C. C. SPRINKLE.

DRINKING CUP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 11, 1908.

908,706.

Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 2.

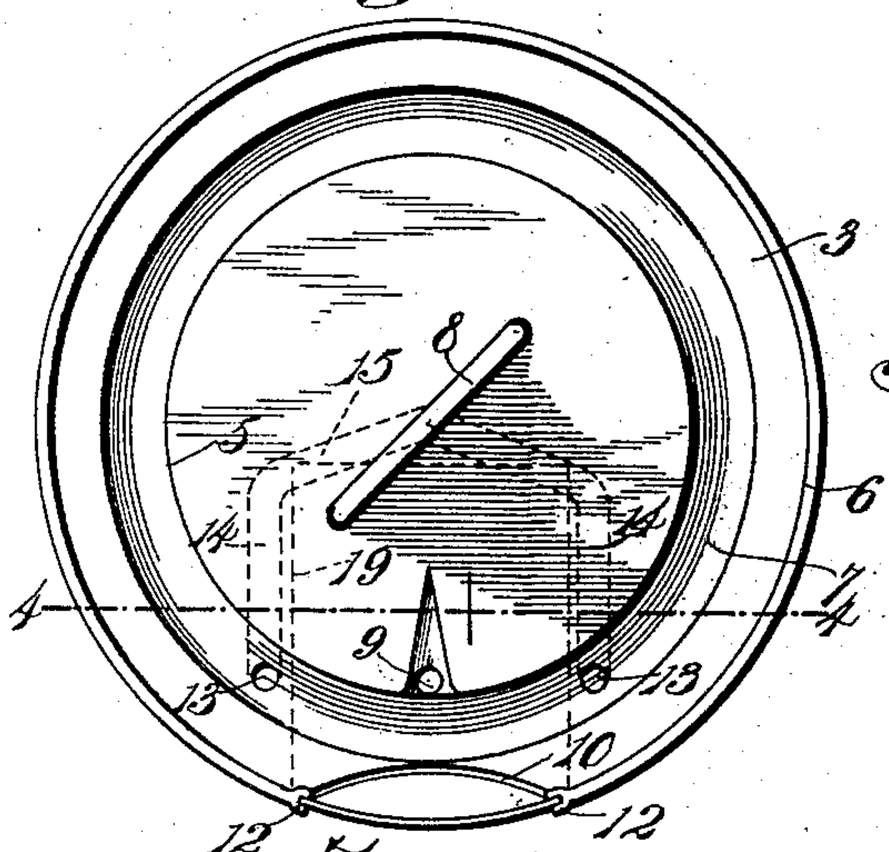


Fig. 1.

