May 7, 1940. J. J. DIETRICK 2,199,832

CLOSURE FOR BOTTLE CARRIERS

Filed April 21, 1938

Fig. 1.

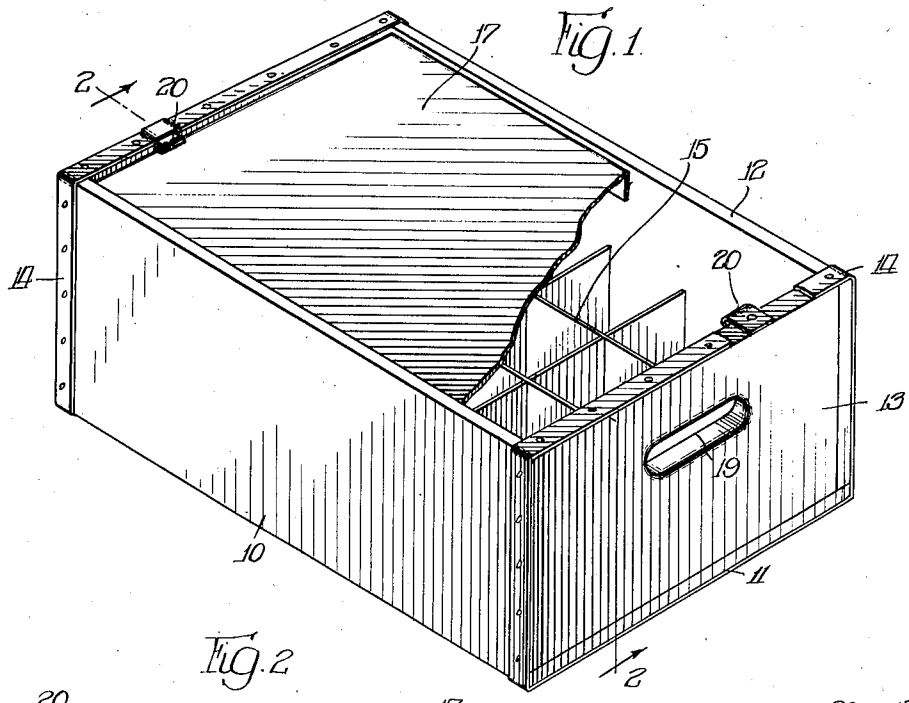
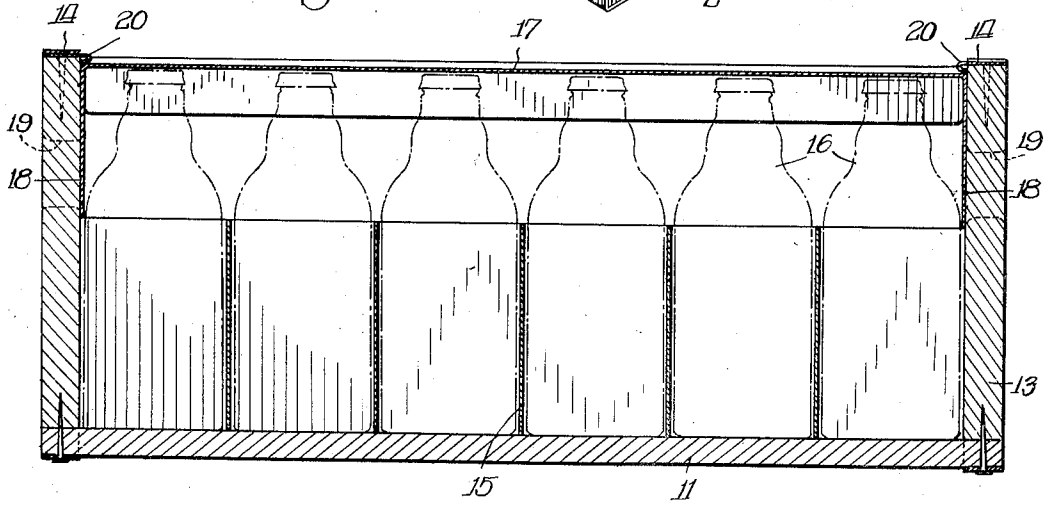


Fig. 2.



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CLOSURE FOR BOTTLE CARRIERS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 217—56)

The present invention relates to an improved type of carrier for bottles, and relates in particular to the combination of a carrier case composed of wood or the like with a protective cover portion provided with special retentive means.

A principal object of the invention is the provision of a bottle carrier composed of a strapped wooden case open at its top and provided with a protective removable cover member which is held in position within the case so as to prevent accidental dislodgment and at the same time is easily removable to provide access to the contents of the carrier, the construction of the various parts of the carrier being simple and economical as well as usable for extensive periods without destruction.

An additional object of the invention is the provision of a bottle carrier having a wooden case provided with metallic straps nailed about its ends and having a cover member with side and end extensions, some of which are accessible through centrally positioned openings in the ends of the case, the top of the case being provided with offset metallic strips extending into the case over the cover member to releasably interlock the latter in position.

