

Aug. 5, 1958

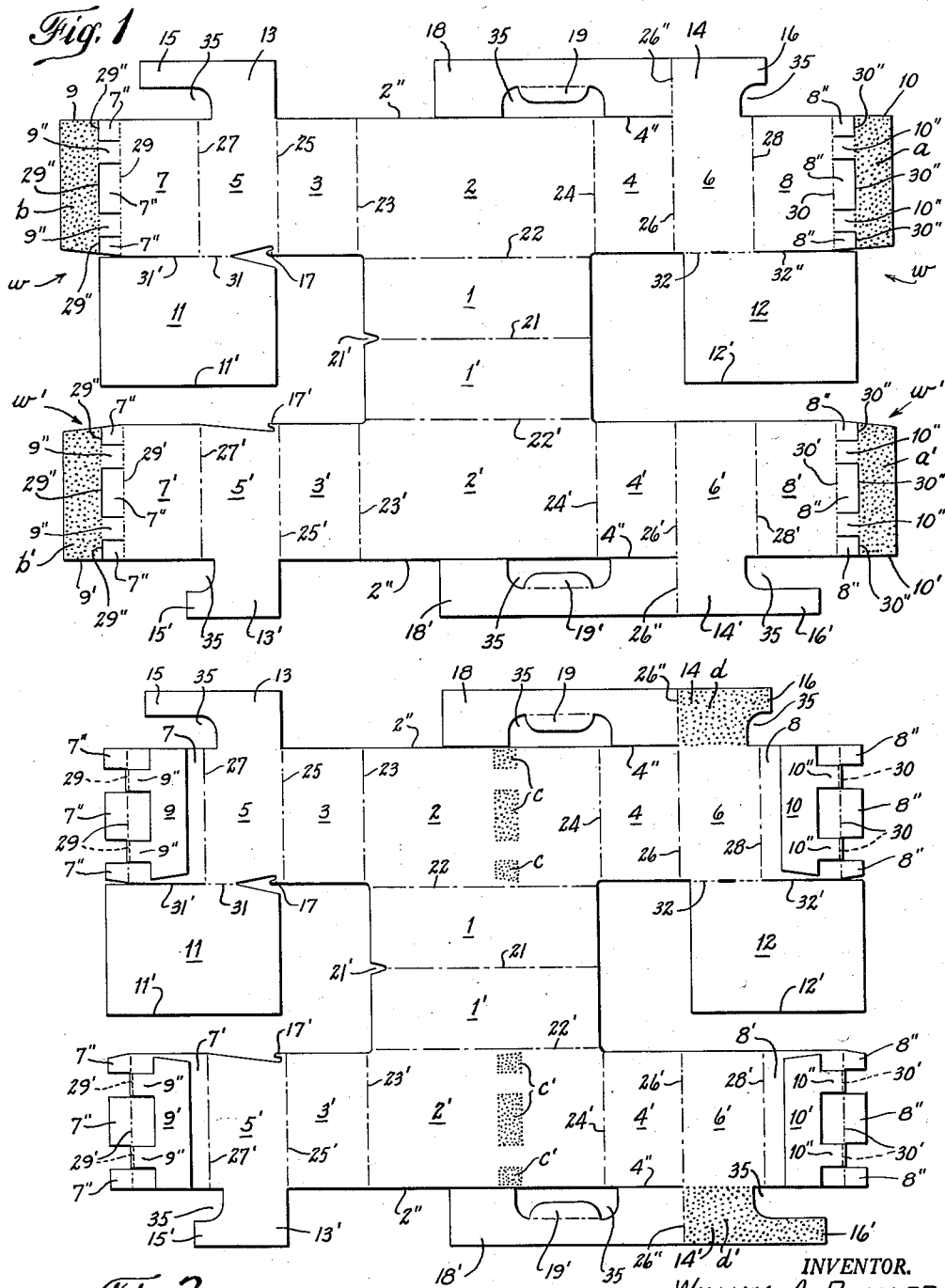
W. A. RINGLER

2,846,114

COLLAPSIBLE BOTTLE CARRIERS

Filed Feb. 27, 1953

5 Sheets-Sheet 1



1472 INVENTOR.
WILLIAM A. RINGLER

BY

Reuben J. Carlson

ATTORNEY.

