Jan. 2, 1951 W. H. BRUNELL ET AL 2,536,419

BOTTLEHOLDER

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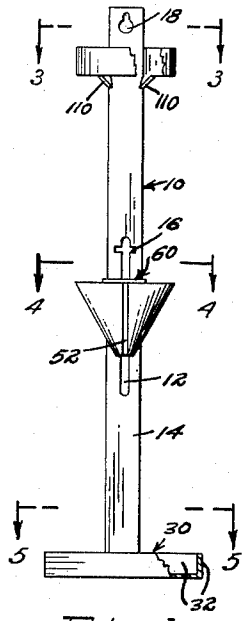


Fig. 1.

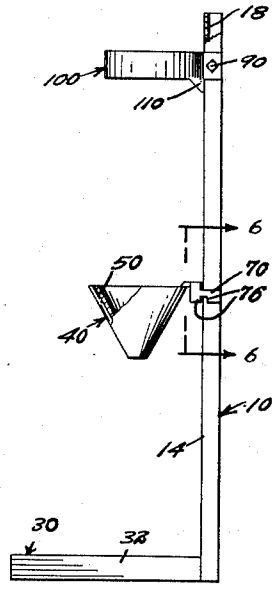


Fig. 2.

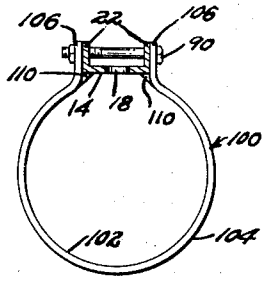


Fig. 3.

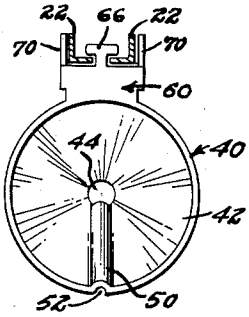


Fig. 4.

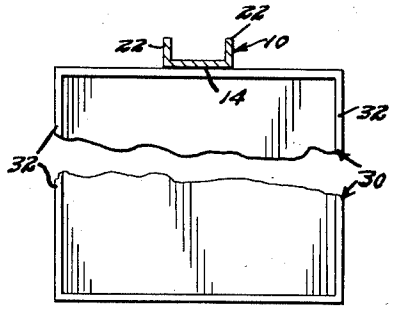


Fig. 5.

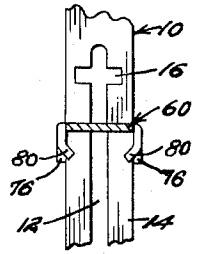


Fig. 6.

Inventors:
Robert D. Hond
Walter H. Brunell
A. Hiram Sturges

BY:

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BOTTLEHOLDER

Walter H. Brunell and Robert D. Hand,
Omaha, Nebr.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 222—112)

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This invention relates to restaurant supplies and more particularly it is an object of this invention to provide a bottle draining device.

It is well known that there is considerable waste of ketchup in restaurants because the last remnants are very difficult to remove from the bottle. Restaurant owners prefer to place bottles on the tables which are at least half full since bottles containing only a small amount of almost unavailable ketchup are unattractive and frustrating.

It has not been economical for restaurant help to laboriously shake the contents of nearly empty bottles out into fuller bottles. As a result, much ketchup goes to waste.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a ketchup bottle holding device in the use of which a bottle can be inverted and allowed to drain itself by gravity into another bottle or container.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a device as described having a funnel attached thereto for guiding ketchup into the narrow opening of another bottle.

Still a further object of the invention resides in the provision of an adjustable attachment between a funnel and a standard whereby the device will accommodate bottles of various sizes.

Yet a further object of the invention is to provide a device of marketable appearance.

Yet another object of the invention resides in the provisions of an integral funnel and funnel attachment member which can be rapidly, efficiently, and economically manufactured.

Still a further object of the invention resides in the provision in a device as described of means for supporting the device upon a horizontal surface and of means for attaching the device to a wall hook or the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device as described having a funnel portion so shaped as to permit air to pass alongside a bottle inverted therein.

Yet another object of the invention resides in the provision of a base for such a device having an upstanding rim for catching any spilled ketchup and for facilitating the positioning of a bottle thereon.

Yet a further object of the invention is to provide a device as described which can be used for many other fluid substances in addition to ketchup.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a device for the purpose described which is sturdy and durable in construction, reliable and efficient in operation, and relatively simple and inexpensive to manufacture, assemble and utilize.

Other and still further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment thereof.

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In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a frontal elevation of the bottle-holder of this invention shown with portions thereof broken away.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the bottle-holder of Figure 1 shown with portions thereof broken away.

Figure 3 is a view-in-section taken along the line 3—3 of Figure 1 and showing only the upper portion of the holder.

Figure 4 is a view-in-section taken along the line 4—4 of Figure 1 and of the center section of the holder.

Figure 5 is a view-in-section taken along the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a view-in-section taken along the line 6—6 of Figure 2.

The bottle-holder of this invention includes a frame or elongated standard 10 which is disposed upright in use, as best shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The standard 10 is provided with an elongated upright slot 12 extending into and through the flat front face 14 thereof. The slot 12 is provided with a portion of larger width 16 at its upper end, which latter is preferably transversely disposed in the form of a cross. The standard 10 has an aperture 18 therethrough at its upper end; the aperture 18 has a wider bottom end for receiving a screw head and a narrower upper end for receiving the shank of a screw or nail, but of a size smaller than the head of the screw or nail. The aperture 18 is provided so that the standard 10 may be hung on a wall if desired.

