This invention relates to carriers for bottles or the like. While the structure is particularly adapted to handle bottles, as in the retail trade in accordance with accepted and current methods of merchandising, its utility obviously is not limited to such use.

An object of the invention is to provide a carrier having a frame, preferably collapsible, of durable construction, with a replaceable liner or filler, so constructed and arranged that the liner holds the frame in extended or operative position by means of cooperating engaging means on the liner and frame. Thus the diner which is exposed to wear may be made out of inexpensive materials and quickly replaced when worn by a new liner. Another object of the invention is to provide such a construction in which the liner provides a maximum of display space for advertising.

Other and further objects and advantages of the invention are inherent in the device, some of which will be apparent from the following detailed description taken with the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is an isometric view of a filler;
Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a carrier embodying my invention, partly in section;
Fig. 3 is an end elevation;
Fig. 4 is an isometric perspective of the carrier; and
Fig. 5 illustrates one end of the frame, the other end being the same.

As specifically illustrated, a frame includes a pair of end members 1 and a bail 2, constructed of wire, the connection between the bail and the end members being such that the frame is collapsible when not held in extended position by a liner 3. It is intended for most purposes that the frame be of substantial construction while the liner 3 may be of less permanent material and preferably of cardboard or other suitable inexpensive material.

In the structure shown in the drawing, the end members 1 are formed from a wire in such a manner as to provide a central loop 4, shoulder bars 5, side bars 8 and bottom bars 7, terminating in upwardly extending projections or pins 8, which engage in holes 9 in the liner. The bail 2 spans the distance between the end members 2 and is formed at its ends to provide a slot 10 in which are located the loops 4 of the end members. The slots 10 permit the bail to be depressed when the carrier is not being handled.

In its preferred form the liner 3 is formed from a flat sheet comprising a bottom section 11 and side wall sections 12, with embossed score lines 13 at the junction of the said sections to provide for ease of assembly. Holes 9 are punched in each end of the bottom section and elongated notches 14 are cut in or from the outer edges of the side wall sections. The notches 14 accommodate the shoulder bars 5 on the frame, as best shown in Fig. 4, and permit the use of upper extensions 18 on the wall members. The upper extensions cover the bottles while providing more extensive space for advertising display.

The holes 9 and notches 14 are preferably made substantially larger than necessary to provide a nice fit for the cooperating parts of the frame, but this is done to provide ease of assembly without in any way detracting from the efficiency of the structure.

The projections or pins 8 form end abutments to prevent the endwise displacement of articles in the carrier. The upstanding pins on the end members are so placed that when the liner is inserted or placed the carrier becomes closed on both ends for all practical purposes.

It will be obvious that while utility resides in the specific construction as shown, various changes may be made therein, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit of this invention, and that improvements and additions may be made therein while retaining its functions and mode of operation.

1. A carrier for bottles or the like including a frame having a pair of polygonal end members each with top, side and bottom bars, a replaceable foldable liner having bottom and side portions fitting within the end members and surrounded by the top, side and bottom bars, except and with the edges of the liner slotted to receive the top bars, and upstanding pins on the bottom bars intermediate the side bars engaging through holes in the liner.

2. A carrier for bottles or the like including a collapsible frame having a bail hinged to a pair of polygonal end members each having a central loop engaging a slot on the end of the bail, shoulder bars extending from the loop, side bars extending downward from the shoulder bars, bottom bars extending inward from the side bars and terminating in upstanding pins, a foldable liner fitting within the end members having a bottom section and side sections, with slots in the outer edges to receive the shoulder bars, and holes in ends of the bottom sections to receive said upstanding pins.

3. A carrier for bottles or the like including a
pair of frame members each having a bottom bar and side bars, a ball connecting and spacing said members, a detachable liner fitting within and surrounded by the frame members with one member at each end thereof, pins secured to said bottom bars intermediate the side bars, upstanding therefrom and engaging in holes in the liner, thereby fixing the liner in position with respect to the frame members, and the frame members with respect to each other.

4. A carrier for bottles or the like including a pair of wire frame members, a ball connecting said members, and a detachable liner fitting within the frame members with one member at each end thereof, each of said members comprising a single piece of material with a central loop, side bars extending outwardly and downwardly from the loop, and bottom bars extending inwardly from the bottom of the side bars toward each other with their ends bent upwardly to form pins, the pins engaging through holes in the liner, whereby the liner is fixed in position with respect to the frame members and the frame members are fixed in spaced relationship to each other.

5. A carrier for bottles or the like including a collapsible frame including polygonal end members including bottom bars and side bars, a detachable lining member fitting within and surrounded by the end members, and upstanding pins on the bottom bars intermediate the side bars fitting holes in the liner whereby the lining member is replaceable and serves to hold the frame in operating position.

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