April 4, 1944. E. L. ARNESON 2,345,568

BOTTLE HOLDER

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Fig. 1.

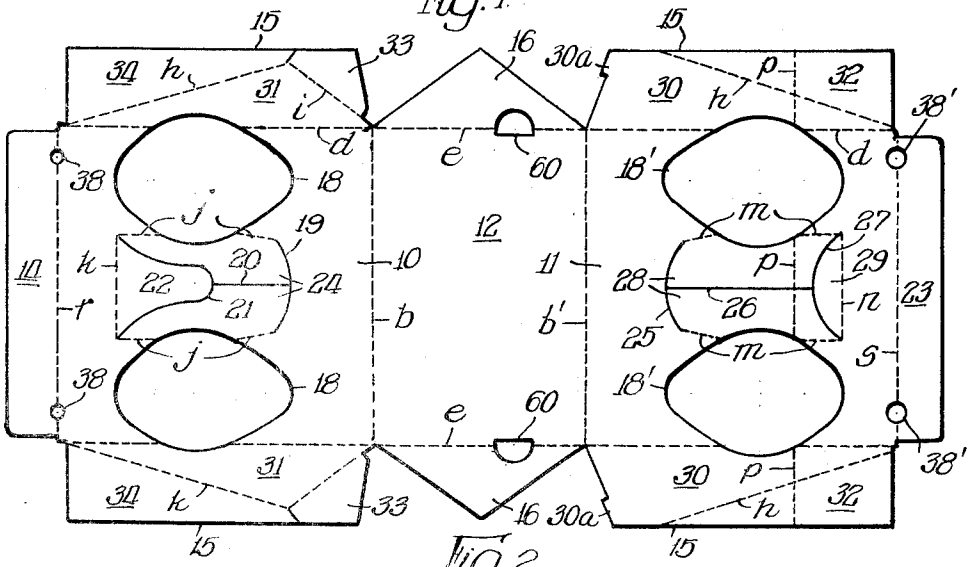


Fig. 2.

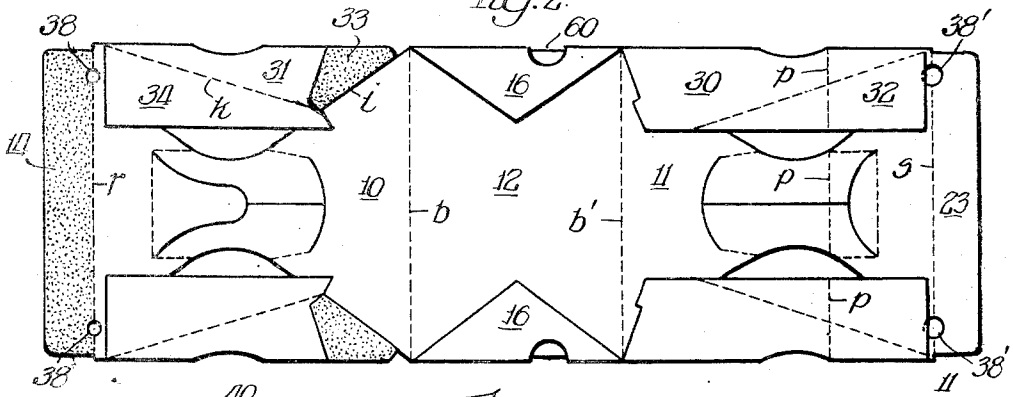


Fig. 4.

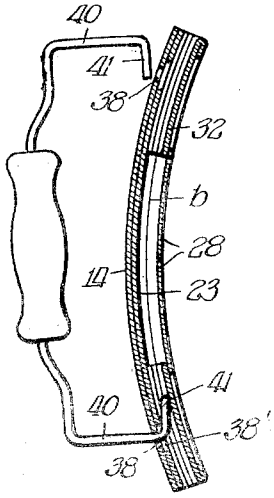
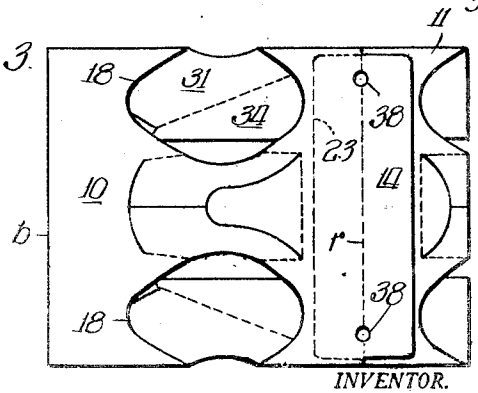


Fig. 3.



