

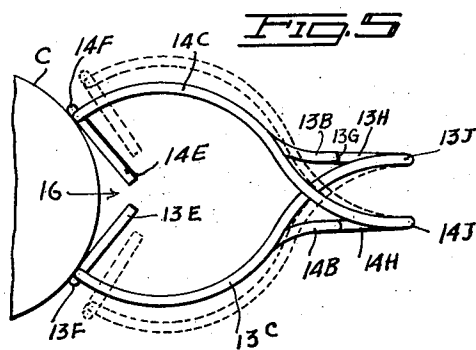
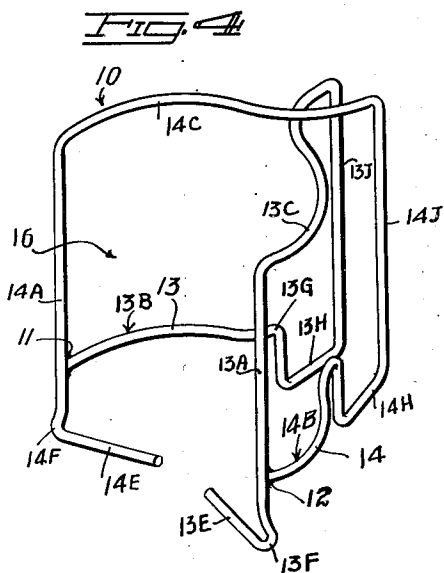
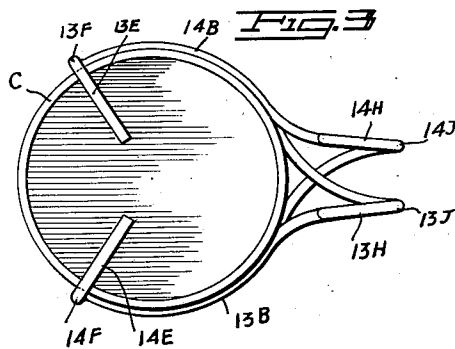
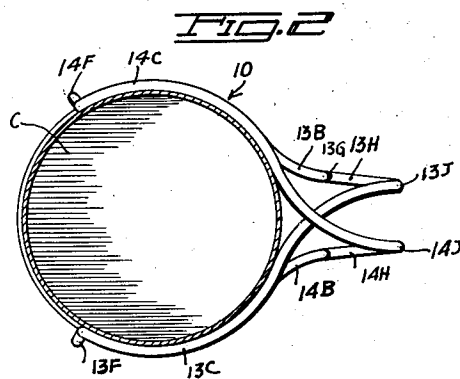
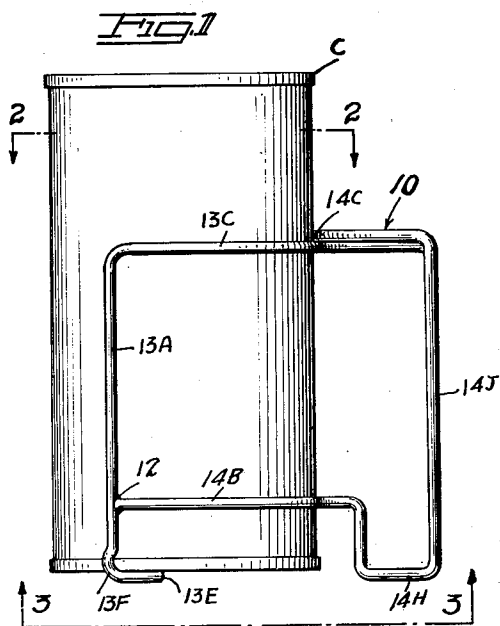
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HANDLE FOR CANS

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HANDLE FOR CANS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 294—33)

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The present invention relates to an improved holder for drinking vessels, such as beer cans and the like.

In accordance with present-day practice, beverages, such as beer, are sold in tin cans. Oftentimes the contents of the can is consumed from the apertured can itself. Some inconvenience results from this practice, especially when the can is cold and "sweats."

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an improved holder for metal cans for convenient use with such drinking cans to avoid the necessity of contacting the can directly.

It is another object of the present invention to provide an improved holder of this type which may be readily applied to the can and removed therefrom as desired after use.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved holder of the character described which may be made so inexpensively as to be considered expandable, thus avoiding the necessity of removing the holder after a use.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide an improved holder of the character described characterized by the ease with which it may be disposed on a can quickly.

