Dec. 10, 1957 J. V. FISHER 2,815,855

CONTAINER CARRIER CLIP

Original Filed Aug. 5, 1950 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

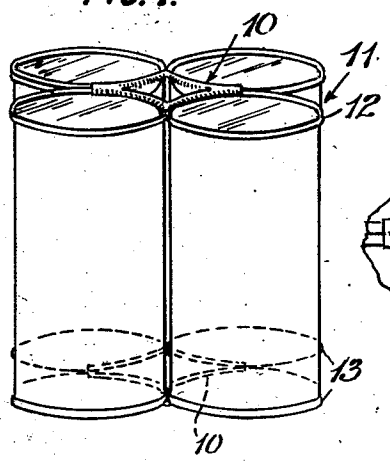


FIG. 2.

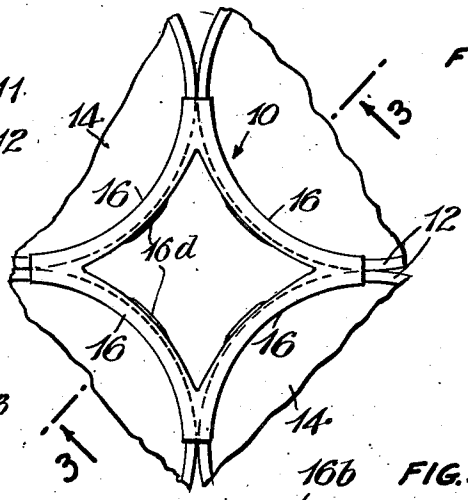


FIG. 3.

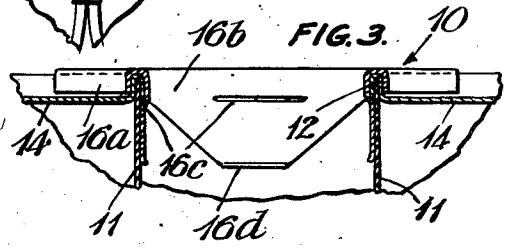


FIG. 4.

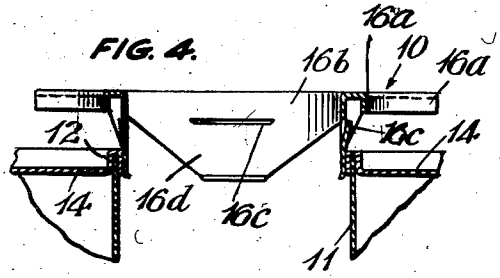


FIG. 5.

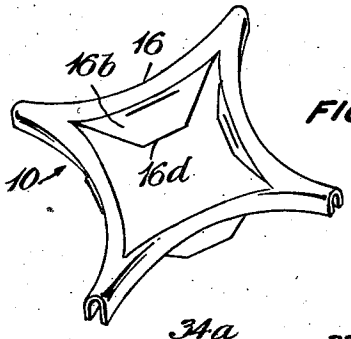


FIG. 6.

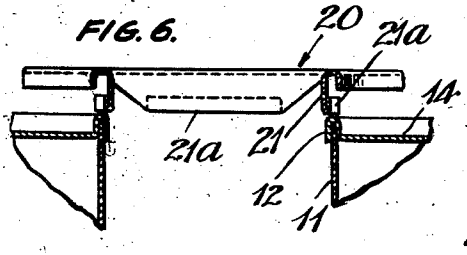


FIG. 8.

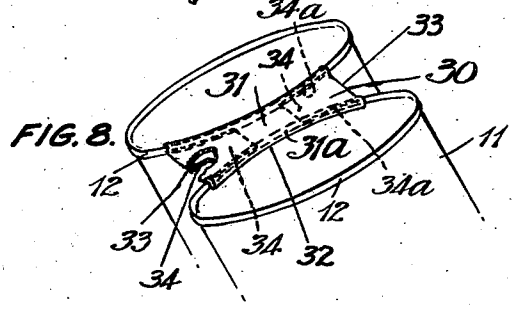
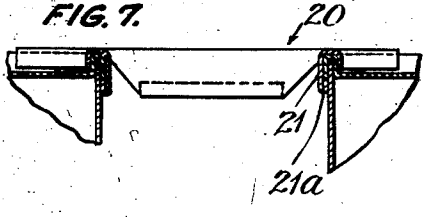


FIG. 7.



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FIG. 9.

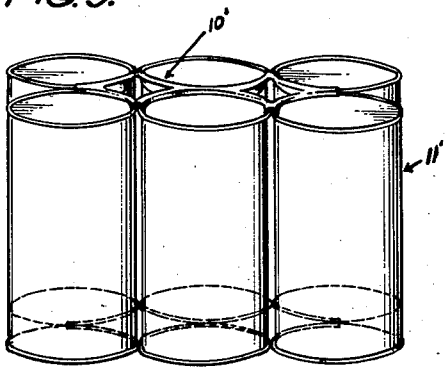


FIG. 10.