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BOTTLE HOLDER

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Fig. 5

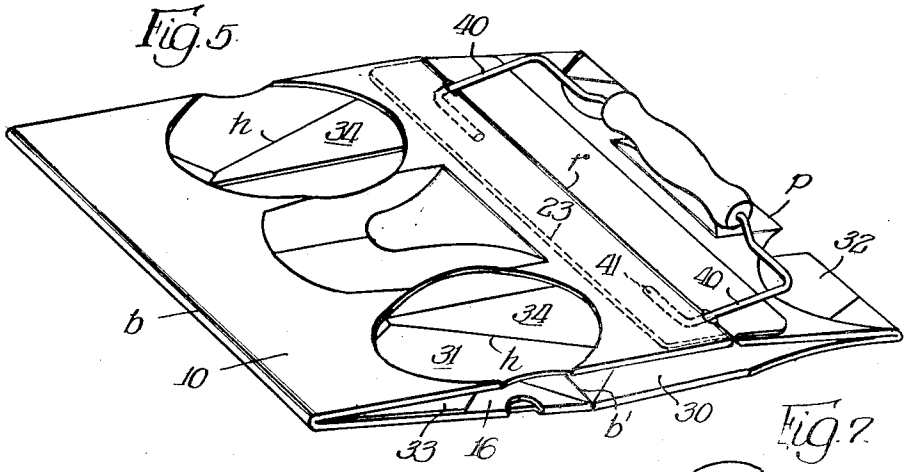


Fig. 7

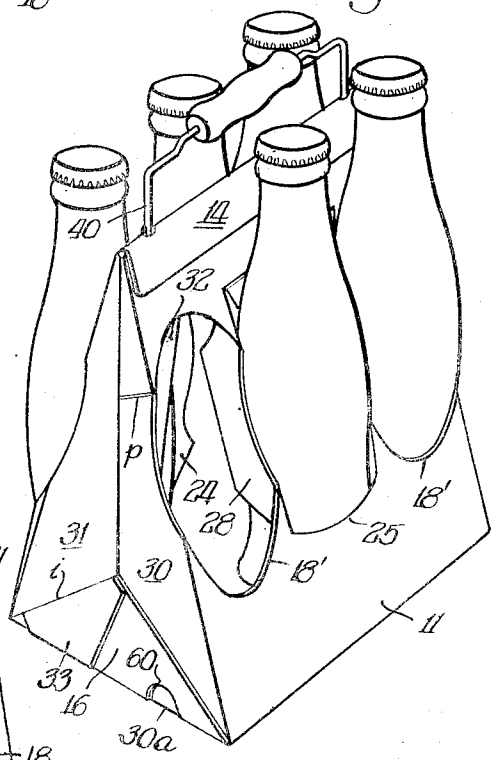
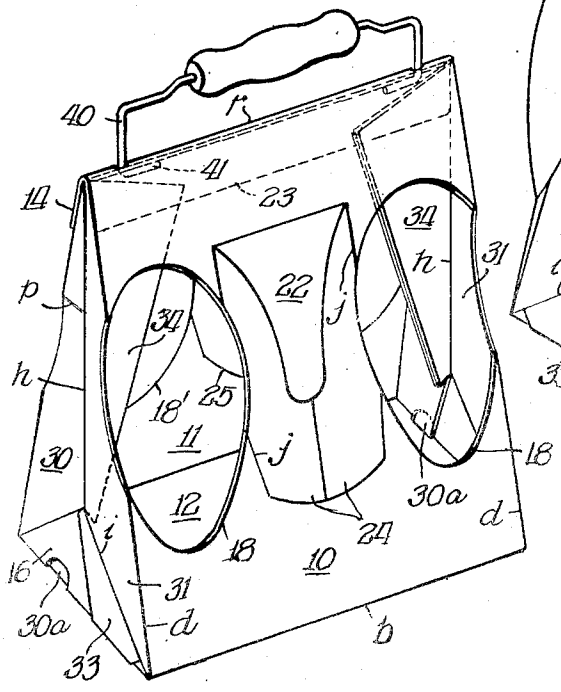


Fig. 6



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BOTTLE HOLDER

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Fig. 8.