Aug. 5, 1958

W. A. RINGLER

2,846,114

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5 Sheets-Sheet 2

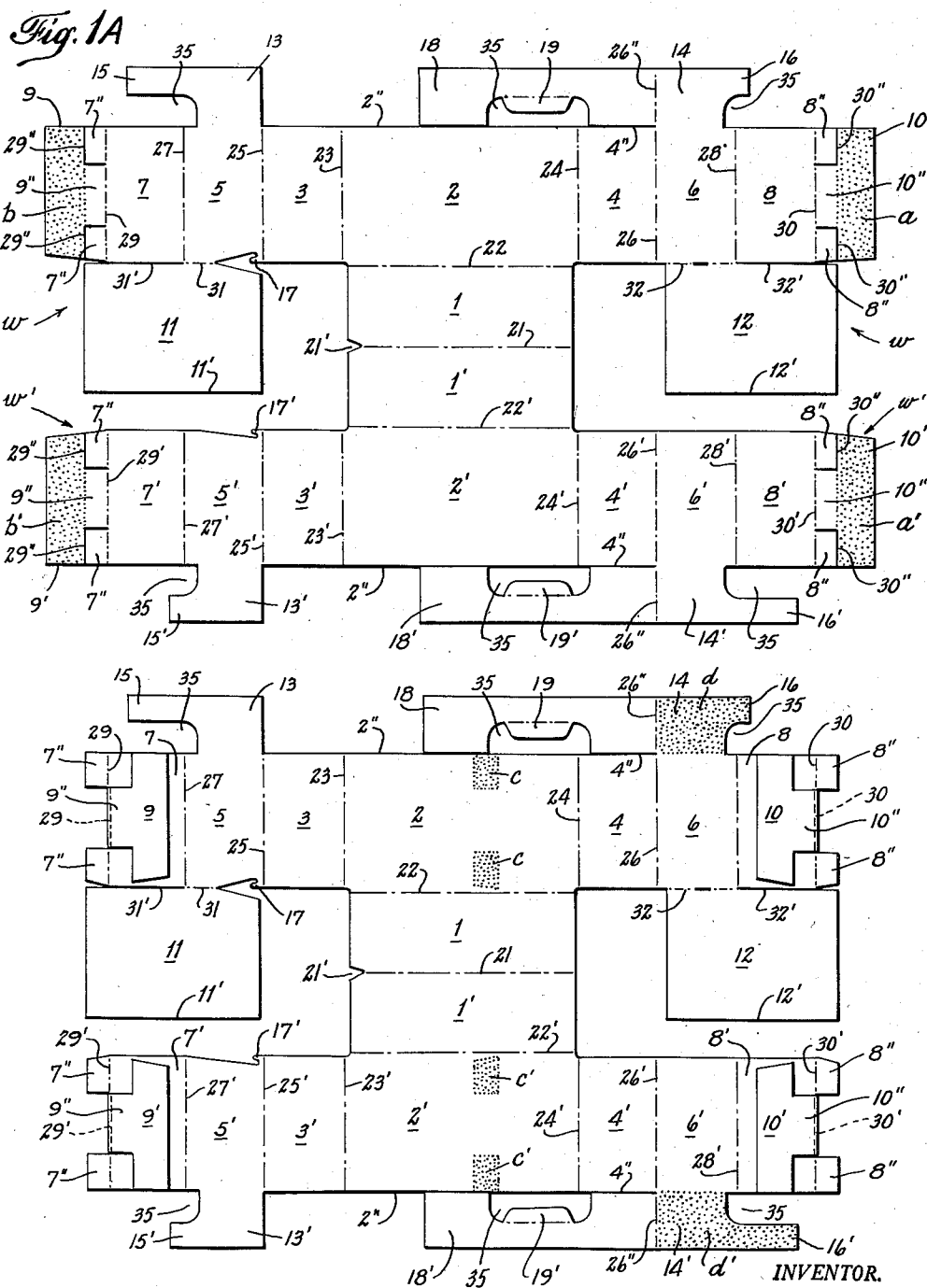


Fig. 2A

INVENTOR.
WILLIAM A. RINGLER
BY
Reuben J. Carlson
ATTORNEY.

Aug. 5, 1958

W. A. RINGLER

2,846,114

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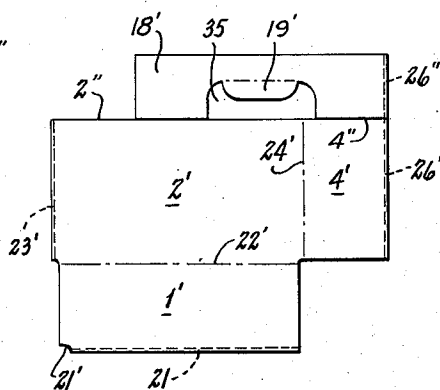
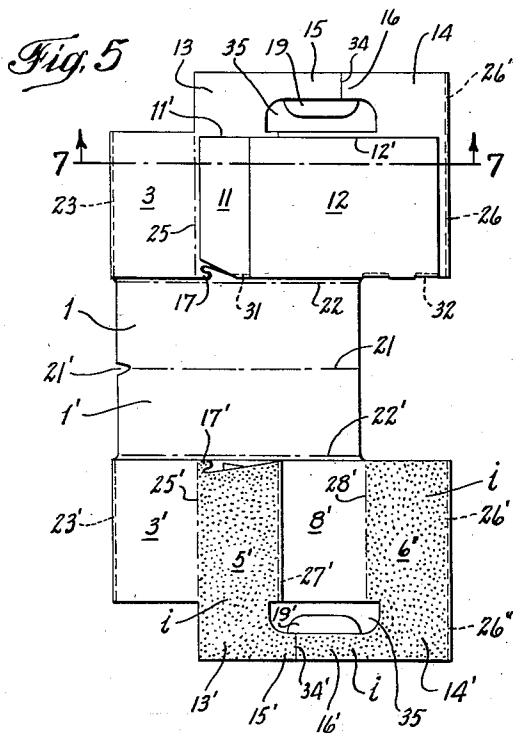
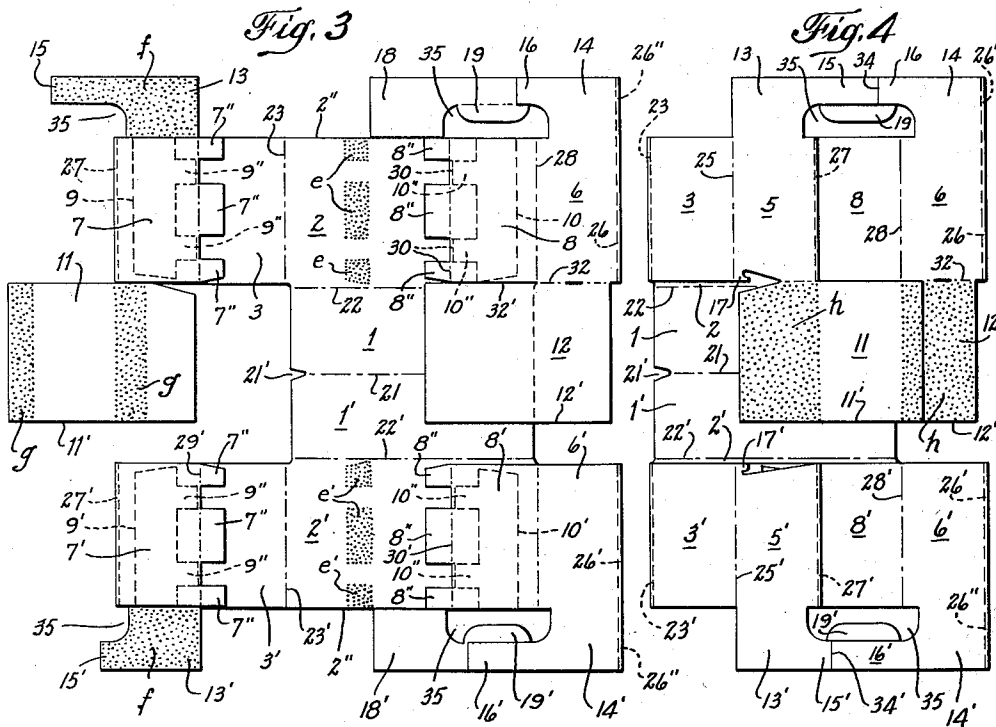


