Feb. 13, 1951 E. L. MARSHALL ET AL 2,541,595

CONTAINER

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Fig. 1.

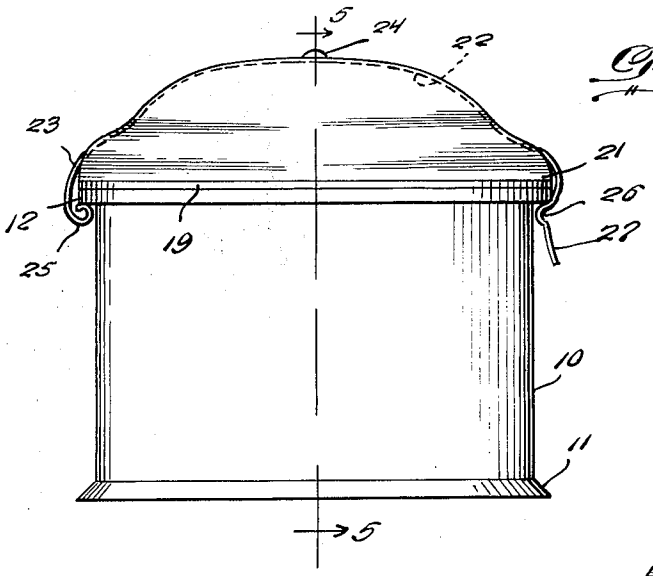


Fig. 3.

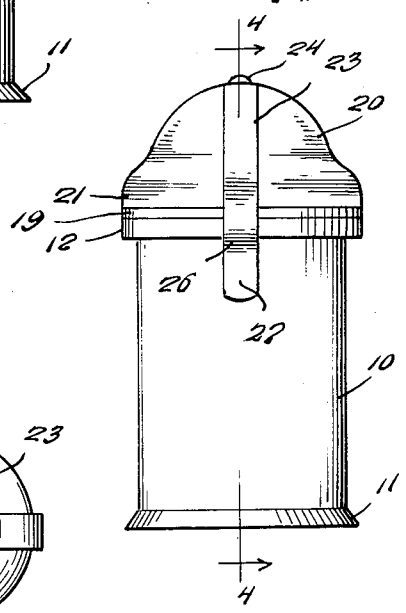
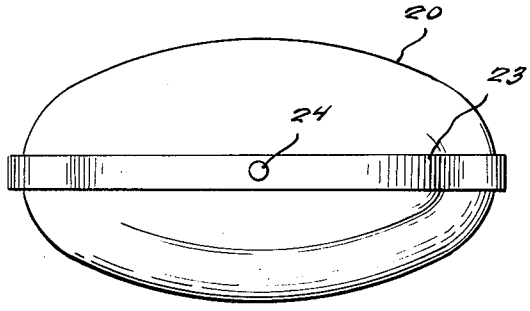


Fig. 2.



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Filed July 9, 1946 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

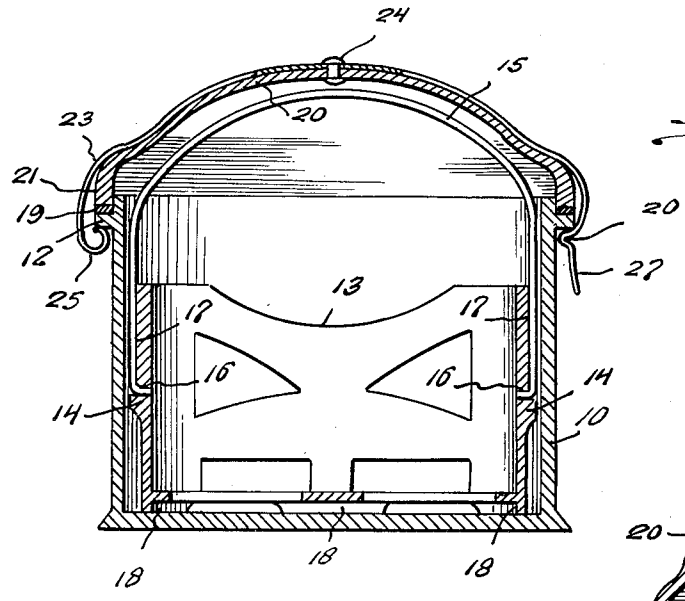


Fig. 4.

