E. DENNY.
POISON BOTTLE GUARD.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 26, 1915.

1,176,351. Patented Mar. 21, 1916.
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EARL DENNY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ontario, in the county of San Bernardino, State of California, have invented a new and useful Poison-Bottle Guard; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to a poison bottle guard indicator, and has for its object to provide a device of this character which can be readily applied as an attachment to bottles of the conventional construction and which will prevent the cork from being withdrawn by children, or even by adults without warning being given that the contents of the bottle are of a poisonous or dangerous nature.

Further objects of the invention are to provide a poison bottle guard which is simple and inexpensive in its construction, which can be made sufficiently strong to prevent the withdrawal of the stopper by children, and which when handled in the dark will give warning that the bottle contains a poison, thereby preventing possible confusion between a poison bottle and a bottle whose contents are harmless.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel combinations and arrangements of the parts as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the novel features thereof being pointed out in the appended claim.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a bottle neck and stopper, showing a guard constructed in accordance with the invention applied thereto, portions of the bottle neck and stopper and the upper end of the guard, being broken away and shown in section. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the guard removed from the bottle neck. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a bottle neck showing a modified form of the guard applied thereto. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, showing a still further modified construction of guard. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the modification shown by Fig. 5, viewed at a position at right angles to that of Fig. 5.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawing by the same reference characters.

For the purpose of illustration the invention is shown as applied to a bottle provided with a neck having a stopper fitted in the mouth thereof, the outer end of the neck being provided with the usual exterior rim or rib. The guard includes a spring clip formed with opposed spring arms adapted to spring around the bottle neck and retain the guard in position thereon. Projecting upwardly from the back of the clip is a stock which extends along the side of the bottle neck when the device is in position, an intermediate portion of the stock being offset outwardly as indicated at to provide a shoulder which fits against and engages the rim at the mouth of the bottle to prevent the clip from sliding outwardly upon the bottle neck. Integral with the upper end of the stock is a spring finger which extends across the top of the stopper to retain the same in position within the bottle neck and prevent withdrawal thereof. The extremity of the spring finger may be provided with a downwardly extending lip to engage a side of the projecting end of the stopper and cooperate with the clip to hold the device in position. If desired, the spring finger may have a pair of prongs or teeth stamped therefrom and bent inwardly so as to bite into the top of the stopper and anchor the device in position.

The guard may be formed of stiff spring metal and made sufficiently strong so that it can not be removed by a small child, and the presence of the guard would serve to warn an adult of the poisonous nature of the contents of the bottle. However, by springing the finger upwardly and forcibly withdrawing the spring clip from the bottle neck the guard can be removed from the bottle and the stopper withdrawn.

A slight modification is shown by Fig. 4, in which the spring clip and spring finger are provided at the edges thereof with integral outwardly projecting teeth, said teeth not being sufficiently sharp to cut or injure the fingers when manipulating the
guard, although the presence thereof would serve to emphasize the dangerous character of the contents of the bottle, and render impossible a mistake when taking medicine in the dark.

A further modification is shown by Figs. 5 and 6, in which the end of the spring finger 6 is provided with a downwardly projecting extension 9 having a slot 9a therein adapted to receive out turned extremities 10 provided at the ends of the arms 4a of the clip 4. These outwardly projecting extremities 10 may have corresponding openings therein to receive a locking member such as the shackle of a small padlock 11, and with such a construction it would be impossible for any person to obtain access to the contents of the bottle without having the key to the lock.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

A poison bottle guard, including a spring clip adapted to fit around the bottle neck, a stock projecting upwardly from the spring clip, said stock being laterally offset at an intermediate point in its length to form a shoulder adapted to fit against and engage the exterior bead at the mouth of the bottle neck to prevent the spring clip from sliding upwardly on the bottle neck, a spring finger projecting laterally from the upper end of the stock and adapted to fit over the stopper to retain the same in position within the bottle neck, prongs projecting from the spring finger and adapted to bite into and embed themselves in the stopper, and a lip projecting downwardly from the outer end of the spring finger for engagement with the side of the stopper to hold the poison guard against accidental displacement from the bottle.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EARL DENNY.

Witnesses:

E. H. JOLLIFFE,

GERTRUDE PHILLIP.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."