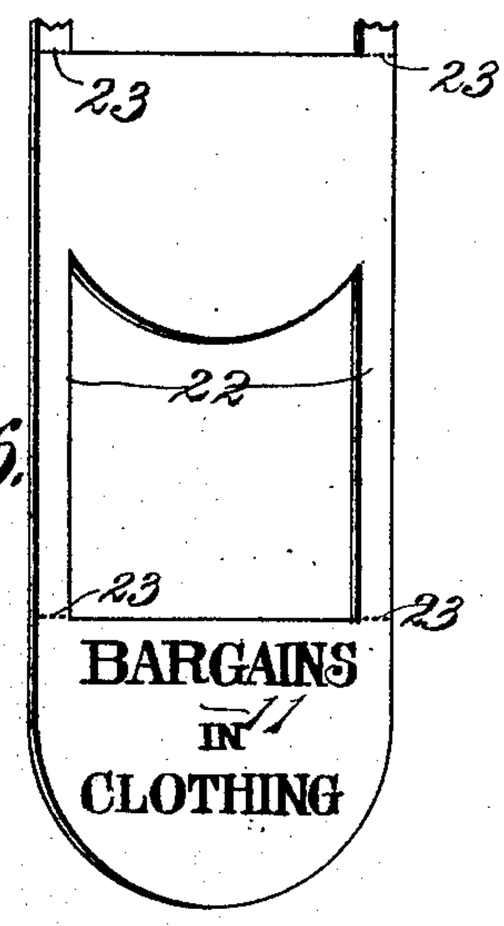
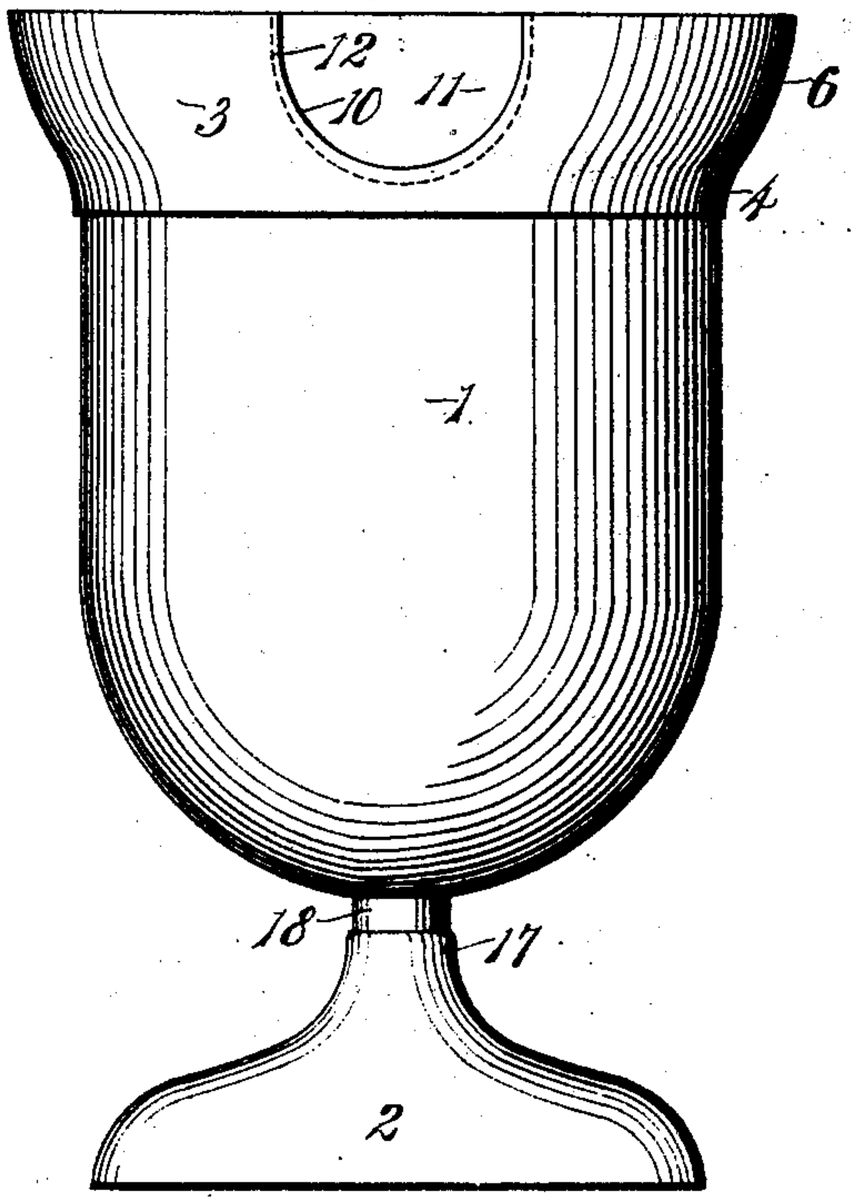
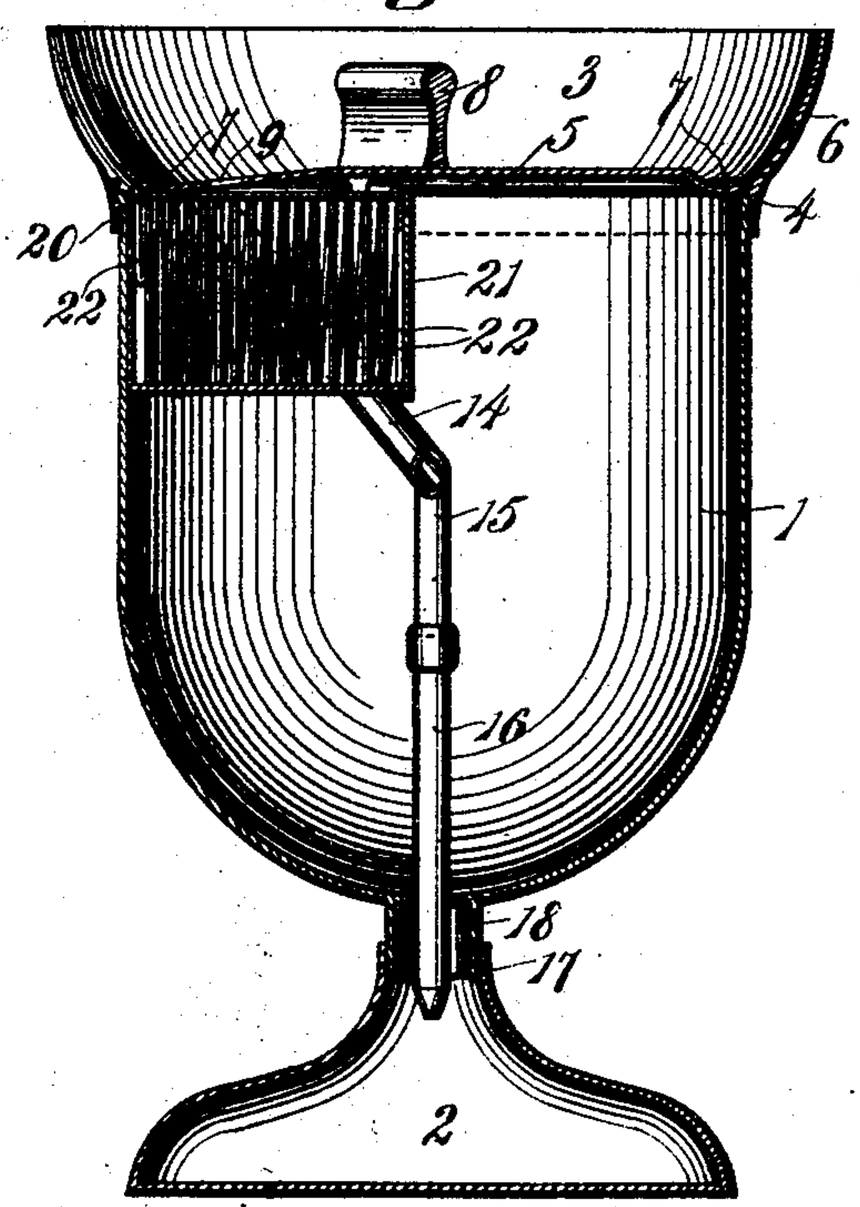


