

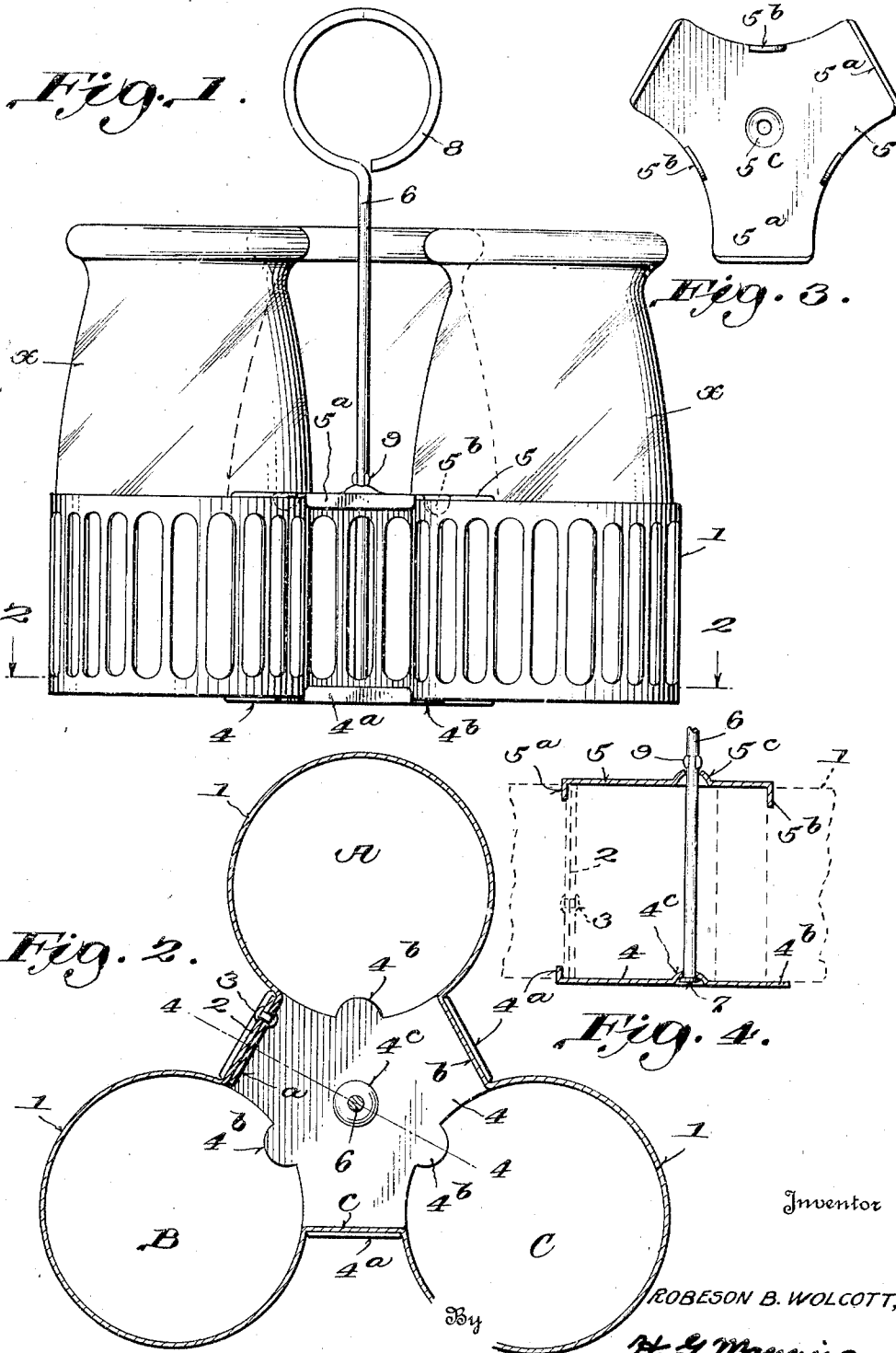
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BOTTLE CARRIER

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BOTTLE CARRIER

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This invention relates to baskets or carriers adapted to hold a plurality of bottles or similar containers. While designed primarily as an attractive means for holding
5 containers filled with candy, it is equally applicable for table use as a condiment holder.

Among the objects of the invention are to provide a basket or carrier of this character
10 which shall be attractive in appearance, light in weight, and cheap to manufacture, the construction being such that scrap or waste sheet metal can be employed.

In order that the invention may be readily understood reference is made to the accompanying drawing forming part of this
15 specification and in which:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the complete carrier or basket showing the containers in
20 position therein;

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view of one of the plates hereinafter referred to; and

25 Fig. 4 is a fragmentary vertical section substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawing in detail, I construct my improved basket of a continuous strip of flexible material 1, preferably sheet
30 metal. This may be solid or perforated, either in some such design as shown in Fig. 1 or with any other fanciful design. In fact where sheet metal is employed it is proposed to utilize waste strips from which
35 small sheet metal blanks for use in various industries have been cut or punched, thus leaving open work of more or less fantastic design.

