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R. W. BERRY

2,547,362

COMBINED CONTAINER AND STRAW

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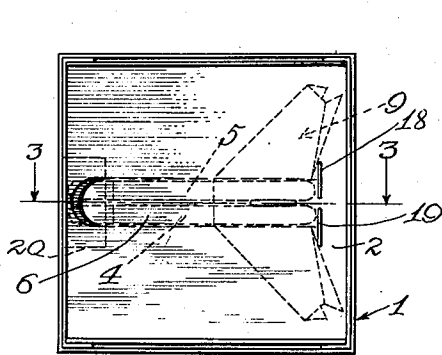


Fig. 1

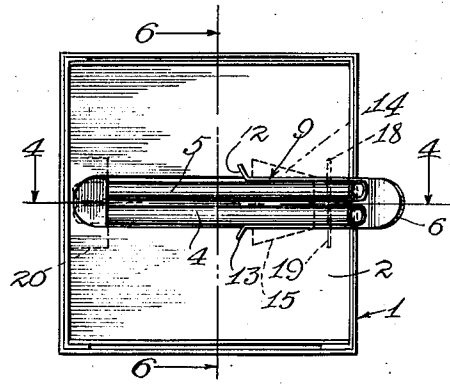


Fig. 2

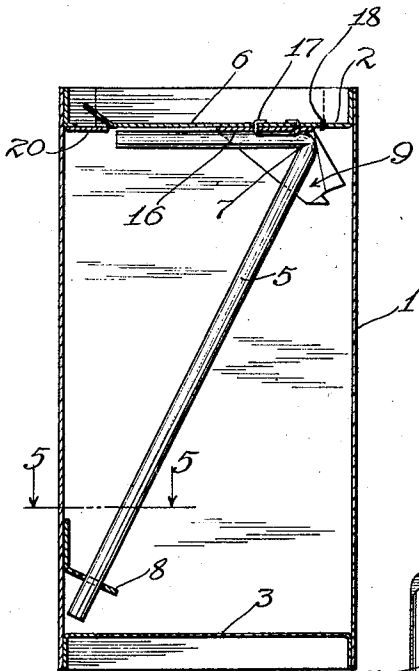


Fig. 3

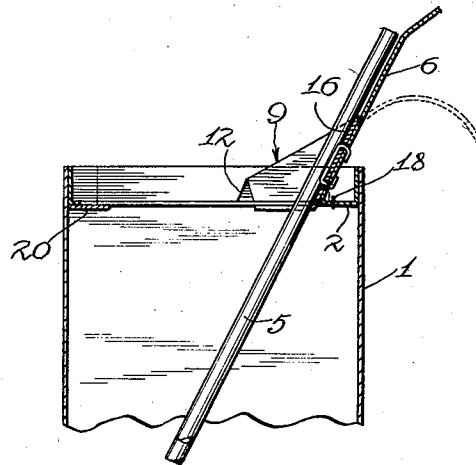


Fig. 4

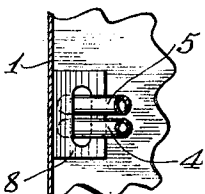


Fig. 5

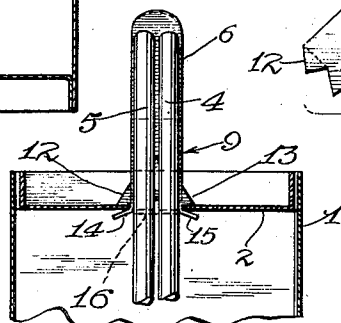


Fig. 6

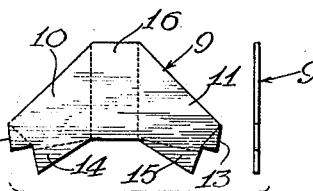


Fig. 7

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## COMBINED CONTAINER AND STRAW

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6 Claims. (Cl. 229—7)

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This invention relates to beverage containers with self-contained drinking straws of the type shown in my copending application for U. S. Letters Patent, Ser. No. 724,643 for combined container and straw and constitutes a continuation in part thereof.

