Jan. 14, 1964 J. HERER 3,117,759

BOTTLE HOLDER

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Fig. 1.

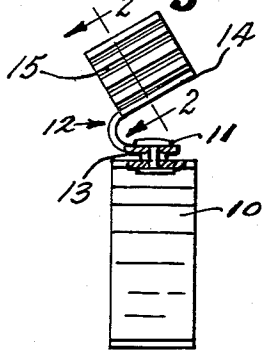


Fig. 3.

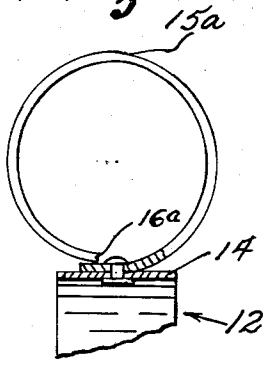
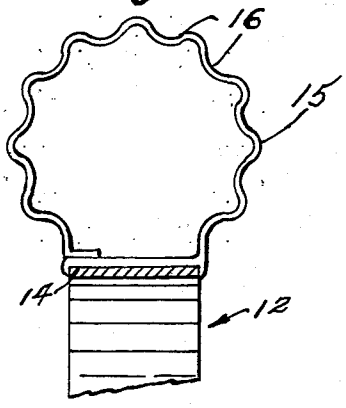


Fig. 2.



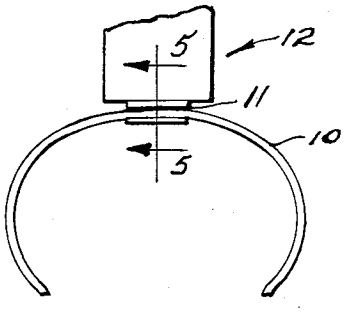


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

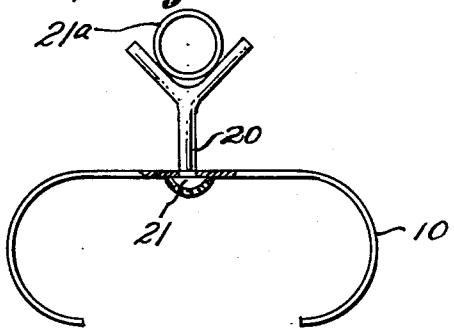


Fig. 7.

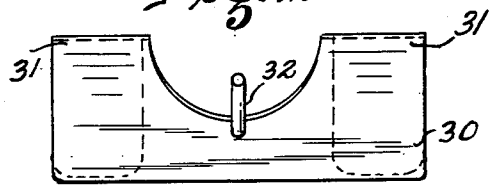
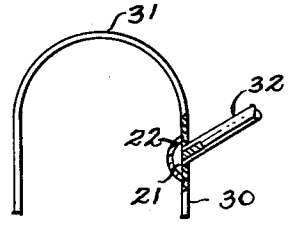


Fig. 8.



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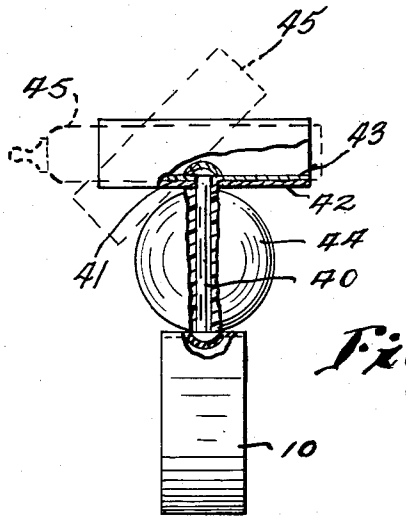
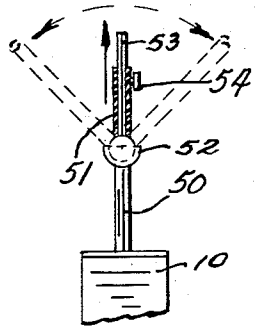


Fig. 9.

Fig. 11.



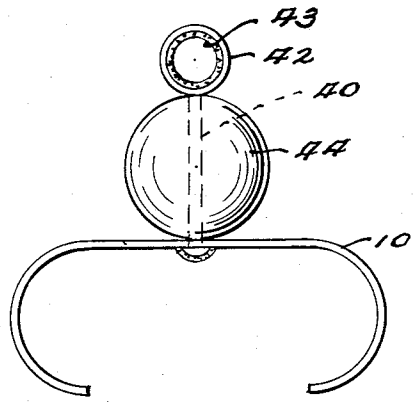


Fig. 10.

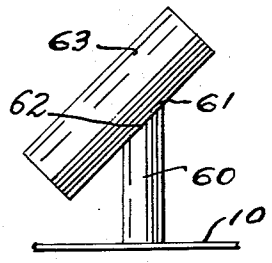


Fig. 12.

