Oct. 7, 1941. J. Y. TAYLOR ET AL 2,258,076

BOTTLE HOLDER

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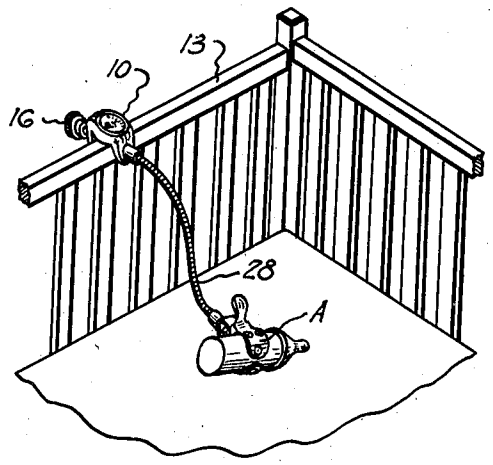


Fig. 1.



Fig. 6.

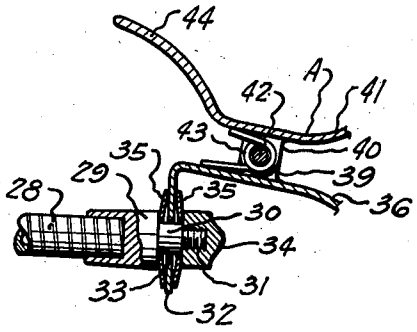


Fig. 5.

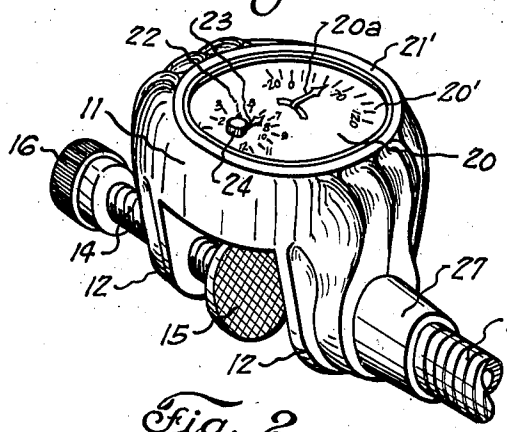


Fig. 2.

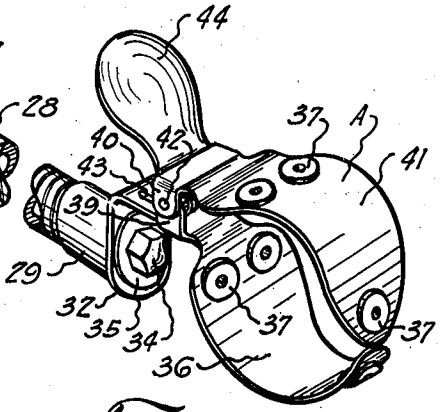


Fig. 3.

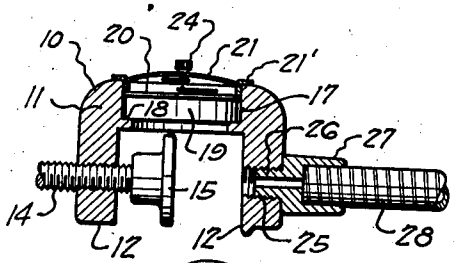


Fig. 4.

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BOTTLE HOLDER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 248—104)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in bottle holders.

One object of the invention is to provide an improved device for holding and supporting a bottle and being particularly adapted for use in holding a nursing bottle during the feeding of an infant.

An important object of the invention is to provide an improved bottle holder which includes a quickly detachable clamp arranged to be mounted on the crib or other support, together with an improved bottle holding member secured to the clamp by a flexible element; the holder being rotatable with relation to the flexible element, whereby the bottle may be supported at substantially any angle or position so as to facilitate feeding of the infant in either a recumbent or sitting position.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved bottle holding device, of the character described, wherein the clamp which fastens the holder to the crib, or other support, is so constructed that a thermometer and feeding time indicator may be incorporated therein, without materially increasing the size of said clamp or without detracting from the appearance thereof.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved device, of the character described, having an improved bottle holding member provided with a plurality of resilient gripping elements, each of which has an amplified contact surface for engaging the bottle, whereby said bottle is firmly supported and disengagement of said bottle from the member is prevented; the gripping elements being mounted in the member in an improved manner, whereby manufacturing costs are materially reduced.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved bottle holding device which is constructed of a minimum number of parts and which may be readily manipulated and handled by the most inexperienced person.

