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P. G. RIDEY ET AL
INFANT'S BOTTLE HOLDER

2,579,701

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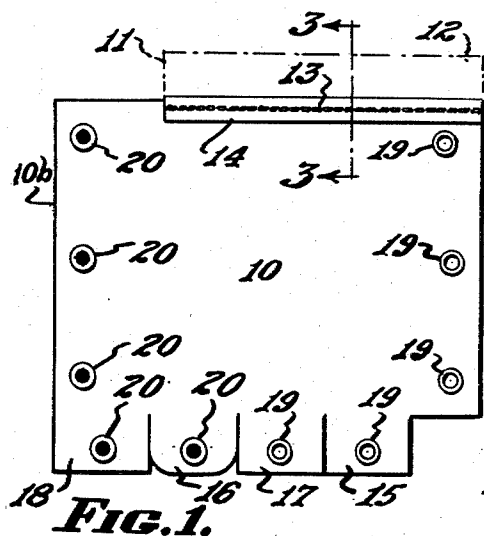


FIG. 1.

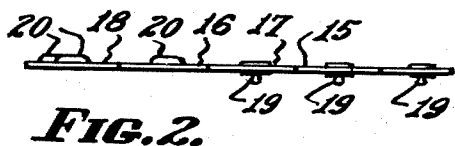


FIG. 2.

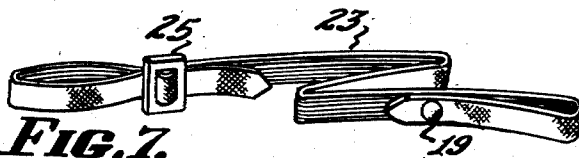


FIG. 7.

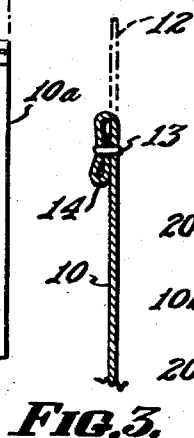


FIG. 3.

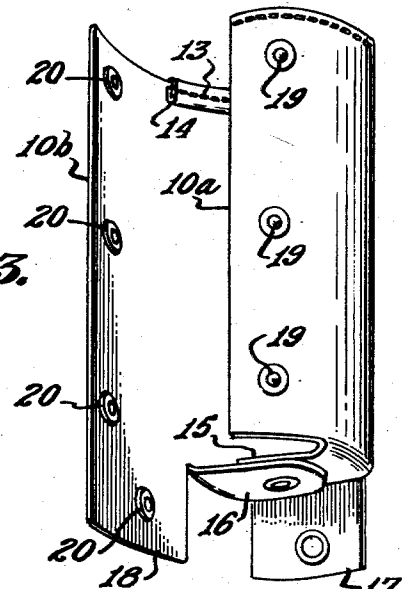


FIG. 4.

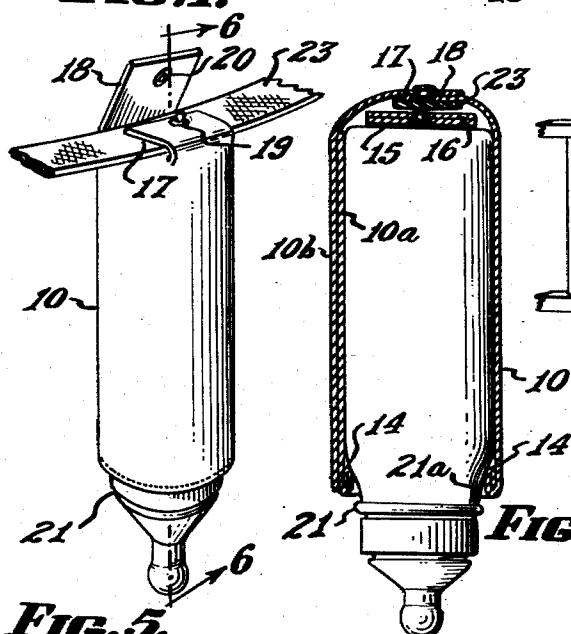


FIG. 5.

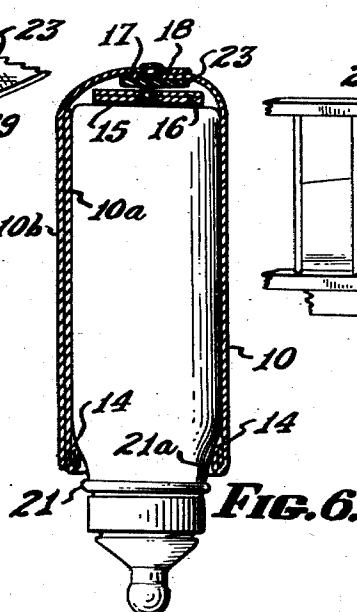


FIG. 6.