The standard 10 is preferably of a U-shape in cross-section having the flat face 14 disposed at a right angle with respect to the outer sides of two rearwardly extending arms 22.

The lower end of the standard 10 is suitably secured to the outer rearward side of a base 30. The base 30 is preferably of a rectangular shape and is provided with an upwardly extending surrounding flange or rim to which the standard 10 is secured.

A guide member or funnel for fluids 40 is provided, preferably having its wider opening 42 disposed upwardly and its lower opening 44 disposed downwardly in use. The funnel 40 is preferably of conical shape and is provided with an inwardly protruding elongated bump or ridge 50 on its inner side and extending from the opening 42 to the opening 44. The ridge 50 can be formed by crimping the funnel material, leaving a recess 52 in the outer side thereof.

The purpose of the ridge 50 is to permit air to more freely enter the opening of a bottle at times when the bottle is inverted upon and into the funnel 40.

The funnel 40 is provided at its upper end with

a preferably integral portion 60 which latter extends outwardly from the funnel in a direction transverse to a line between the centers of the funnel openings.

The member 60 is provided with an outwardly protruding nib 66 which latter is of greater size and width on its outer end than on its inner end. The outer end of the nib 66 is preferably of lesser size than the transverse portion 16 of the slot 12 but of greater size than the remainder of the slot 12. The inner portion of the nib 66 is preferably of a size or width smaller than the width of the slot 12.

As thus described, the nib 66 is adapted for slidable reception in the slot 12 but is locked in the slot 12 except at times when the nib 66 is moved to the slot portion 16 for removal.

The member 60 is further provided with two downwardly extending tab portions 70 which are disposed at a right angle to the remainder of the member 60 and are spaced apart complementally with respect to the outer sides of the arms 22 of the standard 10, as best seen in Figure 4. The tab portions 70 are adapted to slidably engage the outer sides of the arms 22 for steadying the funnel 40.

The tabs 70 are each provided with two spaced apart upright incisions 76 extending upwardly from the lower edge thereof. The incisions 76 are preferably disposed in parallelism and are disposed on the front side of the standard 10 at times when the nib 66 is in place in the slot 12.

The incisions 76 are disposed at either side of the nibs 80, which latter are bent inwardly toward each other, as shown in Figure 6. The nibs 80 are disposed for engaging the front face 14 of the standard 10 in order to steady the funnel 40 in use.

As best seen in Figures 2 and 3 the upper end of the standard 10 is provided with a bolt 90 extending through the arms 22 thereof for pivotally securing a bottle-holding member 100 to the standard 10.

The member 100 is elongated and substantially U-shaped and is provided with a concave inner surface 102 for providing a recess to engage a bottle and a convex outer surface 104. The ends 106 of the member 100 are disposed in parallelism with each other and are out-turned with respect to adjacent portions of the holder 100. It is through the ends 106 that the bolt 90 extends and the ends 106 are disposed engaging the outer sides of the arms 22 in use. The member 100 is provided with two downwardly extending tangs 110 disposed one each on the inner side thereof adjacent the parallel end portions 106. The tangs 110 are bent inwardly with respect to adjacent portions of the member 100, as best seen in Figure 1, for engaging the front face 14 of the standard 10.

The tangs 110 are provided with rearward edges for engaging the surface 14 which are disposed substantially at a right angle with respect to the member 100, whereby the tangs 110 engage the face 14 to hold the bottle-holder 100 in a position extending outwardly at a right angle from the standard 10.

In operation it will be seen that a bottle of ketchup can be placed in inverted position in the funnel 40 at a time when the holder 100 is in an upright position. The holder 100 can then be pivoted downwardly over the upper end of the bottle for holding it securely in place.

A second bottle or other container can then be placed on or in the base 30 beneath the funnel 40. The funnel can be adjusted upwardly and downwardly in the slot 12 to accommodate various sizes of receiving bottles.

Ketchup and other slow-draining liquids of low viscosity can be efficiently drained in these position without the attention of an operator.

This invention has provided a means for conserving otherwise wasted ketchup and other fluids; it has provided means for removing ketchup and fluids of low viscosity from bottles without costly shaking; and it has provided an inexpensive device for these purposes which is adjustable for use with various sizes of bottles.

From the foregoing description it is thought to be obvious that a bottle-holder constructed in accordance with our invention is particularly well adapted for use by reason of the convenience and facility with which it may be assembled and operated, and it will also be obvious that our invention is susceptible of some change and modification without departing from the principles and spirit thereof and for this reason we do not wish to be understood as limiting ourselves to the precise arrangement and formation of the several parts herein shown in carrying out our invention in practice except as claimed.

We claim:

A bottle-holder comprising: a normally upright elongated standard having a normally upright elongated slot in one side thereof; a funnel adapted to be disposed adjacent said standard with its wider opening upward and its narrower opening downward, said funnel having an elongated ridge projecting inwardly from the side wall thereof and extending in a direction from said smaller opening and to said wider opening; a member for attaching said funnel to said standard, said member having an outwardly projecting nib, the outermost end of said nib being larger than the width of said slot, the inner end of said nib being of a size for slidable reception between the longitudinal walls of said slot; means on said member for engaging that side of said standard on which said funnel is disposed for normally holding said funnel in an upright position, said standard being provided with two oppositely facing parallel upright sides which are disposed in planes at a right angle to that side of said standard in which said slot is disposed; means on said member for engaging said oppositely facing sides; means for holding to said standard an elongated inverted bottle in up-and-down position at times when the open end of the bottle is disposed in said funnel and the wider opening of said funnel is disposed upwardly; and a base disposed at a right angle to said standard.

WALTER H. BRUNELL.
ROBERT D. HAND.

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