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R. D. ROBBINS

2,011,910

STRIKE

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Fig. 1

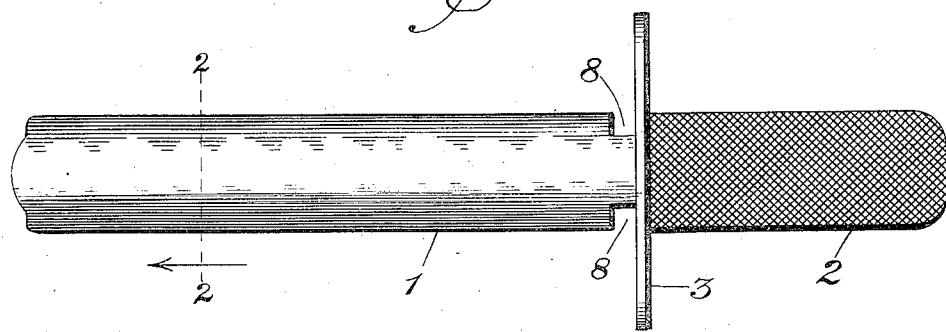


Fig. 2

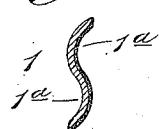


Fig. 3

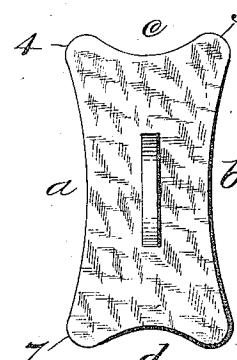


Fig. 7

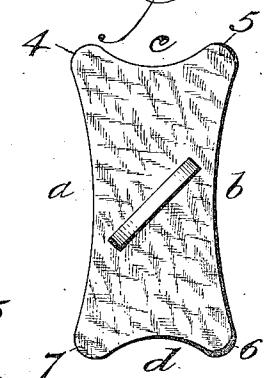


Fig. 4

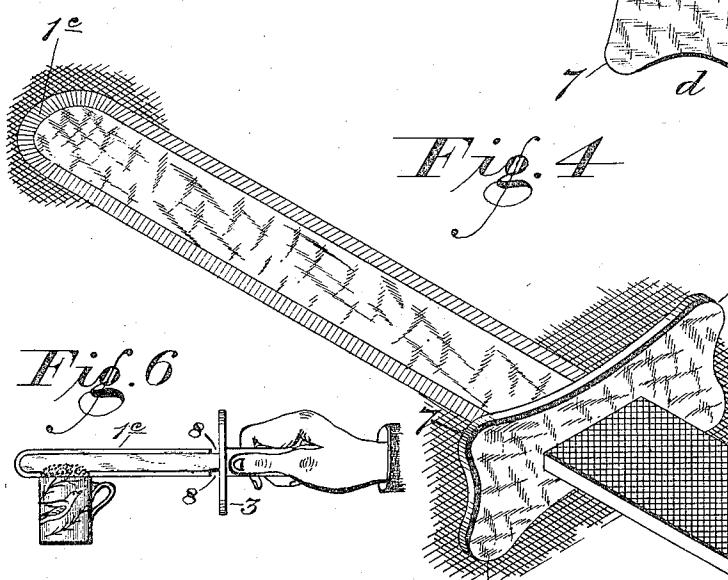


Fig. 6

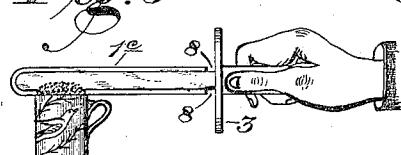
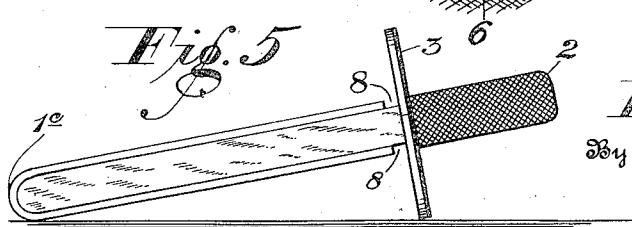


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,011,910

STRIKE

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4 Claims. (CL. 65—12)

My invention is related to kitchen and table articles, and more specifically to a strike for removing the foam from the top of a drinking vessel filled with beer or other effervescent fluid; or for removing the excess from any slightly overfilled measuring vessel in the culinary art where ingredients are to be mixed in exact proportions; as, for instance, so many cups of meal, so many cups of flour, so many cups of sugar, etc.