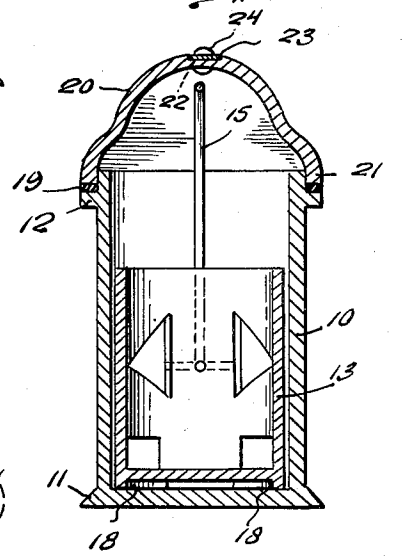


Fig. 5.

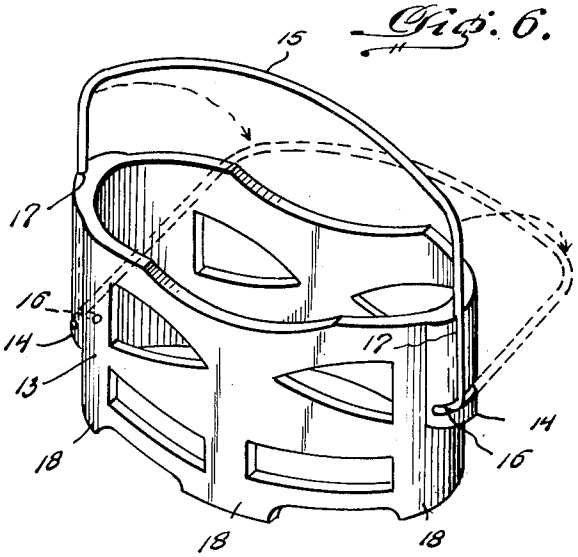


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CONTAINER

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Application July 9, 1946, Serial No. 682,379

1 Claim. (Cl. 220—17)

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Our invention relates to containers and more particularly to containers for dentures.

The object of our invention is to provide a means for safely and inconspicuously storing dentures, when not in use.

Another object of our invention is to provide a container for dentures, which is leak-proof, so that it can be carried safely on a trip in an automobile, a pocket, a bag or the like.

A further object of the invention is to provide a container for dentures having a leak-proof housing of attractive appearance and adapted to receive a perforated basket-like inset therein provided with a hinged bail.

A still further object of our invention is to provide a basket-like inset for such a container the bail of which can be secured either in upright or horizontal position.

Other objects of our invention may appear in the following specification describing our invention with reference to the accompanying drawings illustrating a preferred embodiment of our invention.

It is however to be understood that our invention is not to be limited and restricted to the exact construction and combination of parts described in the specification and shown in the drawings, but that such changes and modifications can be made, which fall within the scope of the claim appended hereto.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is an elevational side view of the denture container according to our invention.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an elevational end view of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4 in Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5—5 in Figure 1, and

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a basket-like perforated inset used in connection with our invention.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, the device forming the subject matter of our invention comprises a water-proof container 10. While this container 10 has been shown in the drawings as having an oval outline, it is to be understood that it can have any other pleasant and attractive form. In the present embodiment it is shown as having a base 11 and a circumferential, outwardly extending, square flange 12, which is located at a small distance below the top edge of the container 10.