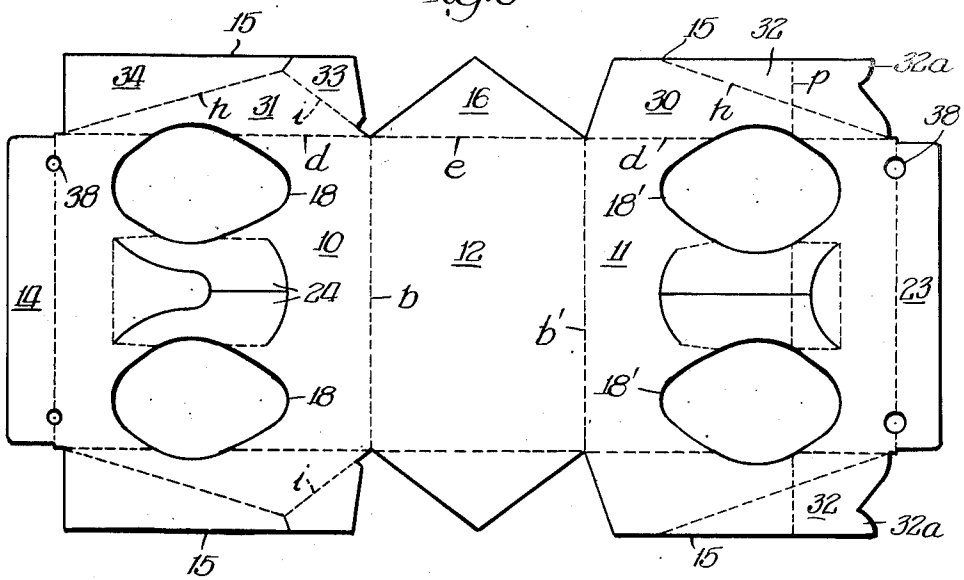
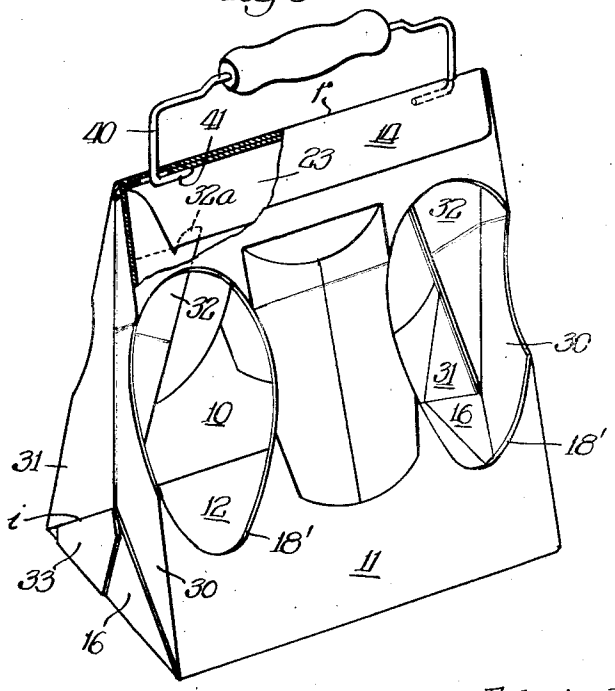


Fig. 9.



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Patented Apr. 4, 1944 2,345,568

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,345,568

BOTTLE HOLDER

Edwin L. Arneson, Morris, Ill., assignor to Morris Paper Mills, Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

Application May 14, 1942, Serial No. 442,915

24 Claims. (Cl. 229—52)

This invention relates to bottle holders such as may be made of paper board, which are designed for the packaging of a plurality of bottles of beverage and the like in a manner to permit their being carried conveniently. This application is a continuation in part of my copending application Serial No. 437,736, filed April 6, 1942, for Improvements in bottle holders.

A general object of the invention is the provision of such a container which may be fabricated easily and economically from paper board in a flat folded or collapsed condition, and which may be set up very quickly and easily by the user without requiring any sort of setting-up apparatus or additional fastenings; and which in its set-up condition is adapted to receive a plurality of bottles of beverage with a close fit so as to retain them securely and with substantial areas of the contained bottles exposed for purpose of inspection or display.

A particular object of the present invention is the provision of such a container with features whereby the foldable parts are effectively latched or locked in the desired relationship when the container is in its set-up condition, whereby to facilitate insertion of the bottles, said latching or locking features being of a character such that they may be readily disengaged, when desired, so that the container may be again collapsed to flat form after the bottles have been removed.

Another object is the provision of a bottle holder having the attributes above specified and which may be made of a height less than the bottles for which it is designed and in its plan dimensions does not materially exceed the area occupied by the contained bottles.

Other and further objects of the invention will be pointed out or indicated hereinafter or will be apparent to one skilled in the art upon an understanding of the invention or use of it in practice.

For the purpose of aiding in an explanation of the invention, I show in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and hereinafter describe, certain forms in which it may be embodied. It is to be understood, however, that these are presented merely for purpose of illustration and hence are not to be construed in any fashion for the purpose of limiting the claims short of the true and most comprehensive scope of the invention in the art.

