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STERILIZER

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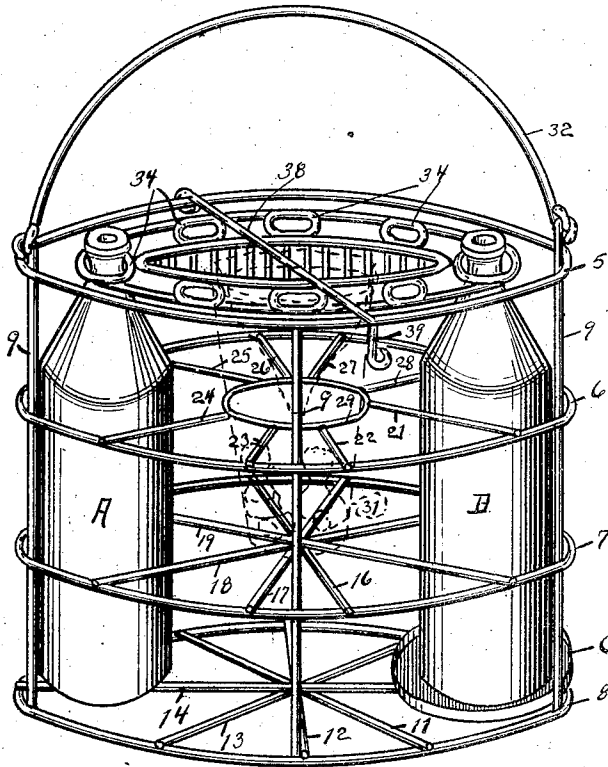


Fig. I.

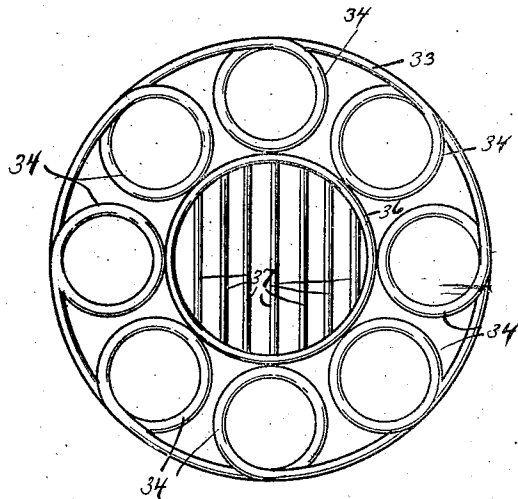


Fig. II.

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STERILIZER.

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This invention relates to improvements in sterilizers and has particular reference to a sterilizer for use in preparing babies' milk.

Another object is to produce a device of this character in which a plurality of bottles may be placed, sterilized and removed from the sterilizing liquid without danger of injury to the person handling the same.

A further object is to provide a device which is simple and therefore economical to manufacture, and therefore well within the purchase price of the average user.

A further object is to provide means whereby the nipples, corks and filling funnel may be sterilized at the same time that the bottles are sterilized.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure I is a perspective view of my device having two bottles positioned therein, and

Figure II is a plan view of the retaining ring.

At the present time in the preparing of babies' milk, it is first necessary to thoroughly cleanse the bottles, after which they are immersed in boiling water for the purpose of sterilizing the same, after which they are removed, drained, cooled and filled with the milk solution, and bottles are again placed in a vessel containing water and Pasteurized.

This sterilization of the bottles in an ordinary open vessel requires considerable time, and also the danger of burning the hands when removing the bottles from the water, as well as the danger of contamination during the handling of the bottles.

In sterilizing the nipples, it often happens that the same float upon the surface of the boiling water and are therefore not perfectly sterilized, and moreover when they drop to the bottom of the vessel, they are exceedingly difficult to extract therefrom.

I have therefore provided a rack within which a plurality of bottles may be placed, and I have further provided means for retaining a plurality of nipples, corks and a small funnel all of which are sterilized at the same time, and all of which can be

extracted without danger of injury to the person performing the operation.

In the accompanying drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numerals 5, 6, 7 and 8 refer to a plurality of rings spaced from each other by a plurality of uprights 9 which may be of any desired number.

