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R. T. HARGOOD & C. ROWLANDS.

BOTTLE CLOSURE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 3, 1907.

Fig. 1.

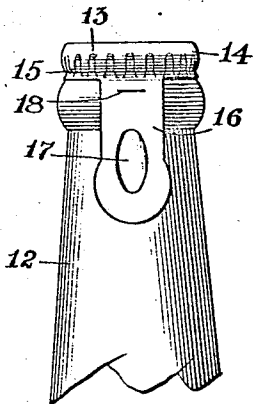


Fig. 2.

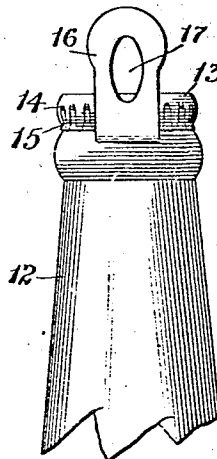
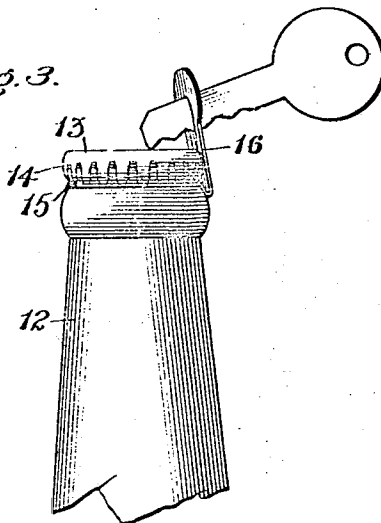


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

Edwin L. Bradford
L. M. Lawrence

By

Inventors
Ruswell S. Hargood
Charles Rowlands
Calvin Calvert

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROSWELL T. HAPGOOD AND CHARLES ROWLANDS, OF GLASSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA.

BOTTLE-CLOSURE.

No. 895,261.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 4, 1908.

Application filed September 3, 1907. Serial No. 391,255.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROSWELL T. HAPGOOD and CHARLES ROWLANDS, citizens of the United States, both residing at Glassport, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented or discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Bottle-Closures, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Our invention relates to bottle closures, more particularly to that type of closure or stopper which is made in the form of a sheet metal cap provided with a crimped edge adapted to engage a bead formed upon the mouth of the bottle to hold the cap in place.

In order to remove caps of the type referred to; it has heretofore generally been necessary to employ an implement or tool specially designed for this purpose. Great inconvenience has often been experienced by persons who have lost or have failed to provide themselves with the necessary tool or opener, it being extremely awkward and in some cases practically impossible to remove these caps with any other implement.

The objects of our invention, therefore, are to produce a bottle cap of the character referred to which will be simple and inexpensive to manufacture, reliable in its operation, and which may be removed from the bottle by any convenient implement not specially designed for that purpose.

To these ends our invention comprises certain constructions of parts hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, in which is illustrated one form in which our invention may be embodied, Figure 1 shows, in side elevation, the cap in its normal position on the mouth of the bottle; Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the tab, hereinafter described, bent upwardly in a position to be engaged by a suitable tool to remove the cap; Fig. 3 is a similar view, taken at right angles to Figs. 1 and 2, and illustrating the method of engaging the cap to remove the same.

In the drawings, 12 indicates a beer or other bottle of usual construction and 13 a cap, having a continuous depending locking flange or edge 14, adapted to be crimped, as indicated at 15, to engage the usual bead or projecting shoulder formed about the mouth of the bottle. The cap 13 is provided with

means adapted to be engaged by any convenient instrument for the purpose of removing the cap, such means as herein shown comprising a tab or extension 16, provided with an opening 17. The tab 16 is preferably formed integral with the cap 13, and has, near the edge of the cap, a slight indentation, score, or other weakened portion indicated at 18 in Fig. 1, in order to facilitate the bending of the same into its upright or operative position, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

It will be seen that the bending of the tab 16 into its upright position brings the opening 17 into a position above and to one side of the cap proper. In order now to remove the cap any convenient implement, such as a key, pocket knife, or ice pick, is inserted through the opening 17 and allowed to rest at its end on the top of the cap, as shown in Fig. 3. When in this position an upward pull at the outer end of the inserted implement will result in an immediate removal of the cap.

It will now be obvious that our invention provides a device of the character described which is extremely simple in character and inexpensive to manufacture, it being possible to stamp the cap with its attached tab as a whole out of sheet material at a cost practically no greater than that of manufacturing the ordinary cap now in general use. Moreover the cap when in position presents no projecting parts which might interfere with the convenient handling of the bottle to which it is applied, the tab 16 when in its normal position, as shown in Fig. 1, extending down along the neck of the bottle close to the same. Furthermore the cap may be easily removed by any convenient implement without substantial injury to the cap itself, the cap being formed of substantially homogeneous material throughout and not depending upon lines of weakness, along which the cap is torn, for its removal. Caps constructed in accordance with our invention may therefore, if desired, be used a plurality of times.

By the term "homogeneous", as herein employed, we are to be understood to refer to a cap having no lines of weakness along which the cap is torn in removing the same.

While we, in order that our invention may be readily understood, have shown and described the same as embodied in a particular construction, we do not limit ourselves to the

precise construction shown, it being obvious that many changes might be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of our invention.

5 Having thus described our invention what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

10 1. A bottle cap having a substantially homogeneous top and provided with an extension having means for the engagement of a removing implement, said means, when in operative position, lying above and at one side of said top.

15 2. A bottle cap having a substantially homogeneous top and provided with an integral tab having means for the engagement of a removing implement, said means, when in operative position, lying above and at one side of said top.

20 3. A bottle cap having a substantially homogeneous top and provided with a tab having an implement-receiving opening, said opening, when said tab is in operation, lying above and at one side of said top.

25 4. A bottle cap having a substantially homogeneous top and provided with a tab having an implement-receiving opening, said tab being normally extended downwardly along the neck of the bottle but being adapted to be bent upwardly to bring said opening
30 above and to one side of said top.

5. A bottle cap having a tab provided with an implement-receiving opening, said tab having a weakened portion near its junction

with said cap, whereby bending of said tab is 35 facilitated.

6. A bottle cap provided with an implement-engaging tab, said tab having a weakened portion near its junction with said cap, whereby bending of said tab is facilitated. 40

7. In a bottle cap, the locking flange 14 provided with the integral tab 16 having the opening 17 and weakened portion 18, substantially as described.

8. In a metal stopper for bottles, a metal 45 cap-shaped stopper comprising a crown portion adapted to fit over the mouth of a bottle, and a band portion adapted to fit over the neck and bead of a bottle, a corrugated terminal edge portion to said band portion, and a tongue provided with a lever receiving 50 aperture, said tongue portion being adapted to be bent upward into a substantially vertical position without loosening the stopper on the bottle, whereby a pin-shaped member 55 of any kind may be applied to the aperture of said tongue and the top of said cap, and a lifting pressure be exerted on said tongue sufficient to loosen and remove said cap from 60 said bottle.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures, in presence of two witnesses.

ROSWELL T. HAPGOOD.
CHARLES ROWLANDS.

Witnesses:

WALTER CASE,
JOHN SMITH.