W. M. DECKER.

CAP FOR NURSING BOTTLES AND THE LIKE.

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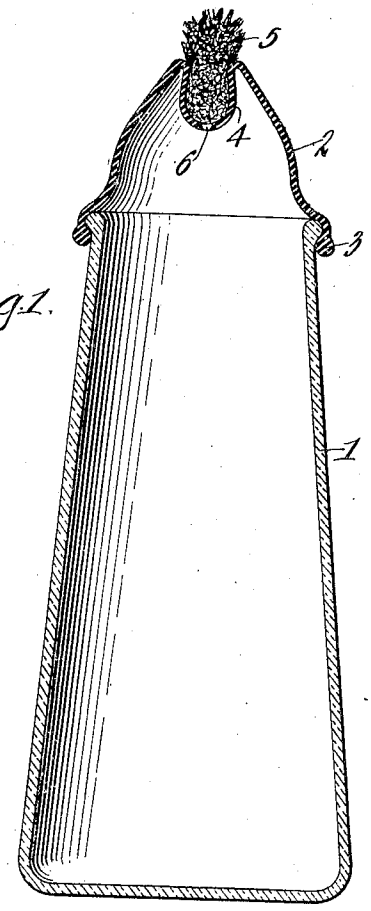
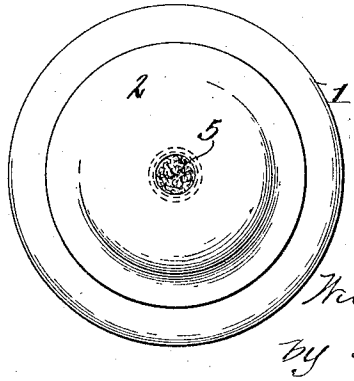


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CAP FOR NURSING-BOTTLES AND THE LIKE.

1,351,328. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 31, 1920.

Application filed December 6, 1918. Serial No. 265,659.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MORE DECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Caps for Nursing-Bottles and the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the rubber caps or covers which are applied to nursing bottles and similar receptacles while sterilizing their contents.

Heretofore, such caps have been provided with a beaded mouth or short neck adapted to be plugged during the sterilizing process by a stopper of cotton or other suitable porous material. The cotton-plug is held in place only by frictional contact with the inclosing wall of the neck and it is therefore liable to be displaced or pushed down beyond the neck, in which case it drops into the receptacle and may contaminate its contents.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide the cap with inexpensive stop-means which will effectually prevent downward displacement of the plug and thereby overcome the above mentioned objection.

A further object is to so construct the plug-holding device that the amount of material which can be used for the plug is limited, thus effecting a saving in cotton.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a nursing bottle provided with the improved sterilizing cap. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both views.

1 indicates the glass cell of the well-known wide-mouthed nursing bottles. Stretched over the usual flanged mouth of the cell is a cap or cover 2, preferably of soft rubber, having the dome-shaped form shown in the drawings, and provided at its lower edge with a reinforcing bead 3 which engages under the flange of the cell. The cap may however be of any other suitable shape.

Carried by the cap and preferably arranged centrally in the top thereof is a holder 4 adapted to receive a porous plug or stopper 5 of cotton or other suitable material, and provided with appropriate stop-means for preventing the plug from passing down beyond the holder and dropping into the receptacle. In its preferred form, the holder consists of a comparatively deep pocket or cavity extending down into the interior of the cap and provided in its bottom with an aperture or passage 6 for the escape of the gases generated during the sterilizing process. The cotton is packed in the pocket sufficiently tight to retard the escape of the heat from the food receptacle and to prevent the ingress of germs.

The bottom of this pocket serves as a stop which prevents the plug from being thrust too far into the cap and protects the cotton from getting wet, moistening of the plug causing it to mat and rendering it too dense. In addition to preventing the plug from falling into the receptacle and contaminating the food, the pocket limits the quantity of cotton that can be used in making the plug, thus avoiding waste.

In the preferred construction of the cap, the plug-holder or pocket is molded in one piece therewith, as shown, and the article can therefore be produced at relatively small cost.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination of a nursing and sterilizing cell provided at its mouth with a projecting flange, and an elastic dome-shaped sterilizing cap arranged outside of the cell and having a beaded base-portion stretched over said cell-flange and engaging thereunder, said cap being provided in its top with a pocket for a porous plug extending into the interior of the cap, said pocket having a bottom and a normally-open gas-escape aperture which is unobstructed except by said porous plug during the sterilizing process.

2. A dome-shaped sterilizing cap for a sterilizing and nursing cell having an elastic base-portion adapted to be stretched over the mouth of the cell and provided with a beaded lower edge to engage under the flanged mouth of the cell, said cap being provided in its top with a pocket for a porous plug extending into the interior thereof, said pocket having a bottom and a gas-escape aperture normally open and unobstructed except by said porous plug.

WILLIAM MORE DECKER.