

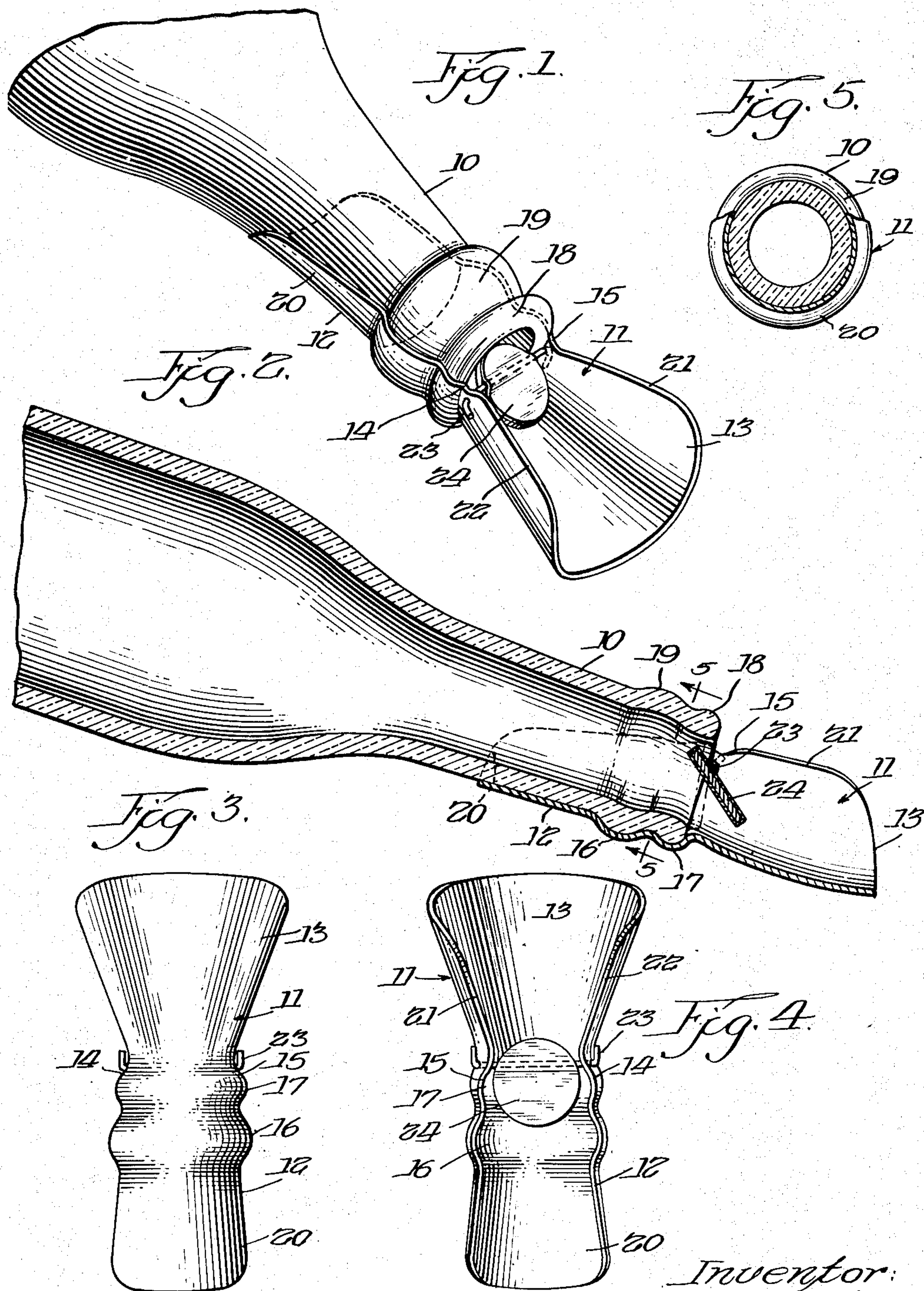
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DRINKING MOUTHPIECE FOR BOTTLES

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## DRINKING MOUTHPIECE FOR BOTTLES

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1 Claim. (Cl. 215—101)

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My invention relates to a drinking mouthpiece for bottles, and has for its primary object the provision of a drinking spout which can be easily and quickly attached to the standard soft drink bottle and also freely and easily detached therefrom for use again if desired, or which can be discarded, as the cost of these devices when manufactured in quantities is almost negligible.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a drinking mouthpiece which enables one to drink from a bottle with the same satisfaction as drinking from a tumbler and without the annoyance and difficulty experienced when drinking from a bottle is attempted, particularly when the contents of the bottle is composed largely of carbonated water, or which contains gas as in the case with beer or the like.

Another and further object of my invention is the provision of a drinking mouthpiece in which a bottle can be tipped sufficiently to allow the contents to flow freely from the bottle without completely closing the bottle opening, thus permitting air to enter the bottle to take the place of the liquid therein, providing an even and uninterrupted flow of fluid from the bottle.

Another and further object of my invention is the provision of a drinking mouthpiece made from material which possesses sufficient elasticity to firmly grip the bottle when placed in position on the neck of a bottle, without leakage, and in which the mouthpiece has the sides thereof adjacent the opening of the bottle curved upward and terminate in a plane equal to the edge of the bottle opening so that it is impossible for the contents of the bottle to spill out over the sides of the mouthpiece, while the drinking portion of the mouthpiece is wide enough to encompass the lips of the user with the side portions curved and sufficiently high normally to prevent flow of liquid over the sides of the mouthpiece.