Fig. 6.

Fig. 3.





Witnesses.
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

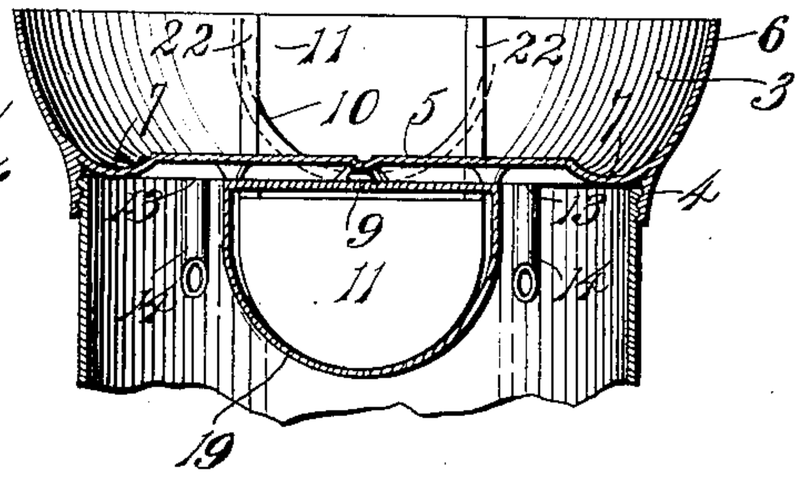
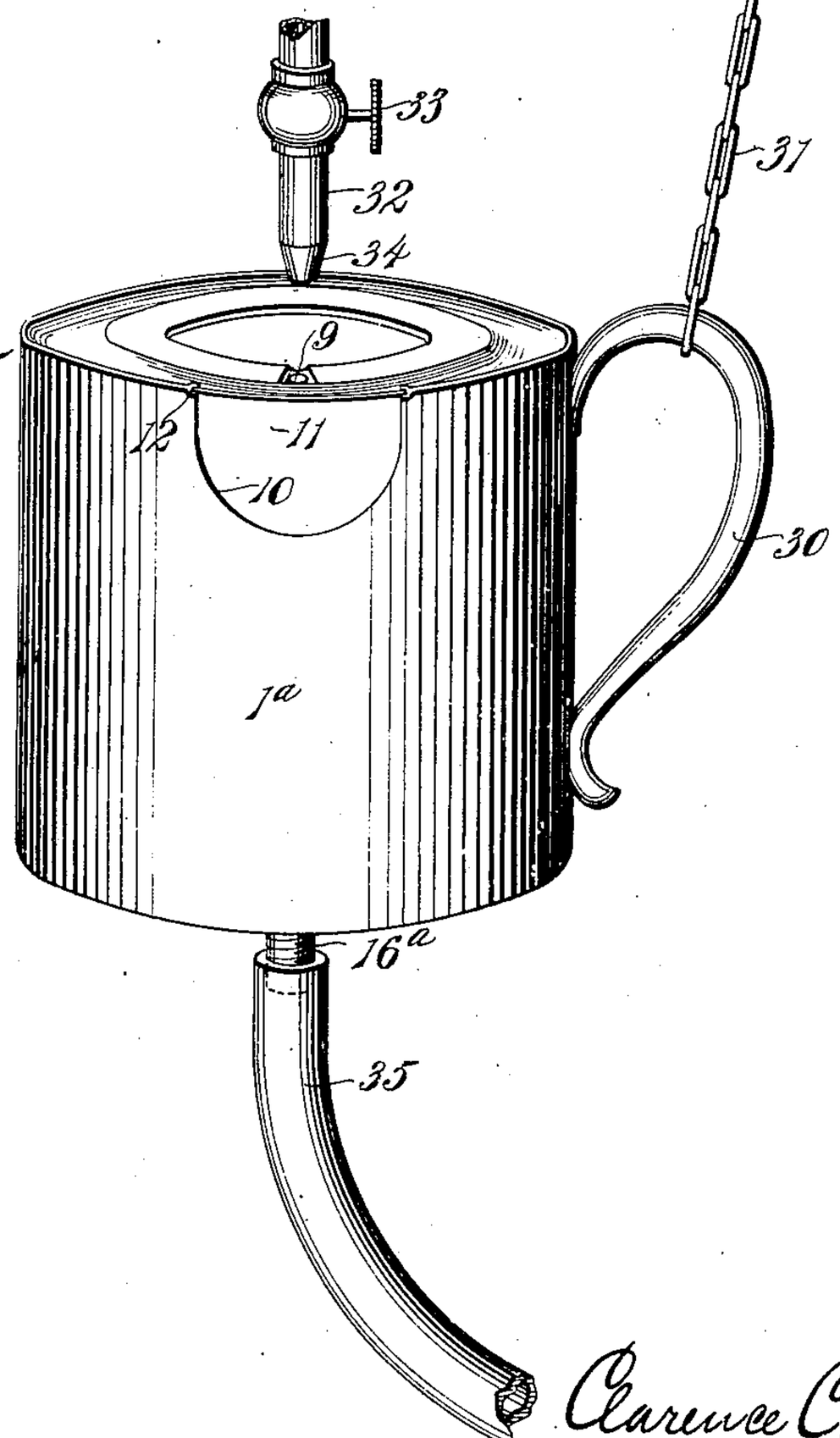