In said drawings,

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a complete blank of sheet material, such as may be cut out by a die, and which may be folded and fastened to produce one embodiment of the invention, the dotted lines indicating scores or creases on which portions of the blank may be folded;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same blank after portions thereof have been folded in the process of fabricating the container;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the same blank after the further folding and fastening together of some of its portions;

Fig. 4 is a detail showing the completely folded container flexed to an arched form incident to the assembling of one form of handle with it;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the completed container, with handle attached, in an almost completely collapsed condition;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the container in its fully set-up condition, ready for reception of bottles;

Fig. 7 is a perspective of the container as viewed from the corner diagonally opposite that presented in Fig. 6, and showing all but one of its bottle content in place;

Fig. 8 is a plan view of a complete blank for production of a slightly modified form of container embodying the invention; and

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a set-up container of such modified form with handle attached and with a portion of the side wall broken away.

The nature of the invention will be most quickly understood from the following detailed description of the illustrative embodiments shown in the drawings.

The blank illustrated in Fig. 1 may be cut, by means of a suitable die, from a sheet of paper board or the like having the requisite strength and stiffness. Portions of said blank are marked off by fold creases or score lines to provide side panels 10 and 11 and a bottom panel 12 to which the side panels remain connected at their lower ends along fold creases *b* and *b'* which define the side margins of the bottom panel. Side panel 10 has at its upper end a connecting flap 14 which is foldable angularly to it along a crest fold crease *r*, and side panel 11 has at its upper end a top flap 23 which is foldable angularly to it along a crease line *s*. The side panels 10 and 11 have lateral sections 15 extending beyond lateral fold creases *d*, and bottom panel 12 has end sections 16 marked off by end fold creases *e*. Latch apertures 60 are cut through the sheet across portions of the fold creases *e*, for purposes hereinafter explained.

The lateral sections 15 are provided with fold creases *h* extending obliquely from approxi-

mately the points where their upper ends join the side panels, and the lateral sections of side panel 10 have oblique flexing scores or creases *i* diverging from the lower corners of said side panel. Portions of the side panels 10 and 11 are cut out to provide lateral bottle receiving apertures 18 and 18' in symmetrical arrangement, and between its apertures 18 side panel 10 is slotted through with slots 19, 20 and 21 and provided with fold creases *j* and *k* to form a separator tongue 22 and a pair of separator flaps 24. Side panel 11 is slotted through at 25, 26 and 27 to provide a pair of separator flaps 28 and a top flap 29 which are flexible out of the plane of the side panel along fold creases *m* and *n* respectively. Side panel 11 is also provided with a transverse fold crease *p* extending across the lateral sections 15 and the flaps 28 and interrupted by the apertures 18'.

The diagonal fold creases *h* subdivide the lateral sections 15 into end wall portions 30 and 31 and tuck portions 32 and 34, and score lines *i* mark off securing portions 33 from the sections 31. End wall portions 30 are provided with latching lips 30*a* spaced from the adjacent corners of the bottom panel a distance corresponding to the spacing of the latching apertures 60 therefrom. On the fold creases *r* and *s* the side panels are punched to provide handle holes 38 and 38' arranged symmetrically and located a short distance inwardly from respective fold creases *d*.

The blank having been formed as above described, the further fabrication of the container is proceeded with by first folding the lateral sections 15 inwardly along the fold creases *d* until they are brought flat against the side panels, and likewise folding inwardly the bottom end sections 16 along fold creases *e* until they are brought flat against the bottom panel. The securing portions 33 are then re-folded outwardly along the crease lines *i* until they come flat upon the adjacent end wall portions 31. As thus folded the blank is in the form illustrated in Fig. 2. Adhesive is then applied to the exposed surfaces of the securing portions 33 and connecting flap 14, as in the areas marked with stippling in Fig. 2. Then the upper portion of side panel 11 is folded over onto its lower portion along the fold crease *p*, and side panel 11 is then folded over along fold crease *b* so as to bring the adhesive-bearing surfaces of the securing portions 33 down onto the upwardly presented surfaces of end sections 16, and likewise bring the adhesive-bearing surface of connecting flap 14 down onto the upwardly presented surface of side panel 11 beyond the crease line *s*. This results in the affixing of the securing sections 33 to end section 16, and connecting flap 14 to side panel 11, by means of the adhesive. The parts as thus folded and connected bear the relationship illustrated in Fig. 3, which completes the fabrication of the container. It will be observed that the container as thus fabricated is in a flat folded or collapsed condition, in which condition quantities of the containers may be stacked and packaged for shipment in very compact arrangement.