In the manufacture and use of containers with self-contained straws therein of this type, it is important to have the straw wholly within the container when the latter is unopened so that protruding straws will not interfere with stacking or become contaminated. Also to prevent contamination it is important to provide an arrangement of parts and means whereby the straw may be extended outside of the container a sufficient distance for convenient use without being touched by hand and rigidly maintained in such position.

The primary object of this invention is accordingly to provide a combined container and straw having the foregoing important features.

Another object is to provide such a combined container and straw which may be economically and simply manufactured and conveniently used.

Other and further objects of this invention will become more apparent as the same becomes better understood from an examination of the specification and claims in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a combined container and straw embodying this invention with the container in closed position and the straw contracted therewithin.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with the container open and the straw extending therefrom.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken at the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary vertical section taken at the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a detail fragmentary plan section taken at the line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary vertical section taken at the line 6—6 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 7 is a combined plan and end view of the sheet of paper or other material cut to form the outline of a bracket by means of which the upper portions of the straws are attached to the removable portions of the container covers.

Referring to the drawings more particularly reference character 1 designates a waxed paper container having a lid 2 and bottom 3.

A pair of spaced straws 4 and 5 are bent and enclosed within the container 1 with the beverage therein so that when the container is opened the straws will assume a straightened oblique

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position extending a convenient distance above the lid and at the same time will extend to the bottom of the container.

The straws 4 and 5 have upper straight portions which are fastened to a removable strip 6 within the area of the lid 2 and forming an integral part thereof. The strip 6 is perforated at its side edges, has an upwardly extending flap by which it may be manually grasped and hingedly removed about an axis near a pair of clips 18 and 19, the latter limiting the tearing out of said strip. The upper portions of the straws 4 and 5 are bent horizontally when the container is closed and form a crease 7 at the juncture of these upper portions and lower straight diagonal and oblique portions of the straws which lower portions are held adjacent to the lower forward side of the container by a stirrup or bracket 8 fastened to said side preferably with wax or other suitable means impervious to moisture.

The upper bent (when the container is closed) portions of the straws 4 and 5 are attached to the lid 2 by means of a bracket 9. This bracket 9 is formed of paper or the like waxed or otherwise rendered impervious to moisture so that it will retain sufficient elasticity along with its inherent flexibility for the purposes intended and is cut from a blank of the form shown in Fig. 7 and subsequently bent at the dotted lines shown in said figure, the areas designated 10 and 11 constituting side legs, the areas 12 and 13 forming upper stops and the areas 14 and 15 forming lower stops. The area 16 forms the top of the bracket 9 which is attached to the underside of strip 6 by suitable means which is here shown as a non-corrosive metallic clip 17. The upper bent portions of the straws are glued to the top 16 to rigidly hold them in horizontal bent position when the container is closed. The legs 10 and 11 depend oppositely and outwardly from the top 16 and are bent from said top just enough to provide them with sufficient elasticity to yieldably press outwardly against the sides of the lid at either edge of the opening therein formed by tearing the strip 6 therefrom. The integral triangular extension portions 14 and 15 on the legs 10 and 11 are bent out of the plane thereof enough to form stops which engage the underside of the lid 2 at the opening formed by removal of strip 6 to limit the hinged opening movement of said strip 6 and bracket 9 attached thereto to the point where the upper and lower portions of the straws are in alignment. The integral triangular extension portions 12 and 13 on the legs 10 and 11 are relatively small and are likewise bent out of the

plane of said legs but being small compared to said stops 14 and 15 they are adapted to pass by virtue of their relative size, position and shape to the upper side of the lid 1 and to latch against the edges of said lid at the upper side thereof adjacent to the opening therein upon the removal of strip 6 so as to lock the bracket in open position and against closing at the point where the upper portions of the straws are in alignment with the lower portions thereof.

A strip 20 on the underside of the lid 2 closes the opening which would otherwise be present by the partial removal of the strip 6 caused by the end thereof extending upwardly in position to be manually grasped. The perforated sides of the strip 6 within the lid 2 are reinforced by wax or the like.

The advantages in manufacture and use of the aforescribed construction will be apparent without further detailed description.