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE C. SPRINKLE, OF MARION, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO MAHLON A. STAIR, OF LA FONTAINE, INDIANA.

DRINKING-CUP.

No. 908,706. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

Application filed June 11, 1908. Serial No. 437,991.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE C. SPRINKLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marion, in the county of Grant and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drinking-Cups, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in drinking cups of that class in which the cup or goblet is used by a number of persons in succession without being purified or cleaned.

The object of the invention is to provide a drinking cup of this character which will be entirely sanitary and which will be simple and practical in construction and convenient and effective in use.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved drinking cup, the same being in the form of a communion goblet; Fig. 2 is a plan view; Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken in a vertical plane from front to rear; Fig. 4 is a detail section taken on the plane indicated by the line 4—4 in Fig. 2; Fig. 5 is a view of another embodiment of my invention; and Fig. 6 is a detail view of two of the disks or wafers which form removable mouth pieces.

Referring more particularly to Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive of the drawings, 1 denotes the bowl or body of the cup or goblet, 2 a removable base therefor adapted to serve as a waste receptacle and 3 a removable cover or lid. The cup bowl 1 has its upper open end externally screw threaded to receive the screw threaded flange 4 on the cover 3, which latter has a raised central portion 5 surrounded by a curved flange or rim 6 forming an annular channel or gutter 7. 8 denotes a handle in the form of a cross bar secured centrally upon the top of the cover to permit it to be readily applied to or removed from the cup. 9 denotes an outlet opening formed in the cover to permit the liquid in the cup to pass into the groove or channel 7 when the cup is tilted. Said opening 9 is formed at a point opposite a cut away portion or recess 10 in the rim or flange 6, the recess or open portion 10 being of sufficient size to receive the lips of an individual using the cup and it is adapted to be closed by one of a plurality of removable mouth pieces 11 which may be in the form of disks or plates made of paper, fiber, or other material. Said mouth pieces 11 are arranged in suitable guideways 12 formed in the edges of the recess or opening 10 and they are fed automatically from the interior of the cup, as presently explained. 13 denotes two drain openings arranged in the bottom of the groove or channel 7 on opposite sides of the recess or opening 10 and in communication with the upper ends or branches 14 of a forked or Y-shaped pipe 15 the lower end of which is disposed concentrically with respect to the cover 3 and projects downwardly therefrom so as to fit into the upper end of a pipe 16 arranged concentrically in the cup bowl 1 and projecting through its bottom and into the base or waste receptacle 2, the lower end of said pipe being preferably tapered to reduce its diameter or bore. Said base 2 is formed at its top with a tubular neck or stem 17 adapted to receive the lower end of the pipe 16 and which is internally threaded to engage a screw threaded boss or projection 18 formed centrally upon the bottom of the cup 1.

