Aug. 12, 1947. J. RING 2,425,564

CARRIER FOR BOTTLES AND THE LIKE

Filed April 5, 1946

Fig. 1.

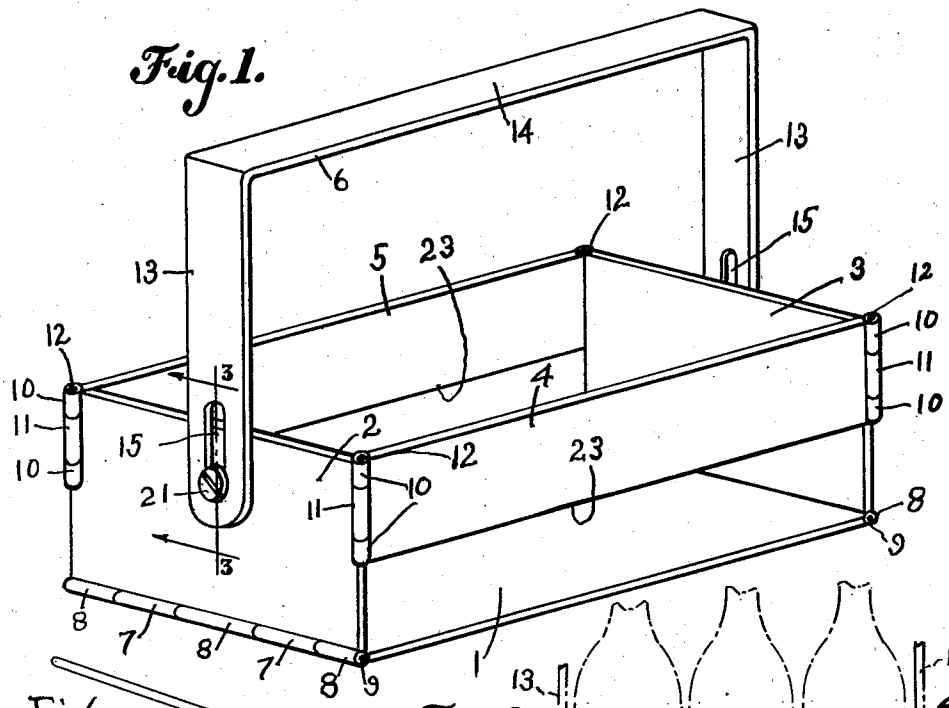


Fig. 6.

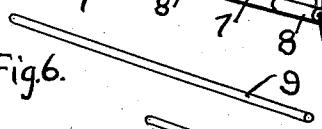


Fig. 7.

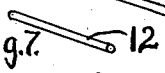


Fig. 2.

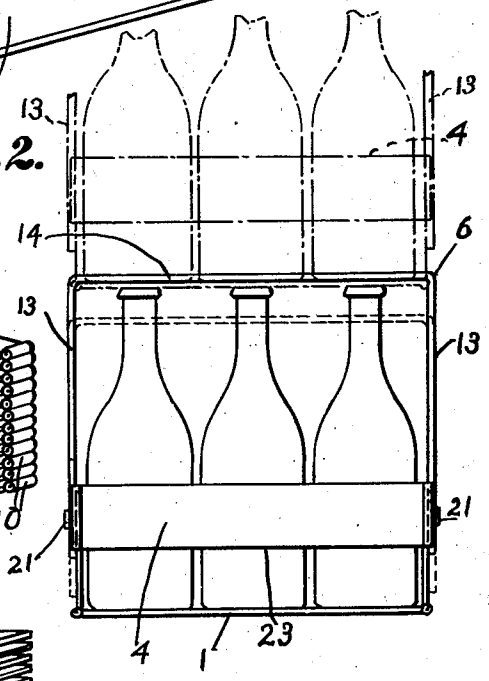


Fig. 3.

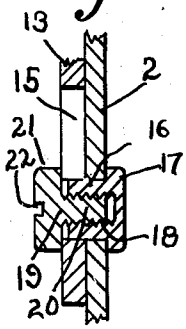


Fig. 4.