A construction designed to carry out the invention will be hereinafter described, together with other features of the invention.

The invention will be more readily understood from a reading of the following specification and by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which an example of the invention is shown, and wherein:

Figure 1 is an isometric view of a bottle holder, constructed in accordance with the invention, and illustrating the same applied to the rail of a crib,

Figure 2 is an enlarged isometric view of the clamp,

Figure 3 is an enlarged isometric view of the bottle holding member,

Figure 4 is a reduced transverse, vertical, sectional view taken through the clamp,

Figure 5 is a partial transverse, vertical, sectional view taken through the bottle holding member, and

Figure 6 is an enlarged, sectional view taken through one of the grommets.

In the drawing, the numeral 10 designates a U-shaped clamp having a body portion 11 which is substantially circular in cross-section. A pair of legs 12 which are spaced from each other are preferably formed integral with and depend from the body portion. The legs are disposed on diametrically opposite sides of the body and are arranged to be engaged over the rail 13 of a crib. A clamping screw 14 is threaded through one of the legs and has an enlarged disk 15 on its inner end. A knurled knob 16 is secured to the outer end of the screw and when the legs of the clamp are engaged over the rail and the screw tightened, said clamp is frictionally secured to the rail. When in such position, the top of the circular body portion 11 of the clamp is uppermost and is clearly exposed to view.

The body portion 11 of the clamp is formed with a circular bore 17 which is reduced at its lower end to form an annular shoulder 18. A circular thermometer 19, of the type now in general use, is supported on said shoulder and when in position the dial 20 of said thermometer is in a plane slightly below the top of the body. A transparent retaining disk 21, which is preferably constructed of an unbreakable glass, or other material, is carried by a ring 21' and closes the open upper end of the bore 17. The ring is suitably secured within the bore, as by cementing or otherwise and since the upper end of the bore is closed displacement of the thermometer is prevented. It is pointed out that the invention is not to be limited to mounting the thermometer within the bore in the particular manner herein described as other methods of mounting may be employed.

By mounting the thermometer in the top of the clamp, the same is clearly visible at all times. The thermometer indications 20' are located at one side of the dial face and the indicating needle or pointer 20a is mounted to move over said indications. Diametrically opposite the indications 20', additional indications 22 are provided on the dial face, these latter indications representing the hours from 1 to 12. A pointer 23 is pivoted in the dial 20 so as to be rotatable and its outer end is movable to various positions so as to point

to the hours of the indications **22**. The upper end of the pointer shaft extends through the disk **21** and is provided with a knurled knob **24** to facilitate rotation of said pointer. Obviously, the pointer **23** and the hour indications associated therewith provide a simple means for noting the next succeeding feeding time for the infant. The thermometer needle **20a** is, of course, actuated by the temperature and constantly indicates the temperature of the infant's room.

The leg **12** opposite that through which the clamping screw **14** extends is formed with a threaded opening **25** which receives a threaded stud **26** formed on one end of the collar **27**. The collar **27** has one end of a flexible element or tubing **28** suitably fastened thereto, while the other end of said element is secured to a collar **29**. The collar **29** is provided with an axial pin **30** extending outwardly therefrom and the extreme outer end of said pin is reduced and externally threaded, as shown at **31**. A bottle holding or clamping member A is formed with an ear **32** having an opening **33** through which the pin extends and a cap nut **34** screws onto the reduced end of the pin to retain the ear on said pin, whereby the holding member is secured to the collar **29**. A concave or cupped washer **35** is interposed between the ear **32** and the collar, while a similar washer is interposed between the opposite side of the ear and the cap nut **34**. These washers are constructed of metal having an inherent resiliency and constantly bear against the ear **32** to prevent rotation of said ear on the pin. Manifestly, the operator may rotate the member A to various positions relative to the flexible element **28** and collar **29** and the frictional engagement of the washers with the ear **32** prevent rotation of said member from its adjusted position.

