May 23, 1950 K. H. BUCK 2,509,129

LIQUID CATCHER FOR NURSING BOTTLES

Filed Dec. 11, 1947

Fig. 1.

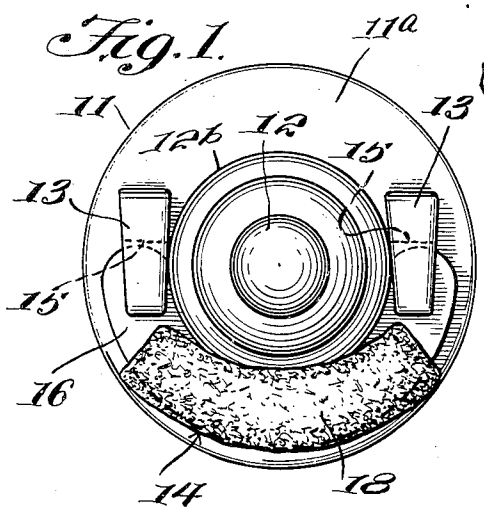


Fig. 2.

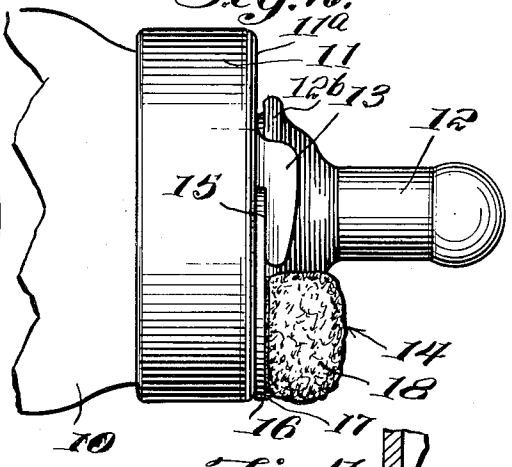


Fig. 3.

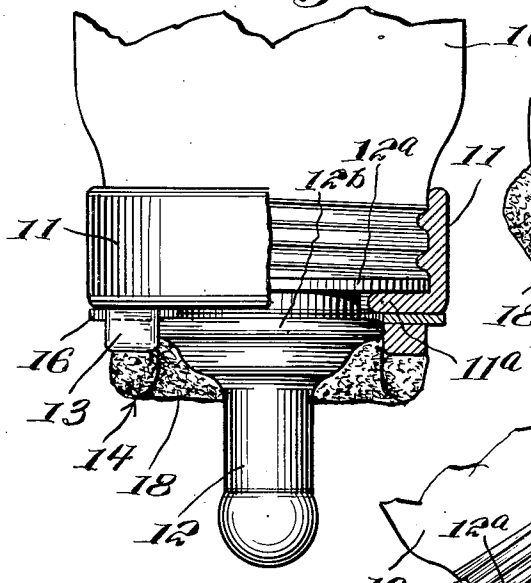


Fig. 4.

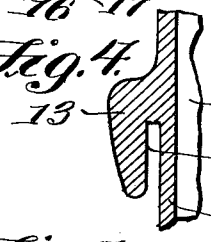


Fig. 5.

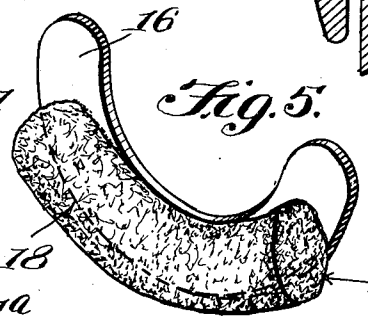


Fig. 6.

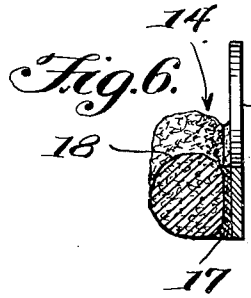
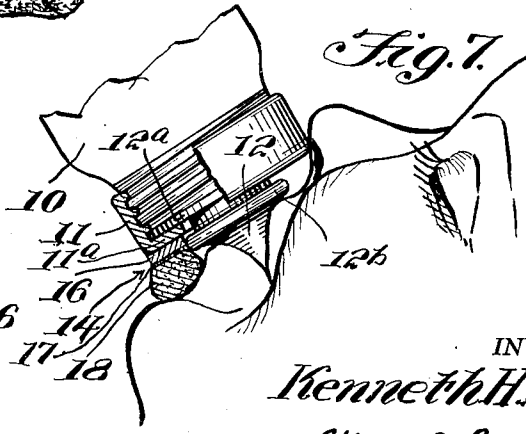


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR.

Kenneth H. Buck,

BY Victor J. Evans & Co.

ATTORNEYS

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LIQUID CATCHER FOR NURSING BOTTLES

Kenneth H. Buck, Cordova, Alaska

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6 Claims. (Cl. 215—11)

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The present invention relates to a liquid catcher for nursing bottles, and more particularly to a liquid catcher which is adapted to be detachably secured to the nursing bottle nipple cap.

The primary object of the invention resides in the provision of a liquid catcher which is adapted to be easily applied to a nursing bottle nipple cap to absorb drops of milk or other liquids and thus prevent the garments of the infant from becoming moistened and soiled during nursing.