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Jack Herer, Charlottesville, Va., assignor of 51.375 percent to Charles F. Sargent; 40.375 percent to Jack Herer; 5.000 percent to Joseph J. DiFiore; 1.500 percent to Lloyd T. Smith, Jr.; 1.250 percent to Battle, Neal, Harris, Minor and Williams (a partnership), and .500 percent to Paul M. Hammaker

Filed Feb. 28, 1962, Ser. No. 176,384
6 Claims. (Cl. 248—102)

The present invention relates to a bottle holder and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements of parts herein described and claimed.

Generally there is provided a bottle holder particularly adapted to the holding of a baby's feeding bottle in operative position for feeding. The device generally comprises a body encompassing base formed of a moldable plastic material which is yieldable at normal temperatures and which, in one form of the invention, partially encircles the baby's chest while, in another form of the invention extends from the chest over the shoulders and downwardly upon the back of the baby. Means affixed to the base member are provided for holding a bottle at the proper angle for feeding when the baby or other person to whom the device may be attached is in a prone or horizontal position. The bottle supporting means is of such character that it permits the same to swivel with relation to the base whereby movement of the baby's head will not act to disengage the bottle from the baby's mouth. Novel means are also provided for adjusting the angular relation of the bottle holding means with reference to the base both angularly and vertically. The device is such that the baby or other person to whom the device is attached may move about, even to extreme side positions, without disengaging the device from its body and is of further nature that it will cause no discomfort while being worn.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a device of the character set forth which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and yet effective and efficient in use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of the character set forth which is formed of a minimum number of parts.

Still another object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, a novel base member forming a part of the invention.

A still further object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, a novel bottle holder swivelly connected to a novel base member, both said holder and said base member forming parts of the invention.

Other and further objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a side elevational view of an embodiment of the invention,

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken substantially along line 2—2 of FIGURE 1,

FIGURE 3 is a view similar to FIGURE 2 but illustrating a modification thereof,

FIGURE 4 is a fragmentary front elevational view of the device illustrated in FIGURE 1,

FIGURE 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken substantially along line 5—5 of FIGURE 4,

FIGURE 6 is a front elevational view of a modified form the invention may assume,

FIGURE 7 is a top plan view of a modified base member,

FIGURE 8 is a vertical sectional view of FIGURE 7,

FIGURE 9 is a side elevational view, partly in section, illustrating another form the invention may assume,

FIGURE 10 is a front elevational view of the device shown in FIGURE 9,

FIGURE 11 is a fragmentary elevational view, partly in section, illustrating a further modification of the invention, and

FIGURE 12 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a still further form the invention may assume.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, there is shown therein, in FIGURES 1 to 5, inclusive, one form of the invention in which there is provided a chest-encompassing base member **10** adapted to encompass the front, sides and a portion of the back of the wearer and formed of a moldable plastic which is yieldable at normal temperatures and which is non-toxic, one such material being "Royalite R.L. 20," manufactured by United States Rubber Company.

Affixed centrally upon the base member **10** by means of a snap fastener **11** is a V-shaped bracket generally indicated at **12**, the lower arm **13** extending horizontally and carrying one of the snap fastener portions **11** and the other arm **14** of which extends angularly upwardly.

Mounted longitudinally upon the arm **14** is a cylindrical bottle support **15** which is provided with a series of circumferentially spaced longitudinally extending corrugations **16**.

In a modified form of the invention shown in FIGURE 3, there is shown a bottle support member **15***a* which is completely cylindrical but split, as indicated at **16***a*.

In the operation of this form of the invention shown in FIGURES 1 to 5, inclusive, it will be seen that the base member **10** may be placed about the upper portion of the torso of a child or other person and that being yieldable in nature, it will act to firmly grasp the body of the user and remain in position regardless of the movement of the body of the user from side to side or in any other direction. The bracket **12** and its attached bottle holder **15** or **15***a* may then be mounted upon the base **10** by means of the snap fastener member which will permit the bracket and its attached holder to move about the snap fastener member for a full 360°. The bottle may be placed in the holder **15** and it will be seen that the corrugations will act to hold the bottle therein by frictional means. In the event that the holder **15***a* is used, it will be apparent that the fact that it is in the form of a split cylinder will again act to yieldably engage the bottle and hold the same by friction. Likewise it will be apparent that the infant or other person who is to be fed with the bottle will need no other means for holding the bottle in position and that the infant or the like may feed from the bottle utilizing the usual nipple (not shown).

In the case of a baby, it will also be apparent that should the baby move his head from side to side, the bottle will remain engaged in the baby's mouth due to the fact that the member **12**, the bottle holder and the bottle will move pivotally upon the base **10** due to the action of the snap fastener member **11**. Thus it will be seen that when once placed in position upon a baby's body in the manner above set forth, it will act to hold the bottle in position without further necessity for supervision and that even if the baby should move about, the bottle will remain in proper position for feeding at all times. Again, it is pointed out that once the device is properly positioned upon a baby's body, that should the nipple of the feeding bottle become disengaged from the baby's mouth, since it is in a position where the natural movement of the baby's hands in an arc toward its mouth will, through no mental effort of the baby, be brought back into proper position for feeding.

It should be understood that in all cases where a baby

is mentioned that the device is equally proficient in feeding other persons who are unable to use their arms or where such persons use of their arms is inadvisable for any reason whatsoever.