The mouth pieces 11 are arranged in a receptacle or holder 19 secured to the under face of the cover 3 and formed adjacent to one end in its top with an outlet opening or slot 20 which is so arranged as to direct the mouth pieces or disks 11 into the guides 12. The receptacle 19 is provided with a removable liquid tight cover 21 which enables it to be refilled, and the disks 11 which are arranged one in contact with the other in a longitudinal row in the holder are successively fed to its front or outer end beneath the outlet opening 20 by connecting them together with short strips 22 which may be formed integral with them if desired, and perforated at the points 23 where they are to be severed. It will be seen that as one of the disks or mouth pieces is removed the strip which connects it to the next one will automatically draw the latter up through the guides 12 and into the opening or recess 10 in the rim of the cup. While this is my preferred way of automatically feeding the disks or mouth pieces to the rim of the cup, it will be understood that any other feeding means may be employed.

In using the cup, the person using the cup

or goblet places his lips against the mouth piece or disk to receive the liquid which flows from the opening 9 when the cup is tilted. When the cup is righted the liquid remaining in the groove or channel 7 flows through the openings 13 and the pipes 14, 15, 16 and into the waste receptacle 2. After one mouth piece has been used it is pulled upwardly and it will automatically position the next one in the recess 10 of the rim of the cup. It will be seen, therefore, that the device will be entirely sanitary and at the same time simple, comparatively inexpensive and highly effective for the purpose intended.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings I have shown an embodiment of my invention in the form of a drinking cup for use at a public fountain. As here shown the body 1^a of the cup is of cylindrical form but its interior parts are the same in construction and operation as the parts of the cup or goblet above described. A handle 30 is provided upon one side of the body 1^a and attached to the handle is a chain or the like 31 by means of which the cup may be conveniently suspended beneath a water or liquid supply pipe 32 containing a cut off valve 33 and having its lower end terminating in a suitable nozzle 34 beneath which the cup is held when it is desired to refill it. Instead of having a waste receptacle attached to the cup body 1^a I connect a flexible tube or pipe 35 to the lower end of a waste pipe 16^a which projects out of the bottom of the cup body 1^a and corresponds to the pipe 16 in the cup first described. It will be seen therefore that the tube 35 will permit the suspended cup to be conveniently moved beneath the supply pipe and filled, and then raised to the lips of the person who desires to use it.

While the temporary or removable mouth pieces 11 may be of any suitable form and construction, I preferably make them of disks or small plates of circular, rectangular or other shape as above set forth. They may be suitably colored, ornamented and finished and, if desired, they may contain reading matter. Those used in the cup first described may bear a quotation, while those used in the drinking cup at a public fountain may bear suitable advertising matter, as seen in Fig. 6 of the drawings.

While I have shown and described in detail the preferred embodiments of my invention I wish it understood that I do not limit myself to the construction set forth since various changes in the form, proportion and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. A drinking cup comprising a body, a removable cover therefor having a rim formed with a channel, the latter having an open portion, means for supplying temporary mouth pieces to the open portion of the rim, the cover being formed with an outlet opening arranged adjacent to the open portion of the rim, and waste pipes leading from the channel in the rim on opposite sides of the open portion of the same.

2. A drinking cup comprising a body, a removable cover therefor having a rim formed with a channel, the latter having an open portion, guides at the open portion of the rim, a holder for temporary mouth pieces carried by the cover, means for feeding the mouth pieces from said holder to said guides to close the open portion of the rim, means to permit the liquid in the cup to pass to the channel opposite the mouth piece, and means in said channel on opposite sides of the mouth piece for carrying off the waste or superfluous liquid.

3. A drinking cup comprising a body having a rim formed with a recess, the latter being provided with guideways, a holder for a plurality of temporary mouth pieces having an outlet opening in communication with the guideways of said recess in the rim of the cup, a removable cover for said holder, a plurality of mouth pieces arranged within the holder, and flexible connections between the mouth pieces whereby when one is removed from the recess in the rim of the cup the next will be drawn through said guideways and into said recess, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CLARENCE C. SPRINKLE.

Witnesses:
M. E. Bates,
Lewis F. De Wolf.