July 4, 1950 H. E. MUELLER 2,514,252

BOTTLE CARRIER

Filed May 31, 1946

Fig. 1

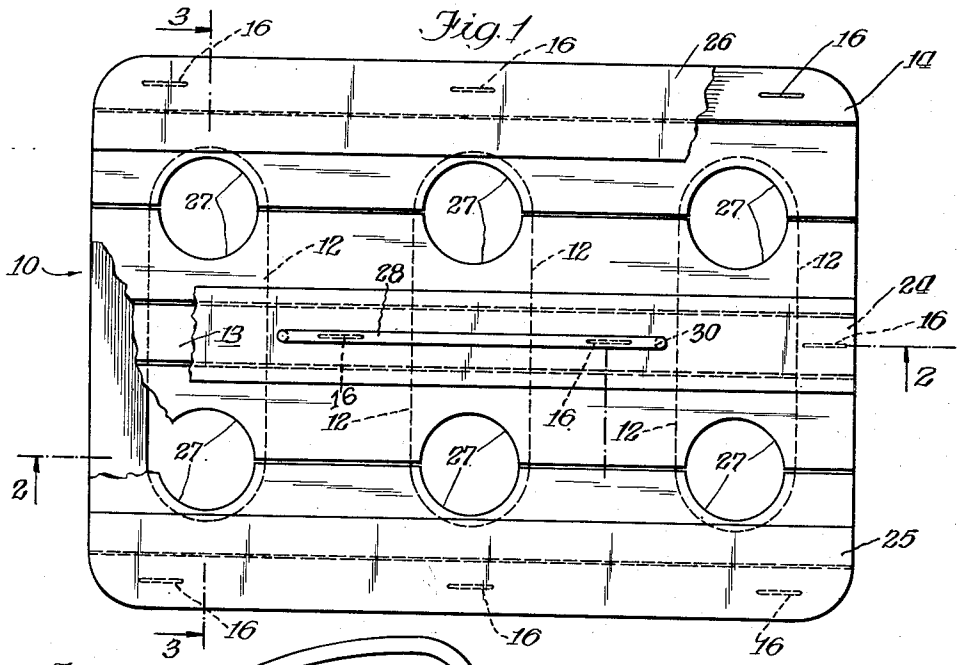


Fig. 2

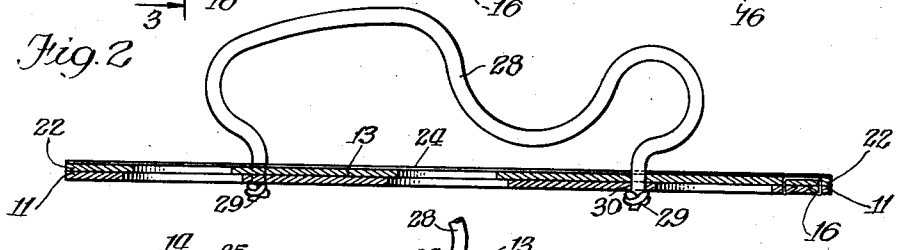


Fig. 3

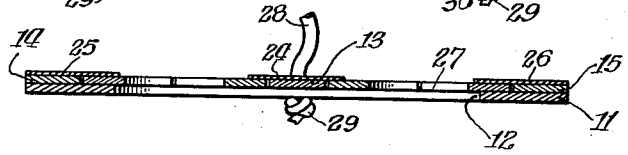
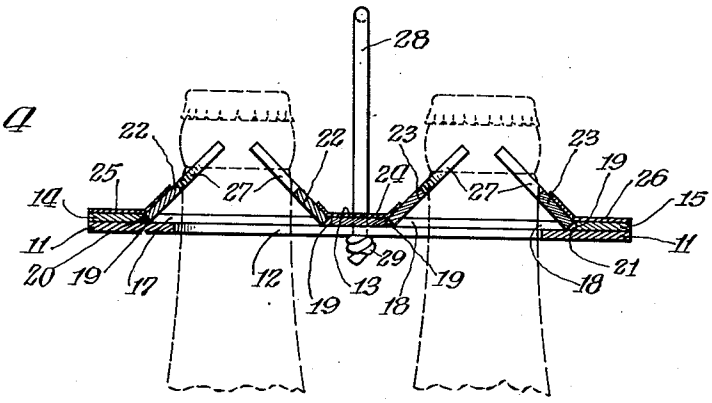


