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P. N. FLEMING
SANITARY DRINKING CAP
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2,309,385

Fig. 1.

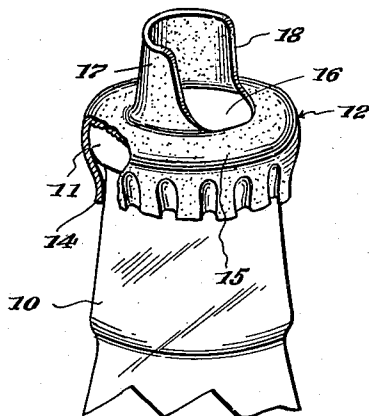


Fig. 2.

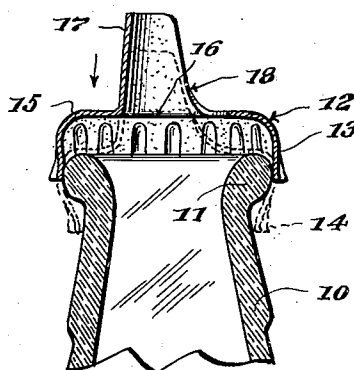
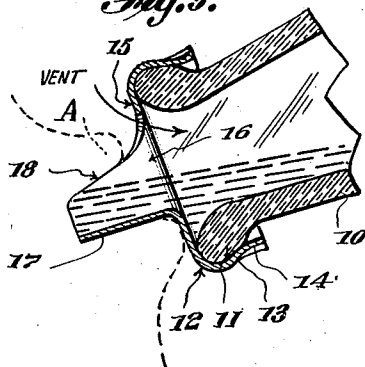


Fig. 3.



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SANITARY DRINKING CAP

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Application February 3, 1941, Serial No. 377,242

1 Claim. (Cl. 215-100)

This invention relates to a sanitary drinking cap for bottles, and the like, and has for one of its objects the production of a simple and efficient cap which may be easily attached to the mouth of a bottle and is provided with a drinking spout which is adapted to extend into the mouth of a user in a manner to permit of an even flow of the contents from the bottle, and at the same time prevent the contents of the bottle from spilling out of the bottle while the user is drinking therefrom.

A further object of this invention is the production of a simple and efficient sanitary drinking cap for bottles and the like, which cap is so constructed as to properly vent the bottle to which the cap is attached, thereby facilitating the even flow of liquid from the bottle and through the cap.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will appear throughout the following specification and claim.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the sanitary drinking cap shown upon the neck of a bottle, a portion of the cap being shown in section;

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view through the cap and a portion of the neck of a bottle, showing the cap in the process of being attached to the bottle; and

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the neck of a bottle and cap, the cap and bottle being shown in a drinking position.

By referring to the drawing, it will be seen that 10 designates the bottle neck which is provided with the conventional cap-retaining bead 11. In carrying out my invention, the conventional crimped cap is removed and my improved sanitary drinking cap 12 is attached to the bottle. This cap 12 is preferably formed of resilient waxed card-board, or other material, which may be obtained at a minimum cost. Light metal or other similar material, may be used without departing from the spirit of the invention, and the sanitary drinking cap may be easily stamped or pressed from sheet material and manufactured by automatic machinery.

The sanitary drinking cap 12 is provided with a resilient crimped depending flange 13, the edge 14 of which is intumed slightly to flex under the bead 11 when the cap 12 is attached to the bottle to hold the cap in place and to flex outwardly while the flange 13 is being forced over the bead 11, as shown in Figure 2. The cap 12 is provided with an outer wall 15 which overhangs the mouth of the bottle when the cap is in position upon the

bottle. The outer wall 15 is provided with a central aperture 16.

An inset drinking spout 17 which is open at its outer end extends outwardly of the wall 15 and partly surrounds the aperture 16, as shown. The spout 17 is provided with a cut-away portion or vent opening 18 on one side, which extends the full length of the spout 17. This cut-away portion 18 extends from the outer end of the spout 17 to the point where the spout joins the wall 15. The side edges of the cut-away portion 18 are gradually curved from a point approximately the longitudinal center of the spout 17 outwardly in the direction of the edge of the cap and merge into the outer wall 15, as shown. All edges are smooth to avoid injury to the mouth of the user. The aperture 16 extends laterally of the cut-out portion 18, as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

The formation of the cut-away portion 18, as described above, will place the inner end of the cut-away portion 18 to one side of the longitudinal center of the spout and above the lip of the user when the spout 17 is in a drinking position, as shown in Figure 3. The approximate position of the lips will be seen by noting the dotted lines in Figure 3. The upper lip of the user may be used as a valve by moving the lip toward or away from the wall 15 to control the venting of the cap and bottle. When the upper lip A shown in dotted lines in Figure 3 is moved away from the wall 15, the vent opening formed by the cut-away portion 18 will be enlarged and the liquid within the bottle will flow more freely, but when the lip A is moved toward the wall 15 the flow of liquid is retarded. Furthermore, the cap 12 fits tightly upon the bead 11 thereby preventing liquid from leaking between the cap and bottle. The upper lip of the user may be manipulated to prevent overflow of liquid out through the cut-away portion or vent opening 18.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that a simple and efficient sanitary drinking cap has been provided which may be readily applied or attached to the conventional soft-drink or similar bottle, to facilitate drinking from the mouth of a bottle. Through the use of this cap, the flow of liquid may be easily controlled by the user, and the use of a drinking straw may be eliminated, thereby avoiding danger of spilling the contents upon the clothing of the user.

Having described the invention, what I claim as new is:

As an article of manufacture, a sanitary drinking cap having an outer flat wall, a resilient flange carried by the outer edge of said wall and adapt-

ed to engage the bead of the neck of a bottle for seating the cap upon the neck of a bottle, the flange having an intumed edge for flexing under the bead of a bottle neck, said wall having a central aperture inset from the outer edge of the cap to provide a wide flat lip-abutment portion entirely surrounding the aperture, an open sided spout partly surrounding said aperture and protruding outwardly of the flat wall adjacent the

edge of the aperture, the open sided spout defining a vent opening longitudinally of one side of the spout over which the upper lip of a user may extend, the flat-lip-abutment portion adjacent the open side of the spout being also adapted to be engaged by the lip of a user in a valve-like manner to control the flow of liquid out through the spout and into the mouth of the user.

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