Fig. 6

INVENTOR.
WILLIAM A. RINGLER
BY *Ruben S. Carlson*
ATTORNEY.

Aug. 5, 1958

W. A. RINGLER

2,846,114

COLLAPSIBLE BOTTLE CARRIERS

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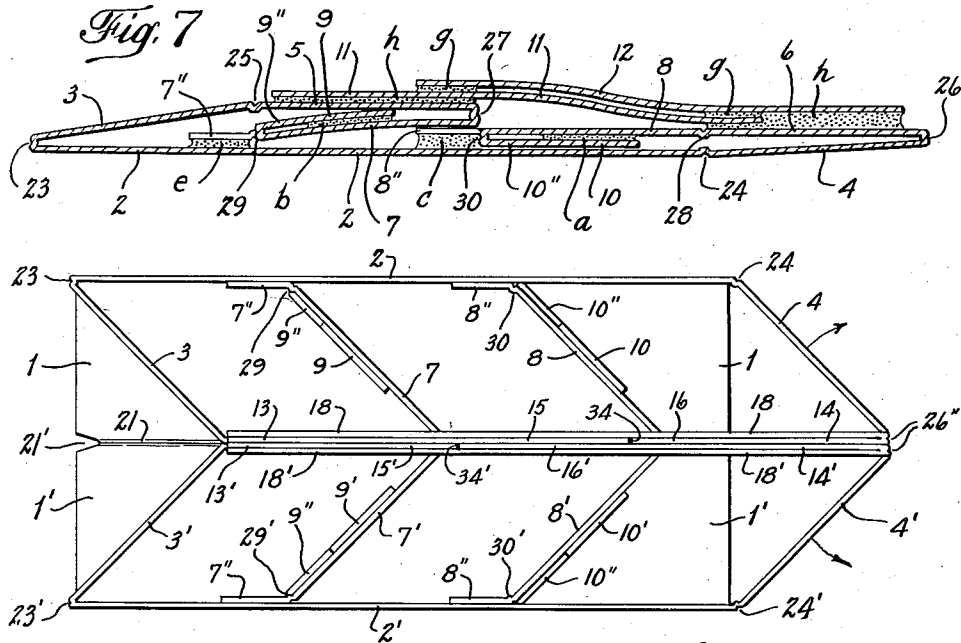


Fig. 8

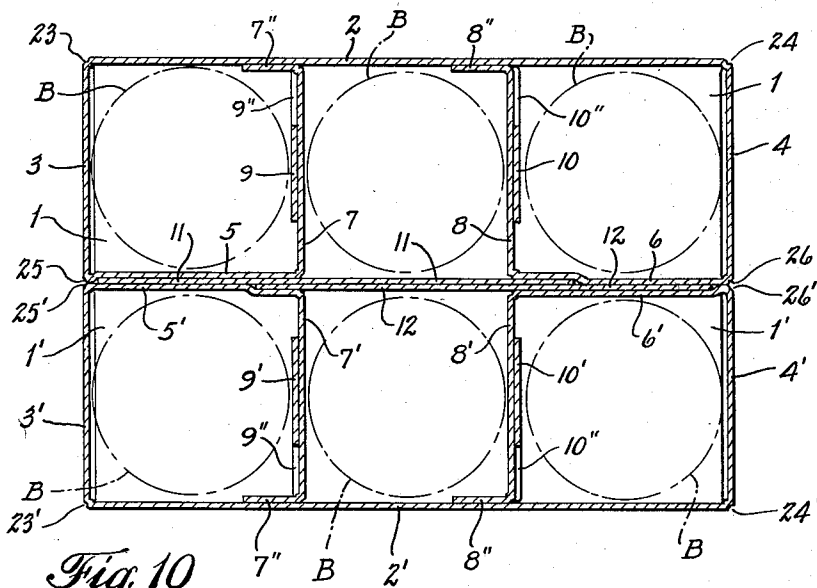


Fig. 10

INVENTOR.
WILLIAM A. RINGLER
BY *Robert D. Carter*
ATTORNEY.

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2,846,114

COLLAPSIBLE BOTTLE CARRIERS

William A. Ringler, Wayne, Pa., assignor, by mesne assignments, to The Diamond Match Company, New York, N. Y., a corporation of Delaware

Application February 27, 1953, Serial No. 339,350

7 Claims. (Cl. 220-113)

This invention relates to collapsible bottle carriers and more particularly to twin compartmented multicelled bottle carriers formed from paperboard or fiberboard materials which are designed to permit flat collapse thereof during shipment and storage and convenient erection for bottle filling and transportation. This application is a continuation-in-part of my copending application Serial No. 287,117, filed May 10, 1952, now Patent No. 2,696,942.

