

Oct. 24, 1944.

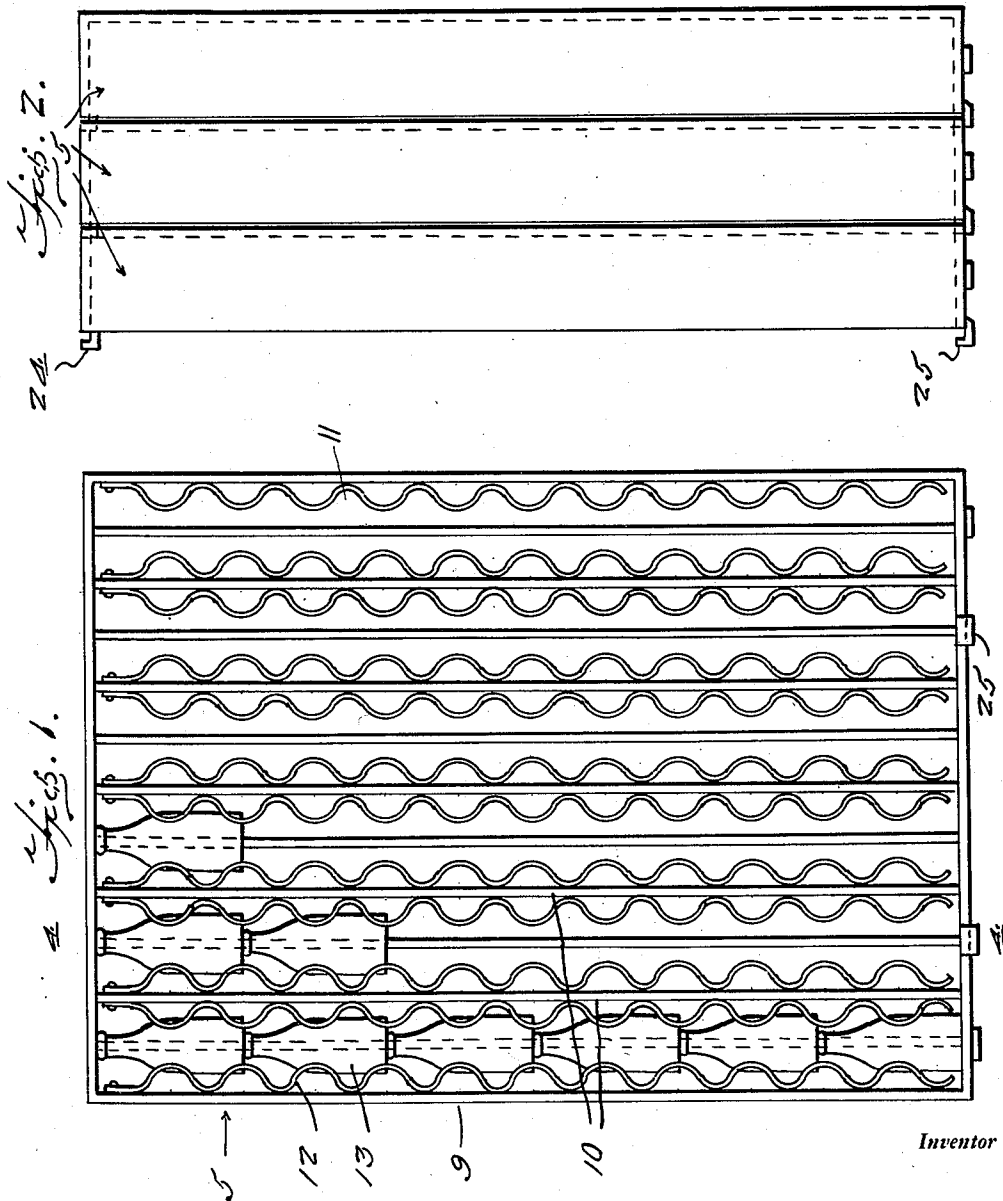
G. F. ALBRECHT

2,361,077

BOTTLE DISPOSAL RACK

Original Filed Aug. 12, 1942

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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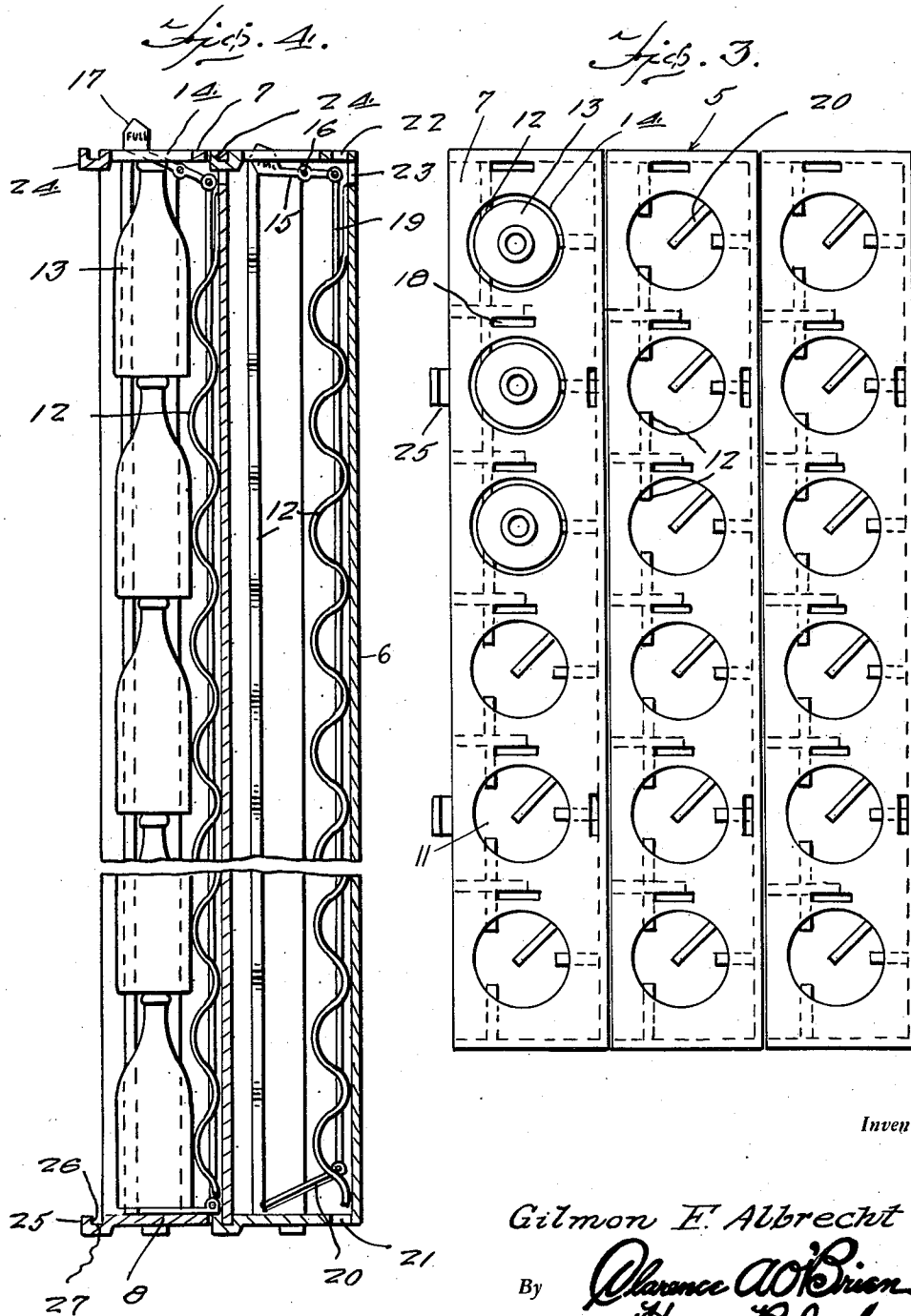
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,361,077

BOTTLE DISPOSAL RACK

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Original application August 12, 1942, Serial No. 454,583. Divided and this application August 3, 1943, Serial No. 497,193

4 Claims. (Cl. 220-97)

This is a divisional application of my co-pending application Serial No. 454,583, filed August 12, 1942.

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in racks for collection and disposal of empty bottles, such as usually accumulate in soft drink establishments and other places where beverages are dispensed in bottles and the invention has for its primary object to provide a rack having a plurality of chutes in which the bottles may be deposited and stored in end to end relation, together with signaling means to indicate when each of the chutes is filled.

A still further object is to provide a bottle disposal and collecting rack of this character embodying means through the use of which any desired number of the racks may be connected to each other for convenient handling.

A still further object is to provide a device of this character of simple and practical construction, which is efficient and reliable in performance, neat and attractive in appearance, relatively inexpensive to manufacture and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout and in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view showing a group of the racks in connected relation.

Figure 3 is a top plan view.

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially on a line 4-4 of Figure 1.

