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HOLDER FOR DRINKING GLASSES

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Fig. 1.

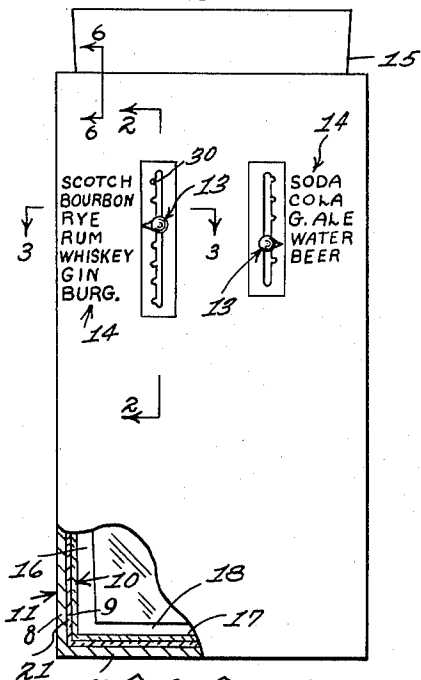


Fig. 2.

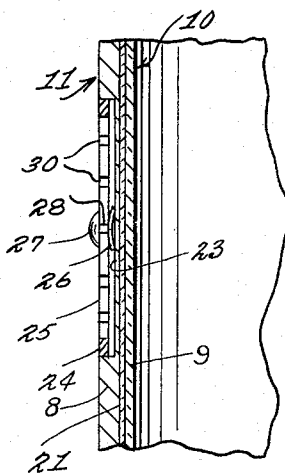


Fig. 3.

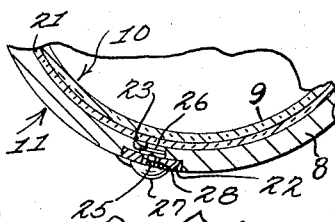


Fig. 6.

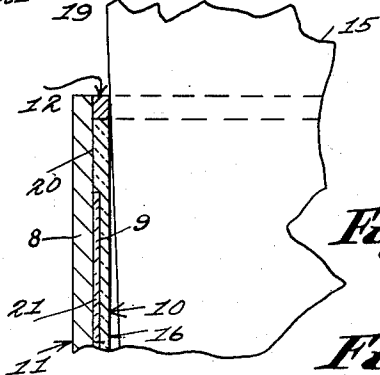


Fig. 5.

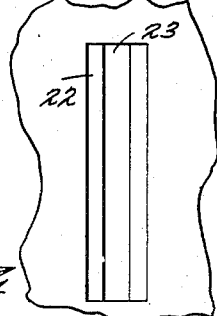
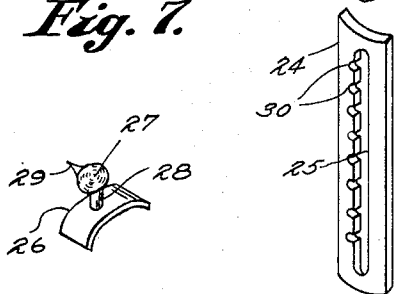


Fig. 4.

Fig. 7.



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HOLDER FOR DRINKING GLASSES

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2 Claims. (Cl. 65—61)

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This invention relates to improvements in holders for drinking glasses, and more particularly to an improved heat-insulative holder having means thereon for indicating the contents of the associated drinking glass.

It is among the objects of the invention to provide an improved heat-insulative holder which will receive the major portion of a drinking glass and closely fit the glass to prevent accidental separation of the holder and glass, while permitting easy release of the glass from the holder for washing and storage, which provides an internal space to receive moisture of condensation from a chilled drinking glass, and a glass-engaging seal to prevent spilling of condensed moisture from such space, which has walls including heat-insulating material so that moisture will not condense on the outside of the coaster to wet or damage furniture and so that the temperature of the contents of the associated drinking glass will be protected, which may be provided in individually different colors or with other distinguishing characteristics so that each holder is readily recognizable when the associated glass is refilled, which provides easily settable means for indicating the contents of the associated glass, and which is durable in construction, economical to manufacture, utilizes only inexpensive and readily-available materials, and is neat and attractive in appearance.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the following description and the appended claims in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a holder illustrative of the invention with a conventional drinking glass operatively received therein, a portion of the holder being broken away and shown in cross-section to better illustrate the construction thereof;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view on an enlarged scale of a fragmentary portion of the holder illustrated in Figure 1, taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, and showing a structural detail of the holder;