The ring 8 has a plurality of spoke-like members as shown at 11, 12, 13 and 14 secured to its periphery and crossing at a central point. The ring-like member 7 has similar spoke-like members 16, 17, 18 and 19, while the ring 6 is provided with spokes 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28, the inner ends of which join a ring 29. This ring is adapted to position a receptacle shown in dotted lines at 31, to be later described.

To two of the uprights 9 I attach a handle. The rack thus far described is adapted to retain therein a plurality of bottles and a centrally disposed receptacle. In order to retain these bottles and the receptacle with its contents within the rack, I provide a retaining ring 33 preferably made of a continuous wire bent into a plurality of loops 34 (see Figure II). These loops 34 are of sufficient size to pass over the tops of each of the bottles resting within the basket.

A ring 36 is attached to the loops 34 as by soldering or welding as the case may be, which ring 36 is provided with cross bars 37. These cross bars are spaced sufficiently close together to prevent the contents of the basket from escaping there-between.

In order to retain this ring 33 in its proper position with relation to the basket, I provide a catch 38 which engages one side of the ring 5 and is provided with a downwardly turned end 39 which end is slightly bent so as to frictionally engage the opposite side of the ring 5 from that engaged by the opposite end of the catch. This catch further overlies the ring and therefore retains the same in adjusted position.

The manner of using my device is as follows:—

Assuming that the basket is in the position shown in Figure I, with the ring 33 removed the bottles are placed within the rack as shown in this figure, the two bottles being designated by the reference characters A and B, while at C I have shown the metal

cover ordinarily placed upon the receptacle 31. This receptacle is preferably an ordinary tumbler or jelly glass which is positioned within the basket so as to rest upon the spokes 16, 17, 18 and 19 and to be confined within the ring 29, after which the nipples, corks and a small funnel are placed within the glass and the ring 33 placed upon the basket and the catch 38 placed in position.

The bottles are next filled with water and the entire device turned upside down into a receptacle within which water has been previously placed, as more fully described in my allowed application, Serial Number 91,838.

After the sterilizing process has been completed and the bottles have been drained and filled with the formula milk, the metal cover *c* is removed from its position beneath the bottle B and placed upon the receptacle 31. This prevents any danger of the contamination of any articles remaining in the receptacle, it of course being understood that the funnel has been previously removed and used for the filling of the bottles and that the corks have been placed in each bottle and therefore the nipples are the only articles remaining in the receptacle.

It will thus be seen that with the bottles so positioned and held within the rack the same may be used for transporting the milk from place to place or for storing the bottles within a refrigerator or similar storage place.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes relative to the shape, material, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. In a basket of the character described

a plurality of rings spaced one above the other uprights secured to said rings for the purpose of maintaining said rings in spaced relation spoke-like members carried by each of said rings, one of said rings having a concentric ring positioned therein, and adapted to confine a receptacle, a retaining ring having a plurality of loops secured thereto, said loops being capable of encircling the necks of bottles placed within said basket in the manner described.

2. In a basket of the character described a plurality of rings spaced one above the other uprights secured to said rings for the purpose of maintaining said rings in spaced relation, spoke-like members carried by each of said rings, one of said rings having a concentric ring positioned therein, and adapted to confine a receptacle, a retaining ring having a plurality of loops secured thereto, said loops being capable of encircling the necks of bottles placed within said basket, and a ring concentrically positioned within said retaining ring, said ring having spaced bars extending from side to side thereof for the purpose of overlying a receptacle positioned within said first mentioned concentric ring.

3. In a basket of the character described a plurality of rings spaced one above the other, spoke-like members carried by each of said rings, one of said rings having a concentric ring positioned therein, and adapted to confine a receptacle, a retaining ring having a plurality of loops secured thereto, said loops being capable of encircling the necks of bottles placed within said basket, and a ring concentrically positioned within said retaining ring, said ring having spaced bars extending from side to side thereof for the purpose of overlying a receptacle positioned within said first mentioned concentric ring, and means for securing said retaining ring in a position concentric with the uppermost of said first mentioned rings.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN HOMER WOOLSEY.