Referring now to the drawings in detail wherein for the purpose of illustration I have shown a preferred embodiment of the invention, the numeral 5 designates one of the racks generally which is preferably constructed of metal and substantially in the form of a tray which includes a back wall 6, top and bottom walls 7 and 8, respectively, and side walls 9, the front of the rack or tray being open, the tray being designed for support on the bottom 8 as will be clearly apparent from an inspection of Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings.

A plurality of partitions 10 is arranged in a vertical position in the rack, the partitions being disposed in spaced parallel relation with respect to each other to form a plurality of vertically extending compartments or chutes 11. The partitions 10 are preferably in the form of rela-

tively thin strips of material for the sake of economy.

Secured to the back and to each side of each of the chutes or compartments is a plurality of leaf springs 12 of corrugated form adapted for frictional engagement with the sides of bottles 13 when the latter are deposited through an opening 14 in the top wall 7 of the rack, the depositing of the successive bottles through the opening forcing the lowermost bottles downwardly toward the bottom wall 8 of the rack.

A signalling device is provided to indicate when each of the chutes or compartments is filled with bottles and comprises a signalling arm 15 pivoted as at 16 to the upper end of the partitions 10, one end of the signalling arm having a flag 17 formed thereon adapted to project upwardly through an opening 18 in the top wall 7, the other end of the signalling arm being pivotally attached to a rod 19 extending downwardly in the rear portion of the chute or compartment and having a foot plate 20 pivotally attached at one end to the lower end of said rod and disposed in the path of the lowermost bottle placed in the chute or compartment 11.

When the chute or compartment is empty or partly filled the signalling device will occupy the position shown at the right hand portion of Figure 4 of the drawings and when the bottles are inserted in the opening 14 in the top of the rack the lowermost bottle will engage the plate 20 to actuate the signalling device to the position as shown at the left hand side of Figure 4.

Each rack is provided with an opening 21 in its bottom wall 8 in a position adjacent the rear wall 6 and the top wall 7 is provided with a similar opening 22. The rear wall 6 at its upper end is also provided with an opening 23 adapted for the insertion of an interlocking hook 24 which projects forwardly from the top wall 7 of one rack for engagement in the opening 22 of an adjacent rack for detachably securing the racks together in connected relation as shown to advantage in Figure 4 of the drawings. Likewise the bottom wall 8 of each rack is provided with a forwardly projecting hook 25 adapted to enter the opening 21 of an adjacent rack to thus secure both the top and bottom edges of the racks together.

The base of the bottom hook 25 is flat and disposed below the plane of the bottom wall 8 to support the assembled racks or containers in an upright position and the bill portion of both the upper and lower hook have vertical parallel walls 26 and a horizontal bottom wall 27 to provide

a snug fitting seat for the edges of the openings of the rear wall when engaged by the hooks.

It will be apparent from an inspection of Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings that any desired number of the racks may be connected in the manner indicated for convenient handling thereof.

It is believed the details of construction, manner of operation and advantages of the device will be readily understood from the foregoing without further detailed explanation.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A container including angularly disposed top, bottom, side and rear walls, the front of the container being open, said bottom wall having an opening therein and said top and rear walls having adjacent openings separated by a corner of the container, and hook-like members projecting from the open front of the container and having angular portions adapted for insertion in said openings of an adjacent container for attaching a pair of containers together.

2. A container including a top wall, a bottom wall, side walls and a rear wall, the front of the container being open, said top and rear walls having upper openings adjacent the junction thereof separated by a corner of the container and said bottom wall having a lower opening adjacent the rear wall, and upper and lower hook-shaped members projecting from the front of the container and adapted for insertion re-

spectively in the upper and lower openings of an adjacent container for connecting the containers together.

3. A container including a top wall, a bottom wall, side walls and a rear wall, the front of the container being open, said top and rear walls having upper openings adjacent the junction thereof separated by a corner of the container and said bottom wall having a lower opening adjacent the rear wall, and upper and lower hook-shaped members projecting from the top and bottom walls at the front of the container and adapted for insertion respectively in the upper and lower openings of an adjacent container for connecting the containers together, said lower hook-shaped members having a flat base below the plane of the bottom wall and adapted to support the containers in an upright position.

4. A container including a top wall, a bottom wall, side walls, and a rear wall, the front of the container being open, said rear wall having a horizontal slot adjacent its upper edge and said bottom wall having a slot adjacent the rear wall, and rigid lugs projecting horizontally from top and bottom walls at the front of the container and adapted for insertion respectively in the slots of an adjacent container, said lugs having horizontal grooves in their upper surfaces forming seats adapted for receiving an edge of the slots of said adjacent container to connect a pair of containers together.

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