

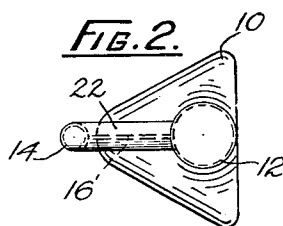
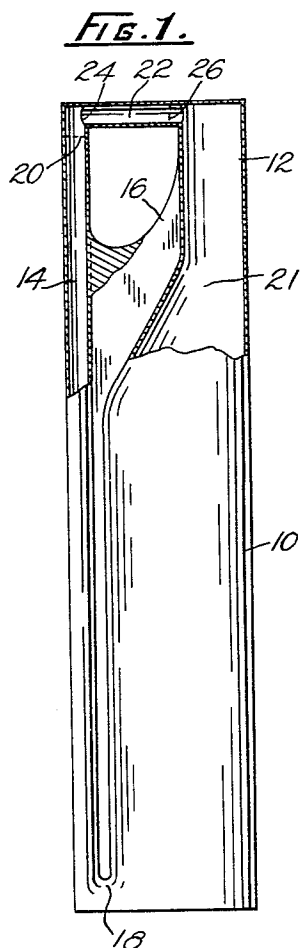
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CONTAINER FOR BEVERAGES

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CONTAINER FOR BEVERAGES

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2 Claims. (Cl. 215-1)

Glass bottles in which the vast majority of beverages is sold have obvious disadvantages. They are so expensive that they are not expendable, so that they are intended to be recovered and must be cleaned before reuse; they are easily breakable and when broken, are a hazard; they are heavy and bulky to transport; and in public places they are apt to be left lying around as litter.

Cans, which are beginning to replace bottles as containers are also expensive, especially as they are expendable; and are unsightly when left as litter.

The object of this invention is to provide a container which has advantages over known containers and which minimize at least in part the demerits of standard articles.

According to the invention, the container is of plastic material and consists in a hollow body having a tapered neck, a duct substantially coextensive with the length of the body, integral with it and located alongside it, a web separating the body and the duct and discontinued between the neck and the duct, a port between the lower end of the duct and the cavity of the body close to the base of the latter, and a passage between the neck of the body and the upper end of the duct.

Several embodiments of the invention are shown in the accompanying drawings in which

FIGURE 1 is a side view, and

FIGURE 2 is a plan view.

In the drawings it will be seen that the container has a triangular prismatic body 10 (which may however have any desired shape) terminating at the top in a neck 12 through which it is filled. Alongside the body is a tubular duct 14 connected to the body by a narrow web 16. The lower end of the duct 14 is open to the cavity of the body through a port 18. The web 16 is discontinued in the vicinity of the neck 12 to save material; or sufficient of it may be left to be used as a base for insignia such as a printed or embossed name.

The container is of plastic material suitable for the contents of the bottle; that is to say it is non-toxic and sufficiently liquid and, if necessary, gas-impervious for its task.

If the duct 14 were merely sealed at the top the container would have the disadvantage that, if the container

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holds carbonated liquid, severance of the duct end may cause a spurt of liquid from the duct due to the pressure in the free space 21 in the body above liquid level. It would be the second disadvantage, noted above, that sucking up the liquid through the duct would cause a vacuum in the body above liquid level. To avoid these disadvantages a passage 22 is provided between the upper end of the duct and the neck 12 of the body. A line of weakness 20 may be located below the junction 24 of duct and passage. On severance of the top of the duct, either at the line 20 or, if it be not present, below the junction 24, immediately releases excess pressure in the free space 21 to atmosphere. Furthermore, as drinking proceeds, no barometric effect results, as the free space 21 is constantly open to atmosphere.

The passage 22 may have a line of weakness at 26, to enable it to be completely torn away from the container.

The container is conveniently made in two sections, sealed together, with the upper end left open for filling; and after filling the top of the container is sealed along the line 28 and trimmed.

The merits of the container of the invention are manifold. Packaging, storage and transport are greatly aided and cheapened. The container is cheap to make and is more easily disposed of and is less unsightly than a glass or metal bottle if left littered around. The sealing operation is less costly and troublesome than the conventional sealing, as crown corks or crimping are avoided.

Finally the inclusion of a built-in "straw" saves cost to the retailer and is a convenience to the user.

What we claim is:

1. A container of plastic material, consisting in a hollow body having a tapering neck, a duct substantially coextensive with the length of the body, integral with it and located alongside it, a web separating the body and the duct and discontinued between the neck and the duct, a port between the lower end of the duct and the cavity of the body close to the base of the latter, and a passage between the neck of the body and the upper end of the duct.

2. The container of claim 1 in which the passage is a tube, and including a line of weakness formed at the upper end of the duct below its junction with the tube, to facilitate severance of the terminal part of the duct.

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