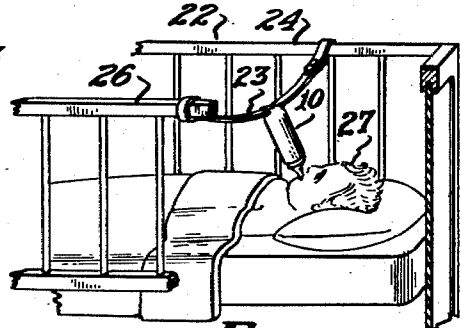


FIG. 8.

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INFANT'S BOTTLE HOLDER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 248-102)

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This invention pertains to new and improved bottle holders for infants.

It is an object of this invention to provide a bottle holder which may be used in connection with strap elements to support a baby's bottle from a crib or the like.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a bottle holder which will serve to keep the bottle warm both when used in connection with strap elements to support the bottle from a crib and also when used without said straps, such as when it is desired to transport the baby's bottle from one place to another.

A further object of this invention is to provide a bottle holder and tape arrangement which will be light on the baby's lips and permit milk or other liquid food products to be withdrawn evenly.

A still further object is to provide a nursing bottle holder which is inexpensive and simple to manufacture and operate.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a plan view of the bottle holder element in spread out condition, inner face up.

Figure 2 is an end view of the structure shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the bottle holder element in partly assembled condition.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the bottle holder element with the bottle inserted therein and the strap element about to be fixed in position.

Figure 6 is a section taken on the line 6-6 of Figure 5 and looking toward the right.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the strap or tape element, and

Figure 8 is a perspective view showing the bottle holder and tape element when in use.

As best seen in Figure 1, the bottle holder, indicated generally by the reference numeral 10, is substantially rectangular in shape. It is preferred that the holder 10 be formed of relatively stiff sheet material, such as felt or the like, which can be made to conform to a bottle but which will not stretch. As indicated by the dotted line at 11 in Figure 1, the holder 10 is formed with a rectangular projection 12. This projection 12 is folded as illustrated in Figure 3 and stitched together as at 13. In this manner a seam-like ridge 14 is formed along a substantial portion of one of the edges of the holder 10 and on the inner surface thereof. This ridge 14 is twice the thickness of the material from which the bottle holder 10 is formed (see Figure 3). As seen in

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Figure 1 at 12 and 14, the seam-like ridge extends from an end 10a of the rectangular holder 10 along one edge to substantially near the other end 10b.

The holder 10, at the edge opposite that having the seam-like ridge 14 formed thereon, is provided with a plurality of interengageable flaps 15, 16, 17 and 18. A plurality of male and female snap fastener elements is also provided for the holder 10, and these are designated by the numerals 19 and 20 respectively. As best seen in Figure 2, the flap elements 15 and 17 are provided with male snap fastener means projecting outwardly from the main body of the bottle holder 10. The flaps 16 and 18 are provided with female snap fastener elements, the sockets of said fasteners facing inwardly of the bottle holder 10. A plurality of additional male snap fastener elements 19 is provided along the end 10a of the bottle holder 10 and a plurality of female snap fastener elements 20 is provided along the end 10b of the holder 10, both sets of elements being arranged similarly to those described for the sets of flaps 15 and 17, and 16 and 18 respectively. It is to be understood, of course, that these snap elements may be arranged in any other suitable manner without departing from the spirit of my invention.

As best seen in Figure 4, the holder 10 is conveniently arranged, prior to the insertion of the bottle 21, by first folding the flap 16 over the flap 15 and securing the two by means of the snap elements 19 and 20. This having been done, the bottle 21 may be placed within the confines of the holder 10, the bottom of the bottle resting on the bridge formed by the flaps 15 and 16. With the bottle in this position the snap elements positioned along the ends 10a and 10b of the bottle holder 10 may be conveniently snapped together using the bottle 21 as a base against which the snapping operation may be easily performed. If it is desired only to use the holder 10 as a means of keeping the contents of the bottle 21 warm, or cool as the case may be, the flaps 17 and 18 may then be fastened together, and the holder used in that condition. We have found that thick material such as felt serves as a very good insulator and renders the holder quite effective for use in this manner.