Another object of the invention is to provide a liquid catcher for nursing bottles which can be purchased in sanitary packages and easily applied to the nursing bottle nipple cap prior to nursing and can be readily detached and discarded after use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a liquid catcher for nursing bottles which will absorb drops of liquid and prevent said liquid from flowing down the chin of the infant, thus eliminating the use of a bib or other cumbersome protective device.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description of the accompanying drawings wherein—

Figure 1 is a top elevational view of the nursing bottle nipple illustrating the liquid catcher in position on the cap of the nipple.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a nursing bottle showing the liquid catcher in end elevation.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary view of a nursing bottle, showing portions of the nipple cap and liquid catcher in section to illustrate various details of construction of the liquid catcher.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view showing one of the retaining clips on the nipple cap to retain the liquid catcher in position.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the liquid catcher showing the same detached from the nursing nipple cap.

Figure 6 is a transverse cross-sectional view of the liquid catcher illustrating the structural details thereof and the manner in which the parts are assembled, and;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a nursing bottle and nipple cap showing portions thereof broken away to illustrate the sectional shape of the liquid catcher, and the manner in which the same conforms to the shape of an infant's chin during nursing.

In the drawing, wherein for the purpose of illustrating the invention, and wherein like reference characters will be employed throughout

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the several views to designate like parts, the reference character 10 will generally represent a nursing bottle having a flanged or threaded neck portion at the open end thereof. Threaded or otherwise secured to the nursing bottle 10 is a nipple retaining ring or base 11, having an inwardly directed flange 11*a* providing an opening for receiving a nursing nipple 12 having a base with flanges 12*a* and 12*b* clampingly engaging the inwardly directed flange 11*a* of the nipple retaining ring 11. The nipple 12 is formed of rubber or a synthetic rubber composition, and similarly the annular enlarged portions or flanges 12*a* and 12*b* are formed of rubber or synthetic rubber composition such as to enable the nipple 12 to be yieldingly forced into engagement with the inwardly directed annular flange 11*a*.

Formed on the inwardly directed annular flange 11*a* of the nipple retaining ring 11, is a pair of diametrically disposed clips 13 which are composed of a semi-hard rubber composition such as rubber or synthetic ruber. As shown in the drawing, the yielding clips 13 are formed integral with the inwardly directed annular flange 11*a*, but it is to be understood that they may be attached thereto by an adhesive or the like. The clips 13 are provided with undercut portions 15 for frictionally gripping and retaining a liquid catcher 14, which includes an arcuately shaped base member 16 formed of cardboard or fiber board, and said base member 16 is arranged to partially encircle the inwardly directed annular flange 11*a* with its end portions slidably and frictionally received within the undercut slots 15 of the clip 13.

Affixed to the arcuately curved base member 16, as by means of an adhesive 17, is an absorbent pad 18, preferably formed of a wad of cotton or cellulose material having a high degree of absorption. The absorbent pad 18 is curved throughout its length to conform to the arcuate shape of the base member 16, to thereby position the pad or absorbent wad 18 such that the end portions are on a slightly different radii from the center portion with respect to the center of the bottle nipple. Thus, the absorbent pad 18 will assume a position with respect to the infant's chin so as to engage the cleft of the user's chin as shown in Figure 7. In addition, the end portion will curve in a direction toward the ends of the lips so as to form a dam around the lower portion of the mouth to catch liquid overflow from the mouth and absorb the same.

The cross-sectional shape of the pad 18 is somewhat ovate so as to provide a rounded chin

cleft engaging portion, following a line from the chin to a point directly adjacent the lip.

In use, it is intended that the liquid catcher including the base member 16 and pad 18, be purchased in a drug store or the like wrapped in a sanitary package, and to apply the liquid catcher by sliding the end portions of the base 16 within the slots formed by the undercut portions 15, so that the pad 18 will assume the position with respect to the nursing bottle and the infant's mouth to collect milk or other liquids which may pass from the mouth during nursing. After the nursing period, the drip catcher may be removed and discarded, and a fresh one inserted for the next nursing.

It is to be understood that the form of the invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred embodiment thereof, and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

I claim:

1. In combination with a nursing bottle having a threaded open end, a flanged ring threaded on said open end with the flange defining a central opening, a nursing nipple removably mounted in said opening, a pair of clip members on said flange in diametrically arranged relation and a liquid catcher removably held by said clips.

2. In combination with a nursing bottle having an open end, a flanged ring affixed to said open end, said flange extending inwardly and defining a central opening, a nipple removably mounted in said opening, a pair of diametrically arranged clip members on said flange, a drip catcher adapted to be frictionally and yieldingly held by said clip members to partially encircle said flange, said drip catcher comprising an absorbent pad of arcuate shape.

3. In combination with a nursing bottle having an open end and a flanged ring for removably supporting a nursing nipple, a liquid catcher adapted to be secured to said flanged ring including an arcuately curved base member adapted to extend partially about said nipple, a pair of yielding clip members mounted on the flange of said ring for yieldingly and frictionally engaging the ends of said base member and an absorbent pad adhesively secured to said base member and likewise extending along an arcuate path adjacent said nipple, said pad terminating a short distance from the ends of said base member to facilitate insertion thereof beneath said clip members.

4. The combination of a baby bottle having an enlarged neck and a nipple for said bottle comprising a nipple portion and an enlarged bottle neck receiving base from which the nipple extends, and an absorbent pad on the base to arrest fluid dripping from the nipple portion.

5. The combination of a baby bottle having a large neck and a nipple for said bottle comprising a base having a bottle neck receiving flange, a centrally disposed nipple carried by the base and extended therefrom, and an absorbent pad removably mounted on the base.

6. The combination of a baby bottle having an enlarged neck and a nipple for said bottle comprising a base with clips thereon and having a bottle neck receiving flange, a centrally disposed nipple carried by the base and extended therefrom, and an absorbent pad having a base member with extensions thereon positioned to coact with the clips of the base of the nipple positioned on the base of the nipple and frictionally held thereon by the said clips.

KENNETH H. BUCK.

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