Figure 3 is a transverse cross-sectional view on an enlarged scale of a fragmentary portion of the holder shown in Figure 1, taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, and showing the structural detail illustrated in Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a side elevational view on an enlarged scale of a fragmentary portion of the holder in an unfinished condition showing the provision of a spring-receiving slot therein;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a slotted cover for the slot illustrated in Figure 4;

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Figure 6 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view on an enlarged scale of a fragmentary portion of the holder taken substantially on the line 6—6 of Figure 1, and showing a further structural detail of the holder; and

Figure 7 is a perspective view of a slide operatively received in the slot illustrated in Figure 4.

With continued reference to the drawing, the improved holder comprises, in general, an inner shell 10, an outer shell 11, a sealing gasket 12, one or more settable slides 13 slidably received in elongated, undercut slots provided in the side wall of the outer shell of the holder, and suitable indicia 14 on such outer wall rendered effective by the positioning of the slides 13 to indicate the contents of the associated drinking glass.

The inner shell 10 is a thin walled, hollow body having an annular or cylindrical side wall 9 and a flat end wall 17 at one end of the side wall, the other end of the side wall of the shell being open. This inner shell is preferably formed of a suitable synthetic resin plastic and, in the arrangement illustrated, the side wall 9 has a substantially uniform internal diameter of a length such that it closely surrounds and substantially circumferentially contacts an associated tapered drinking glass 15 at the open end of the inner shell. The side wall 9 of the inner shell has a length such that the major portion of the glass is received in the inner shell of the holder except for a portion of the glass near its open end sufficient to permit a person to drink from the glass without touching the holder.

The glass 15, as is conventional, tapers from its open end to its closed end, and the substantially uniform internal diameter of the side wall of the inner shell 10 of the holder provides an annular, moisture-receiving space 16 which circumferentially surrounds the glass between the open end of the inner shell and the bottom wall 17 thereof to receive moisture condensing on the surface of the glass.

The end wall 17 is preferably integral with the side wall 9 and the diameter of the open end of the holder is preferably such that the bottom of the associated glass 15 is spaced from the end wall 17 of the inner shell, as indicated at 18.

The outer shell 11 is also a hollow, cylindrical body having an annular or cylindrical side wall 8 open at one end and a flat end wall 19 closing the other end of the side wall. The wall thickness of this outer shell 11 is preferably greater than the wall thickness of the inner shell 10, and the outer shell 11 receives the inner shell 10 with its end wall 19 slightly spaced interiorly from the end wall 17 of the inner shell and with

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its side wall 8 slightly spaced circumferentially from the side wall 9 of the inner shell 10. The side walls 8 and 9 are circumferentially joined together at the open ends of the two shells, as indicated at 20 in Figure 6.

The space between the side and end walls of the inner shell 10 and the outer shell 11 is preferably filled with a suitable heat-insulative material 21, such as spun glass, asbestos fibre, or moisture-proof paper, to retard condensation of moisture on the outer surface of the holder. The outer shell is also preferably formed of a suitable synthetic resin plastic and may be given any desired color so that the holders may be provided in sets in which each holder has a distinctive color and is easily recognizable or distinguishable from the remaining holders, so that the user of any particular drinking glass will be able to recognize his particular glass when it is returned to him after being refilled. While the individually-colored outer walls provide an effective and attractive means for distinguishing the individual holders in a set, one from the other, other identifying characteristics may be used, if desired, such as by inlaying or embossing a number, letter or other design on each holder, or by putting some word or statement on the outer surface of each holder.

In the preferred arrangement, as illustrated in detail in Figure 6, the side wall of the inner shell 10 terminates at its open end somewhat short of the open end of the side wall of the outer shell 11 to provide an annular internal recess of rectangular cross-sectional shape within the top or rim of the holder, and the annular sealing gasket 12 is seated in and secured in this recess. This gasket may be made of a suitable resilient material, such as cork or rubber and closely contacts the outer surface of the drinking glass 15 to prevent any condensed moisture from spilling from the moisture receiving space 16 when the glass and holder assembly is tilted for drinking. It is to be understood, however, that the gasket 12 may be associated with the inner and outer shells of the holder in any other suitable or desired manner, without in any way exceeding the scope of the invention.

