Nov. 22, 1938. F. C. FISHER 2,137,668

INDICATOR TAP KNOB

Filed Jan. 31, 1938

Fig. 1.

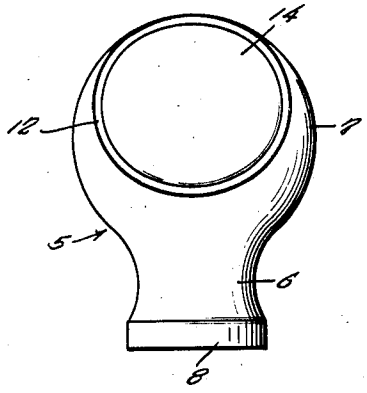


Fig. 2.

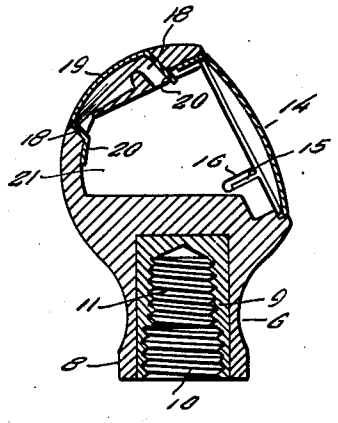
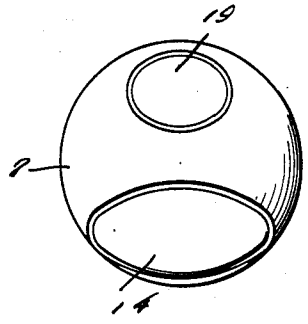


Fig. 3.



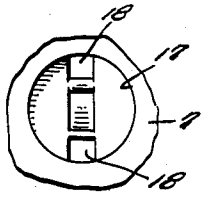


Fig. 7.

Fig. 5.

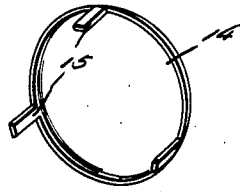


Fig. 4.

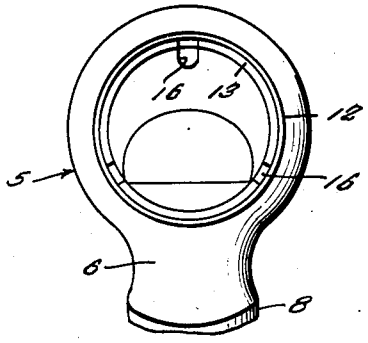




Fig. 6.

Inventor

F. C. Fisher

By Clarence A. O'Brien

Hyman Berman

Attorneys

Patented Nov. 22, 1938

2,137,668

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,137,668

INDICATOR TAP KNOB

Francis C. Fisher, Syracuse, N. Y.

Application January 31, 1938, Serial No. 187,976

2 Claims. (Cl. 40—8)

This invention relates particularly to faucets or tap valves forming a part of a bar-counter equipment, and more especially to an improved handle or knob for such type of faucet or tap valve.

At the present time it is practically a uniform requirement that dispensers of alcoholic beverages give some positive indication to the customer of the fact that there is being drawn for consumption the requested brand of beverage. In accordance with this requirement the practice of providing tap valve knobs on which the trade-mark or branded insignia is displayed has become universal.

A salient feature of the present invention is the provision of a tap knob or handle so constructed that the trade-mark or insignia on the knob may be changed at will.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a handle or knob for tap valves which is generally substantially spherical except for a relatively flat portion disposed at a material incline or angle to the perpendicular and adapted to have detachably associated therewith a plate or disk on which the trade-mark or branded insignia is displayed.

A further object of the invention is to provide a handle or knob for tap valves which is further characterized by having in the spherical portion thereof means provided whereby a second plate, of materially less diameter than the first plate, and bearing a corresponding trade-mark or branded insignia may be quickly and detachably mounted on and secured to the knob; the object, intent and purpose of so equipping the knob being that the brand or mark on the knob is readily observable by both the customer and the one dispensing the beverage.

The invention together with its objects and advantages will be best understood from a study of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein:—

Figure 1 is an elevational view of the knob with the indicia plates mounted thereon,

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view through the knob with the indicia plates thereon,

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the knob,

Figure 4 is an elevational view of the knob with the larger indicia plate removed,

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the larger indicia plate,

Figure 6 is a similar view of the smaller indicia plate, and

Figure 7 is a fragmentary detail plan view of the knob showing the manner in which the same is formed to accommodate the smaller indicia plate.