If, however, it is desired to use the holder 10 so as to support a bottle 21 from a crib 22 or the like, a strap or tape 23 is first placed across the outermost side of the bridge formed by the joining of the flaps 15 and 16, and then the flaps 17 and 18 are placed thereover and snapped together. The strap 23 is preferably made of some elastic material such as a common rubber composition or the like. One end of the strap 23 is provided with a pair of snap elements 19 and 20 in order that this end of the tape may be quickly engaged or disengaged with a rail 24 of the crib

22 or the like. Towards the other end of the strap or tape 23, a buckle or fastener 25 is provided. This end of the tape may be engaged with the rail 26 opposite the rail 24 of the crib 22. By means of the fastener or buckle 25, the length of the tape 23 across the crib 22 may be varied in order to bring the bottle 21 nearer or closer to the mouth of the baby 27 as desired, as seen in Figure 8.

After the bottle holder has been brought to the position as shown in Figure 4, the bottle is then inserted and the edges 10a and 10b of the holder are snapped together by the fastening elements 19 and 20. As above mentioned the holder is then either fastened to the strap 23 for use within the cradle 22 or the flaps 17 and 18 are simply fastened together without first inserting the strap 23 and the holder used simply as a warmer.

When used in connection with the tape 23, however, it is extremely important, of course, that the bottle 21 be securely held within the holder 10. This is accomplished by means of the shoulder 14. The position of the bottle 21 within the holder 10 and the action of the shoulder or seam-like ridge 14 is best seen in Figure 6. In this figure it is clearly shown that the bottle 21 having a tapered neck 21a is securely held within the confines of the holder 10 by the action of the shoulder 14 against the tapered neck 21a. As herein noted before, the holder 10 should be formed of stiff material which will not stretch, so that the holder 10 will always present the shoulder 14 in abutting relation with the neck 21a. The seam-like ridge 14, being formed of two thicknesses of the material of the holder 10, provides a firm brace which, acting against the tapered neck 21a of the bottle 21, serves to maintain the bottle 21 within the confines of the holder 10.

It should also be noted that in addition to the fact that a light pressure only of the bottle on the baby's lips is desired, another reason for having the tape 23 made of some elastic material is that such arrangement serves to transfer the pressure or force between the shoulder 14 and the neck 21a to the tape 23, i. e., any sudden jerk or pulling of the bottle 21 will tend to be relieved by the action of the tape 23, rather than centering such force right at the point of contact between the shoulder 14 and bottle neck 21a as would be the case were there no "give" in the tape 23.

Thus we have provided a bottle holder for infants' nursing bottles and the like which may be used both to keep the baby's bottle warm and which also may be used in connection with a strap or tape 23 to suspend the baby's bottle from a crib. In this latter connection it should be noted that we have provided a novel way of maintaining the bottle within the holder.

In operation the bottle holder is used as follows (when it is to be used to suspend a bottle from a baby's crib or the like): The flaps 15 and 16 are first fastened as above described and as best seen in Figure 4. Following this the bottle 21 is inserted in the holder 10 so that its bottom rests against the bridge formed by the flaps 15 and 16. The fastening elements along the edges 10a and 10b of the holder 10 are then snapped together. The strap 23 is then laid across the member 16 and secured in position by the flaps 17 and 18 which are snapped together. In daily use the buckled end of the tape 23 will probably have already been fastened to the rail 26 of the

crib 22. The other end of the tape 23 is then fastened to the rail 24 of the crib 22. By means of the buckle 25 proper adjustment of the tape 23 may then be made. The seam-like ridge 14 maintains the bottle 21 securely within the holder 10, any sudden jerks of the bottle 21 being relieved by the springiness of the tape 23, the tape thus serving as an added safety factor against any possibility of the bottle 21 being pulled loose from the holder 10.

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

Having thus described our invention, we claim:

1. In a nursing bottle holder or the like, a substantially rectangular, relatively stiff, panel-like body member having a seam-like ridge along one edge thereof and fastening elements along other edges thereof, said body member being adaptable to conform to a nursing bottle, and said ridge being located so as to engage the tapered neck of said bottle when said body member is placed about said bottle and said elements fastened, whereby said bottle is prevented from pulling out of said body member.
2. The article of claim 1 including interengageable flaps located along another edge of said body member, said flaps being provided with fastening elements, said flaps in fastened condition forming a closure for one end of said holder.
3. In a holder for nursing bottles or the like, a substantially rectangular body member of sufficient length and width to substantially surround a said bottle, a seam-like ridge provided along one edge of said body member and adapted to engage the tapered neck of said bottle when said body member surrounds said bottle, and interengageable bottom-forming flaps provided along the edge of said body member opposite said ridge.
4. The structure of claim 2 in combination with a supporting strap element, said strap being maintained in operative relation to said holder by means of said interengageable flaps, a said bottle being maintained in said holder by said seam-like ridge when said first mentioned elements are fastened together, said strap being characterized by a moderate degree of elasticity, and the ends of said strap being adaptable to be secured to the rails of a crib or the like so that said bottle is supported therefrom by said strap and said holder.

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