The side wall 8 of the outer shell 11 of the holder is provided in the outer surface thereof with one or more shallow, rectangular recesses 22, within each of which is a longitudinally extending medial groove 23 preferably of rectangular cross sectional shape. Thin walled, rectangular plates 24 of the same material as the outer shell of the holder are permanently secured one in each recess and are each provided with a longitudinally extending slot 25 overlying the groove 23, but having a width less than the width of the groove to provide an undercut groove or guideway in the side wall of the outer shell of the holder. A thin leaf spring 26 (or other type), is slidably mounted in each undercut groove and frictionally contacts the bottom of the groove 23 and the inner surface of plate 24 at the opposite sides of slot 25 to frictionally hold the spring in adjusted position in the groove. A button 27 is secured to the spring by a short stem 28 and has a pointer 29 extending from one side thereof toward the indicia 14 provided on the outer surface of the outer wall of the holder. These indicia 14 comprise the names of different beverages and are arranged in columnar form along one side of each of the under-cut slots. Each plate 24 is preferably provided with a series of notches 30 along one side of the slot 25 provided

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therein, which notches are so arranged that one is disposed opposite each indicating word printed on the holder.

With this arrangement, when the button 27 has been moved by sliding spring 26 in the associated under-cut groove until the pointer 29 is opposite the desired word, the button may be given a slight lateral movement to seat the stem 28 in the corresponding notch 30 to thereby retain the button at the desired indicating position against accidental displacement. In order to provide the necessary freedom of movement for this purpose the spring 26 is made slightly narrower than the groove 23 in the outer wall of the holder.

In the arrangement illustrated, two indicators are provided, one for the type of liquor to be used in making the drink, and the other for the desired mixer. It is to be understood, however, that the indicia may be varied, as desired, without in any way exceeding the scope of the invention.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiment, is, however, to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are, therefore, intended to be embraced therein.

What is claimed is:

1. A heat-insulative holder for a drinking glass comprising an inner shell dimensioned to receive the major portion of a drinking glass and including a cylindrical side wall open at one end and an end wall closing the other end of said side wall, an outer shell receiving said inner shell and including a cylindrical side wall open at one end and an end wall closing the other end of the side wall, the side wall of said outer shell having an internal diameter slightly greater than the outside diameter of the side wall of said inner shell to provide a circumferential space between said side walls and the end wall of said inner shell being spaced from the end wall of said outer shell, and heat-insulative material filling the space between the side and end wall of said inner and outer shells, said side walls being sealed together at the open ends of said shells to close the space receiving said heat-insulative material, and the side wall of said outer shell projecting beyond the side wall of said inner shell at the open ends of said shells to provide an annular recess within said outer shell at the open end thereof, and an annular gasket of resilient material disposed in said recess to engage a drinking glass placed in the holder.

2. A heat-insulative holder for a drinking glass comprising an inner shell dimensioned to receive the major portion of a drinking glass and including a cylindrical side wall open at one end and an end wall closing the other end of said side wall, an outer shell receiving said inner shell and including a cylindrical side wall open at one end and an end wall closing the other end of the side wall, the side wall of said outer shell having an internal diameter slightly greater than the outside diameter of the side wall of said inner shell to provide a circumferential space between said side walls and the end wall of said inner shell being spaced from the end wall of said outer shell, heat-insulative material filling the spaces between the side and end walls of said inner and

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outer shells, said side walls being sealed together at the open ends of said shells to close the space receiving said heat-insulative material, and means on said holder for indicating the contents of the associated drinking glass, such indicating means comprising indicia inscribed in columnar arrangement on the outer surface of the side wall of said outer shell, an undercut guideway provided in the outer shell side wall adjacent said indicia, a spring slidable in said guideway and frictionally engaging the surfaces thereof, and means secured to said spring for sliding the latter in said guideway and indicating by the position of said means relative to said indicia the contents of the associated drinking glass.

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