For assembly with the container above described, I provide a rigid pre-formed handle such as illustrated in Fig. 4, which comprises a bail having leg portions 40 with journal portions 41 extending toward each other in alignment from the ends of the leg portions. The leg portions at the point where they join the journal portions 41 are spaced from each other a distance corresponding to the spacing of the handle holes 38 of the container. Such handle may be formed of stiff wire and is supplied to the user separate from the container. To attach such a handle to a container, the latter, in its flat collapsed form, is flexed to an arched condition as illustrated in Fig. 4, thus bringing the handle holes 38 to positions where the ends of the journals 41 may be inserted through them and through the underlying openings 38'. After the journals have been thus inserted, the arched container is released and allowed to spring back to its normal straight form, thereby moving the handle holes 38 out to the leg portions 40 and mounting the container on the journal portions 41 with the latter underlying the fold crease *s*.

The collapsed container, with its handle thus attached, is shown in Fig. 5 and is now ready to be set up for reception of the intended bottles. With the container in the condition illustrated in Fig. 5, this is accomplished by pressing the fold crease *p* toward the opposite fold crease *b*, which has the effect of unfolding side panel 11 at crease *p*, raising the crest fold crease *r* and swinging the side panel 11 upwardly along fold crease *b'* and side panel 10 upwardly along fold crease *b*, and at the same time flexing the side panels to angular relationship with each other along crest fold crease *r*. As side panel 10 swings upwardly away from the bottom panel, end wall portions 31 and end sections 16 will be swung outwardly to approximately vertical positions over the ends of the bottom panel, and as the portions of side panel 11 which are above and below fold crease *p* approach alignment with each other, end wall sections 30 are pressed away from side panel 11 by the fingers so as to swing them outwardly to upstanding positions over the ends of the bottom panel. This outward swinging of end wall portions 30 and 31 causes flexing of the sheet along fold creases *h* and moves tuck portions 32 and 34 into surface engagement with each other in positions where they extend inwardly from end wall portions 30 and 31 over approximately the median line of the bottom panel. As end wall portions 30 are swung outwardly, they come into surface abutment with end sections 16, which function as stops to prevent excessive outward movement of end wall portions 30, and when the lower ends of end wall portions 30 attain positions approximately parallel with end fold creases *e*, the latching lips 30*a* snap into the latching apertures 60 in overlapping relationship to the marginal portions of the bottom panel which are exposed in those apertures. This serves to latch the end wall portions 30 against swinging inwardly, and the end wall portions, as thus latched in position, retain the set-up device against collapsing because said latched end wall portions hold the end section 16 and end wall portions 31 against swinging inwardly and the contacting tuck flaps 32 and 34, in their angular relationship to the end wall portions, retain the parts in mutual supporting relationship.

The device, as thus set up, has the form illustrated in Fig. 6 and is ready for reception of the bottles. It will be observed that the journal portions 41 of the handle lie in the crotch between the in-folded flap 28 and the upper portion of side panel 11, so that there is a double thickness of the sheet material lying above said journals and affording them very secure anchorage and strong support for the receptacle upon them. As here shown, the container is designed to hold six bottles standing upright on the bot-

tom panel in two rows of three bottles each. The length of the bottom panel is approximately the same as the length of a row of three of the intended bottles standing upright and in contact with one another and the width of the bottom panel is approximately the same as the width of two bottles standing side by side. The apertures 18 and 18' are of a size to permit insertion of the bottles, bottoms first, and in the loading of the container, the four bottles may be inserted simultaneously into the said apertures. The bottles so inserted rest laterally against end wall portions 30 and 31 and their insertion between the opposite side panels forces portions of the latter which are below the apertures 18 and 18' outwardly somewhat, with the result that the side panels securely grip said bottles when they are standing upright on the bottom panel. The tuck portions 32 and 34 constitute separators which keep the bottles in the opposite apertures 18 and 18' from grinding against each other. After the four outermost bottles have thus been inserted, the two intermediate bottles may then be inserted simultaneously, one at each side. The intermediate bottle which is inserted through the side panel 10 is pressed, bottom first, against the tongue 22 and separator flaps 24, and at the same time the bottle at the opposite side is pressed, bottom first, against the separator flaps 28. As these bottles are pressed toward each other, the tongue 22 and the flaps 24 and 28 are all swung inwardly, tongue 22 swinging inwardly along line *k*, flaps 24 along lines *j*, and flaps 28 along lines *m*, so that when the intermediate bottles are forced to upright position on the bottom panel, the tongue 22 will be a separator between them and the flaps 24 and 28 will be separators between the intermediate and lateral bottles. With the six bottles thus loaded into the container, all are very firmly held, but at the same time very extensive proportions of them are exposed to view, which is desirable for purposes of inspection and advertising effect.