In construction, these bottle carriers present flat side and end wall panels which extend when erected from the flattened bottom panel to any desired height. The center partition may be of multi-ply thickness, extends the full length of the carrier and down to the erected bottom panel, and provides a strong and rugged backbone structure for the carrier. The handle part is formed as an integral extension of the center partition structure and is of uniform four ply thickness throughout its length. The cell forming cross partitions may be of double ply thickness in the area contacted by adjacent bottles, and may extend from the expanded and erected bottom panel to any desired height. The cross partitions are firmly but foldably secured to the interior faces of the side panels and the plural ply center partition structure. Bottle carriers constructed in accordance with this invention are rigid and sturdy when erected, unyielding to bottle load strains, are convenient to collapse, can be easily and quickly erected and inserted into the shipping case, present substantially flat surface areas for the reception of attractive advertising decoration, and can be advantageously used either for single use bottles or returnable bottles.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent as the disclosure proceeds.

Although the characteristic features of this invention will be particularly pointed out in the claims, the invention itself, and the manner in which it may be carried out, may be better understood by referring to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof in which:

Fig. 1 is an inside face view of the carrier blank as cut from a paperboard or fiberboard stock sheet which may caliper from fifteen to twenty thousandths of an inch in thickness, this view also showing adhesive applied to the cross partition reinforcing flaps preliminary to executing the initial folding operation;

Fig. 1A is an inside face view of a blank formed as shown in Fig. 1 but having cross partition reinforcing flaps of slightly modified form;

Fig. 2 is an inside face view of the blank shown in Fig. 1 after the cross partition reinforcing flaps have been folded into adhesive relation to their associated cross partitions, this view also showing adhesive applied to additional areas of the blank preparatory to execution of the second folding operation;

Fig. 2A is an inside face view of the blank shown in Fig. 1A having the modified cross partition reinforcing

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flaps as they would appear when folded into adhesive relation to their associated cross partitions;

Fig. 3 is an inside face view of the blank shown in Fig. 2 as the same would appear after the second folding operation has been completed, this view showing adhesive applied to further areas of the blank in preparation for the third folding operation;

Fig. 4 is an inside face view of the blank shown in Fig. 3 as it would appear after the third folding operation has been executed, this view also showing adhesive applied to still further areas of the blank preparatory to performing the fourth folding operation;

Fig. 5 is an inside face view of the blank shown in Fig. 4 as it would appear after the fourth folding operation has been executed thereon, this view also showing adhesive applied to additional areas of the blank preparatory to executing the fifth and final folding operation;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the fully assembled carrier as it would appear in collapsed form and after the fifth folding operation has been performed on the blank shown in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a horizontal cross sectional view of a partially folded blank as viewed along line 7-7 of Fig. 5; this view showing the blank parts and glued areas thereof in substantially greater thickness than is actually the case, to more clearly reveal structural details;

Fig. 8 is a top plan view of the assembled carrier as it would appear when undergoing erection expansion from its collapsed form as shown in Fig. 6;

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the fully erected carrier as formed from the blank shown in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 10 is a horizontal cross section of the fully erected carrier as the same would appear when viewed on line 10-10 of Fig. 9, this view also showing in phantom lines the cross sectional outline of the bottles as they would appear when nested in the cells of the carrier.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views of the drawings and specification.

In preparing the carrier forming blanks in the form shown in Fig. 1, paperboard or fiberboard stock sheets of selected quality and which may caliper from fifteen to twenty thousandths of an inch in thickness, are first printed and decorated on one side thereof only. The carrier forming blanks may then be scored and cut in a single pass through a cutting and scoring machine, adjusted to perform the requisite cutting and scoring operation. It will be noted that the carrier forming blanks are so shaped and designed as to yield very little waste in stock sheet material, and are designed to permit high speed gluing and folding of the carrier forming blanks in a single pass through an automatic gluing and folding machine of substantially standard construction. As a result of the permissible economies achieved in cutting, scoring, gluing and folding of the blanks by high speed machine operation to thereby produce the fully assembled collapsed carriers, and the further economies resulting from the use of substantially lighter weight stock sheets than has heretofore been considered necessary to provide carriers meeting shipping requirements, carriers made in accordance with this invention can be produced at substantially less cost than carriers of corresponding quality and serviceability as heretofore made and constructed.

The prepared bottle carrier forming blank as shown in Fig. 1 is cut and scored to provide a bottom panel designed to support two rows of bottles, with three bottles in each row. The bottom panel comprises bottom half sections 1 and 1' of similar size hingedly connected along a longitudinally extending collapsing score 21. Side panels 2 and 2' are foldably connected to the opposite side edges of the bottom sections 1 and 1' along parallel extending scores 22 and 22' which are also parallel to the

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bottom collapsing score 21. Wings w and w' are formed to extend from both side edges of the side panels 2 and 2' to thereby provide a bottle carrier blank which is generally H-shaped in configuration.

The left hand wings w and w' of the blank shown in Fig. 1 are scored to form a pair of end panel sections 3 and 3' foldably connected along score lines 23 and 23' to the adjacent side edges of the side panels 2 and 2' respectively. A pair of end cell center partition sections 5 and 5' are foldably connected along score lines 25 and 25' to the respective end panel sections 3 and 3'. Cross partition sections 7 and 7' are foldably connected along score lines 27 and 27' to the respective center partition sections 5 and 5'. A pair of cross partition reinforcing flaps 9 and 9' may be foldably connected along score lines 29 and 29' to the respective cross partition sections 7 and 7'.