In manufacturing my improved basket I
40 cut off a suitable length of such a strip, place the ends in overlapping relation as indicated at 2, and secure them together by means of a suitable rivet such as 3. The strip is then bent to form a plurality of connected loops
45 or sockets. As shown in the drawing three such sockets are illustrated and are designated A, B and C in Fig. 2. These loops or sockets are symmetrically arranged about a common center. Each loop is separated
50 from the others by an intermediate straight

portion of the strip, as shown at *a*, *b* and *c* in Fig. 2, the loops being thus spaced apart.

The loops having been thus formed are rigidly held in position by means of top
55 and bottom plates 4 and 5. These two plates are of similar shape and preferably have an outline such as shown in Fig. 3, which illustrates an inverted view of the top plate 5. These plates may be conveniently stamped
60 from sheet metal.

The plates 4 and 5 are relatively small, covering only the area included between the three straight portions *a*, *b* and *c* of the strip. The bottom plate 4 is provided with
65 upturned flanges 4^a and the top plate 5 is provided with similar downturned flanges 5^a, each pair of such flanges engaging over the lower and upper edges respectively of the straight portions of the strip between
70 the loops.

These top and bottom plates 4 and 5 are clamped or tied together by means of a rod
75 6 extending upwardly through aligned central openings in the plates, bosses 4^b and 5^b being preferably formed adjacent such openings, and the lower end of the rod 6 having
80 a head 7 swaged thereon and fitting within the hollow side of the boss 4^b. After the plates have been assembled on the rod, the rod is enlarged at a point immediately above
85 the upper boss 5^b as indicated at 9, such enlargement being preferably produced by pinching or swaging the metal. The upper end of the rod 6 preferably extends above
the top of the containers and is formed into
a loop 8 to serve as a carrying handle.

The containers, which are illustrated in Fig. 1 at *x* in the form of miniature milk
90 bottles or "creamers", fit snugly into the loops or sockets A, B, C. As these loops are open at the ends it is necessary to provide some means to support the bottles or containers and to prevent them from slipping through the loops. This may be conveniently accomplished by forming lugs or
95 projections 4^b on the bottom plate 4 which extend under the lower edge of each loop, thus serving as a stop or support on which the lower end of the bottles rest. Other forms
100

of projections may of course be provided, if preferred.

It is desirable to stamp the top and bottom plates from the same dies, and therefore lugs or projections 5^b are formed on the top plate 5 similar to the lugs 4^b on the bottom plate 4. On the top plate, however, these lugs are subsequently turned down into a plane at right angles to the plane of the plate, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, so that they do not obstruct the passage of the bottles into the loops, but serve as guides to aid in holding such bottles in position.

While I have shown my improved basket or carrier as comprising three loops or sockets, it will of course be understood that any other desired number, such as two or four, may be employed, the shape of the top and bottom plates being modified accordingly.

While there has been disclosed in this specification one form in which the invention may be embodied, it is to be understood that this form is shown for the purpose of illustration only, and that the invention is not limited to the specific disclosure but may be modified and embodied in various other forms without departing from its spirit. In short, the invention includes all the modifications and embodiments coming within the scope of the following claims.

What I claim is:

1. A bottle basket comprising a continuous strip having its ends secured together and bent to form a plurality of open ended loops symmetrically grouped around a common center, a bottom plate engaging the lower edge of said strip at a plurality of points, said plate having upwardly extending portions engaging and supporting the sides of said strip and a carrying handle secured to and extending upwardly from said bottom plate.

2. A bottle basket comprising a continuous strip having its ends secured together and bent to form a plurality of open ended loops disposed about a common center, top and bottom plates having vertically extending flanges engaging said strip at a plurality of points on its top and bottom edges and a rod extending through said top and bottom plates and crimped at points adjacent said plates to hold said plates in engagement with said strip.

3. A bottle basket comprising a continuous strip of metal having its ends secured together and bent to form a plurality of open ended loops disposed about a common center, top and bottom plates having vertically extending flanges engaging said strip at a plurality of points on its top and bottom edges, said bottom plate having portions projecting under each of said loops, and a rod extending through said top and bottom plates and crimped at points adjacent said plates to hold said plates in engagement with said strip.

4. A bottle basket comprising a continuous strip having its ends secured together and bent to form a plurality of open ended loops disposed about a common center, top and bottom plates having vertically extending flanges engaging said strip at a plurality of points on its top and bottom edges and a rod extending through said top and bottom plates and crimped at points adjacent said plates to hold said plates in engagement with said strip, the upper end of said rod being bent to form a carrying handle.

5. A bottle basket comprising a continuous strip of metal having its ends secured together and bent to form a plurality of open ended loops disposed about a common center, top and bottom plates having vertically extending flanges engaging said strip at a plurality of points on its top and bottom edges, said bottom plate having portions projecting under each of said loops, and a rod extending through said top and bottom plates and crimped at points adjacent said plates to hold said plates in engagement with said strip, the upper end of said rod being bent to form a carrying handle.

In testimony whereof, I have affixed my signature.

ROBESON B. WOLCOTT.