An object in view is to provide a device of the character described, which, when not in use, will always be supported in position to be easily and quickly grasped by the hand of the operator.

Another object is to provide a device which can be easily kept comparatively clean and sanitary, and in large measure free from such contamination as usually befalls the ordinary devices of this character when in use.

A still further object is to so construct the device that when it is laid down after use with a fluid, the fluid adhering to the blade will be drained from the blade by gravity; or, in other words, the blade when laid down will tend to become automatically cleaned of fluid.

Still another object, with the above idea in view, is to provide a device so constructed that when laid down after use it will be inclined not only longitudinally but also transversely for facilitating drainage of fluids from the device.

Another object is to provide a device of this character in which the handle will never touch the surface upon which the device rests, however carelessly it may have been laid down thereupon.

Another object is to provide a device of this character in which, when the device is laid down upon a flat surface, in any desired position, the blade of the device will never be permitted to come into flat engagement with the surface, nor will it ever be permitted to touch the surface at more than one diminutive point at any given time.

A still further object is to provide a device of this character in which the hand of the user will be kept entirely out of contact with the fluid that gets spread upon the working portion of the blade while the device is in use.

Other objects will appear in the subjoined description.

A leading feature of the device consists of a unitary blade preferably of a uniform width having one end serving as a blade proper and the other end serving as a handle, with a rigid support between the two sections of the blade, said support being disposed in a plane at right angles to the longitudinal extent of the blade, and projecting outwardly from the blade on all sides thereof, the handle-end of the device being lighter than the blade proper thereof, whereby when the device is laid down on a flat surface

the blade will always be inclined to the horizontal, so that any fluid that may be adhering to it will drain off at the end thereof farthest from the support.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter shown and described, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of one form of my improved strike.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow.

Fig. 3 is an end view of the handle-end of the device.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the device supported on a flat surface.

Fig. 5 is a side elevation, on a reduced scale, showing the device supported with its blade in a vertical plane to facilitate drainage of fluid from the blade.

Fig. 6 is a diminutive view showing the device striking the foam from a mug of effervescent fluid; and,

Fig. 7 is an end elevation of a modified arrangement of the parts of the device, in which the blade is transversely inclined in whatever position the device is laid down upon a flat surface.

Referring further to the drawing, the numeral 1 indicates the blade proper of the form of my device illustrated in Fig. 1. This blade is S-shaped in cross-section, as illustrated in Fig. 2, whereby it is formed on either side adjacent its edge with a longitudinally-extending corrugation 1a.

The other end of the blade is formed into a handle 2 which is provided with a roughened surface, so that the handle may be more securely grasped.

At the point of junction of the blade proper 1 and the handle end 2 is the support 3 which surrounds the blade on all sides thereof, and is disposed in a plane at right angles to the longitudinal extent of the blade. The blade proper and the handle and the support are preferably formed integral with each other.

Fig. 3 shows that the general shape of the support is rectangular with its four edges concaved, 50 the longer concaves being indicated by a and b, and the shorter by c and d, thereby forming the corners of the support into four contact points indicated by the numerals 4, 5, 6 and 7, respectively.

The blade proper 1, at its point of junction with the support 3, is provided on each edge with a notch 8 to prevent fluid from running along either edge of the blade into contact with the support 3, the object being to always keep the 60

support as free as possible from contact with any portion of the fluid.

As appears from Figs. 4 and 5, it will be seen that the corners of the support 3 are curved, and that these curved contact points (corners) of the support 3, and the curved outer end of the blade 1c present such extremely small areas of contact as to be almost unappreciable.

Fig. 6 shows how easily any material, either 10 fluid or granular or powdered, which projects above the top of the vessel may be struck off with the blade of the device.

From Fig. 3 it will be seen that whether the device be supported on the contact points 4 and 15 5, or the contacts 6 and 7, the blade will in either case be held in a vertical plane for drainage purposes, as further illustrated in Fig. 5; whereas from Fig. 4 it will be seen that whether the device is supported on the contacts 5 and 6 or on 20 the contacts 4 and 7, the blade and handle will in either case be held in an inclined horizontal position.