The cross partition sections 7 and 7' are each provided with spaced foot tabs 7'' which are captured from material cut from the cross partition reinforcing flaps 9 and 9' by spaced cuts 29'' as shown in Fig. 1. The spaced foot tabs 7'' are thus hinged to the adjacent cross partition sections 7 and 7' along the scores 29 and 29' and provide means for securing the associated cross partition sections 7 and 7' to the inside face of the adjacent side panels 2 and 2' when the carrier is assembled. The spaced foot tabs are separated by the cut lines 29'' to define one or more intervening leg portions 9'' hinged to the adjacent cross partition sections 7 and 7' along the adjacent scores 29 and 29' to thus form a part of the cross partition reinforcing flaps 9 and 9'. As thus constructed, the cross partition reinforcing flaps 9 and 9' and their associated leg portions 9'' may be folded about the aligned scores 29 and 29' into adhesively secured relation to the adjacent cross partition sections as shown in Fig. 2, leaving the foot tabs 7'' free for securement to the inside face of the adjacent side wall panels 2 and 2'.

The wing extensions w and w' at the right hand side of the blank as shown in Fig. 1, are also scored to form a pair of end panel sections 4 and 4' foldably connected along score lines 24 and 24' to the adjacent side edges of the respective side panels 2 and 2'. A pair of end cell center partition sections 6 and 6' are foldably connected along score lines 26 and 26' to the respective end panel sections 4 and 4'; and a pair of cross partition sections 8 and 8' are foldably connected along score lines 28 and 28' to the respective center partition sections 6 and 6'. A pair of cross partition reinforcing flaps 10 and 10' may be foldably connected along score lines 30 and 30' to the respective cross partition sections 8 and 8'.

The cross partition sections 8 and 8' are each provided with spaced foot tabs 8'' captured from material cut out of the adjacent cross partition reinforcing flaps 10 and 10' by spaced cuts 30'' as shown in Fig. 1. The spaced foot tabs 8'' are hinged to the adjacent cross partition sections 8 and 8' along the scores 30 and 30' and thus provide means for securing the associated cross partition sections 8 and 8' to the inside face of the adjacent side panels 2 and 2'. The spaced foot tabs 8'' as separated by the spaced cuts 30'' define one or more intervening leg portions 10'' which are hinged to the adjacent cross partition sections 8 and 8' along the scores 30 and 30' and which form a part of the cross partition reinforcing flaps 10 and 10'. As thus constructed, the cross partition reinforcing flaps 10 and 10' and their associated leg portions 10'' may be folded about the scores 30 and 30' into adhesively secured relation to the adjacent cross partition sections 8 and 8' as shown in Fig. 2, leaving the foot tabs 8'' free for securement to the inside face of the adjacent side wall panels 2 and 2'.

The score lines 23, 25, 27 and 29 which traverse the upper left hand wing w of the blank as shown in Fig. 1 are preferably arranged in substantially parallel and equally spaced relationship and in substantial alignment with the score lines 23', 25', 27' and 29' which traverse the

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lower left hand wing w' of the blank. As thus formed and defined, the end panel sections 3 and 3', the end cell center partition sections 5 and 5', and the reinforced cross partition sections 7 and 7' have a substantially uniform width which approximates the diameter of the bottles to be contained in the cells formed thereby. Similarly, the scores 24, 26, 28 and 30 which traverse the upper right hand wing w of the blank are substantially in alignment with the corresponding scores 24', 26', and 30' and are substantially equally spaced, so that the end panel sections 4 and 4', the end cell center partition sections 6 and 6', and the reinforced cross partition sections 8 and 8' have a width which closely approximates the diameter of the bottles to be placed in the carrier cells formed thereby.

The wing extensions w and w' are designed when glued and folded, to provide a double compartmented bottle carrier having a pair of end cells at both ends thereof, with the end panel sections 3 and 3', the end cell center partition sections 5 and 5' and the reinforced cross partition sections 7 and 7' forming one pair of fully enclosed end cells at one end of the carrier, and with the end panel sections 4 and 4', the end cell center partition sections 6 and 6' and the reinforced cross partition sections 8 and 8' forming another pair of fully enclosed end cells at the other end of the carrier. In addition, the spaced and reinforced cross partition sections 7 and 8 together define an intermediate bottle receiving cell for one compartment of the carrier, and the spaced and reinforced cross partition sections 7' and 8' together define an intermediate cell for the other compartment of the carrier. The intermediate cells as thus formed are separated medially of the carrier by a pair of overlapping center divider sections 11 and 12 which are captured from material otherwise discarded as waste between adjacent pairs of wing extensions w and w' at the left and right hand sides of the blank.

The center divider section 11 is captured from material otherwise discarded as waste between the left hand wings w and w' of the blank, is foldably connected by a score line 31 to the bottom forming edge of the end cell center partition section 5, and is separated from the bottom forming edge of the cross partition section 7, its adjacent foot tab 7'' and the reinforcing flap 9 by a cut line 31' which is substantially in alignment with the folding score 31. The opposite top forming edge 11' of the center divider section 11 extends substantially down to but is separated from the bottom forming edge of the adjacent lower left hand wing extension w' . The companion center divider section 12 is similarly captured from material otherwise discarded as waste between the upper and lower right hand wing extensions w and w' of the blank as shown in Fig. 1. The center divider section 12 is foldably connected by score line 32 to the bottom forming edge of the end cell center partition section 6 and is separated from the bottom forming edge of the adjacent cross partition section 8, its adjacent foot tab 8'' and the reinforcing flap 10 by a cut line 32' which is substantially in alignment with the folding score 32. The opposite top forming edge 12' of the center divider section 12 also extends substantially down to but is separated from the bottom forming edge of the adjacent lower right hand wing extension w' as shown in Fig. 1.