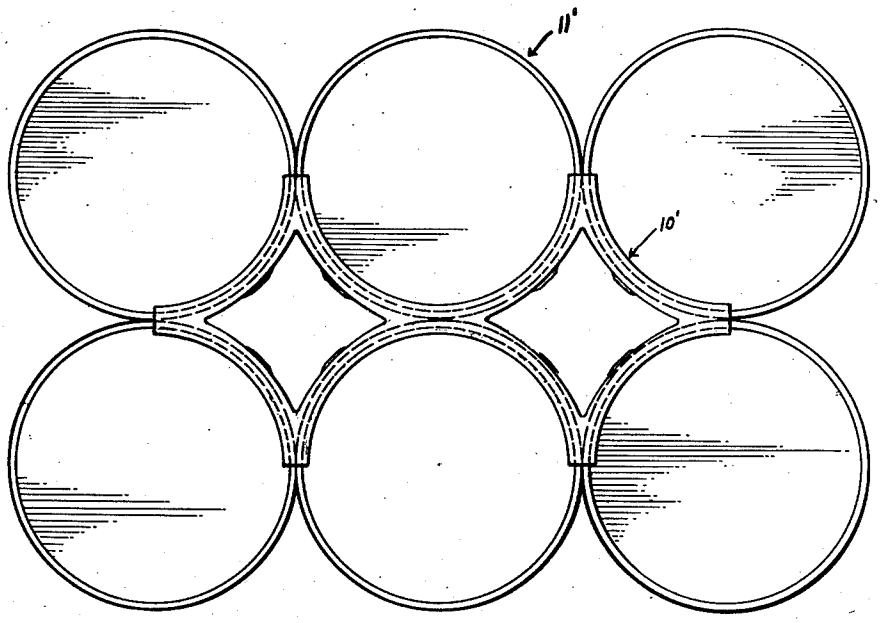
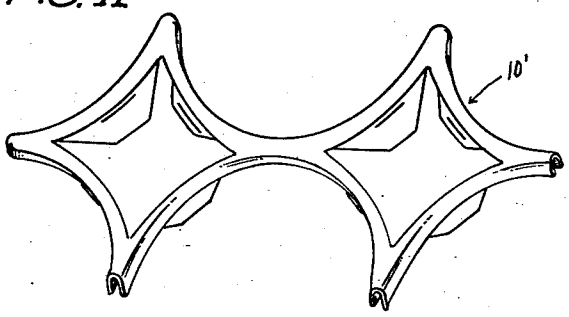


FIG. 11



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2,815,855

CONTAINER CARRIER CLIP

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Continuation of application Serial No. 177,951, August 5, 1950. This application February 24, 1954, Serial No. 412,157

3 Claims. (Cl. 206—65)

The invention has for its objects, among others, the provision of a carrier or clip providing a simplified expedient whereby a group of two, three, four or more cans or similar containers may be held together for easy transportation by hand. The carrier is constructed with a minimum amount of material for punch press or molding fabrication. The carrier is designed to facilitate a push-on or snap-on action with respect to the group of cans. The carrier and the cans held thereby can be packed in conventional cases, and at the same time a multiple unit item is provided for easy storage in the refrigerators or on the shelves of stores and for handling by the customer as a carry-home item.

The above and other objects of the invention are obtained as illustrated in connection with certain preferred embodiments of the invention, as shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of four cans held together by a carrier clip embodying the invention herein described.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary plan view illustrating the arrangement of the four can carrier clip shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken as indicated by the line 3—3 in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view similar to Figure 3, but showing the carrier clip during its attachment to the cans.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the four can carrier clip shown in Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a view of a modified form of carrier clip embodying the invention herein described and illustrating this form of carrier clip in position for attachment to two adjacent cans.

Figure 7 is a view of the modification shown in Figure 6 showing the clip in assembled relation with respect to a pair of adjacent cans.

Figure 8 is a perspective view of another modified form of a can carrier clip in assembled relation on a pair of cans.

Figure 9 is a perspective view of six cans held together by a modified form of carrier clip embodying the invention herein described.

Figure 10 is a plan view of the modification shown in Figure 10.

Figure 11 is a perspective view of the modified form six can carrier clip shown in Figures 9 and 10.

Referring first to Figures 1 through 5, the can carrier clip **10** is shown in assembled relation in Figures 1, 2 and 3, with respect to a plurality of cans **11** having respective upper and lower beads **12** and **13**. Each bead, as will be noted from the drawings, extends not only beyond its end of the can but also beyond the periphery of the containers. As illustrated, the can carrier clip **10** in the embodiment shown in Figure 1 is provided with four can bead engaging channel portions **16** each of which is U-shaped in cross-section to fit snugly over the projecting end of the can bead and arcuate along its length to conform to the contour of the bead. The inner leg **16***a*

of each channel **16** engages the inside edge of the can bead adjacent the end wall **14** of a can. The outer leg of each channel **16** is extended at its central longitudinal portion to provide a flange **16***b* which extends downwardly along the outer wall of the can and is preferably provided with a cut-through inwardly projecting or offset portion or lip **16***c*. The lip **16***c* is so formed as to snap over the bead **12** or **13**, as the case may be, and to engage the bottom edge thereof. The portion of the flange **16***b* which extends beyond the lip **16***c* is contoured to snugly engage or grip the outside of the can and is provided at its lower end with an outwardly projecting portion **16***d* which serves not to guide the flange **16***b* over the bead of the can but also to provide a release grip for disengaging the clip from the cans.