In like manner it will be seen from Fig. 7, that on whichever of the contact points (whether the end pairs or the side pairs) the blade will, in addition to its longitudinal inclination, be also inclined transversely in every case, at an angle of 45°, which will always make it drain to one edge or the other of the blade proper, while at the 30 same time draining it longitudinally.

The corrugations 1a illustrated in Fig. 2, cause the edges of the blade (when struck forwardly over the top edge of an over-full vessel) to exert a lifting effect, as it were, on the protruding material, thereby most effectually removing it from the top of the vessel.

If at any time the device is held in a way to elevate the outer end of the blade proper above the handle end, thereby causing fluid on the 40 blade to run down the edge thereof toward the support 3, the fluid will drop off the blade when it reaches the notches 8. Thus the support 3 serves as a shield to prevent the hand of the operator from touching and soiling the blade proper, while at the same time the notches 8 prevent the fluid adhering to the blade from getting onto the other side of the support in a way and in quantities that would cause it to overspread the surface of the support and work around the same onto the other side thereof where it would gum up the handle and soil the hand of the user, which is very objectionable, because the operator is handling money which has passed through the hands of all sorts of 50 people and has been in all sorts of places; and it is desirable to keep his hands out of contact, both direct and indirect, with the blade proper which comes into direct contact with the fluid itself which is to be drunk.

Ordinarily a simple flat blade is used to strike the foam from fluids sold for drinks; and the blade is laid down flat on the table with the fluid on it, after it has just been used, and the operator often has difficulty and experiences delay in picking it up, and in the process frequently gets his hands all over it, as with his finger nails he digs under the very edge of the device with which he is about to scrape the foam from the top of a drinking vessel; and the impurities on the hand 60 of the user get onto the blade; and the table during a rush gets dirty and sloppy and messy, with flies often crawling around through it all, and then the blade is lifted up out of that sort of filth and used to strike the foam from the next drink that is sold. Thus it will be seen that

from the standpoint of cleanliness there is no comparison between the ordinary striker and my improved sanitary striker, herein set forth.

The operation of the device has already been so fully set forth in the above description that further description thereof is deemed unnecessary.

What I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:—

1. A device of the character described, comprising an elongated blade having a working portion and a handle portion, with a transverse support surrounding said parts at their junction, said support comprising a substantially rectangular disk surrounding the blade and projecting radially therefrom, the blade being transversely inclined at 45° to each side of said transverse support, whereby to adapt the blade transversely to assume by gravity an angle of 45° to a flat surface when laid thereupon with any one of the 20 four sides of its rectangular support in engagement with said surface.

2. A device of the character described, comprising a flat two-edged blade of even width throughout its length and having a working portion and a handle portion; and a rectangular support between said portions for holding the blade out of flat engagement with a flat horizontal surface when the device is laid thereupon, said support forming a shield to keep the hand of the operator at the one end of the device out of contact with the fluid on the other end thereof, said working portion of the blade having a notch on either edge thereof at the inner end of the working portion of the blade where it joins the support; whereby fluid traveling inwardly along the edges of the blade while the device is in use will drop off when said notches are reached and will not reach said shield.

3. A device of the character described, comprising an elongated blade having a working portion and a handle portion; and a support between said portions for holding the blade out of flat engagement with a flat surface when the device is laid thereupon, said support comprising a disk 45 surrounding the blade, and projecting radially therefrom, and forming a shield to keep the hand of the operator at the one end of the device out of contact with the fluid on the other end thereof, the working end of the blade being S-shaped 50 in cross section, whereby to form a longitudinal trough adjacent each edge of the blade on opposite sides thereof; said working portion of the blade also having a notch leading inwardly from either edge thereof at the inner end of each of 55 said troughs, whereby fluid traveling inwardly along said troughs of the blade, while the device is in use, will drop off when said notches are reached and will not reach said shield.

4. A device of the character described, comprising an elongated blade having a working portion and a handle portion, with a transverse support surrounding said parts at their junction, said support comprising a disk surrounding the blade and projecting radially therefrom; and having four peripheral edges only, each being disposed at an equal angle to the transverse extent of the blade, whereby to adapt the blade transversely to assume by gravity an equal angle of inclination to a flat surface when the device is 70 laid thereupon, regardless of which edge of the disk may be caused to rest upon said flat surface, each of said side edges being slightly concaved and each corner slightly rounded off.

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