The carrier formed from the blank shown in Fig. 1 is equipped with a multi-ply handle part which is formed as an integral part of the blank. The handle part is formed by a pair of handle forming extensions 13 and 13' integral with and projecting upwardly from the center partition sections 5 and 5', and a corresponding pair of handle forming extensions 14 and 14' integral with and projecting upwardly from the paired center partition sections 6 and 6'. The handle forming extensions 13 and 13' are provided with laterally projecting handle forming straps 15 and 15' which are separated from the adjacent cross partition sections 7 and 7' by hand hole cutouts 35.

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The handle forming extensions 14 and 14' at the right hand side of the blank are similarly equipped with laterally projecting handle forming straps 16 and 16' which are also separated from the adjacent cross partition sections 8 and 8' by hand hole cutouts 35. The handle forming straps 15 and 16 associated with the handle extensions 13 and 14 are of such length that when the carrier is fully assembled, the end edges thereof will substantially abut to form an abutment joint 34 as shown in Figs. 4, 5, 8 and 9. Similarly, the handle forming straps 15' and 16' associated with the handle extensions 13' and 14' are of such length that the end edges thereof will substantially abut to form an abutment joint 34' when the carrier is fully assembled. Thus the handle extensions 13 and 14 and their associated handle forming straps 15 and 16, together with the handle extensions 13' and 14' and their associated handle forming straps 15' and 16', provide a handle section of two ply thickness, with the abutment joints 34 and 34' arranged in staggered relation as shown in Figs. 8 and 9.

The two ply handle section as thus formed is strengthened and its appearance enhanced by the provision of handle facing flaps 18 and 18' which are foldably connected by score lines 26'' to the side edges of the adjacent handle forming extensions 14 and 14', with the folding scores 26'' forming aligned continuations of the scores 26 and 26'. The handle facing flaps 18 and 18' are captured from sheet material otherwise discarded as waste and located between the depressed top edges 2'' of the side panels 2 and 2' and the depressed top edges 4'' of the adjacent end panel sections 4 and 4'. The longitudinal length of the handle facing flaps 18 and 18' is substantially equal to the overall length of the composite handle part and when folded into assembled position, present their finished and decorated faces to view. The handle facing flaps 18 and 18' are also provided with hand hole cutouts 35 which align with the hand hole cutouts 35 formed in the handle forming extensions 13 and 14, 13' and 14' when the carrier is assembled. The handle facing flaps 18 and 18' may also be provided with edge rounding flaps 19 and 19' captured from material which would otherwise be removed in the formation of the hand hole cutouts 35 therein.

In assembling the bottle carrier from the blank shown in Fig. 1, areas of adhesive *a* and *a'* are applied to the inside face of the cross partition reinforcing flaps 10 and 10', and corresponding areas of adhesive *b* and *b'* are simultaneously applied to the inside face of the cross partition reinforcing flaps 9 and 9' as shown in Fig. 1. During travel of the blank through the gluing and folding machine, the cross partition reinforcing flaps 9 and 9', 10 and 10' are folded into adhesive secured relation to their associated cross partition sections 7 and 7' and 8 and 8' respectively as shown in Fig. 2, leaving the foot tabs 7'' and 8'' projecting laterally therefrom.

Adhesive spots *c* and *c'* are applied to the inside faces of the side panels 2 and 2' or alternatively to the projecting foot tabs 8'', and in addition, areas of adhesive *d* and *d'* are applied to the handle forming extensions 14 and 14' as shown in Fig. 2. The blank is then folded along aligned scores 26, 26' and 26'' so as to place the end cell center partition sections 6 and 6' in overlying relation to the end panel sections 4 and 4', to place the reinforced cross partition sections 8 and 8' and the foot tabs 8'' associated therewith in overlying relation to the inside face of the side panels 2 and 2', and to additionally place the glued handle forming extensions 14 and 14' in overlying and in glued relation to the inside face of the handle facing flap 18 and 18' as shown in Fig. 3. In this same operation, the center divider section 12 is placed in partial overlying relation to the bottom half sections 1 and 1'.

In the same or in a subsequent operation, adhesive spots *e* and *e'* are applied to the inside faces of the side wall panels 2 and 2', or alternatively to the infolded foot

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tabs 7''. Additionally, areas of adhesive *f* and *f'* are applied to the handle forming extensions 13 and 13', with spaced strips of adhesive *g* also applied to the inside face of the center divider section 11. The left hand wings of the blank are then folded along the aligned scores 23 and 23' so as to place the end panel sections 3 and 3', the cross partition sections 7 and 7' and the foot tabs 7'' in superimposed relation to the inside face of the side panels 2 and 2' as shown in Fig. 4. By the same folding operation, a substantial part of the center divider section 11 will be superimposed and adhesively secured to the previously folded center divider section 12 so that the composite center divider as formed by the overlapped center divider sections 11 and 12 will have a length substantially equal to the set up length of the carrier.

Upon the application of pressure to the thus folded blank, the foot tabs 7'' and 8'' will become adhesively secured to the inside faces of the side panels 2 and 2' to thereby complete the assembly of the paired end cells at both ends of the carrier. Additionally, the handle forming extensions 13 and 14 will also be adhesively secured to the handle facing flap 18, with the ends of the handle extensions 13 and 14 forming an abutment joint 34 as shown in Fig. 4. By this same operation, the handle forming extensions 13' and 14' will be adhesively secured to the handle facing flap 18', with the free ends of the handle extensions 13' and 14' forming an abutment joint 34' in staggered relation to the abutment joint 34.