Referring more in detail to the drawing it will be seen that my improved tap valve handle or knob, indicated generally by the reference numeral 5, is substantially spherical and is formed with an integrally molded neck 6 which gradually increases in diameter as it merges with the main body or spherical portion 7 of the knob, and also gradually increases in diameter in a reverse direction as it merges with an integral circular base 8.

As is well-known the stem portions of tap valves vary slightly in diameter and to that end, and as more fully disclosed in my above identified co-pending application, my improved knob is provided in the neck 6 and base 8 thereof with a metallic insert 9 in the form of a two-diameter socket having a threaded diameter 10 for threaded engagement with a tap valve stem of one diameter, and a threaded diameter 11 for threaded engagement with a tap valve stem of a second or smaller diameter.

As clearly shown in the drawing the main body portion 7 of the knob is substantially a true sphere except as hereinafter noted. Consequently, as distinguished from other indicia-equipped knobs, the neck 6 of my improved knob as it merges with the main body or head 7 thereof flares or increases in diameter in all directions and consequently is not truly straight and of uniform external diameter as is the case with other such types of knobs generally.

Preferably, and as shown, the head or main body portion 7 of the knob is hollow so that the knob will be light in weight yet strong and durable.

The body or head 7 of the knob is provided on one side thereof with a flat portion 12 tilted upwardly relative to the vertical as shown, and in this flat space or portion of the knob head 7 there is provided a recess 13 of material diameter.

An indicia plate 14 is adapted to seat within the recess 13 and this plate 14 is slightly concavo-convex and has on the convex face or side thereof a trade-mark, insignia, or other indicia.

Formed integral with the trade-mark plate 14 and projecting from the concave side of the plate at the edge of the latter are anchoring prongs 15 that are adapted to engage in notches 16 extending inwardly of the hollow of the head 7, and opening at one end outwardly through the seat 13 so as to receive the anchoring prongs 15. The anchoring prongs 15 being resilient will tend to frictionally and positively retain the plate 14

seated within the recess and in conjunction with the notches 15 will serve to retain the plate 14 against being rotatably displaced relative to the knob. Thus the indicia on the plate 14 will be always held in such a position as to be readily readable.

It will thus be seen that readily a plate 14 bearing one trade-mark may be quickly removed from the knob and a second plate bearing a second or different trade-mark readily substituted therefor.

Further in accordance with the present invention the head or main body 7 of the knob nearest to the top thereof but at a side opposite to the flat portion 12 is provided with a circular recess 17 and at the bottom of the recess is provided with aligned slots 18 that open at their inner ends into the hollow portion of the knob.

The recess 17 accommodates an indicia bearing, or trade-mark plate 19 that seats snugly within the recess 17 and is of materially less diameter than the trade-marked plate 14.

Like the trade-marked plate 14, however, the trade-mark plate 19 is concavo-convex and has projecting from the concave side thereof spring anchoring prongs 20 integral with the edge of the plate and adapted to extend through the slots 18 in a manner clearly shown in Figure 2.

Also as shown in Figure 2 the lowermost anchoring prong 20 may be readily bent downwardly into engagement with the body of the valve interiorly of the hollow 21 of the knob, to insure a positive anchoring of the plate 19 within its recess 17.

It will be understood that the trade-mark on the plate 19 will correspond with the trade-mark or other indicia on the plate 14.

With the knob placed on the stem of the tap valve plate 14 will be disposed toward the front of the counter so that the indicia or trade-mark thereon will be in full view of the customer while the trade-mark plate 19, positioned on the knob as illustrated and described, will be in a position so that the trade-mark thereon will be in full view of the server or bar-attendant.

Like the plate 14 plate 19 bearing one form of trade-mark may be readily removed from the knob and a second plate similar thereto, but bearing a different type of trade-mark may be readily substituted therefor.

It is thought that a clear understanding of the construction, utility and advantages of a knob or handle embodying the features of the present invention will be had without a more detailed description thereof.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new is:—

1. A knob of the class described comprising a substantially spherical head, a portion of which is flat and tilted upwardly and said head having a chamber therein opening out through the flat tilted portion, an annular seat in said flat portion and surrounding the adjacent portion of the chamber, the walls of said adjacent part of the chamber having notches therein passing through portions of the seat, a plate having its periphery engaging the seat, spring prongs connected with the peripheral part of the plate and frictionally engaging the notches for holding the plate in position.

2. A knob of the class described comprising a head having a chamber therein opening out through a portion of the head and another portion of the head having a recess therein and holes leading from the recess into the chamber, a plate fitting in the outer end of the recess, spring prongs connected with the plate and passing through the holes with one prong bent over to engage a portion of the wall of the chamber and a closure for the open end of the chamber.

FRANCIS C. FISHER.