April 23, 1940. C. C. KANCER 2,198,117

CLOSURE FOR BOTTLES

Filed April 8, 1938

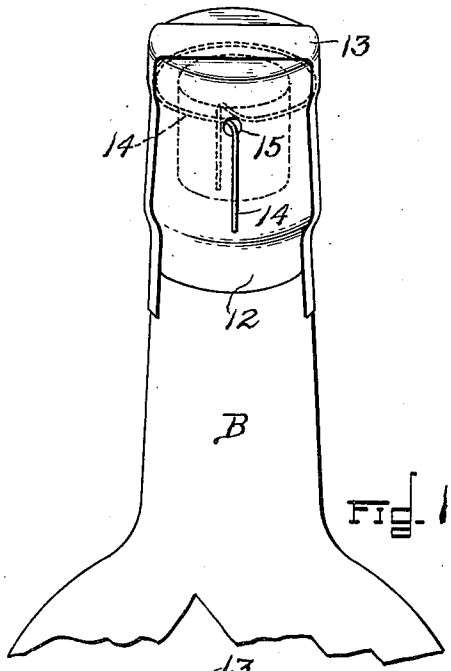


Fig. 1.

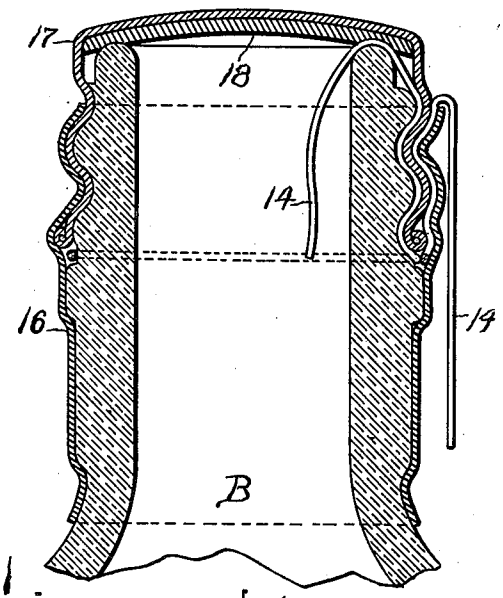


Fig. 4.

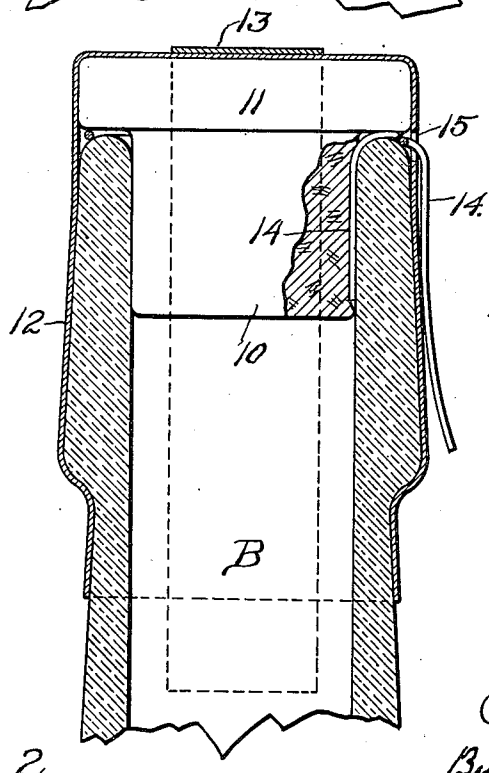


Fig. 2.