The filled package may be carried very conveniently and safely by means of the handle, as the weight of the contents is supported through the end walls 30 and 31 which are reinforced by tuck portions 32 and 34, and is not dependent to any substantial extent upon the relatively narrow connections of the flap portions along lines *j* and *m*. Any of the bottles may be removed with facility without disturbing any of the others or involving any dismantling or unfolding of the container. After even all of the bottles are removed, the container still remains in its set-up condition for reception of the empty bottles. Upon return of the device to the bottler, in order to conserve storage space, it may be again folded to flat collapsed form until required for use for the packaging of another lot of filled bottles, at which time it may be set up quickly and with facility as above described. To effect such collapsing, the end wall portions 30 are pressed inwardly sufficiently to snap the latching lips 30*a* out of the latching apertures 60 and swing the lateral sections into surface contact with the inner surfaces of side panel 11, whereupon end wall portions 31 and end sections 16 may be swung inwardly and the side panels folded to flat collapsed condition along fold creases *p* and *b*.

In Figs. 8 and 9 I show a modified form of construction which differs from that above described only as regards the particular character of the latching or locking elements. As to the features which the two forms have in common, like reference numerals are applied to corresponding parts. This modified construction differs from that above described in that the latching lips, which are here designated by the reference numerals 32*a*, are formed by notching the upper end portions of the tuck flaps 32 so as to leave these lips as projections at the upper ends of said flaps. The blank illustrated in Fig. 8 is folded and the parts are connected in the manner above described to fabricate the container in its flat folded condition, and the handle is attached to it in similar fashion. As in the construction above described, when the device is set up, the top flap 23 of side wall panel 11 occupies a depending position approximately midway between the upper portions of the diverging side panels and its ends are engaged between the abutting tuck flaps 32 and 34. To latch or lock the end wall portions 30 in the set-up position, the upper end portions of the tuck flaps 32 are pressed against the depending flap 23 to flex the latter far enough toward the side panel 10 to permit the latching lips 32*a* to be sprung past the lower margin of the tab 23, so that said lips will engage against the opposite side of the flap when the pressure is released and the flap returns to its normal depending position under its own resiliency. This is done by pressing the upper portions of the tuck flaps 32 with the thumbs, inserted through the apertures 18', at the time the end wall portions 30 are swung outwardly to their set-up positions. After being thus engaged with the flap 23, the lips 32*a* retain the tuck flaps 32 against swinging toward the side panel 11, and hence retain the end wall portions in their upright positions over the ends of the bottom panel, and the end wall portions 30 thus retained in position hold the bottom end sections 16 and end wall portions 31 against swinging inwardly. Thus the device is definitely retained in its proper set-up condition, ready for insertion of bottles. When it is desired again to collapse the device, the latching lips 32*a* are freed from the tab 23 by flexing the tuck flaps 32 and tab 23 toward the side panel 11 to an extent sufficient to permit the lips 32*a* to escape past the lower edge of the tab. It is to be observed that both forms of latching features above described may be utilized in the same container if it is desired to latch the end wall portion 30 at both its upper and lower ends. However, for ordinary purposes it will be necessary to use only one form.

It will be appreciated that by virtue of its structural features and provision of means for latching various of its parts in set-up condition, the device provides a very stable and sturdy packaging and transporting receptacle for articles of substantial weight, such as bottles of beverage, that it may be very quickly and easily set up from its collapsed condition and its intended contents placed in it quickly and with facility. Moreover, it permits the placing and carrying of a plurality of the complete packages in a case or tray of minimum size, because the carrier with the bottles in it does not exceed the height of the bottles themselves and in base area does not materially exceed the area required for the combination of bottles alone. Because of the fact that the handle may be pressed down to a position where it is entirely below the upper ends of the bottles, the carrier permits the stacking of the packages one upon another with the superimposed ones supported upon the tops of the bottles in subjacent packages.

What I claim is:

1. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a sheet creased to form a container having a bottom, a pair of side panels connected to each other at their upper ends and at their lower ends to respective side margins of the bottom, end sections flexibly connected along end margins of the bottom, and lateral sections extending along side margins of the side panels and foldable inwardly against inner surfaces thereof and also to positions where they extend angularly from the side panels and form end walls over ends of the bottom when the container is in set-up condition, certain of the lateral sections being attached at their lower portions to respective end sections, said sheet being creased transversely to permit said panels and lateral sections to be folded to flat collapsed relationship with the bottom, and the attached end and lateral sections being foldable relative to each other along oblique fold lines to permit the end sections to swing to upstanding positions in the setting-up of the container and to in-folding positions on the bottom when the container is collapsed.

2. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, end sections flexibly connected along end margins of the bottom and adapted to swing to positions where they extend upwardly from the bottom and to positions where they overlie the bottom, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, the end sections being connected to lower end portions of certain of the lateral sections and being foldable relative thereto along oblique fold lines, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to move the bottom and side panels to flat collapsed relationship, and latching means provided on certain of said parts whereby some of the lateral sections may be latched in set-up position.

3. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, certain of said lateral sections being flexibly connected to the bottom along end margins thereof and being foldable along fold lines extending obliquely relative to the side margins of the side panels, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship with the lateral sections folded inwardly.

4. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, the lateral sections of one side panel having their lower end portions flexibly connected with the bottom and foldable on fold lines extending obliquely relative to the bottom, and the lateral sections of the other side panel being provided with latching elements engageable with other portions of the container to latch them in set-up position.

5. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, end sections flexibly connected to end margins of the bottom and foldable inwardly onto the upper surface thereof and outwardly to upstanding positions, certain of said lateral sections being flexibly connected at their lower ends with said end sections, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which the side panels may be folded relative to the bottom to collapsed relationship, and certain of said lateral sections having latching elements releasably engageable with other portions of the container to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

6. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and foldable also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, end sections flexibly connected to end margins of the bottom and foldable inwardly onto the upper surface thereof and outwardly to upstanding positions, certain of said lateral sections being flexibly connected at their lower ends with said end sections and others of said lateral sections lapping inner surfaces of said end sections when in set-up positions, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which the side panels may be folded relative to the bottom to collapsed relationship, and certain of said lateral sections having latching elements releasably engageable with other portions of the container to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

7. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative

to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, and latching elements carried by certain of said lateral sections and interengageable with portions of the bottom to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

8. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, and latching elements carried by certain of said lateral sections and interengageable with portions of the container above the bottom to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

9. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, and interengageable latching means on certain of said parts whereby the lateral sections may be latched in set-up position, said side panels being provided with apertures through which fingers may be introduced to press the lateral sections to set-up positions.

10. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, and cooperating latching means formed on certain of said parts whereby the lateral sections may be latched in set-up position, said lateral sections extending to approximately the upper ends of the side panels and the side panels being provided at their upper ends with a handle whereby the set-up container may be supported pendulously.

11. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, the bottom being provided with latch apertures and certain of the lateral sections being provided with latch elements engageable in said apertures.

12. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, one of the side panels having an upper end portion depending over the bottom and certain of the lateral sections having latching portions interengageable with said depending end portion to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

13. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a container formed of sheet material and having a bottom, a pair of side panels having their lower ends connected to said bottom along respective side margins thereof and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends, and lateral sections flexibly connected along side margins of said side panels and foldable inwardly to positions against inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said container being formed with transversely extending creases along which its parts may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, one of the side panels having a flap depending between upper end portions of adjacent lateral sections and certain of said lateral sections having latching lips arranged for interlocking engagement with said flap to latch said lateral sections in set-up positions.

14. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a sheet shaped to form a container having a bottom, a pair of side panels integrally connected to said bottom at their lower ends along its respective side margins and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends and lateral sections extending along and integrally connected with respective side margins of the side panels and having their upper ends separate from each other, said sheet being provided with transverse creases along which the side panels may be folded relative to the bottom to collapse the container to flattened condition, said lateral sections being foldable inwardly against inner surfaces of the side panels and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, certain of said lateral sections having lower end portions connected to the bottom and being foldable to and from their set-up positions on lines extending obliquely relative to the bottom, latching elements formed on certain of said lateral sections and latching parts provided on other portions of the container and engageable with

said latching elements to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

15. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a sheet shaped to form a container having a bottom, a pair of side panels integrally connected to said bottom at their lower ends along its respective side margins and connected to each other adjacent their upper ends and lateral sections extending along and integrally connected with respective side margins of the side panels and having their upper ends separate from each other, said sheet being provided with transverse creases along with the side panels may be folded relative to the bottom to collapse the container to flattened condition, said lateral sections being foldable inwardly against inner surfaces of the side panels and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative to the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, certain of said lateral sections having lower end portions flexibly connected with the bottom, latching elements formed on certain of said lateral sections and latching parts provided on other portions of the container and engageable with said latching elements to retain the lateral sections in set-up positions.

