April 25, 1950 G. M. BLEFELD 2,505,380

DRINKING DEVICE

Filed April 22, 1949

Fig. 1.

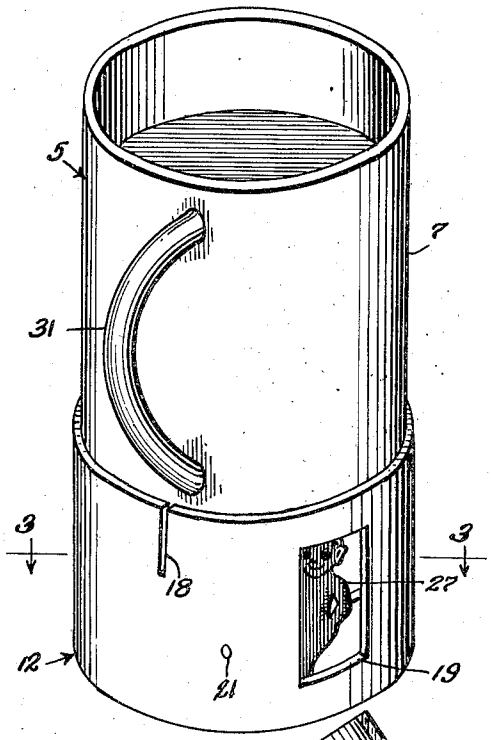


Fig. 3.

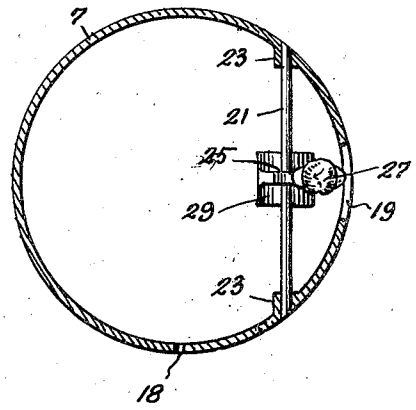
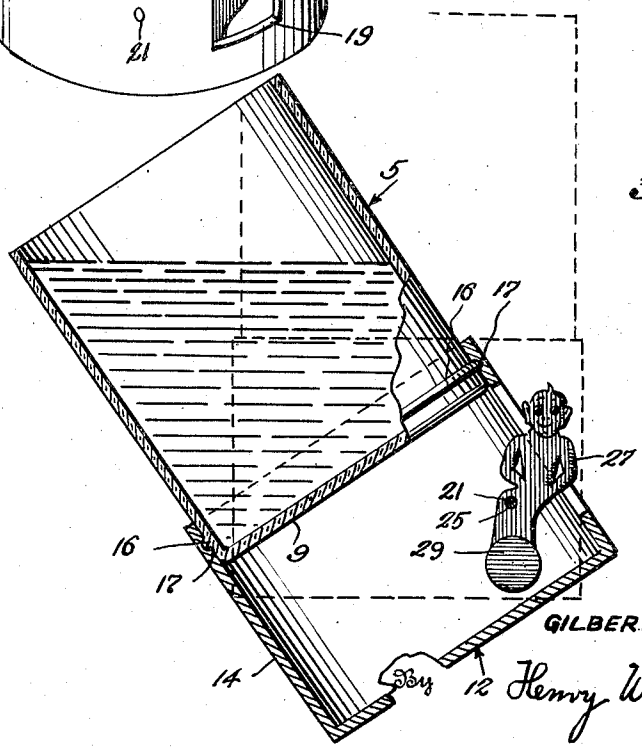


Fig. 2.



Inventor

GILBERT MARTIN BLEFELD

By Henry W Bock

AGENT

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DRINKING DEVICE

Gilbert Marvin Blefeld, Dallas, Tex.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 46—116)

1

The present application relates to a device for training children to take healthy liquid foods, such as milk and ordinarily not especially tempting. This device includes a drinking vessel for the beverage to be drunk and a mechanism rendered operative by the inclination of the vessel to drinking position and in that position entertaining or amusing the youthful drinker.

The general object of the invention is to provide a drinking vessel and a mechanism rendered operative by moving the vessel to tilted or drinking position, and exhibit a figure which is less visible to the drinker when the vessel is in upright position, and thereby creating in the drinker a pleasurable state that makes him overlook the not particularly tempting taste of the beverage in the vessel.

Another and more specific object of the invention is to provide a drinking vessel including a wall or walls extending substantially at right angles to the vessel bottom and below the same with a view of thereby forming a housing for the device amusing the youthful drinker when the figure of the device becomes visible because of its appearance through a window opening in the wall extension.

With these and other objects in view which will become apparent as the invention is completely understood, the same resides in the novelty of construction, combination and arrangement of elements hereinafter fully and specifically described and distinctly claimed in the appended claims.

The device should be read in connection with the accompanying drawing forming part of the application and wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred embodiment of applicant's invention in upright or inoperative position;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section of applicant's device in tilted or drinking position.

Figure 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In the drawing in which the same reference characters designate like elements, numeral 5 denotes a drinking vessel including lateral wall means 7 having a free drinking edge and rigid with a bottom 9. The cylindrical shape of wall means 7 and bottom shown in the drawing is a mere example, not a limitation of the invention.

The material of the drinking vessel proper so far described is preferably, but not necessarily, transparent and may e. g. be glass or plastic.

A housing 12 preferably of opaque or translucent material such as certain kinds of glass or

2

plastic has the general shape of a cup like that of the drinking vessel, but has longer inner and outer diameters permitting the lower circumferential margin of the wall means 7 to be received in and secured to the margin of the otherwise free edge of the wall 14 of the housing.

If both the drinking vessel and housing are cylindrical, the exterior margin of the former above the bottom and the inner margin of the otherwise free edge portion of the latter may have a circumferential rib 16 and groove 17 respectively for connecting both. A longitudinal slit 18 in the housing permits expansion of the same. The wall means 14 of the housing has an opening 19 for a purpose which will become obvious as additional construction is described.

A rod 21 is mounted in bosses 23 formed integral with the inner side wall of means 14 of the housing and preferably, but not necessarily, occupying therein a chordal position. This rod serves as a fulcrum and receives a bearing 25 rigid with one side of a figure 27. The same may be a representation of a human being or of an animal. At its lower end the figure is weighted by a block of lead 29, which in upright position of the device urges the figure to lean toward the opening.

A handle 31 may be affixed to the drinking vessel and is preferably disposed in a plane parallel to the rod.

When the drinking device of applicant's is in the upright position of Figures 1 and 2, the common center of gravity of the figure and weight lies in the vertical plane of rod 23, and the figure is in a leaning or tilted position within the interior surface of the housing. By tilting the drinking device to the left and to the dotted line position of Figure 2, the figure is caused to emerge outside of the opening.

It should be understood that the preferred disclosure is for the purpose of illustration only, and that this invention includes all modifications and equivalents which fall within the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a drinking device the combination comprising a drinking vessel including a bottom and a circumferential rib thereabove, a housing with a longitudinal slit and an interior groove for the rib and having in its side an opening, a weighted figure within the housing and a rod in the housing opposite the opening and providing a fulcrum for the figure.

2. In a drinking device the combination com-

prising a drinking vessel including a bottom and circumferential rib thereabove, a housing with a longitudinal slit and interior groove for the rib and having in its side an opening, a weighted figure within the housing, a rod in the housing opposite the opening and providing a fulcrum for the figure, and a handle affixed to the vessel and disposed in a plane parallel to the rod.

GILBERT MARVIN BLEFELD.

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