In the next operation, bands of adhesive *h* are applied to the overlapped center divider sections 11 and 12 as shown in Fig. 4, and the composite center divider then folded along the aligned hinging scores 31 and 32 so as to place the center divider into adhesively secured relation to the spaced end cell center partition sections 5 and 6 as shown in Fig. 5. To complete the assembly of the carrier, adhesive areas *i* are applied to the end cell center partition sections 5' and 6' and to their associated handle forming extensions 13' and 14' as shown in Fig. 5. As the final folding operation, the partially assembled blank as shown in Fig. 5 is folded along the bottom collapsing score 21 so as to place the end cell center partition sections 5' and 6' in adhesively secured relation to the center divider sections 11 and 12, and to additionally place the handle forming extensions 13' and 14' in adhesively secured relation to the handle forming extensions 13 and 14, thereby providing the completed carrier in collapsed form as shown in Fig. 6.

To erect the fully assembled but collapsed carrier as shown in Fig. 6, the bottom panel at the collapsing score 21 may be placed on a flat surface and downward pressure exerted thereon, thereby causing the carrier to become partially expanded into the form shown in Fig. 8. Full expansion and erection of the carrier can then be accomplished by shifting the handle part and the associated center partition structure so as to square up the end panel sections in relation to the end edges of the bottom panel. To maintain the carrier in erected form, hook portions 17 and 17' may be formed in the bottom ends of the end cell center partition sections 5 and 5' as shown in Fig. 1 which are designed to interlock with an appropriate notch 21' formed in the adjacent end of the bottom panel at the terminus of the bottom collapsing score 21.

The bottle carrier thus fully assembled as shown in Figs. 8, 9 and 10 from the blank shown in Fig. 1, presents a composite center partition structure which is of triple ply thickness between the end cells and of double ply thickness between the intermediate cells, with both ends of the center divider sections 11 and 12 firmly held and laminated between the adjacent end cell center partition sections 5 and 5' and 6 and 6'. The handle part of the carrier as shown in Fig. 9 is of four ply thickness, with the handle forming extensions 13 and 13' and 14 and 14' forming integral continuations of the end cell

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center partition sections 5 and 5', 6 and 6' of the center partition structure. As assembled, the hand hole cutouts 35 in the handle facing flaps 18 and 18' and in the handle forming extensions 13 and 13', 14 and 14' fall into alignment when the carrier is assembled, and thereby provide a four ply hand hole opening whose hand grip is reinforced and made comfortable by the upturned edge rounding flaps 19 and 19' as shown in Fig. 9.

The side panels 2 and 2' and the end panel sections 3 and 3' and 4 and 4' may be made of any desired height to adequately display the beverage bottles contained therein. The reinforced cross partition sections 7 and 7' and 8 and 8' may be made to extend the full height of the side walls and may be of double ply thickness in the central area thereof where they are contacted by adjacent bottles B inserted in the cells of the carrier as indicated in Fig. 10. The reinforced cross partition sections 7 and 7' and 8 and 8' are firmly but foldably secured to the adjacent side panels 2 and 2' by their associated foot tabs 7'' and 8'' and provide added strength and reinforcement to the carrier.

While certain novel features of this invention have been disclosed herein and are pointed out in the claims, it will be understood that various omissions, substitutions, and changes may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of this invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A twin-compartmented bottle carrier formed from a one-piece blank which includes a bottom panel, a pair of side panels foldably connected to the opposite side edges of the bottom panel, a pair of end panel sections at each end of the carrier foldably connected to the adjacent side edges of the side panels, a center partition structure formed by a pair of inwardly extending center partition sections arranged in back to back relationship and foldably connected to each pair of end panel sections, and a center divider foldably connected to the lower end of one of said center partition sections and having the side edges thereof positioned between adjacent pairs of center partition sections and spanning the space between the spaced pairs of center partition sections, a cross partition section foldably connected to each of said center partition sections and secured to the inside face of the adjacent side panel, and a multi-ply handle part having a hand hole opening therein formed by a pair of handle extensions integral with and projecting upwardly from each pair of center partition sections and secured together in overlapped relationship, a handle forming core portion having a hand hole therein integral with and projecting laterally from one of said handle extensions and presenting a terminal end in substantially flush alignment with and adjacent to the terminal end edge of the directly opposite handle extension and spanning the space between said handle extensions, and a handle facing flap having a hand hole therein overlying and secured to the core portion and handle extensions and integrally hinged at one end thereof to one of said handle extensions.

2. A twin-compartmented bottle carrier formed from a one-piece blank which includes a bottom panel, a pair of side panels foldably connected to the opposite side edges of the bottom panel, a pair of end panel sections at each end of the carrier foldably connected to the adjacent side edges of the side panels, a center partition structure formed by a pair of inwardly extending center partition sections arranged in back to back relationship and foldably connected to each pair of end panel sections, and a center divider foldably connected to the lower end of one of said center partition sections and having the side edges thereof positioned between adjacent pairs of center partition sections and spanning the space between the spaced pairs of center partition sections, a cross partition section foldably connected to each of said center partition sections and secured to the inside

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face of the adjacent side panel, and a multi-ply handle part having a hand hole opening therein formed by a pair of handle extensions integral with and projecting upwardly from each pair of center partition sections and secured together in overlapped relationship, a double-ply handle forming core having a hand hole therein formed by a pair of overlapping core portions integral with and projecting laterally from diagonally opposite handle extensions and each presenting a terminal end in substantially flush alignment with and adjacent to an edge of the directly opposite handle extension and spanning the space between said handle extensions, and a handle facing flap having a hand hole therein overlying and secured to the outer face of said handle forming core and handle extensions and integrally hinged at one end thereof to one of said handle extensions.