16. A collapsible bottle holder comprising a sheet shaped and creased to form a container having a bottom, a pair of side panels, lateral sections and end sections all integrally united, the side panels extending from respective side margins of the bottom and being connected to each other at their upper ends, the end sections extending from the end margins of the bottom and being foldable inwardly onto the upper surface of the bottom and to upstanding positions at the ends thereof, the lateral sections extending from lateral margins of the side panels and being foldable inwardly onto inner surfaces thereof and also to set-up positions where they extend angularly relative thereto over end portions of the bottom, certain of the lateral sections being flexibly connected at their lower ends to the end sections and the other lateral sections having their lower portions disposed to overlap inner surfaces of the end sections when in set-up positions, the sheet being provided with transverse creases along which the bottom and side panels may be folded to flat collapsed relationship, and latching elements carried by said other lateral sections and engageable with other portions of the container to retain the parts in set-up positions.

17. A bottle carrier comprising a receptacle formed of a sheet of paper board or the like and having a bottom and side panels arranged in triangular relationship and provided with a handle at the upper ends of the side panels, said bottom and panels being foldable relative to one another along parallel transverse crease lines to permit collapsing of the receptacle to flattened condition, end sections flexibly connected to end margins of the bottom and foldable inwardly onto the upper surface thereof, lateral sections flexibly connected to lateral margins of the side panels and foldable inwardly onto the inner surfaces thereof, the lateral sections of one side panel being connected to the end sections and being flexible relative thereto along fold lines extending obliquely relative to the bottom, and said end and lateral sections being shaped to form end walls extending angularly from the lateral margins of the side panels and end margins of the bottom in locations between the side walls when the receptacle is in its set-up triangular form.

18. A bottle carrier comprising a receptacle formed of a sheet of paper board or the like and having a bottom and side panels arranged in triangular relationship and provided with a handle at the upper ends of the side panels, said bottom and panels being foldable relative to one another along parallel transverse crease lines to permit collapsing of the receptacle to flattened condition, end sections extending along substantially the entire length of the end margins of the bottom and flexibly connected thereto and foldable inwardly onto the upper surface of the bottom, lateral sections flexibly connected to lateral margins of the side panels and foldable inwardly onto the inner surfaces thereof, the lateral sections of one side panel being connected to the end sections and being flexible relative thereto along fold lines extending obliquely relative to the bottom, and said end and lateral sections being shaped to form end walls extending angularly from the lateral margins of the side panels and end margins of the bottom in locations between the side walls when the receptacle is in its set-up triangular form.

19. A bottle carrier comprising a sheet of paper board folded to form a pair of side panels having their upper ends connected and provided with a handle and a bottom connected at its opposite side margins to the lower ends of said side panels, the side panels being provided with apertures through which bottles may be inserted to standing positions on the bottom, lateral sections flexibly connected to lateral margins of the side panels which are located above and below said apertures, said lateral sections extending angularly from the side panels to form end walls over end portions of the bottom, said lateral sections being flexible to positions against inner surfaces of the side panels and the sheet being creased transversely to permit the device to be collapsed to flattened form, and end sections flexibly connected to end margins of the bottom and to certain of the lateral sections and retaining the lower ends of the lateral sections against swinging outwardly to any material extent beyond the ends of the bottom.

20. A bottle carrier as specified in claim 19 and wherein portions of the lateral sections are bent inwardly at an angle to the end walls along the greater portion of the height thereof at locations approximately midway between the side panels.

21. A bottle carrier as specified in claim 19 and wherein the end sections span approximately the entire width of the bottom and are connected to it along its end margins so as to stiffen it transversely.

22. A bottle carrier formed of a sheet of paper board creased to form a bottom panel and side panels which are connected to each other at their upper ends and have their lower ends conjoined to opposite side margins of the bottom panel to form a receptacle of triangular elevational form, said sheet having lateral sections extending angularly from lateral margins of the side panels to form end walls at the ends of the bottom panel, portions of said lateral sections being deflected angularly from said end walls and throughout the greater portion of the height thereof to form stiffening members extending inwardly approximately midway between the side panels, and a separate handle extending through the sheet at the crest of the receptacle and having a bail portion disposed above the upper end

of the side panels and support portions underlying the crest of the receptacle and extending transversely of the side panels in the crotch between their upper ends.

23. A bottle holder as specified in claim 3 and wherein each side panel is provided with a plurality of bottle-receiving apertures each of size to accommodate only a single one of the bottles for which the carrier is designed.

24. A bottle holder as specified in claim 3 and wherein each side panel is provided with a plurality of bottle-receiving apertures each of size to accommodate only a single one of the bottles for which the carrier is designed and the outermost apertures extend approximately to the lateral limits of the side panels.

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