A basket-like, perforated inset 13 has an outline corresponding to the container 10, but is

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provided at its longitudinal ends with elongated bosses 14, which extend downwardly from the top rim of the inset 13. A bail 15 is pivotally attached to the inset 13 in the end bosses 14. These bosses are provided with horizontally arranged grooves 16 and vertically extending grooves 17 projecting upwardly from the horizontal grooves and intersecting them at substantially the center thereof, where the pivotal attachment sockets for the bail are provided. The bail 15 is made from a spring material, and when the bail is in upright position on the inset 13, the side elements of the bail 15 are located partly in the vertical grooves 17 in the end bosses 14 as shown in Figures 4 and 6. When the bail 15 is arranged in horizontal position to the inset 13, its side elements are positioned in the horizontal grooves 16 in the end bosses 14, as shown in broken lines in Figure 6. In this manner the bail 15 can be secured selectively in upright or horizontal position relative to the inset 13.

The perforations in the basket-like inset 13 are arranged in the circumferential wall and in the bottom of said inset, which is provided with a plurality of short legs 18, so that the bottom of the inset 13 will be located somewhat above the bottom of the container 10, when the inset is located inside the container.

A gasket 19 is arranged on top of the circumferential flange 12 and surrounds the container 10 adjacent its upper edge. The gasket is made from rubber or any other suitable and desired material.

A cover 20 is shaped substantially dome-like, but has a short downwardly extending skirt portion 21 thereon. It fits onto the container 10, so that the skirt portion 21 rests on the gasket 19, when the cover 20 is placed on the container.

The cover 20 is provided with a longitudinally extending, centrally located groove 22 and a blade spring 23 is arranged in this groove 22 and secured to the cover 20 by a rivet 24 or the like.

One end of this blade spring 23 is coiled up, as indicated at 25, and this end engages the under side of the square, circumferential flange 12 on the container 10. The other end of the spring 23 is provided with an inwardly extending projection 26 engaging the under side of the circumferential flange 12 at a point located opposite to the coiled spring end 25. From the projection 26 the spring 23 extends downwardly and outwardly and forms a finger piece 27.

When a denture is to be placed in the container 10, the latter is filled with water or a dental solution of any desired and preferred

make and kind. The denture is placed into the basket-like inset 13 and this inset is then put in the container. The cover 20 is put onto the container so that the coiled spring end 25 and the spring projection 26 engage the under side of the flange 12. The spring 23 forces the skirt portion 21 of the cover 20 into tight contact with the gasket 19, forming a leak-proof connection between the cover 20 and the container 10.

This container can be carried easily, conveniently, and safely in a pocket, a bag, suit-case and the like. If it is used at home, a container according to our invention furnishes a storing place for dentures, which does not offend the most sensitive and fastidious person and does away with the unpleasant sight of dentures resting in a glass partially filled with water or mouth wash.

When the dentures are to be removed from the container, the cover 20 is removed, the basket-like inset 13 is lifted and the bail 15 is arranged in horizontal position to either side, so that it rests in the horizontal grooves 16 and on the top rim of the container, supporting the inset above the liquid level in the container 10. This facilitates the handling of the dentures.

The container 10 as well as the inset 13 and the cover 20 can be made from any preferred suitable material, such as plastic of any desired color, glass, metal or the like.

Having described our invention we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A container for dentures and comprising an open-top outer receptacle having a quantity of liquid therein, water-tight covering means therefor, an inner basket-like, perforated denture-holding receptacle receivable in the outer receptacle and provided on the outer surface at opposite sides thereof with a pair of elongated bosses which extend downwardly from the lip of the inner receptacle, a horizontal groove in each of said bosses and a vertical groove extending upwardly therefrom to said lip and intersecting the horizontal groove at substantially the center thereof and there provided with a socket, a resilient bail formed with ends receivable respectively in the sockets in said bosses and adjacent bail portions disposable selectively in the vertical grooves for lifting of the inner receptacle, and in one or other of the horizontal groove sections on either side of said sockets for positioning the bail laterally to support the inner receptacle thereby on the open top of the outer receptacle for draining liquid from the inner receptacle and dentures positioned therein, said sockets being disposed below said lip of the inner receptacle a distance sufficient to raise the bottom thereof above the liquid level in the outer receptacle when the bail is positioned in said horizontal groove sections thereby to facilitate said draining of the liquid and the handling of the dentures in removing the same from the inner receptacle.

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ROBERT J. HARTEL.

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