July 25, 1967 R. A. LOMBARD 3,332,622

DRINKING STRAW

Filed June 3, 1966

Fig.1

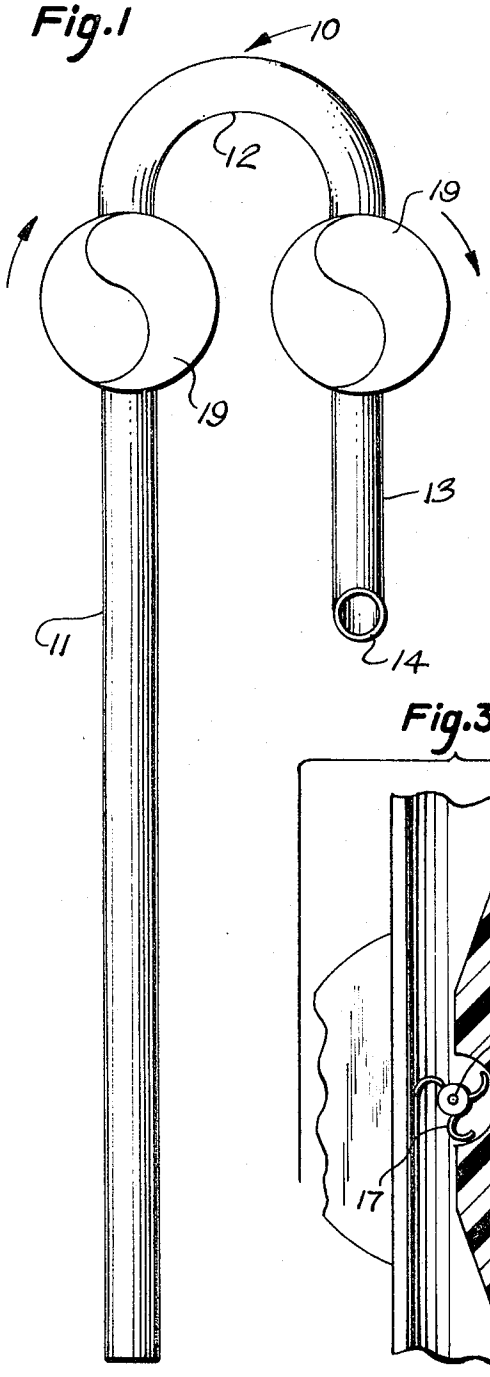


Fig.2

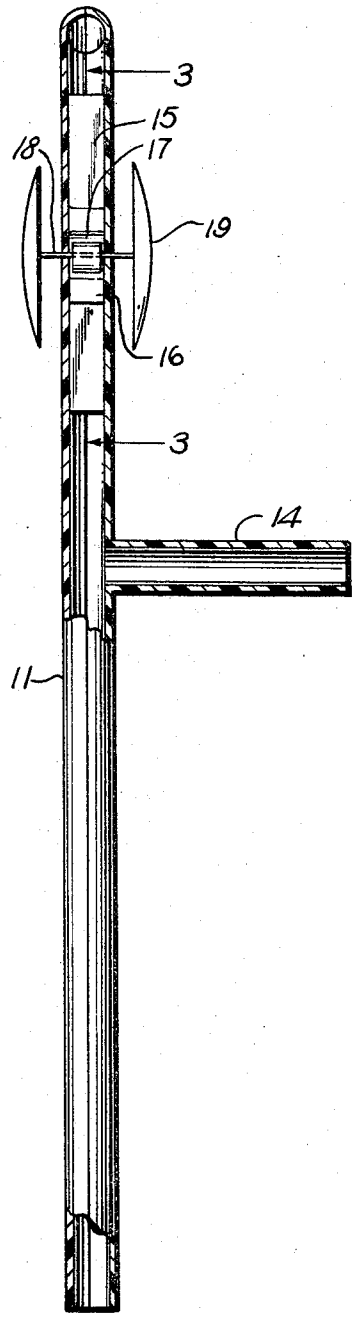


Fig.3

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DRINKING STRAW

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This invention relates to drinking devices, and more particularly a drinking straw.

It is therefore the main purpose of this invention to provide a drinking straw which includes colorful rotatable pinwheels for making said straw more attractive to the user.

Another object of this invention is to provide a drinking straw for youngsters so that they may drink liquids from a container without spilling it.

Another object of this invention is to provide a drinking straw which includes tube portions for conveying liquids from a container to the youngster's mouth in such a manner that the youngster may observe the rotating, colorful discs while he is sipping milk, etc., through said straw.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a drinking straw which is inexpensive to manufacture, is of rugged construction, and provides maximum utility to its user.

In the drawing,

FIGURE 1 is a front elevation of this invention.

FIGURE 2 is a side view of FIGURE 1 shown partly broken away.

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along the lines 3—3 of FIGURE 2.

According to this invention, a drinking straw **10** is provided with an elongated tubular member **11**, the upper end of said member being bent at **12** and extending into another tubular member **13** which is positioned in parallel with the first tubular member **11**.

As can be seen from FIGURE 2 still another tubular member **14** extends in a direction which is perpendicular to member **13**. The end portion of the tube member **14** is generally used for insertion into the youngster's mouth for the purpose of drinking the liquids through straw **10** when it is inserted into a container (not shown). Within the upper portion of the tubular members **11** and **13**, provisions are made for the support blocks **15** which are suitably secured within their respective members. Each support block **15** is provided with a semi circular cutout **16** which partially admits a pinwheel arrangement **17** mounted on a pin **18** which, in turn, is secured within the walls of the tubular members **11** and/or **13**. In the preferred arrangement of this invention pin **18** outwardly extends from the wall portions of members **11** and **13** so that each side of pin **18** may be secured to a colorful disc **19**.

Looking now at the drawing, one will see that, in operation, the surge of liquid within the tubular members **11** and **13** urge the pinwheel arrangement **17** to rotate in accordance with the intensity of the liquid flow.

It will also be noted that each disc **19** may be painted in different colors or carry a pictorial representation thereby providing colorful diversion to the user of the drinking straw **10**.

What I now claim is:

1. A drinking straw comprising, in combination, a first tubular member, a second tubular member integrally secured to said first tubular member, said members positioned in parallel to each other, a third tubular member perpendicularly extending from said second tubular member, supporting blocks secured within said first and second members for narrowing the flow of liquid within said members, a laterally positioned pin rotatably secured within each of said first and said second members, the end portions of said pins arranged to outwardly extend from said first and said second members, a pinwheel member mounted on the center portion of each pin, a disc mounted on each end of each pin, each pinwheel member adapted to rotate and simultaneously turn said discs in accordance with the intensity of flow of liquid passing through said tubular members.

2. The combination according to claim **1**, wherein said supporting block is provided with a semi circular cutout for operably supporting a portion of said pinwheel member.

3. The combination according to claim **1**, wherein said first tubular member is secured to said second tubular member in such a manner that it forms a U-shape connecting means for providing smooth and uninterrupted flow of liquid from said first member to said second member.

4. The combination according to claim **1**, wherein said pinwheel member includes a hub of a circular configuration, a plurality of spaced-apart, curved blade members being supported on said hub for providing the rotating means to said discs.

5. The combination according to claim **1**, wherein each of said discs is provided with colorful coating, and each disc is provided with a coating of different colors thereby providing means for attracting the attention of the user of said drinking straw.

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