Another and further object of my invention is the provision of a drinking mouthpiece made of fiber, impregnated paper, plastic or the like, integrally fashioned with sufficient elasticity to be easily applied to and removed from a bottle as may be desired and without the addition of spring clamping means or the like.

These and other objects of the invention will be more fully and better understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the neck of a bottle with my improved drinking mouthpiece applied thereto.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of a bottle and drinking mouthpiece.

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Figure 3 is a rear elevational view of the drinking mouthpiece.

Figure 4 is a front elevational view of the drinking mouthpiece; and

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view on the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Referring now specifically to the drawings and in which like reference characters refer to like parts throughout, a bottle 10 is shown having a drinking spout 11 secured thereto as shown in Figures 1 and 2, the drinking spout 11 consisting of a bottle-engaging portion 12 and a drinking portion 13 extending outwardly from the end of the bottle, the drinking spout 11 being integrally formed and fashioned so that the bottle-engaging portion 12 is adapted to be spread sufficiently to be fitted around the neck of the bottle, particularly as shown in Figures 1 and 2, with the side portions 14 and 15 extending to a height substantially in the same plane as the upper edge of the bottle opening. The bottle-engaging portion 12 is fashioned in circular form normally extending approximately 280° but when opened to fit around the bottle being somewhat less than this circular form, the material being elastic in its longitudinal direction so that as the sides are spread it is fitted around the bottle and possesses sufficient elasticity to firmly engage the bottle, particularly as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The bottle-engaging portion 12 has circumferential channels 16 and 17 formed therein, the channel 17 being adapted to fit around the rounded end of a bottle 18 while the channel 16 engages partially around the rounded portion 19 of the bottle 10, with the rearwardly extending portion 20 which is somewhat narrow but curved to conform to the neck portion of the bottle 10 so as to assist in holding the mouthpiece firmly on the discharge end of the bottle.

The mouthpiece 13 is curved generally in the form of an elliptical curve to conform to the mouth of the user, with the side portions 21 and 22 being curved upward and around and spaced a sufficient distance so that the mouth of the user is substantially encompassed by its lower portion and at the sides by the mouthpiece, thereby preventing spilling of liquid as the drinking mouthpiece is used.

Extending across the throat of the drinking portion 13 is an axle 23 having a disc 24 mounted thereon, with the axle 23 being eccentrically mounted in the disc 24 so that the larger side of the disc 24 is toward the side of the drinking portion 13, this member serving as a closure member which is opened freely by the pressure



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of the liquid behind it when the bottle is tilted and which closes automatically when the bottle with the drinking mouthpiece thereon is placed in vertical position. Because the bottle opening flares outward slightly, the disc or closure member 24 will swing freely into this opening and when in closed position practically closes the bottle opening against the entrance of dirt, insects, or the like. In this way, once the bottle cap is removed and the drinking mouthpiece applied, there is a closure member present to protect the contents of the bottle.

The drinking mouthpiece is preferably made of fiber, impregnated paper, or plastic having sufficient elasticity so that it can be spread side-wise to be fitted around the neck of the bottle and, in use, after the ordinary cap or stopper is removed from the bottle the drinking mouthpiece is placed on the bottle by merely bringing the edges in contact with the sides of the bottle and pressing the mouthpiece against the bottle so that it opens sufficiently to engage upon the bottle with the side edges extending above the median line of the bottle, where the mouthpiece is firmly held in position around the bottle opening. The bottle can then be tipped and the drinking mouthpiece used as an ordinary glass, it being necessary to tip the bottle a sufficient distance so the contents thereof will flow out of the neck of the bottle without completely filling the discharge opening therein, so that the liquid is removed from the bottle and its place is taken by air so that a free-flowing operation is provided and the drinking operation conducted very similarly as from a glass, without danger of spillage or the like. If desired, the drinking mouthpiece may be removed and discarded, or it can be placed in a bath of some description and used again and again.

While I have herein described and upon the drawings shown an illustrative embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto but may comprehend other constructions, arrangements of parts, details and features without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

A drinking mouthpiece for bottles having

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necks with a plurality of convexities adjacent to their discharge openings, said mouthpiece being formed of stiff and resilient sheet material and shaped into an open spout-like body along the whole length thereof with a curvature slightly in excess of a semi-circle and a capability of slight flexure therefrom relative to the longitudinal median of the mouthpiece, said mouthpiece having a neck-engaging portion shaped with circumferential troughs conforming to said convexities and adapted to embrace resiliently the neck of a bottle immediately adjacent to the discharge opening thereof and a drinking portion flaring outwardly from said first portion to form a lip of wider extent than the discharge opening of the bottle, said neck-engaging portion and drinking portion being continuations of one another along a substantially straight line and said neck-engaging portion adapted to be sprung laterally onto the neck of a bottle with a snap action to constitute the sole means of attachment of said mouthpiece to the bottle, and simultaneously to fix the drinking portion in position to guide the contents of the bottle to said lip for comfortable drinking therefrom.

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