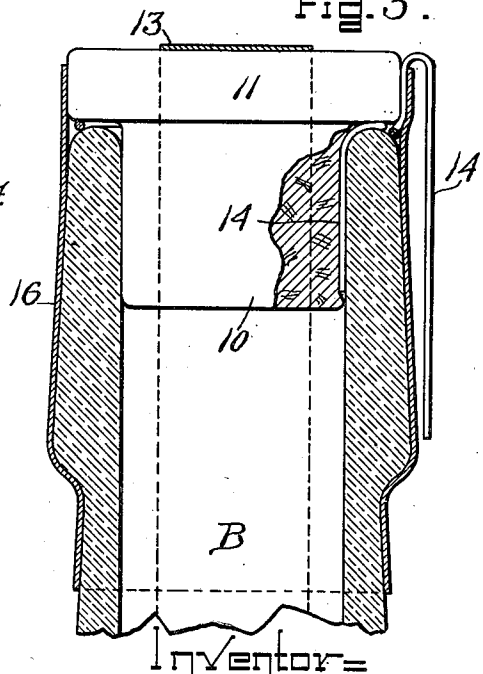


Fig. 3.

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CLOSURE FOR BOTTLES

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Application April 8, 1938, Serial No. 200,857

2 Claims. (Cl. 215—46)

My invention relates to closures for bottles and like containers and it has for its object to improve the construction of the same.

At the present time it is common practice to apply a cap or sleeve of thin sheet material to the upper end of the neck of a liquor bottle as a sanitary measure and so as to provide a seal which must be cut, torn or otherwise mutilated in order to permit removal of the cork or screw-cap of the bottle when it is desired to have access to the contents of the latter. My invention provides simple, efficient and inexpensive means associated with said sealing cap or sleeve which can be quickly and conveniently operated to tear, cut or rip the same circumambiently adjacent to the cork or screw-cap so as to free the latter for removal.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper end of a liquor bottle provided with a closure constructed in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a central vertical sectional view of the upper end portion of the bottle illustrated in Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a sectional view illustrating an alternative construction.

Figure 4 illustrates another alternative construction.

In Figures 1 and 2 of the drawing the bottle B is provided with a closure member consisting of a cork stopper 10 provided with a head or flange 11 by means of which it is manipulated. Enclosing the delivery end of the neck of the bottle and the stopper 10—11 is a cap sheath 12 of thin sheet material such as lead foil or viscose sheet material and upon the exterior of this cap 12 is applied the usual revenue stamp 13, the middle portion of said stamp being adhesively attached to the top of cap 12 and the opposite end portions extending downwardly from the top of the cap at opposite sides of the latter and adhesively applied thereto as usual.

Heretofore, when opening a bottle of liquor provided with a cap 12 and stamp 13 it has been customary to press a knife blade into the joint between the chime of the bottle neck and flange 11 and cut the cap and stamp by moving the knife blade around the bottle, but in many cases when a knife blade is not available or for other reasons it is necessary to do so the cap 12 is torn or broken to free the stopper 10—11 with the result that the revenue stamp was mutilated or displaced. This was objectionable for the reason that in barrooms and other places serving liquor it is required by law that enough of the stamp remain attached to the bottle and cork to disclose the serial number of the stamp or other particular details thereof.

In accordance with my invention I employ a strand or filament 14 and in making up the package one end of this strand or filament is placed within the neck of the bottle after which the stopper 10 is driven into the neck of the latter. The strand or filament 14 is then wound around the neck of the bottle within the joint between the chime of the latter and the flange 11 as shown in Figure 2 to the extent of one convolution and then the outer end portion of said strand or filament is passed through an aperture or hole 15 formed through the skirt of the sealing cap 12 before or as the latter is applied to the bottle.

When it is desired to open the bottle the end of the strand or filament 14 which is upon the outside of the sealing cap is grasped and swung around the bottle in a right-hand direction and as will be clear the sealing cap 12 is ripped or cut smoothly and evenly circumambiently opposite the joint between flange 11 and the chime of the bottle. The cork is then free to be removed.