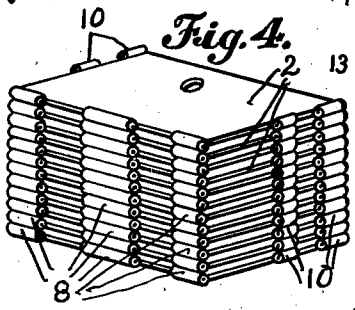
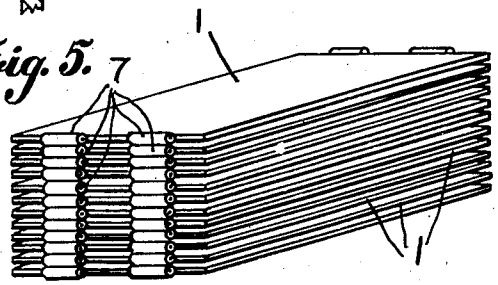


Fig. 5.



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CARRIER FOR BOTTLES AND THE LIKE

Jacob Ring, Brighton, Mass.

Application April 5, 1946, Serial No. 659,967

1 Claim. (Cl. 224—48)

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This invention relates to bottle carriers such as are commonly used for shipping bottles of soft drinks and the like from the bottler to the retailer.

It is now the common practice for the bottles of soft drinks to be shipped from the bottler to the retailer in carriers adapted to contain six bottles. Some carriers which are used are made of paper and others of metal or wood. The paper carriers are unsatisfactory because they lack the necessary strength, and if a paper carrier becomes wet during shipment it is apt to become torn so that it does not properly hold the bottles.

For this reason, metal or wooden bottle carriers are more or less commonly used.

However, unless a metal or wooden bottle carrier is constructed so that it can be folded or knocked down, the question of storing a quantity of such bottle carriers often presents a problem.

A bottler may place with the manufacturer an order for a considerable number of bottle carriers, and if such bottle carriers arrive in their set-up condition, the retailer may not have adequate storage space in which to store the bottle carriers.

It is one object of my present invention to provide a novel bottle carrier which may be made of wood or metal, which is simple in construction and relatively inexpensive to manufacture, which can be shipped from the manufacturer to the bottler in a knocked-down or collapsed condition, thus reducing very greatly the space required for shipment and for storage of a quantity of bottle carriers upon their receipt by the bottler, and which can be quickly and easily erected by the bottler for use in shipping bottles. With my improvement, therefore, a bottler will be able to store a large quantity of bottle carriers in a relatively small storage space, but can easily and quickly erect each bottle carrier as it is required for use.

It is a common practice for the retailer to return to the bottler the empty bottle carriers, and with my invention the retailer can easily knock down or take each bottle carrier apart when it is to be shipped back to the bottler, and can thus ship a quantity of bottle carriers in a relatively small package.

In order to give an understanding of my invention, I have illustrated in the drawings a selected embodiment thereof which will now be described, after which the novel features will be pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a bottle carrier embodying my invention.

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Fig. 2 is an end view showing the manner in which several filled carriers can be stacked one on the other for transportation purposes.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 illustrates the end members of a plurality of carriers embodying my invention which are stacked ready for shipment by the retailer back to the bottler.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view illustrating the bottom members of a plurality of carriers embodying my invention similarly stacked for return shipment.

Fig. 6 illustrates the pin used in connecting the end walls to the bottom of the carrier.

Fig. 7 illustrates the pin used for connecting the side walls to the end walls of the carrier.

The improved carrier herein shown is made of metal and it comprises the bottom member 1, two end members 2 and 3, two side members 4 and 5, and a handle member 6. The bottom member 1, the end members 2, 3, and the side members 4 and 5 are all preferably made from sheet metal, and the said members are detachably connected together so that they can be readily dissembled for shipping purposes, and can be readily assembled to produce the complete carrier.

The bottom member 1 is shown as having a plurality of cylindrical ears 7 at each end, each ear being provided with an axial opening to receive a connecting pin as will be presently described.

Each end member 2 and 3 is formed at its bottom edge with a plurality of cylindrical ears 8 situated to register with the ears 7 of the bottom member when the end members are assembled with the bottom member as shown in Fig. 1, each cylindrical ear 8 of each end member also being provided with an axial opening.

When the end members are properly assembled with the bottom member, with the ears 8 registering with the ears 7 on the bottom member, the axial openings through all the ears will register with each other so that a connecting pin 9 may be inserted through the aligned apertures thereby connecting the end members to the bottom member.

Each end member 2, 3 has at its vertical edge near the top other cylindrical ears 10, and each of the side members 4, 5 has at each end a corresponding cylindrical ear 11 which is adapted to register with the ears 10 of the end members when the parts are assembled. Each of the ears 10 and 11 also is provided with an axial opening and when the said ears 10 and 11 at each corner of the carrier are in register as shown in Fig. 1

a connecting pin 12 may be inserted into the aligned openings through the ears, thereby holding the end members and side members properly assembled. The side members 4 and 5 preferably have a smaller vertical dimension than the end members, so that a considerable space will exist between the lower edge 23 of each side member and the bottom member 1.