Preferably the can carrier **10** is made of resilient material so that the lip **16***c* provides a snap-on construction which, upon applying the clip to the cans, will yield to permit the lip **16***c* to pass over the can bead and then snap under the lower edge of the can bead for tight, locking engagement therewith. If desired, however, the flanges **16** may be made of substantially non-resilient, deformable material and be crimped or otherwise formed into place with respect to the can bead after engagement with the can.

In Figures 6 and 7, the carrier clip **20** is generally similar in construction to that shown in Figures 1 through 5, the differences being that the depending flange **21** is provided at the central portion of its lower edge with a reverse bend to provide a lip **21***a* which locks against the bottom of the bead **12** and against the exterior surface of the can. Here, again, the lip is preferably made of resilient material so that the clip can be snapped on and off.

It will be apparent that the carrier clip can be constructed for use with two-can and three-can units as well as the four-can unit shown. Also, by using a second set of carrier units, either separately or forming them integrally in tandem arrangement, the four-can unit of Figure 1 can be increased to a six-can unit. This six can modification is illustrated in Figures 9, 10 and 11 wherein the clip **10'** is merely a tandem arrangement of the clip **10** shown in the other figures of the drawing, said clip **10'** being in all other respects constructed exactly the same as the clip shown in the other figures. With this modification six cans **11'** may be secured together by their top beads and, if desired, also by their bottom beads, thus providing a six can package which can be readily gripped by the thumb and forefingers. Likewise various other modifications of the invention may be employed depending upon the number of cans to be packaged or the method of package assembly to be employed. The two central openings in a six-can clip made by duplicating or joining two four-can clips will provide handy gripping means.

In the Figure 8 modification, the carrier clip **30** comprises a sheet of metal or the like, having a center body portion **31** formed with arcuate channel portions **31***a* to engage the can beads. The inner legs **32** of the channel engage the inside of the beads of adjacent cans. The outer ends **33** of the center portion **31** are folded under, after the channels **31***a* are fitted over the can beads, to provide a locking lip **34** with arcuate side edges **34***a*, to engage the bottom of the bead **12**, thereby locking the clip to the cans. This particular modification is obviously not restricted for use in holding two cans only. As with the embodiments illustrated in the other figures of the drawings, this modification will, in practical operation be used in multiple form, with the clips used singly or formed integrally in one strip, to accommodate several cans at one time. Obviously, too, any desired handle (of metal, cardboard or other mate-

rial) may be formed with or attached to whatever clip arrangement is employed.

While I have shown and described certain preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be apparent that the invention is capable of further variation and modification without departing from the scope of the invention as delineated by the claims appended hereto.

This is a continuation of my copending U. S. application Serial Number 177,951, filed August 5, 1950, now abandoned.

I claim:

1. In combination with four substantially identical cylindrical containers arranged in side-by-side relationship and each having an upstanding and radially projecting peripheral bead around the top thereof, a unitary carrier clip for a simultaneously engaging and anchoring together said four containers, said clip comprising four channel portions, each being substantially U-shaped in cross-section to fit over the peripheral bead of one of the containers and arcuate in configuration to conform with a substantial arc of said peripheral bead, the outer leg of each channel portion engaging the inner edge of the peripheral bead of one of said containers and the inner leg of each channel portion being formed of resilient material and extended downwardly and inwardly to provide resilient lip which is snapped over and anchored against the outer surface of one of the containers adjacent its aforesaid peripheral bead, the four said channel portions being interconnected at their end portions to provide a central opening in the clip into which a thumb or finger may be inserted when the containers, clipped together, are carried by hand.

2. A carrier clip for simultaneously gripping and holding in spaced relationship the top portions of four cylindrical and substantially similar containers each having a peripheral bead on the upper edge thereof, said clip comprising four interconnected channel portions each being substantially U-shaped in cross section to fit over the peripheral bead of a cylindrical container and arcuate in configuration to conform with a substantial segment of such peripheral bead, the respective ends of said four channel portions being interconnected in substantially rectangular relationship to provide a finger gripping area at the central portion of the carrier clip, the outer leg of each channel portion being adapted to fit closely against the inner edge of the peripheral bead of a container and the inner leg of each channel portion being formed of resilient material and having a portion thereof normally spaced from the outer leg a distance less than the normal width of said channel thus providing a flange adapted to snap over the outer portion of said peripheral bead and grip the bottom edge thereof.

3. A carrier clip as claimed in claim 2 to one corner of which a substantially similar clip has been connected to provide a carrier clip for gripping and holding six of said cylindrical containers and thus forming two central openings to provide two inner gripping areas for convenience in carrying the container assembly.

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