The bottle holding member A includes a lower clamping section **36** which has the ear **32** integral with one end thereof. The remaining portion of the section is curved so as to generally conform to the curved exterior of the bottle. This portion of the section **36** is provided with a plurality of rubber grommets or washers **37** which are relatively large in diameter so as to present an amplified gripping surface or area to the bottle. Each grommet is formed with an annular flange **37'** at its upper and lower ends (Figure 6) and said grommet is mounted in an opening **38** in the section. Each grommet is constructed of rubber, or other similar deformable material, and is tubular so that one end may be readily passed through the opening, after which the flanges overlie opposite sides of the section to prevent displacement thereof. This arrangement provides a simple and most inexpensive method of mounting the grommets.

Adjacent the ear **32**, the section **36** is formed with alined lugs **39** which project upwardly from opposite edges of the section. These lugs extend contiguous to similar lugs **40** which depend from an upper section **41** of the holding member A. The lugs **39** and **40** have registering openings therein and a shaft **42** extends through said openings to pivotally fasten the sections **36** and **41** to each other. A spring **43** surrounds the shaft and has its ends engaging the sections to urge the outer portions of said sections toward each other.

The section **41** is similar in construction to the section **36** having its outer portion curved to conform to the outer surface of the bottle and also being provided with the grommets **37**. The inner end of this section beyond the pivot shaft **42** is extended upwardly to form a handle **44**, whereby the sections may be manually swung under tension of the spring **43** to move the outer ends of said sections from each other and permit insertion of the bottle therebetween.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that a simple and inexpensive bottle holder is provided. The same may be readily clamped in any position along the rail **13** of the bed or crib and the position of the bottle holding member A may be readily varied with relation to the clamp through the medium of the flexible element **28**. The member A may be rotated on the pin **30** and with relation to the flexible element and thus said member is capable of a universal adjustment, whereby the bottle may be supported in any desired position. The construction of the member A which is readily manipulated makes insertion of the bottle easy and once engaged, there is no danger of the bottle falling from the clamp since the resilient grommets tend to create a suction, which aids the spring **43** in preventing displacement of said bottle. The mounting of the thermometer and feeding time indicator in the clamp are particular advantages for these necessary articles are always at hand and cannot be lost or misplaced. Also, by mounting the same in the clamp, they are protected from damage and are not apt to be broken, yet are clearly visible at all times.

The foregoing description of the invention is explanatory thereof and various changes in the size, shape and materials, as well as in the details of the illustrated construction may be made, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A bottle holder including, a clamp adapted to be detachably fastened to a support, an elongate flexible element having one end secured to said clamp, a bottle holding member for receiving and supporting a bottle secured to the opposite end of said element and capable of rotating movement relative to said element, said member comprising a pair of hinged sections which have their outer ends adapted to receive and hold a bottle therebetween, spring means for urging said sections into engagement with said bottle, and a plurality of resilient gripping elements mounted in the sections and exposing amplified surfaces to the bottle whereby the gripping action of the sections is increased.

2. A bottle holder including, a clamp adapted to be detachably fastened to a support, an elongate flexible element having one end secured to said clamp, a bottle holding member for receiving and supporting a bottle secured to the opposite end of said element and capable of rotating movement relative to said element, said member comprising a pair of hinged sections which have their outer ends adapted to receive and hold a bottle therebetween, spring means for urging said sections into engagement with said bottle, each section having a plurality of openings therein, and a flanged gripping element of resilient material insertable in each opening and presenting an amplified gripping surface to the bottle when in position, whereby the gripping action of the sections is increased.

3. A bottle holder including, a clamp adapted to be detachably fastened to a support, an elongate flexible element having one end secured to said clamp, a spring-pressed clamping member

for receiving and supporting a bottle secured to the opposite end of the element, and a plurality of deformable gripping elements mounted in the member and exposing amplified surfaces to the bottle, whereby the gripping action of said member is increased.

4. A bottle holder including, a clamp adapted to be detachably fastened to a support, an elongate flexible element having one end secured to said clamp, a bottle holding member secured to the opposite end of the element, the member comprising a pair of hinged spring-pressed sections which have their outer ends adapted to receive and hold a bottle therebetween, each section having a plurality of openings therein, and a grommet of deformable material inserted in each opening and presenting an amplified gripping surface to the bottle, whereby the gripping action of the sections is increased.

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