The handle 6 is also preferably made of a strip of sheet metal bent into a general U-shape, thereby providing the two legs 13 and the connecting handle or bridge portion 14. The lower end of each leg 13 is provided with a slot 15, and each end member 2 or 3 carries a stud which extends through the corresponding slot 15. The stud herein shown for connecting the handle to the end members is a two-part unit comprising the inner section 16 and an outer section 19. The inner section 16 extends through an opening formed in the end member and is provided with a head 17 engaging the inner face of the end member and is also provided with an internally screw threaded axial recess 18.

The outer member 19 is provided with a screw threaded stem 20 adapted to screw into the recess 18, and is also provided with a head 21 which is formed with a screw driver slot 22. When the outer section 19 is screwed firmly into the inner section 16, the leg 13 of the handle will be clamped firmly against the end member. By loosening the outer section 19 slightly, the handle will be free to have an up and down movement on the stud limited only by the length of the slot 15.

When the bottles are to be shipped from the bottler to the retailer, the carrier will be filled with the bottles as shown in Fig. 2 and the outer section 19 of each stud will be backed off slightly so as to allow the handle 6 to be moved downwardly as far as the slot 15 will permit, such movement carrying the bridge portion of the handle below the top of the bottles contained within the carrier as shown in dotted lines Fig. 2.

With the parts in this position, a second carrier containing bottles can be stacked on the first carrier, the bottom of the second carrier resting on the top of the bottles in the first-named carrier. In this way, several filled carriers can be stacked one on the other for shipment to the retailer.

When the filled carriers are to be individually carried, the handle 14 is used, and as the handle is gripped it will move upwardly as limited by the slot 15, thus bringing the bridge portion of the handle above the bottles in the carrier.

A carrier embodying my invention can be readily knocked down or taken apart by removing the supporting handle 6 from the end members and then removing the connecting pins 9 and 12, the removal of said pins permitting the end members, side members, and bottom member to be disconnected from each other.

For shipment purposes, whether from the manufacturer to the bottler or from the retailer back to the bottler, the end members 2 and 3 of a plurality of carriers may be stacked one on the other as shown in Fig. 4, thus making a compact bundle. Similarly, the bottom members 1 of a plurality of carriers can be stacked one on the other as shown in Fig. 5 thereby making another compact bundle. In the same way, the side members 4 and 5 of a plurality of carriers

can be stacked together, and the handles 6 of a plurality of carriers can be similarly stacked. In this way, the parts of a considerable number of carriers can be made up into separate bundles for shipment from the manufacturer to the bottler or for shipment from the retailer back to the bottler.

If the bottler receives a shipment of a considerable number of carriers from the manufacturer in the knocked-down condition above described, said bottler can readily store the bundles containing the different parts of the carrier in a relatively small storage space, and as he needs the carriers for use, he can quickly and easily erect any carrier by simply assembling the bottom member, the end wall members, and the side members, and inserting the connecting pins 9 and 12, after which the handle can be readily secured to the body of the carrier.

A bottle carrier having this construction is inexpensive to manufacture, the parts are easily assembled and dissembled, and the carrier has a sturdy construction which is conducive to long life.

I claim:

A bottle carrier comprising a bottom member of sheet material having at each end edge only a plurality of cylindrical ears, each ear having an axial opening, the side edges of the bottom member being smooth and free from similar ears, an end member at each end of the bottom member, each end member having on its bottom edge a plurality of cylindrical ears adapted to register with the ears on the bottom member, each end member also having at the upper portion only of each vertical edge a cylindrical ear, a relatively narrow side member at each side of the carrier extending from one end member to the other and provided at each end with a cylindrical ear which registers with a similar ear on the end member, each side member having a vertical dimension less than that of the end members and the bottom edge of each side member being spaced from the corresponding side edge of the bottom member, all of the cylindrical ears on the end members and side members having axial openings, removable connecting pins extending through the aligned openings of the registering ears on the bottom member and end members and also through the axial openings of the registering ears on the end members and side members, and a bail-shaped handle member having its legs detachably and adjustably secured to the end members the removability of the pins providing for disassembling the bottom ends and sides so that similar parts of a plurality of containers may be arranged in piles for shipment or storage.

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