These and other objects will be evident upon a consideration of the following specification and by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a bottle carrier constructed in accordance with the invention, the cover member in the drawing being partially broken away to show the interior structure; and

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Heretofore it has been customary to package beer and other beverages carried in bottles in various types of cases. Initially, wooden cases were used practically universally, but the difficulty of providing a proper covering assembly for the cases largely was responsible for the trade adopting the use of corrugated paper board containers having top flats which can be sealed in closed position. Paper containers of this type are quite expensive and have the disadvantage that they cannot be used repeatedly, as in the case of wooden carriers. In accordance with the present invention there is provided a bottle carrier of the rigid type such as constructed of wood, which provides adequate coverage and has many advantages such as the possibility of use a large number of times.

The improved construction shown in the drawing consists of a case indicated generally at 10 composed of wood and having a bottom 11, sides 12, and end members 13. This case, in so far as its assembly of sides, ends and bottom is concerned, is of conventional construction.

The ends of the case are provided with the metallic straps 14 which are nailed about the ends of the box, as shown in the drawing.

Interiorly of the case 10 is provided a cellular partition member 15 which divides the case into a plurality of bottle-carrying compartments. The bottles are positioned within the case, as indicated in Fig. 2, at 16, the tops of the bottles being slightly below the upper edge or the top of the case 10.

The case is of open topped construction since experience has shown that it is not practical to provide cases of this sort with integral cover portions. However, it is highly desirable that some type of protective cover be employed with the carrier. In accordance with the present invention there is provided a separate cover having a body portion indicated at 17 which fits snugly within the walls of the case. This cover member is constructed of a resilient material such as corrugated paper board.

From the edges of the main portion 17 of the cover member the integral extensions 18 extend downwardly adjacent the walls of the case. The cover portion rests adjacent the tops of the bottles held in the carrier and the extensions 18 on the main portion of the cover are positioned between the bottles and the walls of the case.

The extensions 18 adjacent the ends of the case extend downwardly within the case a distance sufficient to be accessible through the openings 19 in the end portions 13. It will be noted that the openings 19 are centrally positioned in the end members and below the upper edges thereof. In addition to providing access to the extensions 18 these openings provide hand holes by which the carrier can be handled.

On the tops of the end members 13 and beneath straps 14 there are provided the oppositely disposed inwardly extending strips 20. The strips 20 may be nailed to the upper edges of the ends 13 before the straps 14 are nailed thereabout. Generally one nail is sufficient to secure each of the strips 20 to the case. It will be seen from Fig. 2 that the strips 20 extend inwardly of the end of the case and overlie the ends of the cover portion 17. Preferably the strips are turned downwardly and outwardly.

In using the bottle carrier the cellular partition initially is placed in the case 10 and the latter is filled with the bottles. Thereafter the ex-

tensions 18 on the cover member are folded downwardly and the cover is positioned with the extensions 18 pressed inwardly of the cover-retaining members 20. The cover is composed of a resilient material and is pressed downwardly and compressed sufficiently to pass between the retaining members 20. After the cover passes the retaining member 20 it springs outwardly therebeneath to the final position shown in Fig. 2. In this position the extensions 18 are accessible through the openings 19 of the case. Also, the cover is retained in position so that it cannot accidentally be dislodged from its position adjacent the tops of the bottles 16. As will be seen from Fig. 1, the cover-retaining members 20 preferably are offset with respect to each other and the center of the case. In particular, the strips 20 are positioned to one side of the case away from the openings 19. The distance which the cover-retaining members 20 overlie the cover may vary, but in one satisfactory embodiment the retaining members extend within the case approximately one quarter inch.

In order to remove the cover to provide access to the bottles 16 the user may place one hand through one of the openings 19 and press the extension 18 inwardly and upwardly to release the cover portion 17. If desired, the cover may be similarly released at both ends simultaneously. The resiliency of the cover is such as to make this operation possible without difficulty. At the same time extensive use of the bottle carrier has shown that the cover does not become released until the proper time.

The cover-retaining members 20 are inexpensive and may be used for extended periods without losing their efficiency. Even if damaged slightly they still function in the desired manner.

It will be recognized that many changes may be made in the construction described herein for purposes of illustrating the invention, and such changes and modifications are intended to be included in the appended claim.

I claim:

A bottle carrier, comprising an open topped wooden case adapted to receive a plurality of bottles having metallic straps nailed about the ends thereof, said ends having central openings below the top of said case, offset metallic strips nailed to the upper edges of said ends at points offset from said openings, said strips extending inwardly of said ends and being turned down and outwardly, a resilient fibrous cover member having a main portion fitting snugly within said case above bottles held therein and below the ends of said inwardly extending strips, and extensions on said main portion extending downwardly adjacent the ends and sides of said case, the extensions adjacent the ends of said case being accessible through said openings.

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