The features of the present invention which are believed to be novel are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. This invention itself, both as to its organization and manner of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may be best understood by reference to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a conventional present-day beer can having a holder embodying features of the present invention disposed thereon in clamping relationship.

Figures 2 and 3 are views taken in the directions indicated by the arrows 2—2 and 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the holder as shown in Figure 1 removed from the can.

Figure 5 is a top plan view of the holder shown in Figure 4 in full lines and also in the dotted line position the individual parts thereof assume when the can, having the reference character C, is inserted into the holder.

The holder, having the general reference numeral 10, is arranged to receive and resiliently clamp a cylindrical can, such as a conventional beer can C.

The holder 10 is preferably formed of two bent

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wires welded one to the other at 11, 12. These two wires 13, 14 are complementary and are bent to provide a resilient clamping member having an opening 16 through which a can is adapted to be inserted in the manner shown in Figure 5. When and as such can C is inserted into the said opening 16 the complementary wires 13, 14 forming such holder are initially cammed one away from the other by the cylindrically shaped can C. Such camming action occurs until the vertical legs 13A, 14A, defining such opening 16, contact diametrically spaced portions of the cylindrical can C, after which the energy stored in the wires at this stage draw the can C into its final position, shown in Figure 1, within the holder. In this latter position the arcuately shaped portions 13B, 13C and 14B, 14C, shaped generally in accordance with the outlines of the cylindrical can, snugly engage the can to resiliently hold the can in position. However, as an added precaution against the can slipping out of the holder in accordance with gravity forces acting thereon, the ends of such wires 13, 14 are bent radially inwardly and upwardly to form the corresponding portions 14E, 13E, adapted to contact the underside of the can centrally thereof. Preferably, these ends 13E, 14E are extended as indicated to contact the central portion of the bottom of the can and thus serve as stop members, but the same result may be achieved by shortening such portions 13E, 14E so as to provide contact only with the bottom annular rim of the can at the bends 14F, 13F.

It is noted that the wire 13 comprises a lower annular section 13B which is contiguous to a vertically disposed portion 13G. This portion 13G is contiguous to a horizontally extending base portion 13H which in turn is contiguous to a vertically upward extending handle portion 13J. The handle portion 13J in turn is contiguous to the arcuately shaped upper can gripping portion 13C and such portion 13C is contiguous to the downwardly vertically extending portion 13A which is joined to the portion 13E through the bend 13F adapted to snugly engage the bottom rim of the can C.

It is noted further that the wires 13, 14 are complementary one to the other with the can clamping portions of each disposed on opposite sides of the can between the vertically spaced differences. In other words, the can engaging portion 13B is on the opposite side of the can engaging portion 13C and at a lower elevation; this is true also of the can engaging portions 14B and 14C. Stated in still other words, the members 13C

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and 14B, considered as a unit, form one face of the resilient clamping wire, the elements 13B and 14C form the other cooperating face of the same clamp.

It is noted further that the portions 13H, 14H and bends 13F, 14F provide "feet" for the holder allowing the composite holder and assembled can to be maintained in an upright position on a flat table top surface.

While the particular embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that changes and modifications may be made without departing from this invention in its broader aspects and, therefore, the aim in the appended claims is to cover all such changes and modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of this invention.

I claim:

1. A resilient article holder of the character described made solely of wire, said holder being adapted to resiliently engage and hold in position a conventional cylindrical can such as a beer can, said holder comprising arcuate shaped can engaging portions disposed on opposite sides of the can, there being at least two such arcuate sections on each side of the can at different spaced elevations, a vertical wire section connecting said arcuate shaped sections of different elevations and on opposite sides of said can, said vertical wire section being spaced from said arcuate shaped sections and shaped to form a handle for said holder, and the lower end of said vertical wire section being bent horizontally to provide a "foot" or support for the holder for supporting the

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article on a flat surface in an upright position, the forward ends of said arcuate shaped sections terminating a region substantially diametrically opposite said vertical wire section and said ends, arcuate shaped sections on the same side of the can being connected by corresponding second vertically extending sections, thereby defining an opening through which a can may be pressed into said arcuate shaped sections for resilient engagement therewith, said second vertical sections being bent at each of their lower ends to snugly encircle the bottom flange on the can inserted in the holder.

2. The invention defined in claim 1 characterized by the fact that the bent ends of said second vertically extending sections are extended radially inwardly and upwardly with respect to a can in said holder to contact the can at its bottom end circularly thereof.

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