In Figure 3 I have shown the strand or filament 14 associated with a viscose sealing sleeve 16 and in this case the sleeve is applied to the neck of the bottle and to the stopper after securing the inner end of the strand or filament within the neck of the bottle by means of the stopper and winding the strand or filament around the neck of the bottle to the extent of one convolution, the outer end of said strand or filament being carried upwardly so that when the sleeve 16 is applied and shrinks into place on the bottle the outer end portion of the strand or filament is accessible for operation. In opening this bottle the outer end of the strand or filament is first drawn downwardly to rip the upper portion of the sleeve longitudinally down as far as the joint between the stopper flange 11 and the chime of the bottle and then said outer end is swung around the neck of the bottle to rip or cut the sleeve as in the case with the sealing cap 12.

In Figure 4 of the drawing the closure for the bottle is a sheet metal screw-cap 17 whose top is lined interiorly with a washer 18 of paper or the like, as usual. It is customary to secure the screw-cap 17 in position upon the neck of the bottle by means of a viscose sleeve 16 that is shrunk in position upon the exteriors of said screw-cap and neck. In producing my new closure with this type of bottle one end of the strand or filament 14 is inserted within the neck

of the bottle before applying cap 17 and sleeve 16 and then the cap 17 is screwed firmly into place on the neck of the bottle and after winding the strand or filament around the neck of the bottle to the extent of one convolution the sealing sleeve 16 is applied and shrunk into position upon the outside of the neck and cap as shown while the outer end portion of the strand or filament is maintained in an upwardly extended position. In opening the bottle thus constructed the outer end portion of the strand or filament is grasped and by first pulling downwardly thereon the sleeve 16 is ripped longitudinally downwardly as far as the bottom edge of cap 17 and then said outer end is swung around the bottle to rip or cut the sleeve 16 circularly or circumambiently throughout its circuit. The screw-cap stopper 17 is then free to be removed.

The ripping strands or filaments 14 may each consist of a length of fine wire, cord or the like.

It is a feature of the constructions herein illustrated that the inner end portion of the ripping strand or filament is anchored to the bottle by being clamped between the closure member and the neck of the bottle, said closure member being a cork plug in Figs. 1 and 3 and a screw-cap in Fig. 4; that the intermediate portion of said strand or filament surrounds the neck of the bottle or the stopper to the extent of at least one convolution or thereabouts immediately adjacent to the sealing sheath, and that the outer end portion of said strand or filament is accessibly disposed outside of said sealing sheath.

In making up bottled liquor for retail package goods stores the revenue stamp is applied to the outside of the sanitary sheaths 12 and 16 as shown in the drawing, but in making up the goods for the bar trade the revenue stamp is applied to the bottle before application of the sheaths 12 and 16. However, it will be understood that in both cases the convolution of the strand or filament 14 which surrounds the bottle is preferably disposed beneath the stamp so that the latter, as well as the sheath, is severed when the strand or filament 14 is unwound to open the bottle, the middle portion of the stamp remaining attached in its entirety to the stopper and the opposite end portions remaining attached in their entirety to the neck of the bottle.

What I claim is:

1. In a closure of the character described, the combination with the bottle neck, a stopper therefor and a sealing sheath surrounding said stopper and neck, of a sheath-ripping strand or filament having its inner end immovably clamped to the inside of said bottle neck by said stopper and having an outer end portion accessibly disposed upon the outside of said sheath, the intermediate portion of said strand or filament being formed into a convolution surrounding said stopper and disposed within said sheath so that when said outer end portion is manually swung around the axis of said neck in a direction to unwind said convolution the sheath is ripped circumambiently.

2. In a closure of the character described, the combination with the bottle neck, a closure member therefor and a sealing sheath surrounding said member and neck, of a sheath-ripping strand or filament having an inner end portion clamped to said bottle neck by said member and an outer end portion accessibly disposed upon the outside of said sheath, the intermediate portion of said strand or filament being formed into a convolution extending around the interior of said sheath so as to rip said sheath circumambiently when said outer end portion is forcibly pulled in a direction to unwind said convolution.

CARROLL C. KANCER.