In the form of the invention illustrated in FIGURE 6, there is centrally attached to the base 10 a Y-shaped support 20, the vertical member of which is provided with a head 21 over which a protective coating 22 is provided. In this form of the invention it will be apparent that the base member 10 may be placed upon the user's body in the manner above described and that the upper arms of the member 20 may act as a support for a feeding bottle 21*a*.

In FIGURES 7 and 8 there is shown an alternative form of base member. In this case there is provided a base member of flat material of the type heretofore described with regard to the base member 10 and having a vertically extending chest-encompassing portion 30 and a pair of inverted U-shaped shoulder-encompassing members 31 formed integrally with the upper edge thereof. A shaft 32 is affixed centrally in the member 30 and is adapted to have attached to its outer extremity any of the various bottle supporting members set forth in this application.

In this form of the invention, it will be apparent that the base member 30 is adapted to bear against the chest of the user while being held in position by the shoulder members 31 which extend over the shoulders of the user and bear against the upper portion of the user's back.

In the form of the invention illustrated in FIGURES 9 and 10, there is centrally affixed to the base member 10 an upwardly extending shaft 40 to the upper end of which is pivotally connected, as indicated at 41, to a cylindrical bottle holder 42 which is provided with a liner 43 of sponge rubber or the like. A ball 44 preferably formed of a non-toxic plastic material surrounds the shaft 40, the shaft 40 extending diametrically therethrough, and is contiguous at its lower end to the base 10 and contiguous at its upper end to the holder 42.

In the operation of this last-mentioned form of the invention, it will be apparent that the base is mounted in the manner heretofore described and that the feeding bottle indicated in dotted lines at 45 in FIGURE 9 may then be placed within the holder 42, the liner 43 acting to frictionally maintain the bottle within the holder. The user of the device may then manually move the bottle 45 together with the holder 42 downwardly to the position indicated in dotted lines at 46 in FIGURE 9 and it will be apparent that the ball 44 will act as a rest or stop member against further downward movement while at the same time maintaining the bottle in the proper position for feeding. It will also be apparent that the bottle together with the holder 42 may move in an arc of 360° thereby taking care of any movements of the infant's head with respect to the remainder of its body during such feeding.

In FIGURE 11, a shaft 50 extends centrally upwardly from the base 10 and a hollow socket member 51 is connected to the upper end thereof by means of a universal joint 52. A stub shaft 53 extends telescopically downwardly into the socket 51 and may be held in selected positions thereon by means of a set screw 54. A bottle holder such as hereinabove described may be attached to the upper end of the stub shaft 53.

In this form of the invention, it will be apparent that minute adjustments of the bottle holder may be made not only angularly with respect to the base member 10 but also vertically by means of the stub shaft, socket member and set screw.

In FIGURE 12, a simplified form of the invention is shown wherein there is centrally connected to the base member 10 a vertical standard 60 which is preferably

and as shown cylindrical in cross sectional area. The upper end of the standard 60 is provided with a face the plane of which is at an acute angle with reference to the plane of the upper surface of the base member 10. Centrally affixed in the upper face 61 is a pin 62 upon which is pivotally mounted a bottle holder 63.

In this last mentioned form of the invention illustrated in FIGURE 12, it will be apparent that the base member 10 may be mounted as above described whereupon a bottle may be mounted within the holder 63 and the bottle and the holder may then be moved arcuately with respect to the standard 60, again giving the advantages hereinabove described with reference to the previously mentioned forms of the invention.

While but certain forms of the invention have been shown and described herein, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that many minor modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the character described comprising a body-gripping base member, a V-shaped bracket of spring material having one leg centrally and pivotally affixed atop said base member, and a bottle holder affixed to the other leg of said bracket.

2. A device of the character described comprising a body-gripping base member, a V-shaped bracket of spring material, a snap fastener centrally and pivotally interconnecting one leg of said bracket to said base member, and a bottle holder affixed to the other leg of said bracket.

3. A device of the character described comprising a body-gripping base member, a V-shaped bracket of spring material having one leg centrally and pivotally affixed atop said base member, and a bottle holder affixed to the other leg of said bracket, said bottle holder being substantially hollow cylindrical in shape and having a series of corrugations extending longitudinally therein.

4. A device of the character described comprising a body-gripping base member, a V-shaped bracket of spring material having one leg centrally and pivotally affixed atop said base member, and a bottle holder affixed to the other leg of said bracket, said bottle holder being a hollow split cylinder.

5. A device of the character described comprising a body-gripping base member, a V-shaped bracket of spring material, a snap fastener centrally and pivotally interconnecting one leg of said bracket to said base member, and a bottle holder affixed to the other leg of said bracket, said bottle holder being substantially hollow cylindrical in shape and having a series of corrugations extending longitudinally therein.

6. A device of the character described comprising a body-gripping base member, a V-shaped bracket of spring material, a snap fastener centrally and pivotally interconnecting one leg of said bracket to said base member, and a bottle holder affixed to the other leg of said bracket, said bottle holder being a hollow split cylinder.

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