Fig. 4



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BOTTLE CARRIER

Harry E. Mueller, Salem, Ill.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 294—87.28)

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The invention relates to carrying devices for engaging and moving a number of similar articles by one operation, but more particularly to devices of this kind which are adapted to facilitate the handling of bottles for milk and beverages which are commonly returned for reuse; and has for its objects the provision of a device of this character which can be constructed of inexpensive and disposable material, of few and similar parts, easy to assemble and highly efficient in use.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists of the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which

Figure 1 is a plan view of a device embodying the invention as arranged ready for use;

Figure 2 is a section taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1; and

Figure 4 is an end view of the device with fragmentary portions of bottles shown in dotted line, in position prior to engagement or disengagement.

The embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings comprises a body 10 constructed of suitable fibrous material such as cardboard, and provided with a base 11 which is substantially a rectangular plaque of even thickness with three oblong openings 12 arranged transversely thereof, as best shown in Figure 1.

Mounted longitudinally on the upper side of the base 11 is a centrally arranged parting strip 13 and two marginally aligned side strips 14 and 15 in spaced and parallel relation with said parting strip 13.

The strips 13, 14 and 15 are secured to the base 11 by suitable staples 16 as shown in Figure 1. The spacing of the strips 13, 14 and 15 provide two longitudinal grooves 17 and 18 having a depth equal to the thickness of the material used, providing side walls 19 adapted to serve as jambs 20 for pairs of cooperating companion flaps 22 and 23 fitting into the grooves 17 and 18 resting against the base 11. Each of the flaps 22 and 23 are hingedly connected to their respective abutting strips 13, 14 and 15 by flexible hinge members 24, 25 and 26 cemented to the upper surface of said flaps 22 and 23 and strips 13, 14 and 15.

The cooperating companion flaps 22 and 23 are provided at their free edges with transversely aligned semi-circular notches 27 arranged over the oblong openings 12 in the base 11.

The body 10 is provided with a cord handle

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loop 28 which is centrally mounted by having its ends 29 inserted through suitable holes 30 extending through the base 11, where it can be knotted to prevent removal as shown in Figure 2, or otherwise secured.

A median cross section of Figure 1 shown in Figure 4 illustrates the arrangements and combinations of parts as applied in use.

The arrangement is such that when the carrier is placed down over a group of bottles arranged approximately in place, the tops of the bottles 31 push the flaps 22 and 23 upwardly until the notches 27 have passed the crowns 28 and are resting against the necks of the bottles 31, then by lifting on the handle 28 the weight of the bottles 31 frictionally engages the said flaps 22 and 23 in the notches 27 drawing them downwardly into gripping engagement, as will be readily understood.

While I have illustrated and described a particular form of the invention in its precise arrangement, I do not wish to be limited by this disclosure, but desire to avail myself to such variations and modifications as may fall within the spirit and scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

In combination with a bottle carrier comprising a rectangular base of substantially even thickness constructed of suitable cardboard or the like, and provided with a plurality of transversely arranged oblong openings; a parting strip having parallel side walls centrally mounted longitudinally of said base; side strips having inwardly facing side walls mounted in spaced and parallel relation with said parting strip; a pair of companion flaps co-operatively arranged between each side strip and said parting strip; inwardly facing side walls on said parting strip and said side strips forming jambs for said co-operating flaps; a strip of thin flexible material attached on the upper and outer side of each juncture of each co-operating flap with its respective adjoining side strip and forming a hinge therefor; there being transversely aligned notches in the free edge of said co-operating flaps forming openings communicating with said oblong base openings when in closed position.

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