3. A twin-compartmented bottle carrier formed from a one-piece blank which includes a bottom panel, a pair of side panels foldably connected to the opposite side edges of the bottom panel, a pair of end panel sections at each end of the carrier foldably connected to adjacent side edges of the side panels, a center partition structure formed by a pair of inwardly extending center partition sections arranged in back to back relationship and foldably connected to each pair of end panel sections, and a center divider foldably connected to the lower end of one of said center partition sections and having the side edges thereof positioned between adjacent pairs of center partition sections and spanning the space between the spaced pairs of center partition sections, a cross partition section foldably connected to each of said center partition sections and secured to the inside face of the adjacent side panels, and a multi-ply handle part having a hand hole opening therein formed by a pair of handle extensions integral with and projecting upwardly from each pair of center partition sections and secured together in overlapped relationship, a double-ply handle forming core having a hand hole therein formed by a pair of overlapping core portions integral with and projecting laterally from diagonally opposite handle extensions, each of said core portions presenting a terminal end in substantially flush alignment with and adjacent to the directly opposite handle extension and spanning the space between said handle extensions, and a pair of handle facing flaps having hand holes therein overlying and secured to the opposite outer faces of said core and handle extensions, each of said handle facing flaps being integrally hinged at one end thereof to an adjacent handle extension.

4. A one-piece bottle carrier forming blank having a bottom panel, a pair of opposite side panels foldably connected to said bottom panel, a pair of wing extensions projecting laterally from adjacent side edges of both side panels, each of said wing extensions including an end panel section foldably connected to a side edge of the adjacent side panel, a center partition section foldably connected to the end panel section, and a cross partition section foldably connected to the adjacent center partition section, a center divider section foldably connected to the bottom edge of one of said center partition sections and captured from material between an adjacent pair of wing extensions, a handle extension projecting from the upper end of each of said center partition sections, one of said handle extensions having a hand grip portion separated from the adjacent cross partition section and projecting laterally therefrom, said hand grip portion having a free end edge designed to substantially abut but not overlap the adjacent free end edge of the directly opposite handle extension when the carrier is assembled from said blank, and a handle facing flap foldably connected at one end thereof to one of said handle forming extensions and separable from the upper edge of the adjacent end panel section and side panel and having a longitudinal length substantially equal to the length of said side panels.

5. A one-piece bottle carrier forming blank having a bottom panel, a pair of opposite side panels foldably connected to said bottom panel, a pair of wing extensions projecting laterally from adjacent side edges of both side panels, each of said wing extensions including an end panel section foldably connected to a side edge of the adjacent side panel, a center partition section foldably connected to the end panel section, and a cross partition section foldably connected to the adjacent center partition section, a center divider section foldably connected to the bottom edge of one of said center partition sections and captured from material between an adjacent pair of wing extensions, a handle extension projecting from the upper end of each of said center partition sections, one of said handle extensions having a hand grip portion separated from the adjacent cross partition section and projecting laterally therefrom, said hand grip portion having a free end edge designed to substantially abut but not overlap the adjacent free end edge of the directly opposite handle extension when the carrier is assembled from said blank, and a pair of handle facing flaps each foldably connected at one end thereof to one of said handle forming extensions and separable from the upper edge of the adjacent end panel section and side panel, each of said handle facing flaps having a longitudinal length substantially equal to the length of said side panels.

6. A one-piece bottle carrier forming blank having a bottom panel, a pair of opposite side panels foldably connected to said bottom panel, a pair of wing extensions projecting laterally from adjacent side edges of both side panels, each of said wing extensions including an end panel section foldably connected to a side edge of the adjacent side panel, a center partition section foldably connected to the end panel section, and a cross partition section foldably connected to the adjacent center partition section, a center divider section foldably connected to the bottom edge of one of said center partition sections and captured from material between an adjacent pair of wing extensions, a handle extension projecting from the upper end of each of said center partition sections, a pair of hand grip portions projecting laterally from diagonally opposite handle extensions, each of said hand grip portions being separated from the adjacent cross partition section and having a free end edge designed to substantially abut but not overlap the

adjacent free end edge of the directly opposite handle extension when the carrier is assembled from said blank, and a handle facing flap foldably connected at one end thereof to one of said handle forming extensions and separable from the upper edge of the adjacent end panel section and side panel and having a longitudinal length substantially equal to the length of said side panels.

7. A one-piece bottle carrier forming blank having a bottom panel presenting a pair of foldably connected bottom sections, a pair of opposite side panels foldably connected to said bottom panel, a pair of wing extensions projecting laterally from the adjacent side edges of both side panels, each of said wing extensions including an end panel section foldably connected to a side edge of the adjacent side panel, a center partition section foldably connected to the end panel section, and a cross partition section foldably connected to the adjacent center partition section, a center divider section foldably connected to the bottom edge of one of said center partition sections and captured from material between an adjacent pair of wing extensions, a handle extension projecting from the upper end of each of said center partition sections, a pair of hand grip portions projecting laterally from diagonally opposite handle extensions, each of said hand grip portions being separated from the adjacent cross partition section and having a free end edge designed to substantially abut but not overlap the adjacent free end edge of the directly opposite handle section when the carrier is assembled from said blank, and a pair of handle facing flaps each foldably connected at one end thereof to one of said handle forming extensions and separable from the upper edge of the adjacent end panel section and side panel, each of said handle facing flaps having a longitudinal length substantially equal to the length of said side panels.

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2,535,741	Lighter	Dec. 26, 1950
2,586,301	Castle	Feb. 19, 1952
2,594,377	Arneson	Apr. 29, 1952
2,534,043	Arneson	Apr. 7, 1953
2,696,942	Ringler	Dec. 14, 1954