I am aware that many changes may be made without departing from the principles of my invention and I therefore do not wish to be limited to the details shown or described.

I claim:

1. A container of the character described provided with a hinged cover portion adapted to be manually moved from closed to open position and a self-contained straw within the container having upper and lower relatively bent sections and capable when straightened of extending a substantial distance above the container from the bottom thereof and a bracket connecting said hinged cover portion and the upper straw section and capable of rigidly holding said upper straw section in rigid bent position when the cover portion is in closed position and in rigid alignment with the lower straw section when the cover portion is in open position, said bracket being provided with stops for limiting the movement of same upon the hinged opening movement of said cover portion to the point where said upper and lower straw sections are in alignment.

2. A container of the character described provided with a removable cover portion adapted to be manually moved from closed to open position and a self-contained straw within the container having upper and lower relatively bent sections and capable when straightened of extending a substantial distance above the container from the bottom thereof and a bracket connecting said removable cover portion and the upper straw section and capable of rigidly holding said upper straw section in rigid bent position when the cover portion is in closed position and in rigid alignment with the lower straw section when the cover portion is in open position, said bracket being provided with stops for limiting the movement of same upon the opening of said cover portion to the point where said upper and lower straw sections are in alignment.

3. A container of the character described provided with a hinged cover portion adapted to be manually moved from closed to open position and a self-contained straw within the container having upper and lower relatively bent sections and capable when straightened of extending a substantial distance above the container from the bottom thereof and a bracket connecting said hinged cover portion and the upper straw section and capable of rigidly holding said upper straw section in rigid bent position when the cover portion is in closed position and in rigid alignment with the lower straw section when the cover portion is in open position, said bracket being pro-

vided with stops for limiting the movement of same upon the hinged opening movement of said cover portion to the point where said upper and lower straw sections are in alignment, and latch means for preventing the return of said bracket and cover portion to closed position and for holding said straw sections in alignment.

4. A container of the character described provided with a removable cover portion adapted to be manually moved from closed to open position and a self-contained straw within the container having upper and lower relatively bent sections and capable when straightened of extending a substantial distance above the container from the bottom thereof and a bracket connecting said removable cover portion and the upper straw section and capable of rigidly holding said upper straw section in rigid bent position when the cover portion is in closed position and in rigid alignment with the lower straw section when the cover portion is in open position, said bracket being provided with stops for limiting the movement of same upon the opening of said cover portion to the point where said upper and lower straw sections are in alignment, and latch means for preventing the return of said bracket and cover portion to closed position and for holding said straw sections in alignment.

5. A container of the character described provided with a removable cover portion adapted to be manually moved from closed to open position and a self-contained straw within the container having upper and lower relatively bent sections and capable when straightened of extending a substantial distance above the container from the bottom thereof and a bracket connecting said removable cover portion and the upper straw section and capable of rigidly holding said upper straw section in rigid bent position when the cover portion is in closed position and in rigid alignment with the lower straw section when the cover portion is in open position, said bracket being provided with a pair of flexible legs adapted to slide against the opposite edges of the container at the sides of the opening caused by the removal of said cover portion when the latter is being removed and stops at the lower end of said legs adapted to engage said container at the lower side of said edges to limit said removal to the point where the straw sections are in alignment.

6. A container of the character described provided with a removable cover portion adapted to be manually moved from closed to open position and a self-contained straw within the container having upper and lower relatively bent sections and capable when straightened of extending a substantial distance above the container from the bottom thereof and a bracket connecting said removable cover portion and the upper straw section and capable of rigidly holding said upper straw section in rigid bent position when the cover portion is in closed position and in rigid alignment with the lower straw section when the cover portion is in open position, said bracket being provided with a pair of flexible legs adapted to slide against the opposite edges of the container at the sides of the opening caused by the removal of said cover portion when the latter is being removed and stops at the lower end of said legs adapted to engage said container at the lower side of said edges to limit said removal to the point where the straw sections are in alignment and latch means on said legs in prox-

imity to said stops for engaging said container at the upper side of said edges for holding said bracket at such point of alignment of the straw sections.

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