and a handle 12. On handle 12 there is pivotally secured at 13 a cover or lid 14 overlying the mouth 11 of the vessel in closed condition of the latter. Operatively connected to and supported on lid 14 is a bell structure 15 provided with a pin 16 which is connected to lid 14 as by rivet 17. Pin 16 car-

ries further a handle knob 18 by which the metallic bell body 20 is somewhat spaced from the surface 19 of the lid. On the inner wall of the bell 20 there is fixed at 21 a clapper or striker 22 held by means of a leaf spring arm 23 in spaced relation to the inner wall surface 24 of the bell shell 20. Further mounted on the bell shell 20 is a finger rest forming a push-button or reciprocable means 25 which is outwardly urged by means of a coil spring 26. Push-button 25 has a stem or pin 27 which in turn is movably connected at 28 with a lever 30. This lever 30 is pivotally supported at 29 on a bracket 31 attached to the inner wall of the bell shell 20. Opening or slot 32 permits the passage of pin or stem 27 through the bell housing 20. Lever 30, as can be more clearly seen in Fig. 3 pivotally carries at 33 an extension lever 34, which, in turn, is supported by a leaf spring 35, one end of which being secured to the underface of lever 30 at 36.

Lever 30 has further a stop or nose 37 against which lever extension 34 is pressed by means of spring 35. It may be readily seen from Fig. 4 that extremity or end 40 of extension lever 34 may be swung about pivot 33 to a position shown in dot and dash lines in Fig. 4, for a purpose later described.

Beyond striker 22 and forming an integral part of arm 23 is an abutment 38 adapted to cooperate with the end edge 40 of extension lever 34 during operation of the device.

As may be further seen from Fig. 1, handle 12 is further provided with a suitably shaped projection 39 for cooperation with the push-button 25 when lid 14 together with the bell structure 15 is moved to open position as it will be explained further below.

From the foregoing disclosure it will be seen that the operation of the bell-equipped lid 14 is as follows. When the lid is closed over mouth 11 of vessel 10 and it becomes necessary to signal a waiter or for any other purpose, the person may press by means of a finger of his hand push-button 25 in the direction of arrow A against the action of spring 26, whereby extension lever 34 will contact abutment 38 and will move spring arm 23 to a position shown in dot and dash lines in Fig. 2. During this movement the end 40 of extension lever 34 will be freed from abutment 38 and will follow a path indicated by arrow B, whereby striker or clapper 22 will be freed to abut against the inner wall 24 of bell shell 20, as more clearly seen in Fig. 3.

Upon release of push-button 25 from the finger of the hand of the operator and while lever 30 is moved back to its initial position by means of

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spring 26, extension lever 34 will automatically assume its position in front of abutment 38 as extension lever 34 is enabled through pivot 33 to pass abutment 38 in any positions of the latter.

Thus it will be immediately apparent that by once pressing push-button 25 in the direction of arrow A, the sound of the bell may be initiated by means of the swingable clapper 22.

If it is not desired to operate push-button 25 by hand, lid 14 may be opened by means of handle 18, whereby lid 14 is swung about pivot 13 in a well known manner, whereby, however, the push-button 25 comes to act against cam or projection 39 in open position of lid 14. In this position by grasping knob 18 and pulling the same in the direction of arrow C it will be readily recognized that stem 27 will be pushed into the bell shell 20, thereby actuating the lever arrangement 30, 34 in a manner hereinabove explained with respect to the operation of the bell device 15 by means of a finger of the hand of an operator.

The above described mechanism for operating the bell may be variously modified without departing from the spirit of this invention. For instance, instead of a push-button, the arm 23 may be extended together with abutment 38 through opening 32 of the bell shell 20 and may be operated directly from therewithout.

Although one specific embodiment of the invention has been described and shown in the drawing, it should be noted that the invention may be realized in modified form and adaptations of the arrangements herein disclosed may be made, as may readily occur to persons skilled in the art without constituting a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the objects and in the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is

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claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is:

1. A drinking vessel having a lid for closing the vessel comprising a bell shell supported on top of said lid, a clapper, a spring fixed on the inner surface of said bell shell and carrying said clapper, and means arranged for contact with said clapper and extending through an opening of said shell for actuating said clapper, said latter means being disposed within the reach of the finger of a person's hand holding the vessel.

2. A vessel according to claim 1, said latter means including a finger rest, a further spring acting upon said finger rest, and means swingably supported within said bell shell and actuable from said finger rest against the action of said further spring.

3. A vessel according to claim 1, including further means spacing said bell shell from the upper surface of said lid, and a knob on said further means for manipulating said lid together with said bell shell.

4. A drinking vessel having a lid for closing the vessel; comprising a bell shell carried by said lid, a clapper supported below and within the confines of said bell shell and for movement relative to the latter, and reciprocally movable means arranged for contact with said clapper and extending through an opening of said shell for actuating said clapper, said latter means being disposed within the reach of the finger of a person's hand holding the vessel.

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